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VOLUME
XXXVII
**
No 13

THIRTY-SEVENTH YEAR OF PUBLICATION

DUNEDIN, THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 1909

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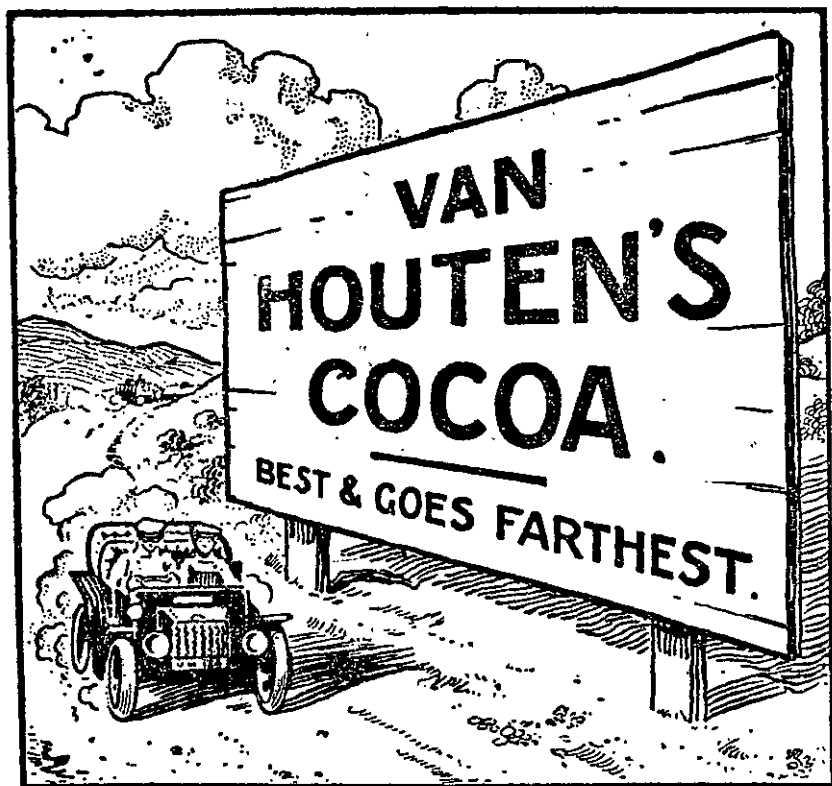
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Capital paid up	-	-	£300,000	
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Net Revenue for 1908	-	-	-	647,300
Losses paid by Company to date	-	-	-	£7,098,471

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CLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

April 4, Sunday.—Palm Sunday.
 „ 5, Monday.—Of the Feria.
 „ 6, Tuesday.—Of the Feria.
 „ 7, Wednesday.—Of the Feria.
 „ 8, Thursday.—Holy Thursday.
 „ 9, Friday.—Good Friday.
 „ 10, Saturday.—Holy Saturday.

Wednesday in Holy Week.

On this and the two following days the Office of Tenebrae is chanted in those churches in which the presence of a sufficient number of priests is obtainable. The office consists of a number of Psalms, with lessons from the Sacred Scriptures, and the writings of the Fathers of the Church appropriate to the season. The name of Tenebrae (darkness) is given to the office because, at its close, the lights are extinguished to express the mourning of the Church, and to represent the darkness which covered the face of the earth on the death of our Blessed Lord.

Holy Thursday.

For a short time to-day the Church puts off her mourning. At the Mass her ministers are vested in white, the bells are heard, the organ peals forth. For a moment she desists from her meditations on the sufferings of her Divine Founder to contemplate the tender love which led Him to institute the Blessed Eucharist on the very night before His Crucifixion. In Cathedral churches the Bishop consecrates the Holy Oils which are used in the administration of certain Sacraments, and also in some ecclesiastical functions.

GRAINS OF GOLD

BREAD ON THE WATER.

'Twas only a crumb, last evening,
 In the form of a kindly word,
 That you spoke to a weary companion,
 Only he and the dear Lord heard.

'Twas only a pleasant 'Good-morning,'
 To a man whose life is drear,
 But he understood its meaning,
 And knew that you meant to cheer.

'Twas only a crumb at noonday,
 In the coin you gave to a child;
 But you gave it for sweet charity,
 And he understood and smiled.

'Twas only a crumb at evening,
 When, after a tiresome day,
 You gave up your seat in a street car
 To a woman, old and grey.

'Twas only a crumb at evening,
 When, instead of the concert hall,
 You went to the house of mourning
 To comfort and help them all.

They're only crumbs, but without them
 There could not be any bread;
 And the bread shall be returned to us,
 For so the dear Lord has said.

The acid of envy eats all happiness out of the human heart.

He who wishes to secure the good of others has already secured his own.

One's personal enjoyment is a very small thing; one's personal usefulness is a very important thing.

The corruption of the age is made up of the particular contributions of every individual man.

Be constant to your purpose, and desirous only of the praises which belong to patience and discretion.

Only that which is highest, truest, noblest, and best will abide the test of centuries. Only that in man which stands for character, self-mastery, goodness, sanctity—the only things that the soul when stripped of everything else takes with it—will live in glory throughout eternity.

I recommend to you mental prayer, or the prayer of the heart, and especially that which has for its object the life and passion of our Lord. By making Him the frequent subject of your meditation, your whole soul will be replenished with Him; you will imbibe His spirit, and frame all your actions according to the model of His.—St. Francis de Sales.

The Storyteller

MR. JOHNSON, ADVANCE AGENT

'It's getting lonesome, isn't it, Mr. Johnson?'

No response save a slight snore.

'Are you asleep, Mr. Johnson?'

This time there came a sort of snuffle, followed by three soft thumps, and Mr. Johnson issued forth from the gloom; not a very imposing personage, just a small 'yaller' dog with loving wistful eyes and a wise little face.

The child in the window raised his head from his crutch, where it had been resting, and smiled brightly as the little fellow trotted up to him.

'I'm afraid I spoiled your nap,' he said apologetically, 'but it is so foggy out that I can't even see the lights in the grocery shop, and I thought you wouldn't mind talking to me until dad comes.'

There was a quaint courtesy and comradeship in the child's manner that would have been amusing had it not been for the pathetic story of a lonely dependence on the friendship of this one ugly little dog.

'Dad is late to-night,' sighed the boy, peering out into the gathering darkness. 'They must have had a long rehearsal. The concert is to-morrow, you know, and dad is going to sing that beautiful song I love. It is the first time he has sung for the people here, and he says it means great things for him if they are pleased. But they couldn't help being pleased, could they, Mr. Johnson? I wish I could sing like dad, for I love to sing better than anything else in the world.'

Mr. Johnson wagged his tail appreciatingly.

'Dad didn't feel well this morning,' said Gabriel, after a pause. 'He had a cold, and was afraid he couldn't sing as well.'

Here a step on the stair brought a glad light to the child's face. The next moment strong arms held him close.

'Oh, dad! I'm so glad you've come!' His voice, full of gladness, filled the room.

'Has it been such a long day, old chap?'

'Not so very,' smiled the child bravely. 'You see, I had Mr. Johnson to talk to, and he is a great comfort.'

Gabriel's thin little hand stole softly up and stroked his father's cheek.

'How hot your face is, dad! Does your head ache?'

'A little.'

'And you are hoarse, too, dad. Is the cold worse?'

'I hope not,' answered his father cheerily. 'I am a little tired, I guess. A good night's sleep will fix me all right. Now for the lamp and then supper. You can't think what I have brought you. See here.'

'Guava jelly? Bully! You're the best old dad a feller ever had!' cried the child delightedly.

His father did not add that it had been bought at the expense of his own lunch. But the deprivation mattered little as long as Gabriel had the delicacies so needful to his fitful appetite. The man was ill. He knew it now. All day long the truth, like a menacing spectre, had dogged his footsteps, ignore it as he would. The tightening pain in his chest and the ever-increasing hoarseness meant but one thing—he would not be able to sing at the concert the following night, and the recognition he had hoped to gain thereby would be lost to him. At the rehearsal that afternoon his voice had broken down utterly. The director had been politely sympathetic, but Newton had read only too clearly in his concerned face a corroboration of his own fears. It was not until Gabriel had gone to bed, however, that he dropped his mask of cheeriness and squarely faced the truth.

Could it be that the success within his grasp at last was to be wrested from him—the success that had meant so much? He recalled the vista of hope it had opened to him—a future of comfort and pleasure for Gabriel, and ultimately perhaps a little home for him amid the sunshine and flowers of the country. In bitter contrast to this rose the hopeless reality of the present, with its grinding poverty and want, the overwhelming struggle of the past against misfortune and death, the memory of his angel wife, taken from him in her youth and beauty, his own long illness that followed, their subsequent removal to a strange city, and the failure to get a start until now, when the opportunity had come only to mock him in the end.

It should not be! All the defiance in the man's nature rose up in bitter revolt against it. He would conquer this fatal hoarseness in time. He would ask God to help him—yes, he would pray to Gabriel's God and hers, for their sake to come to him now in his hour of need. It was

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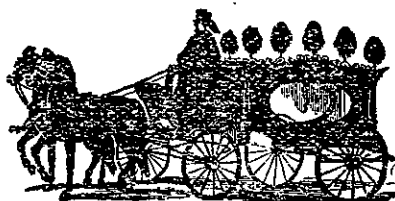
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the first time he had prayed in years, but the passionate entreaty that came from the man's soul needed no guidance.

Morning found him much worse, and when the doctor came he looked very grave: With frightened eyes Gabriel touched the good man's arm.

'He will not die?' he asked pitifully.

The doctor smiled reassuringly. But he had taken the case none too soon.

Presently a thought came to Gabriel. Some one must let the director know of his father's illness, and there was no one to do it but Mr. Johnson and himself. When the sweet-faced nurse arrived to take charge of the sick room, Gabriel slipped quietly from his post by the bed, and a few minutes later was making his way up the busy street through the jostling crowd, his crutch clinking bravely against the pavement, Mr. Johnson close at his heels. He was quite sure he would know the concert hall, for his father had once pointed it out to him, but the way to it proved most confusing.

It was a raw, unseasonable day in October, and Gabriel found it hard work battling against the wind. His arm, too, ached painfully from the continuous friction of his crutch, and twice he lost his hat. But with undaunted courage he struggled bravely on, while Mr. Johnson trotted steadily on ahead. At last, by a happy chance, they turned into the very street they were seeking, and the next minute Gabriel was timidly pushing open the heavy baize door of the concert hall. There was no one to be seen in the spacious lobby, so he sank wearily down upon a settee to wait, his aching body relaxing gratefully against the leather cushions. Presently a gentleman came slowly down the stairs. He did not notice Gabriel, but entered a doorway at some distance from them. The child sighed with disappointment. He had so hoped he would come their way. As it was, he patiently resigned himself to wait a little longer.

Not so the indefatigable Mr. Johnson. In his opinion it was plainly time for action. He had eyed the gentleman with a speculative air until he disappeared; then with evident purpose he started down the hall after him and vanished into the same doorway through which he had passed. Gabriel was alarmed. What could he be up to? He would go and see.

At the door he paused in astonishment, for right in the middle of the floor, bolt upright on his hind legs, sat Mr. Johnson; his front paws appealingly folded, his wistful eyes raised with a world of entreaty in their patient depths to a kindly-faced man who sat before a large desk. The gentleman was smiling broadly. His first intimation of the little fellow's presence had been when, chancing to glance up from his work, he discovered him sitting there, all the bursting, overflowing love of his loyal heart shining in his eyes, appealing straight to the broad, passionate humanity of the man.

His little friend needed help—help beyond his ken—and so, in pathetic acknowledgment of his own limitations, he had come to this stranger for aid.

Catching sight of Gabriel in the doorway, he ran joyfully toward him.

'Is this your dog, my little man?' inquired the gentleman pleasantly.

'This is Mr. Johnson, sir,' said Gabriel gently, with unconscious correction.

The gentleman repressed a smile. The child was most scrupulous to refer to his little chum always in this way, stoutly maintaining that he was a dog only in appearance. He had named him for the friendly old man who had given him to him, and had invested him with all his endearing attributes.

'I think he is trying to ask you, sir, where we can find Mr. Ludwig,' explained Gabriel politely. 'He is the gentleman who is to give the concert to-night.'

So interested had the man been in Mr. Johnson that he had not at once noticed the child's crutch. Now, as his glance fell upon it, a shadow almost of pain saddened his face. He had once had a crippled child of his own.

'Come in and sit down, boy,' he said kindly; 'I am Mr. Ludwig. What can I do for you?'

The child's face brightened.

'I am so glad you are,' he said naively. 'I am so very tired! We have come to tell you, sir, that dad is sick and cannot sing at your concert to-night. He is so sorry and—and disappointed, because it meant great things for him to have this chance.'

'Are you Mr. Newton's son?' asked Mr. Ludwig gravely.

'Yes, sir; my name is Gabriel.'

'I am sorry to hear of your father's illness. I was afraid of it last night. Did it mean so much to him to sing at this concert? Tell me about it—that is, if you would like to,' he added, in quick recognition of the child's sensitive nature.

So, with insight as unerring as that of his little friend, Gabriel raised his clear blue eyes to Mr. Ludwig's face, and was soon pouring into his sympathetic ears the simple story of their hopes and struggles, a story with no note of self-pity in it for his own helpless boyhood, but only of his great longing to lighten in some way the burden.

Just then a big, worried-looking young man hastily entered the studio.

'I'm in luck to find you, Ludwig! My soprano's voice has gone hopelessly bad, and I've moved heaven and earth to get some one to take his place. I can't give that congregation any old thing. It won't go. They've been used to the best, and they won't have anything else. I've worked like a dog to make it a success, and now the whole thing is ruined unless you can help me out. A fellow is out of touch with things in the country, but I hoped that, being in town here, you could put me next to something good.'

'I wish I could,' answered Ludwig regretfully, 'but the fact is boys' voices are not much in my line.'

'But you surely know of some one—hello! Who have you got here?'—catching sight of Gabriel—'a pupil? Can you sing, boy?'

'A little,' admitted Gabriel modestly.

'You can? Let's hear you,' and rushing impetuously to the piano Durland picked up a handful of music that was lying about.

'What can you sing, child?'

On top of the pile lay the songs his father was to have sung that night.

'I can sing that one,' he said, pointing to it.

'That!' exclaimed Durland incredulously. 'That? Why, boy, that is one of the most difficult things there is.'

'But I know it quite well,' Gabriel persisted. 'I've learned nearly all of dad's songs, though, of course, I can't sing them like dad can. No one could do that.'

'Well, go ahead, boy; let's hear you,' said Durland, still sceptical; and he softly ran over the few opening bars of the prelude.

With head thrown back and his soul in his eyes, Gabriel sang—sang with a self-forgetful abandon that gave to his glorious voice a power and sweetness almost unearthly. It was a voice that made strong men cry and lifted the most callous above the sordidness of earthly desire to the plane of heavenly inspiration. The child's whole being seemed to pulse and glow with the ecstasy of it, and long after the beautiful melody had ended his expressive face radiated with the divine joy it had given him.

'Gracious, boy, who taught you to sing?' cried Durland excitedly, when he could speak, while Mr. Ludwig surreptitiously wiped his eyes.

'Dad,' answered the child simply.

'I have never heard a more marvellous voice,' Durland said. 'The boy's fortune is made! Do you know that you have a wonderful gift, boy?'

'Have I?' Gabriel answered with glowing eyes. 'I love to sing better than anything else in the world.'

'And I want you to come and sing for me at my festival,' Durland continued, 'and every Sunday afterward in my church. Wouldn't you like to be my soloist? I am the choir-master, you know, and will pay you a good salary.'

Gabriel seemed scarcely to hear the inducement offered. But one fact absorbed him. He was to sing in a big church—the highest dream of his obscure little life, and the gentleman had said it was in the country, where the birds lived and the flowers, and where one might lie all day in the soft green grass and watch the sky.

'What does his father sing?' asked Durland suddenly, in an aside to Ludwig.

'Tenor, and he has a superb voice, though temporarily injured by ill-health.'

'Just the man I want, then,' cried Durland delightedly. 'I certainly am in luck if this man proves to be what I want.'

'Could dad and Mr. Johnson come, too?' The child asked anxiously. 'Because I couldn't leave them, you see.'

'Mr. Johnson?' asked Durland, mystified.

'My friend here,' Gabriel explained.

'Of course they can come, child. There is a cottage right near the church where a nice old lady lives. I live there myself, and there will be room for us all.'

Then Mr. Ludwig, laying his hands upon his head, said:

'There is something I want you to do for me, Gabriel. I want you to sing at the concert—sing your father's song for the people, just as you have sung it now for us here. Will you do this for me and for dad?'

Gabriel's eyes were wide with amazement. Sing in dad's place—he, Gabriel!

'Did you mean, sir, that you want me to—'

'Yes, boy, I want you very much, and you shall have

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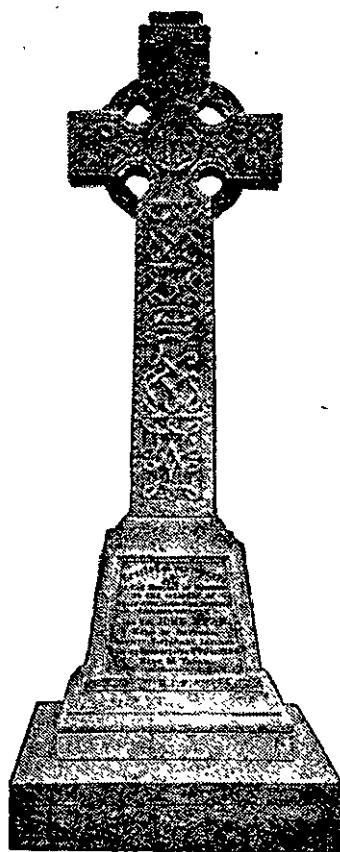
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what your father was to have had; so after all you will be able to help.'

Gabriel tried to grasp the greatness of the moment. He must be dreaming! But it was all very real, and an hour later all arrangements had been made, and he and Mr. Johnson were being whirled rapidly away in Mr. Durland's cab, after the best dinner they had ever eaten.

During the first part of the concert, Gabriel and Mr. Johnson found a corner in one of the dressing-rooms where, unnoticed, they could await Gabriel's turn to sing. Just before the time came for his number, Mr. Ludwig claimed the attention of the audience for a moment, and in a few brief words explained the change in the programme, at the same time begging their indulgence for the little cripple who would try to take his father's place.

Mechanically Gabriel swung himself on his crutch across the wide stage, until he had reached the centre, where Mr. Ludwig had told him to stand. Then he turned and faced—what? A vast sea of strange, terrifying faces that seemed to his startled fancy to extend on and on as far as the eye could reach, while in front of him were long rows of dazzling lights that bewildered and confused him. He had not been prepared for them, and a sickening fear swept over him. He felt weak and faint; and what was that dull pounding in his ears? Far, far away sounded the music of the orchestra. It was playing his accompaniment, he knew, yet he could not sing. Try as he would no sound would come from his parched throat. It was of no use!

The audience thought that the child was ill, and a murmur of pity and apprehension ran through the house.

If there were but one friendly, familiar face, Gabriel thought. He felt so utterly alone. Even Mr. Ludwig was nowhere to be seen. Just then there came the sound of a slight scuffle in the wings, and the next instant Mr. Johnson trotted triumphantly across the stage and sat down by Gabriel's side. He had recognised the signs of trouble and knew that his place was by his comrade.

The diversion broke the tension. The people laughed delightedly at the unexpected reinforcement; while Gabriel, looking down into the loving eyes raised so encouragingly to his, and feeling the warm little body rub protectively against him, felt all the numbing leave his heart. He was not alone. Here was the friend who had never failed him yet, begging him with all his love in his eyes, for dad's sake and his, not to fail them now. He would not. He would sing as he had never sung before, and his whole body glowed with a warm, responsive courage that overcame all consciousness of self and the great audience before him.

When the orchestra again began its accompaniment Gabriel was ready, and when the wonderful voice burst forth in all its glorious, throbbing beauty, it seemed to the breathless people as if an angel indeed had come among them.

Like an embodied spirit the child stood there. His very soul in ecstatic relief seemed to pour forth all the pent-up longing, all the passionate, hungry craving of the thwarted little life for the fulness and freedom and joy that could never be his. It wrung the hearts of the men and women who listened, then swept them irresistibly onward and upward to the sublime heights of self-renunciation.

When it was over, and the last note had died away, there followed for a moment a silence as tense and still as death, while Gabriel wondered vaguely why the people were crying. Then, with one accord the great audience rose to its feet, and the applause burst resistlessly in an overwhelming storm. The air fairly rang with cheers, and showers of his beloved violets and great fragrant roses came until the child and his faithful little guardian stood literally upon a bed of flowers.

Again and again did they make him sing, until Mr. Ludwig, seeing the exhaustion in the child's face, would let him give them no more. Then Gabriel came before them again and smiled his thanks. He was not afraid now. These people were his friends—his and Mr. Johnson's.

Then Mr. Durland took him home, where later he was pouring the whole wonderful story into dad's astonished ears.

'And you know, dad, it was really Mr. Johnson who did it all,' he ended, gratefully stroking the shaggy head resting near him, 'because he went on ahead, you see, and sort of prepared the way for me.'

His father with misty eyes nodded comprehendingly. 'I think,' he said, smiling, 'that we shall have to call him in future your "advance agent."'

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GREYMOUTH

(From our own correspondent.)

Among the successful candidates in the teachers' examinations held last January was Miss Honora B. Trowland, who succeeded in obtaining the full certificate for class C. Miss Trowland was presented for examination by the Sisters of Mercy, Greymouth.

During the past month a series of most successful missions has been given by the Redemptorist Fathers. The outlying districts of Brunner, Runanga, and Barrytown were favored with one week each, whilst in Greymouth one week was devoted to the children alone, and a fortnight to the adults of the congregation. The Rev. Fathers Creagh, Whelan, and Gilmartin labored earnestly for all sections of the community, with the result that upwards of 1600 approached the Holy Table. The attendance both morning and evening during the mission was exceptionally good. The closing exercises on last Sunday were impressive and edifying. Father Creagh was especially pleased with the general Communion of the St. Columba Club and Hibernian Society. On last Sunday evening the largest congregation ever assembled in the church was present.

On last Sunday morning, at 8 o'clock Mass, the members of the St. Columba Club and Hibernian Society approached the Holy Table. The members of both societies, to the number of about 150, marched in regalia from the St. Columba Club rooms to St. Patrick's Church. As it was the last day of the mission it was made the occasion of a general Communion for all the men of the parish. It was a most edifying sight to see upwards of three hundred men in a body approach the Holy Table. After Mass the members of the club and Hibernian Society marched to the St. Columba Club rooms, where the ladies' committee had provided breakfast. Mr. E. A. Casey (president of the club) occupied the chair, and Mr. T. P. Fogarty (president of the Hibernian Society) was in the vice-chair. The chairman congratulated the members of both societies on turning out in such large numbers, thus giving public manifestation of their faith. Rev. Father Creagh said he had always heard a good deal about the warm-hearted West Coast, and that morning they had more than kept up their reputation. In all his travels he had not seen a finer body of men with such practical faith, not even in dear old Ireland. He could not conclude without a special word of praise to the ladies who had gone to so much trouble in preparing the breakfast, and called for a hearty vote of thanks to them, which was carried with acclamation.

The annual general meeting of the St. Columba Catholic Club was held in the club rooms last Monday evening, when there were about fifty members present, including Very Rev. Dean Carew and Rev. Fathers Creagh, Gilmartin, and Taylor. The president (Mr. E. Casey) occupied the chair. The secretary was instructed to write to the widow and family of the late Mr. D. Sheedy, expressing the club's sympathy with them in their recent bereavement. The president, on behalf of members, extended a hearty welcome to Rev. Fathers Creagh and Gilmartin, and congratulated them on the successful termination of the mission. In the course of an eloquent reply, Rev. Father Creagh complimented the members on their excellent rooms, and remarked that the St. Columba Club was the finest institution for young men he had seen. An invitation from St. Canice's Club (Westport) to arrange an inter-club visit at Easter was left in the hands of a sub-committee to make arrangements. Messrs. E. Casey and P. J. Smyth were appointed to represent the St. Columba Club at the conference of the Federated Catholic Clubs to be held at Wellington during Easter-week. The annual report and balance sheet were read and adopted, and showed the finances to be in a flourishing state. The balance of assets over liabilities amounted to the sum of £511. The expenses during the year amounted to £146 14s 10d, and there was a credit balance for the year of £234 11d, which was considered most satisfactory. The election of officers resulted as follows:—President, Mr. R. C. Heffernan; vice-presidents, Rev. Bro. Arthur and Messrs. E. Casey and W. H. Duffy; spiritual director, Rev. Father Taylor; hon. secretary, Mr. P. J. Smyth; vice-secretary, Mr. C. A. Carmine; treasurer, Mr. B. J. Phillips; librarian, Mr. A. F. O'Donoghue; committee, Messrs. J. Quinlan and D. O'Neill. Mr. R. C. Heffernan, in returning thanks for his election as president, urged on all members to use their influence to induce every Catholic young man in the parish to become a member of the club; and he promised to present a gold medal to the member introducing the most new members during the session.

Holiday excursion tickets will be issued on the Government Railways in connection with the Easter holidays from April 6 to April 12.

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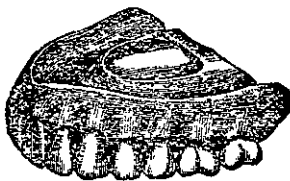
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Current Topics

Religious v. Secular Education

On the next two pages of this issue appears the twelfth and last of the series of articles on 'The Secular Phase of Our Education System,' which the editor of the *New Zealand Tablet* has been for some time past contributing to the *Otago Daily Times* (Dunedin). This closing article appeared in last Saturday's issue of our esteemed local contemporary. The same issue contained an editorial reply. We quote the following therefrom, as illustrating the kindly, dignified, and courteous—even courtly—spirit which the *Otago Daily Times* brings to the discussion of the theme: 'Our issue of this morning contains the final article of the series in which the editor of the *New Zealand Tablet* has been discussing, in our columns, the secular phase of our education system as viewed from the standpoint of the Roman Catholic body. A peculiar value attaches to this series of articles, since it has provided absolutely the first complete presentation that has appeared in any secular journal in the Australasian colonies, if not, indeed, in any secular journal anywhere, of the Roman Catholic opinion of the principles which should regulate any system of national education. The articles have also commanded respect by reason of the high degree of scholarship which their author has brought with him to the performance of his undertaking, of the conspicuous ability with which the views of the Roman Catholic community have been stated and its claims advanced by him, and of the dignified restraint which has marked his expression of these views and claims.'

The *Otago Daily Times* then proceeds to restate and defend its position with a dignity and a kindliness of feeling which add a fresh adornment to its old and honorable traditions. In fairness to our valued contemporary, we must here state that it does not accept as correct our statement that at one time it stood for religion in the school and for a denominational system side by side with that of the State. Our reperusal of its article of July 2, 1880, however, does not render it possible for us to recede from our view, as expressed in the course of the article that appears on the next two pages. So we shall agree to differ thereon, like reasonable people, in a reasonable and friendly way. A reply to the *Times* article, and to such criticisms as may arise, will bring the present writer's association with the discussion to a close. The discussion on the subject (with the exception of such matter irrelevant to the education issue as has been, or may be, injected into it) will be published in book-form at the office of the *New Zealand Tablet*. The editor of this paper desires to record, in the most emphatic way, his deep sense of the generosity of the space accorded to him for a series of articles, in criticism of our contemporary's policy, which went far beyond his original purpose and intent; likewise his profound sense of the fair, courteous, and even chivalrous treatment extended to him, in every way, in connection with this attempt to place the Catholic view of education before the wide circle of readers of the *Otago Daily Times*.

The South Polar Expedition

One sultry summer day a poet sighed:—

'O for an iceberg or two at control!
O for a pleasure trip up to the pole!'

It reminds one of Henry Kirke White's longing for consumption:—

'Gently, most gently, on thy victim's head,
Consumption, lay thine hand!—let me decay
Like the expiring lamp, unseen away,
And softly go to slumber with the dead.'

But the romance of consumption passes 'like a snowflake on the river' as soon as swarms of the microscopic poisoners set their grip upon lung-tissue. In like manner, the near presence of 'an iceberg or two' in the far, far north or in the far, far south would, in all probability, speedily disperse all desire for a closer acquaintance; and a journey to the pole—whether north or south—would be anything like a picnic or a pleasure trip. Certainly Lieutenant Shackleton's perilous journey over the ice-fields towards the south pole was not the sort of thing that the poet or the arm-chair traveller would long for to any great extent. The story of that trying expedition is one of dire toil and of hunger and exposure such as would have severed the partnership of soul and body in men of lesser courage and endurance. Thus, in one of the terrible forced marches over the crevassed ice-fields, the party covered only sixteen miles in twenty-two hours. 'Half an hour before we came to camp,' said Lieutenant Shack-

ton, 'Adams fell in his harness, but directly he had recovered a little he went on again pulling.' They suffered agonies from dysentery the while, they had to toil and travel 126 days on 92 days' food rations, and from the middle of November till February 3, they had only two 'square' meals. 'At Chinaman depot,' adds the narrator, 'we loaded with horse-meat, and digging down in the snow, found the frozen blood of the horse; this we added to our stock of food, the daily ration now consisting of (for the whole day) one pannikin of half-cooked horse-meat [they had to shoot their ponies], with blood; and four-biscuits, two pannikins of tea, and half a spoonful of cocoa per man.'

The expedition discovered the Magnetic Pole in what has been provisionally estimated as the latitude of 72 degrees 25 minutes and the longitude of (approximately) 154 degrees; they trekked through blizzards and over great broken ice-fields to within ninety-seven miles of the South Pole; and they added greatly to our store of geographical, geological, and other scientific knowledge of the great lone land in the far south. We lift our hat to Lieutenant Shackleton and those that were with him on his perilous journey, and welcome them back from the ice-fields and the snow.

Two Distinguished Converts

After years of conversion, and after several years in the sacred ministry, the distinguished author, Father Robert Hugh Benson, the convert son of the late Anglican Archbishop of Canterbury, says: 'The Church promises a great deal, but my experience is that she gives ten times more. And if you put on the balance the most successful life outside the Church and the most unsuccessful and disastrous life within her fold, a thousand times rather choose the latter. The Catholic Church is supremely what she promises to be. She is the price pearl for which the greatest sacrifice is not too great.'

A similar experience is recorded in such happy phrase by Mr. C. Kegan Paul, the noted author and publisher, that it is worth quoting in full. We take it from the story of his conversion, which is so exquisitely told by himself in *Roads to Rome* (edited by Mr. Godfrey Raupert), the third edition of which is just to hand. 'Those who are not converts,' says Mr. Kegan Paul (pp. 203-4), 'are apt to think and say that converts join the Church in a certain exaltation of spirit, but that when it cools they regret what has been done, and would return but for very shame. It has been said of marriage that every one finds, when the ceremony is over, that he or she has married another, and not the bride or groom who seemed to have been won; and Clough takes the story of Jacob as a parable representing this fact. We wed Rachel, as we think, and in the morning, behold it is Leah. So the Church bears one aspect when seen from a distance, *ab extra*; another when you have given yourself to her keeping.'

'But,' continues our author, 'the Church is no Leah, rather a fairer Rachel than we dared to dream, her blessings are greater than we had hoped. I may say for myself that the happy tears shed at the tribunal of Penance, on that 12th day of August, the fervor of my first Communion, were as nothing to what I feel now. Day by day the mystery of the Altar seems greater, the unseen world nearer, God more a Father, our Lady more tender, the great company of the saints more friendly—if I dare use the word—my guardian angel closer to my side. All human relationships become holier, all human friends dearer, because they are explained and sanctified by the relationships and the friendships of another life. Sorrows have come to me in abundance since God gave me the grace to enter His Church, but I can bear them better than of old, and the blessing He has given me outweighs them all. May He forgive me that I so long resisted Him, and lead those I love unto the fair land wherein He has brought me to dwell! It will be said, and with truth, that I am very confident. My experience is like that of the blind man in the Gospel who was sure. He was still ignorant of much, nor could he fully explain how Jesus opened his eyes, but this he could say with unfaltering certainty: "One thing I know, that whereas I was blind, now I see."'

'Irish Outrages'

Russell Lowell's 'pious editor' believed 'in humbug generally,'

'Fer it's a thing that I believe
To hev a solid vally'

(that is, value). In other countries 'humbug' may 'hev a solid vally'; but Ireland is, perhaps, the only country in the world where an 'agrarian outrage' is a great political asset, and where a politi-

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cal faction (termed by Chief Secretary Mr. Birrell 'the carrion crows') are busily engaged in the manufacture of bogus or exaggerated tales of 'outrage' of this sort and mailing and cabling them to the ends of the earth. Earl Dudley—now Governor-General of the Australian Commonwealth—has 'bin thar'; he was Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, he knew the country, and he knew the ways and works of the 'carrion crows.' All this gives a special interest and value to the outspoken pronouncement which he made upon the subject in a spirited discourse at the St. Patrick's Day celebration in Melbourne. We quote from the Melbourne *Advocate* of March 20. 'It is unfortunately quite true,' said his Excellency, 'that acts of disloyalty occur in Ireland, and that most regrettable incidents take place, but anyone who has taken the trouble to study the Irish conditions knows, I think, perfectly well that those acts are but part of a political campaign, and that they spring, not from any inherent or deep-seated sentiment of disloyalty to the British Throne, but from very acute feelings of discontent with the present system of government.—(Applause.) No one deprecates more strongly than I do the expression of political feelings in such a manner; it is, to my mind, a method as foolish and mistaken as it is wrong; but I have always maintained, and I see no reason to change my opinion, that if once the political discontent in Ireland could be removed, there is nothing to prevent the people of that country from being as loyal, outwardly and inwardly, as those of any other part of the British possessions.—(Cheers.) That has always been the basis of my opinions on Irish affairs.—(Renewed cheers.)'

The *New Zealand Tablet* publication, *An Impeached Nation*, is a special study of this whole subject.

The 'Malta Episode'

The author of *The Recreation of a Country Parson* lays down a well-known fact of daily experience when he says: 'Many people cannot resist the temptation to deepen the colors, and strengthen the lines, of any narration, in order to make it more telling. Unluckily,' adds he, 'things usually occur in life in such a manner as just to miss what would give them a point and make a good story of them; and the temptation is strong to make them, by the deflection of a hair's-breadth, what they ought to have been.'

We were reminded of this happy passage of the Country Parson as we perused the report of a speech by the Rev. Missionary John McNeill in a recent number of the *Christian Herald and Signs of the Times*. The missionary—then, we presume, on a financial quest—told in London a story of his evangelistic tour in Malta. And, like the folk of the Country Parson's book, he did not resist the temptation to deepen the colors, and strengthen the lines, of his narration. This he did by the simple, if rather tricky, expedient of leaving out of his story everything that would tell in favor of 'the other side.' The story of his evangelising tour in Malta in 1906 has been told full many a time and oft—how the Archbishop ('a kindly old man in himself,' says Mr. McNeill) protested to the Governor against the Rev. Mr. McNeill 'rubbing it in' to his hearers in the theatre, Valetta (the capital), how the Governor 'said the meetings were to continue'; and so on. There were a few things which the Rev. Mr. McNeill failed to mention—and their exclusion from his narrative served to 'give it a point' and 'make a good story' of it—for the audience and the purpose that he had in view. Here are some of the suppressed facts: Malta is an entirely and intensely Catholic country—practically the only Protestants in it being connected with the garrison and the Government. When the island was taken over by the British in 1800, the status of the Catholic religion was fixed in such a way that (among other things) anything in the nature of an active propaganda of other creeds among the Catholic population was forbidden. The free exercise of the worship of other faiths was permitted, a number of churches were erected for their use, but their worship was not to be obtruded upon the Catholic population. For the purposes of his propaganda in Malta, Mr. McNeill secured the use of the theatre—which, be it noted, was public property; he covered the island with flaring posters announcing his crusade, and inviting all and sundry to attend; and, in a word, carried on an active propaganda, thereby infringing the letter of the treaty and a long-established constitutional custom. From first to last the action of the Catholic authorities was based on treaty rights and constitutional grounds, and against the use of one of their own public buildings as a vantage-ground for attacks upon their faith. We are here merely stating, without comment, the facts which Mr. McNeill did not deem it well to add to his narrative. Some people's stories are, so to speak, very selective. And your missionary orator on tour—the judge

and recorder of his own achievements and often the raiser of his own funds—can hardly be always expected to obtrude the facts which would deprive his story of a persuasive point. There's a good deal of human nature in mankind; and 'whole-truth' and the perfervid oratory of denunciation seldom play in the same yard or swing on the same gate.

THE SECULAR PHASE OF OUR EDUCATION SYSTEM

A DISCUSSION

(By the Editor of the *New Zealand Tablet*.)

The following article on the above subject—the twelfth of the series—appeared in the *Otago Daily Times* of March 27:—

XII.—THE CATHOLIC CLAIM. PART II.: WHAT IT IS.—(Concluded.)

III. SECTARIANISM OF THE SECULAR SYSTEM.—The objection of Catholics, and of great bodies of earnest and God-loving Protestants, to the secular system is directly based, as already stated, upon the exclusion of religion from its proper place in the vital process of education. That objection is emphasised by another consideration which furnishes an ironical comment upon the alleged 'unsectarian' and 'undenominational' character of the secular system, and its vaunted 'fairness to all.'

The secular system, as well as the religious system, starts from the principle that education is a preparation for life. Upon this the secular system, in logical effect, raises the following implied dogmas: That religion in education is inconsistent with, or hostile to, or at best unnecessary to, the true life-aim of the child; that the exclusion of religion from education promotes the true life-aim of the child; that the immemorial teaching of Christendom as to the need of an intimate union of religion and education is, so to speak, a piece of heretical pravity. Here we have a highly sectarian set of dogmas regarding religion—that is, of religious dogmas. These represent an attitude towards religion, a school of thought, an 'ism.' They directly suit the educational ideals of the Secularist and the Agnostic. These implied dogmas are forced by law upon the public schools. Those parents that accept them are rewarded with the free education of their children; those that cannot in conscience accept them must either smother their conscientious convictions in return for the valued boon of free education or they must pay a double and continuing tax or fine—one for the education which they cannot in conscience accept, the other for the education which they can.

I could fill a large space of this paper with evidence of the extent to which both Protestants and Catholics recognise the radically sectarian character of any and every purely secular system of public instruction. Let one quotation in point, however, suffice—from the able, interesting, and excellent organ of the Presbyterian body, the (*Dunedin*) *Outlook*. On various occasions (as in November, 1898) it said of 'a system of pure secularism' that 'it is as much a denominational system as is a Roman or a Presbyterian.' And, legally, the New Zealand system is (as has already been amply shown) 'a system of pure secularism.' Here, in fact, we have a form of secularism raised to the rank of an official State school creed, and forced upon the consciences of the people by what are, in effect, legal pains and penalties. True, it does not—and dares not—as yet blot out the name of God from the school text-books, as was done in Victoria, and as is done to-day in France, the land from which the world has received the secular system. With us—as yet—its mischief lies rather in what the secular system fails to inculcate; in the manner in which—in a materialising age—it forces religion into the background of the child's life; in its failure to strengthen and train the moral conscience and the will of the child when such training is most urgently needed, and when, for a great and increasing number of children, such training must be imparted or not at all. You can kill a child's bodily life as surely by withholding food as by dosing it with prussic acid. And you can starve to death the faith of young souls as well as slay it with atheistic teachings such as are imparted by printed manuals and by oral teaching in the 'secular' and professedly 'neutral' State schools of France to-day.

The secular system directly suits non-believers. It is also accepted (on grounds already dealt with in a previous article) by some Christians who were so embittered by school hardships inflicted by the intimate union of Church

Donna drink tea that disna satisfy! Hondai Lanka has the rich, full-bodied flavor and satisfying taste.

'Nae doot, if ye drank "Cock o' the North" Tea ye wadna be sae fashed wi' indigestion.'

and State in another land that they swing to the opposite extreme, and stand for the more or less complete exclusion of religion from schools conducted by the State in these countries. But, after over thirty years' experience of the secular system, the greater body of Christians in New Zealand would, I think, welcome a change which would result in the introduction of some measure of religion into the daily school-life of the child. Catholics do not believe in the right or competency of the civil government to teach religion, and they would not tolerate such teaching by it to their own children. They would, however, be more than willing to see useful measures of Biblical instruction and religious training imparted to non-Catholic children in the public schools. At the same time they have, of course, opposed specific wrongs (detailed in two previous articles) which have been done, or proposed to be done, to Catholics by the operation of certain defective schemes of non-Catholic Biblical or religious instruction in the public schools. The Catholic position in this connection, as the present writer understands it, is substantially as set forth hereunder.

IV. A SUGGESTED SCHEME.—(1) The public schools to remain secular, as at present, except for those children whose parents desire for them some measure of religion in the school. (2) The public school system to legalise Bible-reading or Bible-teaching, or religious instruction, suited to the conscientious requirements of parents desiring it. The details to be formulated by the non-Catholic churches in groups, or in any other way that may to them seem good. This is a matter for them to arrange. Such forms of religious instruction, etc., to be given only to those children whose parents express a desire for the same. A suitable conscience clause and other suitable protection to be likewise provided for teachers. In all cases in which the teachers decline to impart Biblical instruction, etc. (as above), arrangements could, no doubt, be made for the same by volunteer or paid helpers at far less cost than Catholics would be willing to pay for the religious education of their children. Catholics would thus give non-Catholics—both Protestants and secularists—much the best of the bargain—(a) Catholics would be willing to see a non-Catholic programme of religion, legalised (as above) as part of the State school day; they ask no such privilege for themselves; (b) they would leave the school day of secularists, and of others desiring it, as secular as they please; (c) Catholics would, to a very large extent, be willing to surrender to non-Catholics—for such religion or non-religion as these might desire—the public schools, for the erection of which Catholics have contributed heavily, and, as will be seen later on, they ask not one penny piece from non-Catholics in return.

3. Those that like it could accept a secular school day. The bulk of the rest of non-Catholics would probably accept some or other form of Bible-reading or Bible-teaching, etc., on inter-denominational, or pan-denominational, or denominational lines, according to a system or systems of their choice. Catholics, as a matter of conscience and religious principle, could no more accept this than they could accept a purely secular system; and they would object to be taxed for the maintenance of either. Ever since 1877 the Catholic conscience has been exploited for the benefit of the general taxpayer. We are carrying on our school system, not for social or domestic reasons, but from sheer motives of a compelling conscience. Every year comparatively poor Catholic parents are compelled, as a penalty for putting their conscientious belief into practice, to pay some £40,000 for the education of the children of non-Catholic parents, who are usually better fitted to bear that burden. In any and every non-Catholic scheme of religious instruction in the public schools Catholics would, as a broad principle of justice, expect to be relieved (as both Catholics and Protestants are in parts of Canada) of the burden of supporting a system which they cannot in conscience accept.

4. Catholics would accept any fair arrangement of school finances. This might take the shape of (a) a capitation grant based on secular educational results, as attested by State inspectors; or (b) payment of teachers' salaries; or (c) any other equitable arrangement; (d) Catholics do not ask, and have never asked, for so much as a bronze penny from the pockets of non-Catholics for Catholic schools, but they strongly feel that they are entitled (as is the practice in the province of Ontario and Quebec) to a fair equivalent of what they themselves annually contribute to the upkeep of the State system, and for which they get but little return; (e) Catholics do not ask, and have never asked, for so much as a penny piece of State contribution towards the cost of the religious instruction and training imparted in their schools. In this respect their demand is identical in principle with the State system for the reform of inebriates which is carried on by the Salvation Army on Pakatoa Island, New Zealand. Religion is a chief factor in the raising of those hapless people above their dead selves, just as it is chief factor in the training of Catholic

children in Catholic schools. In the case of the Salvation Army on Pakatoa, the religious instruction and devotion is not paid for by the Government. The State does not concern itself with the amount of preaching, exhortation, 'knee-drill,' etc., that the management throws, of its own good will and pious intention, into their work. The State merely makes a capitation grant for the maintenance (of those committed, and for other secular services rendered. It, however, affords facilities of environment for the play of religious influences, in the reclaiming of those 'children of a larger growth.' In like manner, the Government paid the contractors of the Makatote Viaduct for secular results only, and did not bother its head how much they prayed and sang hymns, so long as the work was done according to specifications. Catholics only ask that the State-certified State work of education which they conscientiously do, according to State specifications and State requirements, should be treated in the same way.

5. The Catholic position, as already stated, requires, in practical effect, in these countries, separate schools for Catholic children. (a) Existing schools could be brought into the State system on the Canadian, German, or any other acceptable arrangement described in a previous article. (b) Where further Catholic schools would be called for, the German or Canadian or other suitable method might be followed; a fair minimum attendance (say, 25, for example) might be fixed; Catholic householders, in places where a sufficient attendance could be secured, might be enabled to form themselves into a school district, and elect their own school committee, as under the State system; and separate school buildings to be erected at the sole cost of those desiring such schools, and to be in accordance with the requirements of the education authorities. Any other religious body requiring separate schools to be placed upon the same footing. Such a minimum attendance as that suggested above would give very few additional Catholic schools to this Dominion. Practically only one other religious body would erect schools under these conditions—and, perhaps, not a great number of them. The friendly educational rivalry between the two systems, the bringing of large bodies of spiritually destitute children within the sphere of moral and religious influences, the resultant improvement in moral tone, the quickening of religious life, and the increased educational peace resulting from a settlement of this vexed question would amply repay the State even from the civil and secular point of view.

6. Catholics would freely accord to the Government control in the following matters:—(a) In finance and financial policy—no part of the State payments would pass through the hands of the ecclesiastical authorities; (b) in the programme of secular instruction; (c) in testing and determining the efficiency of teachers and keeping it well up to the level of the State system; (d) in the construction, hygiene, furniture, and equipment of the schools; and (e), generally, in all purely civil and secular matters. The Catholic ecclesiastical authorities claim one right which they never can surrender—namely, the right of effective control in all matters relating to the faith, morals, and religious teaching and training of Catholic children. For any non-Catholic children that might attend Catholic schools there would, of course, be a conscience clause on the positive lines already indicated.

7. Catholics are not tied to any one solution of the religious difficulty in education. Quebec, Ontario, Germany (which is, educationally, the most advanced nation in the world), and other countries of mixed religion have, as indicated in a previous article, systems of public instruction that present, on the whole, satisfactory solutions of the problem. And, no doubt, other fair means out of the difficulty might also be devised. The Governments in these countries have created a monopoly in what is called free education. It is their duty *aut viam invenire aut facere* to devise a solution of the religious difficulty. The civil authority may not (so Catholics believe) itself teach religion. But it is deeply concerned with religion as a teacher of morality, a promoter of good order, the best school of good citizenship. And if it cannot itself give its young citizens the benefits of such religious training, it becomes its plain duty to entrust it to those who can do so, and do so at the best time and in the most effective way.

The long list of prominent advocates of State aid to religious schools includes names of such note as John Stuart Mill and the rationalist historian Lecky, whose testimony, I have already quoted. Grants to Catholic schools were strongly advocated a few years ago in Interim Report No. 55 of the New South Wales Education Commission. In the secular press I content myself with citing the *Otago Daily Times*, which was at one period a cordial supporter of religion in the schools, and of a State-aided denominational system side by side with that of the State. Thus, in a leading article of its issue of July 2, 1880, it said that the opposition then shown to the secular system might possibly result 'in bringing about such a modified system of "pay-

ment by results" as we have several times sketched in these columns—a system which would leave greater freedom to all those who are anxious to combine religions with secular instruction by making the State the equal distributor of all public grants for secular instruction only, and would allow each separate educational organisation to give what religious instruction it pleased. This would be an absolutely impartial system; but, after all, the State schools would be necessary to supplement the imperfect efforts of private enterprise and religious zeal.

Catholics would be well satisfied with 'an absolutely impartial system' such as this.

V. A QUESTION OF CONSCIENCE.—The whole question of the Catholic claim is, on the part of Catholics, a strict matter of conscience and of religious principle; on the part of the State it is, at root, a question as to the extent to which the demands of conscience shall be recognised in legislation. The whole tendency of the past hundred years has been to enlarge and legalise rights of conscience. Thus, in English-speaking countries generally, Quakers and other conscientious objectors (atheists included) are now released from the former obligation of taking oaths on various occasions. The curious conscientious scruples of Mohammedans were respected at Calcutta in July, 1897, even at the risk of the continuance of the bubonic plague. In 1908 the Indian Government likewise compelled the Mohammedans to respect the susceptibilities of the Hindus in regard to cows. Quakers in the United States are exempted, on grounds of conscience, from the duty of defending their country—a duty which, on occasion, the civil authority may justly require and enforce. Varying measures of legislative protection are also accorded, in this and most other countries, to the 'conscientious' objections of anti-vaccinationists. The State should, in its legislation, protect liberty generally, except where such liberty might degenerate into license or disorder, or be an invasion of the just rights of others. Freedom in matters of conscience, as in other matters, is deemed to be in possession, and adequate cause should be shown where it is taken away, or diminished, or the area of restraints upon it enlarged. In the connection here under consideration, a wide liberty is in possession over the greater part of the Christian world. Over all Australia, and in a great part of New Zealand, there existed a wider liberty of conscience in the matter of religious education than at present prevails. The conscientious right of Christian taxpayers to have their children educated religiously was recognised by State grants to denominational schools. All this has been stopped by act of Parliament, and the only free or State-aided education that now prevails in these new countries is (as already shown) free education forced upon the consciences of the people by (in effect) fines, and based upon a form of sectarian Secularism or Agnosticism. It is for the defenders of this new, experimental, and comparatively localised system to justify this invasion of rights of conscience as best they may. To do so they must demonstrate one or other of the following propositions:—(1) That State aid to religious education is, of its nature, opposed to the true end and aim of the life of the child. (2) That State aid to religious education is opposed to the principles of true pedagogy or child-training. (This second proposition is intimately bound up with the first). (3) That State aid to religious education is, of its nature, opposed to those principles of good order which it is the bounden duty of the civil authority to guard. Let it be well borne in mind that such evils as the advocates of the secular system may allege against religious education must be shown not alone to be of first-class gravity: it must, moreover, be shown that they are inherent thereto, and not separable from it, by the operation of skilled and statesmanlike legislation. They will, moreover, have to reconcile their assertions, in this connection, with the conspicuous success of State-aided systems of religious education, such as that which prevails in Germany, the foremost nation in the world in matters educational.

VI. A PARTING REQUEST.—I entreat the thoughtful reader who has been patient enough to follow me thus far to bear the following points well in mind:—(1) This is a discussion between secular and religious education—between Christian principles in education and a form of dogmatic secularism in education. (2) This is not, except in an indirect and incidental way, a discussion between one scheme and another scheme of religious education. It is high time for all the friends of religious education to try to understand each other, and not to waste their energies in the aimless internecine strife, which has enabled a form of Secularism to capture the public schools. (3) Before discussing schemes, details, or side issues, it is most desirable either to agree upon, or to thresh out, the principles of philosophy and of pedagogy (child-training) upon which this whole question ultimately turns. Otherwise, the discussion would degenerate into a mere tangled wrangle. (4) The chief object of all discussion should be to evolve light, not heat.

There are, of course, practical difficulties in evolving a scheme of all-round religious education. But the present writer believes that they are relatively unimportant, and that they could be solved here, as they have been solved elsewhere. The faith that educates the moral conscience and the will of children holds the key of the future. So, in effect, said Mr. Amasa Thornton, writing on the religious difficulty in education in the *North American Review* for January, 1893. 'Although a Protestant of the firmest kind,' added he, 'I believe the time has come to recognise this fact, and for all of us to lay aside religious prejudices and patriotically meet this question.'

St. Patrick's Day in Auckland

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

On the morning of St. Patrick's Day all were astir in the city and suburban parishes at an early hour. The rendezvous was at Sir George Grey's statue, where by 9 o'clock the children of the Cathedral parish, St. Benedict's, Ponsonby, Parnell, Newmarket, Otahuhu, and Onehunga met. The marshals, Mr. John Patterson, J.P., and Mr. Hubert Nerheny, assisted by Rev. Father Edge, soon had the concourse of children in order around the statue. When his Lordship the Bishop arrived all sang 'Faith of Our Fathers,' accompanied by the Garrison Band, the whole conducted by Mr. P. F. Hiscocks. The Bishop then imparted his blessing to the assembled children from the steps of the statue, after which the head of the procession moved off down Queen street, which by this time was lined on both sides with interested spectators. The dimensions of the procession will be gauged when it is stated that the children walked three deep, and it extended from Queen street wharf to the Grey statue. The Garrison Band was at the head, followed by the members of the local branch of the H.A.C.B. Society; then St. Patrick's, Parnell, St. Benedict's, Sacred Heart, the children from the Ponsonby and Takapuna Orphanages, First Battalion Band, Newmarket, Otahuhu, Ellerslie, Onehunga. With banners and bannerettes waving in the sunshine, it was a grand spectacle. At the ferry two of the largest steamers of the fleet were waiting, and on to these the whole body marched in regular order, without the least confusion—no easy feat for the marshals and those in charge of the various parishes. It was estimated that 5000 marched through Queen street. Across the water at Devonport the same good order prevailed at the disembarkation. Here, too, at the marine suburb the whole population seemed to have turned out. From the ferry they marched to the Takapuna Jockey Club's course. Refreshments in abundance were given out to the children, after which various sports were provided for them. About noon his Lordship the Bishop came on the ground, and later on it was computed that there must have been 10,000 persons present. The sports committee provided an excellent programme, the principal event being the Marathon Race from Lake Takapuna to the course, around which the competitors had to run eight times. The excitement over it was great, which was heightened by means of a megaphone, through which the concourse were apprised of the start and the positions of the contestants before they entered the course and came into view. The distance was eleven miles, and was won by A. Rogers. An interesting item was the champion drill competition for squads from the schools. This was again won by the pupils of the Sisters of St. Joseph, Surry Hills, who have now won the banner three times, thus retaining possession of it. The judge complimented the winners on their splendid exhibition. Sacred Heart parish children were second. Everything went on smoothly and well, and the tastes of all were catered for abundantly, and the committee was complimented for the excellent arrangements and success of the celebration. Before the shades of evening fell the vast crowds were safely landed on the city side of the Waitemata.

The Irish national concert was held in St. Benedict's Hall. Directly the doors of the big hall were opened the crowd surged in, and very soon every seat was filled, and many could not even get standing room. The following was the programme:—Part I.: Chorus, 'Let Erin remember,' children of the Catholic schools; song, 'An spalpin fanac,' Mr. Owen Pritchard; quartette, 'Hymn to the Pope,' May Erin's faith ne'er languish, Misses C. Lorrigan, Duffin, Tobin, and Mrs. Hiscocks; song, 'Kathleen Mavourneen,' Miss Florence Quinn; chorus, 'Tho' the last glimpse of Erin,' orphan children; song, 'Come back to Erin,' Miss Colita Lorrigan; trio, 'The low-back car,' Messrs. Egan, Pritchard, and Hiscocks. Part II.: Chorus, 'The minstrel boy,' children of the Catholic schools; song, 'Killarney,' Madame Casier; chorus, 'Steer my barque to Erin's Isle,' orphan children; quartette, 'The dear little shamrock,' Messrs. Egan, Adeane, Hiscocks, and Pritchard; song and chorus, 'God save Ireland,' Madame

Casier. The accompanists were Miss Kathleen Owens and Mr. Harry Hiscocks. Mrs. Ralph accompanied the orphan children, and Mr. P. F. Hiscocks was conductor. Before the last item on the programme was given his Lordship the Bishop ascended the stage and said he felt proud of the whole proceedings that day and the fitting culmination in the fine concert. On his return from Europe he was pleased to learn that his priests and people had determined to make an effort to worthily commemorate their national festival, and at the same time to assist the schools of the diocese by devoting the proceeds to their support. No better object could be chosen by them upon which to bestow their money and energies. That morning, when standing on the steps of the Grey statue and looking over the big throng of children, his mind was taken back to that memorable Saturday afternoon in London when he saw that huge children's procession which, like their own that morning, sang 'Faith of Our Fathers.' Both were cheering and comforting events, and nerved one to do still more in the interests of Faith and Fatherland. He felt proud at being their Bishop, and proud of being an Irishman. The committee he wished to thank, and only wished they were present on the stage that he might thank them in as public a manner as possible. He also desired to thank the performers, especially Misses Lorrigan and Quinn and Madame Casier, who were always ready to assist in any good cause. His Lordship was warmly cheered as he left the stage. The concert concluded with the singing of the chorus of 'God save Ireland' by the audience.

'THE SECRET OF THE SUCCESS OF THE CHURCH OF ROME'

Under the above heading the following letter and extract appear in the current issue of the *Dunedin Outlook* (Presbyterian):—

Sir,—In your issue of February 20, a letter appeared addressed to Mr. Cameron, signed 'A Son,' which very much appealed to my own ideas on the subject. 'A Son' showed how the Church of Rome is successful in gaining converts, by the 'self-restraint, courtesy, and kindness' of her clergy. If these virtues were more pronounced in our clergy, would our Church not be benefited too? Let me give an instance! In a certain town of Auckland, there lives a young couple with their only child. The father of the child took seriously ill with lung trouble, which confined him to his bed for some weeks. Though there were both Church of England and Presbyterian Churches in the district, neither of these ministers came near them; but Father—, a Roman Catholic priest, heard of the trouble, and though he had never met either of them, he called one day, saying that he had just learned that the husband was ill, and had come to see if they had everything that was required, or if he could assist in any way. Day after day he called, and cheered the patient with his tactful conversation. Up to this time both my friends had a strong aversion to Roman Catholic priests, but naturally enough their aversion was decreased, though neither of them could for a moment think of accepting the Roman Catholic faith. This same Father— has a rule which might profitably be followed by our ministers. Every evening he goes round certain chemists' shops to learn who had called for medicines during that day, and all else that could be learned about the patient and his circumstances; and no matter whether of his own denomination or otherwise, Father— many times takes from an adjoining store what is necessary in the way of food or clothing for them. He is frequently paid for it, but not always. 'Never mind,' he will say, 'just pay when you can, and if you cannot it will be all right.' Now, does not this speak for itself?

I enclose a clipping from a pamphlet entitled 'Britain, Awake!' which shows what strides the Catholics are making. Perhaps you may find room for it in your valuable and appreciated *Outlook*. Surely it is time for our ministers to rouse themselves to action, and to get more life and activity in our Church.—I am, etc.,
A READER.

'ACTIVITY OF THE ROMAN CHURCH.'

—Propaganda Abroad.—

Rome, August 12.

Great interest has been aroused in Rome by the report brought by the Rector of the Apostolic Mission House at Washington, the Very Rev. A. P. Doyle, of the remarkable work which is being done by that institution, and the hundreds of missionary priests who are being trained there for the purpose of preaching the doctrines of the Roman Catholic faith to the non-Catholics of the

United States. The aim of the organisation is no less than to make the whole of America dominantly Roman Catholic, and, judging by the extraordinary success of the first ten years' work, it is difficult to foretell how great may be the results of the next few years.

The work of the Washington Mission starts from an entirely new point of departure. Instead of the negative and controversial attitude of the past towards Protestants, the old-fashioned priest who denounced them to his people as bigoted and aggressive enemies of them and of religion—the carefully selected young priests who are trained at the Washington Mission are taught to avoid entirely all harsh and controversial methods, to consider in every way the feelings, and even the prejudices, of their hearers, and, while instructed in the most elaborate way to present the doctrines of the Roman Church in such a manner as to convince the non-Catholic of the superior advantages of the Roman Church, equally great attention is given to training the young in the art of persuasion, in patience, gentleness, unaffected good temper, and that tactful and sympathetic manner which goes far to disarm criticism and undermine the prejudices of opponents. In addition, they are trained in elocution, good taste, charm of manner, and even in such comparatively small details as the management and use of the local press. It is hoped that eventually every diocese will contain a band of these missionary priests to the non-Catholics, who will hold constant missions and devote all their energies to the great ideal that they have set before themselves of guiding a constant stream of converts into the Roman Catholic fold.

Though the work is at present in its infancy, with such highly-trained and magnificently-equipped instruments, it is not surprising that through their agency some 6000 converts have already been received into the Roman Catholic Church, while 62,500 have been placed under instruction to be received later. In order to give some idea of the militant methods of the Roman Catholic Church in America at present, it is sufficient to state that during last year over 25,000 converts in all were received, among them no fewer than thirty Episcopalian ministers. Such wonderful success has induced the Roman hierarchy in England to desire to start a like organisation in every English diocese, and Father Herbert Vaughan has been sent by Archbishop Bourne to study the methods and ideals of the Washington Mission House in order that a thoroughly organised movement may be started in England and Scotland on the same lines, establishing a similar Apostolic Mission House to be the great nerve centre of a widespread missionary movement. It is said that Pius X. and his Secretary of State, Cardinal Merry del Val, consider this movement one of the most important in the Roman Catholic Church of to-day, and one which may have even more far-reaching results than the Oxford Movement that gained for the Roman Church Manning and Newman. They will accordingly give it every help and encouragement in their power.

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

March 27.

A beautiful fountain has been erected on the St. Bride's Convent grounds at Masterton by Messrs. Taylor and Hodges. The fountain is a gift to the convent.

At the statutory meeting of the Charitable Aid Board on Friday the following estimates for 1909-10 on account of charity disbursements were passed:—St. Joseph's Orphanage, £260; St. Mary's Orphanage, £320.

Miss Hannah Sweeney, of Gore, an ex-pupil of St. Mary's Convent, Wellington, was a passenger to London by the Athenic. It is her intention to prosecute her musical studies while at home.

There was an interesting and impressive ceremony at the Home of Compassion, Island Bay, on March 19, when three young ladies were professed. These were Miss Theresa Sullivan, Wellington (in religion Sister Mary Josephine); Miss Emma Crombie, Wellington (Sister Mary Cecelia); and Miss Gough, Christchurch (Sister Mary Lawrence). His Grace the Archbishop performed the ceremony, and preached an impressive sermon. The choir of the Sisters of Compassion sang the appropriate music. There were many friends and relations of the newly professed Sisters present, who were entertained after the ceremony at breakfast by the Rev. Mother Mary Aubert.

The appeal made at the Sacred Heart Church on behalf of the Sicilian earthquake fund resulted in a contribution of £37.

Messrs. J. W. Callaghan and J. McGowan have been appointed to represent the Wellington Catholic Club at the eighth annual conference of federated Catholic clubs. The conference will hold its meetings in St. Patrick's Hall, Boulcott St., on Saturday, April 10.

His Grace Archbishop Redwood recently completed his 35th year in the episcopate, having been consecrated on the feast of St. Patrick, 1874, by the late Cardinal Manning. His Grace will be 70 years of age on Holy Thursday, April 8. Half his life has therefore already been spent in the episcopate. His clergy earnestly pray that God may long spare him to wear the mitre as their esteemed Archbishop.

The Catholics of Levin intend having a fancy fair which will be called the 'United Kingdom Fair,' in aid of the church fund. The object is to pay off the mortgage on the land (10 acre section), so that the authorities may build a convent. The fair will be held in September, and an energetic committee of ladies and gentlemen has been appointed to get some funds in hand to help the ladies to purchase material for their stalls.

At the quarterly meeting of the St. Aloysius' branch of the H.A.C.B. Society, held in St. Anne's Hall, Newtown, on March 22, there was a large attendance of members. The balance sheet for the past three months was adopted, and disclosed a very satisfactory state of affairs. A letter was read from his Grace Archbishop Redwood appointing the Rev. Father McDonald, S.M., chaplain to the society in place of the Rev. Father Herbert, S.M., who has been transferred to Thorndon parish.

Last week at St. Anne's Club, Newtown, the members of the St. Aloysius' Boys' Club elected the following office-bearers:—Patron, Rev. Father Herring, S.M.; president and manager, Mr. Theodore Peters; vice-presidents, Messrs. J. J. Butler, Guthrie, C. McErlean, Segrief, and J. Wareham; secretary and treasurer, Master Arthur Little; committee, Masters J. Cotter, M. McCarthy, J. McInerney, H. McKay, W. Rouse, L. Turner. The club was formally opened on March 19, and the members for the present will meet once a week.

The township of Makara, in the parish of Thorndon, has for some time past been attended to by the Rev. Father Walsh, of Lower Hutt, who had cheerfully relieved the Thorndon clergy of that responsibility. Owing, however, to his increasing duties, Father Walsh has been obliged, with regret, to sever his connection with Makara. Henceforth one of the Thorndon clergy will visit it monthly, thus bringing it into line with Karori and Wadestown—the two other stations of the parish of Thorndon. On Sunday last the Rev. Father Hickson celebrated Mass there at eleven o'clock, and took occasion to voice the feeling of gratitude entertained by all towards the Rev. Father Walsh for his devotedness in the past.

A well attended meeting of University Catholic graduates and undergraduates was held at St. Patrick's College on March 24. The Very Rev. Father Keogh, S.M., B.A., presided. It was resolved to hold a reunion in connection with the forthcoming inter-University tournament to be held in Wellington this Easter. It was decided that the University students resident in Wellington, as well as visitors, assist at Holy Mass on Easter Sunday at San Antonio Church, Muritai, after which they are to be entertained at luncheon. Invitations are extended to Catholic graduates from over-sea Universities. A movement is on foot to form a union among Catholic University men for the purpose of social gatherings, lectures, etc. The meeting elected the Rev. Father F. S. Bartley, S.M., B.A., and Messrs. E. J. Fitzgibbon, LL.B., and T. E. Kelly a committee to make the necessary arrangements.

On Monday last the Sailors' Rest was crowded, the occasion being a concert to seamen given by the Wellington Catholic Seamen's Conference. A first-class programme was provided, all the items being greatly appreciated. The following contributed:—Misses Anderson (song), Frith (song), Hamilton (song), Jameson (song), Parrell (song), Elsie Strickland (song), E. Marshall and E. Waller (Spanish tambourine dance), Messrs. V. G. Cole (piano solo, also violin solo), Falvey (song), Harrop (song), McGrath (recitation), McWilliams (recitation), and Master James McCarthy (recitation). Mr. Falvey also gave a highly interesting exposition of mental telepathy. The accompaniments were played by Mrs. Falvey, Miss A. McCarthy, and Mr. V. G. Cole. Captain Bonner (manager of the Rest) returned thanks. The concerts which have been given having proved so interesting to the seamen the Conference has decided to provide fortnightly entertainments to seamen during the winter months.

The St. Patrick's College cadets, who have been under canvas on the Trentham rifle range for the past seven

days, returned to town on Monday. There were nearly 100 cadets in camp, the officers being Captains Outtrim and Campbell. The cadets underwent their annual training, and the attention paid to the details by the boys in connection with military matters has been most commendable, while the boys' conduct throughout has been all that could be desired. The Rector (the Very Rev. Father Keogh, S.M.) had been in charge of the camp, and had not had a single case of sickness to report, and the boys thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The Inspector-General (Colonel Davies, C.B.), accompanied by Lieutenant-Colonel Bauchop, C.M.G., Officer Commanding the Wellington District, and Lieutenant Chesney, paid a visit to the camp, and inspected the two companies during the week. Colonel Collins, V.D., also visited the camp, and offered to present a medal for shooting to this corps as an incentive to the cadets to take a keener interest in rifle shooting. The lads are very keen on shooting, and have expressed the hope that the Dominion Rifle Association will be able to inaugurate a 'cadets' Bisley,' at which boys from every part of New Zealand will be induced to compete. Visitors to the cadet camp on Sunday expressed surprise at the way in which the boys carried out their respective duties. All the cooking and orderly work was done on strict military lines. The cooking was carried out by the boys themselves in a most creditable manner, and this should be borne in mind by the adult volunteers.

New Plymouth

(From an Occasional Correspondent.)

A very successful concert was held on St. Patrick's Night in the Brougham Street Hall, which was crowded. The programme, which was a varied one, gave entire satisfaction. The following items were rendered:—Irish airs, duet by Messrs. Cornwall and M. Ewen on guitar and mandoline; 'Steer my barge to Erin's Isle,' Miss Ward (encored); 'The Irish emigrant,' Mr. F. Cornwall; banjo duet, Messrs. Cornwall and Scott; quartette, 'The dear little shamrock,' Messrs. Guy and Jennings and Misses Buckman (encored); 'The skipper of St. Ives,' Mr. Guy (encored); xylophone solo, Miss G. Calgher; Mr. J. Haslam sang two songs, receiving encores to both; cornet solo, 'Fantasia of Irish airs,' Mr. J. H. Saunders. A special feature of the entertainment was the Shakespearean recitation from 'Henry VIII.' Wolsey's celebrated farewell soliloquy, by Mr. Farmer, of Waitara, who gave a vivid impersonation of the famous churchman and statesman. Being recalled, the performer gave Wolsey's 'Charge to Cromwell' in true dramatic style. The concluding item was an address by Mr. J. J. Sullivan, in which the speaker dwelt on the past glories of Erin, in a most interesting and eloquent manner, concluding his speech amidst much applause.

Westport

(From our own correspondent.)

March 22.

On Sunday, March 14, a fortnight's mission was opened here by Rev. Fathers Lowham and Gilmartin. At the 9 o'clock Mass the members of the local branch of the H.A.C.B. Society approached the Holy Table in a body.

The Irish national concert, under the auspices of the Hibernian Society, on St. Patrick's Night was favored with a large attendance. The programme was a particularly good one, and encores were numerous and emphatic. The Westport Military Band played for the opening selection 'The wearin' of the green'; Mr. Doogan sang 'Believe me if all those endearing young charms,' and for an encore 'The minstrel boy'; Miss Smith sang 'Three leaves of shamrock,' an encore being demanded; Mr. J. Berti (Greymouth) contributed 'Thoro,' and for an encore 'Someone is calling,' his other numbers being Gounod's 'Ave Maria' (with violin obligato played by Miss Lock), and with Miss Lempfert the duet 'Nocturne'; Miss Conway (Reefton) sang 'Come back to Erin,' her other numbers being 'The wearin' of the green' and 'The carnival,' which were rendered in a finished manner. Miss Lempfert was most successful in 'The Irish emigrant' and 'Barney O'Hea'; Mr. S. Thompson gave 'Father O'Flynn,' and for an encore 'My Rosary.' Miss A. Milligan's numbers were 'Out on the rocks' and 'Slumber song.' Mr. J. Kelly was warmly encored for his cornet solo, 'Carnival de Venice.' The concluding item was a sailor's hornpipe by Mr. P. Hennessy. Prior to the opening of the concert, the Westport Garrison Band played selections outside the theatre. The accompaniments were capably played by Misses Lynch, J. Thompson Kelly, and Mr. E. Nahr. The concert arrangements were in the hands of the following committee: Messrs. P. Hughes, J. Dickson, W. Lauder, G. Drew, J. Radford, J. Murphy, J. Ryan, and P. Malloy, the secretarial duties being carried out by Mr. F. O'Gorman.

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March 15.

A large and representative gathering of leading citizens of Westport assembled at the Club Hotel on March 2, when Sergeant Cullen, who has recently been transferred to Stratford, was entertained at a farewell luncheon. Mr. James Colvin, M.P., presided, and after the customary loyal toast had been duly honored proposed the health of the guest in eulogistic terms. The Mayor (Mr. J. H. Greenwood) and several leading gentlemen of the town also spoke in highly eulogistic terms of Sergeant Cullen, and all expressed regret at the departure of their guest, who had always performed his duties in an able and conscientious manner. Earnest wishes were expressed for the future happiness and welfare of Mr. and Mrs. Cullen. Sergeant Cullen, in responding, feelingly thanked all for the kindness displayed towards him, and stated, in the course of his remarks, that he had never found a more orderly community. During the six years he had been in charge of the Westport police station Sergeant Cullen had proved himself to be an able and most conscientious officer, who had always commanded the esteem and confidence of the community.

Hamua

(From an occasional correspondent.)

Sunday, March 14, was a red-letter day in Hamua. In the heart of what was once known as 'The Forty-mile Bush,' at the junction of the Pahiatua, Alfredton, and Eketahuna roads, close to a small but picturesque township, and sheltered by the last spur of the Hamua Hills, a quaint and pretty church had been erected and even opened some time ago to meet the requirements of both races in this fast-growing district. Both races vied with each other in contributing to the building fund, the site itself being donated by the influential Catholic chief, Nireaha. Rev. Father Delach, S.M., put his abilities at the disposal of the tangata whenua to organise the reception of the visitors, and every tribe on our Western Coast sent a few deputies to do justice to Nireaha's invitation. On Friday, March 12, nearly 100 Catholic Maoris arrived by train, led by Rev. Father Cognet, S.M., of Otaki. These were met at the Hukanui station by a special coach, and conveyed to the pa in batches of twenty. As usual on such occasions, speech-making was indulged in for several hours, our esteemed friend, Mr. J. R. McDonald, of Levin, helping us considerably. On the following day his Grace the Archbishop and Very Rev. Dean Regnault (Provincial), accompanied by Rev. Father T. McKenna, of Pahiatua, arrived by motor-car at the foot of the hill, and were treated to a grand reception. Shortly after the Wairarapa and Hawke's Bay tribes appeared on the field, and thus we could count about 200 Catholic Maoris, with only a sprinkling of outsiders. In his reply to the chief Nireaha's address of welcome, his Grace referred to the fruitful meetings held in Otaki during past years, and expressed the hope that this Hamua meeting, convened for the purpose of celebrating the inauguration of their pretty church, would also mark the beginning of a new era in the history of their happiness.

To accommodate their visitors the Hamua tribe had erected two long wooden buildings, where a liberal supply of food was provided. A large meeting-house was used as a dormitory, and special accommodation was provided for the clergy in Nireaha's cottages. The whole of the afternoon of Saturday, March 13, was spent hearing confessions. At night prayers were said in public according to the Maori style, the singing of hymns, etc., proving very edifying and highly successful. Rev. Father Cognet gave an impressive address on the Sacraments.

Very early in the morning many went to confession, and Masses were celebrated by Rev. Father Delach, his Grace the Archbishop, Rev. Father Cognet, and Very Rev. Dean Regnault. Many of the Europeans, who happened to be present at the first Mass, expressed their surprise at the number of Maori communicants. At the end of the last Mass his Grace delivered an instruction on the primacy and infallibility of St. Peter. He also announced that a very important meeting of young men and catechists would be held in Otaki under the protection of St. Peter between June 5 and 13. A most elaborate banquet followed. It was presided over by his Grace the Archbishop, each member of the visiting clergy being seated at the head of a table. Quite a number of Europeans were present, and partook of the Maoris' hospitality. To many of them it must have been a revelation to witness the tact and ability of the Natives on such an occasion. It is no easy task to arrange a banquet for 300 visitors in a Maori settlement, far away from all the conveniences and luxuries of important centres, but Chief Nireaha and his intelligent tribe proved quite equal to the task. With perfect order, and without the slightest trouble, everything was done to sat-

isfy the requirements of the day. No doubt, to a great extent, Father Delach's aid was invaluable, and helped to secure the success of the function.

In the afternoon the church was again filled to witness the reception of three more girls into the sodality of the Children of Mary, thus bringing to thirty-two the number of the Maori members of this association. Very Rev. Dean Regnault, S.M., presided, and delivered an impressive sermon on the Immaculate Conception, dwelling at some length on the miracles of Lourdes, and impressing upon the Native girls their duty of taking the Blessed Virgin as their model. This beautiful instruction, and also that of the Archbishop after the last Mass, were interpreted in Maori by Rev. Father Cognet.

Some Baptisms also took place on the same afternoon, so that nearly the whole day was spent in the church. Night prayers, Catechism, and Rosary took another half hour in the evening, and thus we came to the end of our programme. Our friendly Natives then bade us farewell in the most affectionate style, offering some valuable presents to our most distinguished guests, and wishing them every joy and consolation. After a few hours of well-earned rest, we left Hamua in the morning, taking away with us very hopeful and consoling impressions as to the future of our holy religion in the district. In fact, the dispositions of our Natives are so favorable that if our resources were at all in proportion to our needs, much improvement could now be effected in the Maori mission. May those who have at heart the glory of God and the honor of the Dominion realise their duty of charity towards their too long neglected Maori neighbors.

Kaikoura

(From an occasional correspondent.)

Tuesday and Wednesday were eminently field-days at Kaikoura. The fourth annual show eventuated on the 16th, and the St. Patrick's Day sports were held on the following day. The Hon. Mr. Fowlds, Mr. Witty, and Mr. Forbes, M.P.s, attended the show and banquet. All visitors expressed their surprise at the beauty of the scenery, the capability of the district, and the excellent exhibits of live stock, fruit, flowers, grain, and roots. They pronounced Kaikoura an oasis for its fresh and excellent pasture, while Northern Marlborough was suffering from a serious drought. Genial weather, with timely spells of rain, has secured an abundance of grass in the whole district of Kaikoura. The exhibits and the aspect of the whole landscape, mountain and valley, bore testimony to the favorableness of the season and the fertility of the soil. But the railway, so often promised and so slow in progress, is urgently needed to link Christchurch with Picton, and to develop the many natural capabilities of the region.

If the attendance at the show was a record, so was the attendance at the sports on the 17th. This was more remarkable for two special reasons. In the first place, the weather was somewhat threatening, with fog and light rain at intervals. And, secondly, it was feared by some that the show would have exhausted the pockets of the public. Fortunately neither weather nor show affected the sports on St. Patrick's Day. People who came from the back blocks to the annual show turned out on the 17th as well, and these helped materially to swell the crowd and augment the profits of the day.

The sports were excellent, and it was a general feeling and remark that there was more genuine and hearty fun and enjoyment at St. Patrick's demonstration than the show afforded on the previous day. As for the rest, the sports were conducted with the greatest success by the church committee and the ladies and gentlemen who volunteered their services throughout the day. Not a hitch was noticed anywhere, and not a discordant note or expression was heard. All worked with the utmost harmony and with the happiest results. The previous cooking and other preparations for the event and the strenuous toil of the day were enough to tax the strength and patience of the Catholic public. But the people of Kaikoura have brave hearts and deft hands, besides long experience in working for the interest of their schools. For be it understood that the profits of each recurring annual sports belong solely to the school funds. The social in Mr. Mullane's hall was also a decided success. Father Golden and the church and school committee have reasons to feel grateful.

The convent school children, notably Miss Maggie Mackle, won many prizes at the show. They excelled in drawing and fancy needlework.

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PRODUCE

Messrs. Dalgety and Co. report as follows:—

We held our usual auction sale of grain and produce at our stores on Monday, when we offered a medium catalogue to a moderate attendance of buyers. Competition was slack for all offerings, and a few of the lines were quitted at auction. Values ruled as under:

Oats.—Prices in this market are on a par with late rates. There is, however, a slightly improved inquiry from merchants and shippers for A and B grade. Arrivals from the country so far have been light. Quotations: Prime milling, 1s 5d; good to best feed, 1s 4d to 1s 4½d; inferior and medium, 1s 2d to 1s 3½d per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat.—This market maintains its strength, and there is good inquiry for prime milling at late rates—namely, from 3s 9d to 3s 11d, according to quality and length of rail. Fowl wheat has moderate inquiry from 3s 8d to 3s 11d per bushel, ex store, in small lots.

Potatoes.—Heavier arrivals are to hand, and prices are considerably easier. There is little or no inquiry for shipments. Quotations: Prime, £2 15s to £2 17s 6d; medium, £2 7s 6d to £2 12s 6d; inferior, £2 upwards (bags in).

Chaff.—Arrivals have been moderate, and prime samples find ready sale on arrival. Quotations are unchanged. Light, inferior, and badly discolored lots are slow of sale. Quotations: Prime old, £2 17s 6d to £3; good old, £2 12s 6d to £2 15s; prime new, £2 15s to £2 17s 6d; inferior, £2 upwards (bags extra).

Messrs. Donald Reid and Co. report:—

In all classes of produce prime quality met with ready sale, while indifferent qualities had little attention. Values ruled as under:

Oats.—Consignments have been coming forward more freely. Prime Gartons are in demand at prices about on a par with late quotations, but Sparrowbills, unless specially bright and heavy, are difficult to place at last week's prices. Medium and inferior are out of favor. Quotations: Prime milling, 1s 5d; good to best feed, 1s 4d to 1s 4½d; inferior to medium, 1s 2d to 1s 3½d per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat.—Both from London and Australia late advices report good demand at improved prices. Locally there is ready sale for prime samples. Velvet continues to be in most request, and any prime lines offering are easily placed for direct consignment. Medium and inferior lots find an outlet as fowl feed, for which there is fair inquiry. Quotations: Prime milling, 3s 11½d to 4s; medium, 3s 10½d to 3s 11d; good, whole fowl wheat, 3s 9d to 3s 10d; broken and damaged, 3s to 3s 7d per bushel (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—The market is more heavily supplied, and in consequence prices have to some extent given way. Quotations: Best, freshly-dug lots, £2 15s to £2 17s 6d; extra, choice, to £3; medium, £2 10s to £2 12s 6d per ton (bags included).

Straw.—Wheaten is in over supply, and sells at 30s per ton. Oaten is scarce, and worth 32s 6d to 35s per ton (pressed).

WOOL

Messrs. Stronach, Morris, and Co., Ltd., report for week ending March 30 as follows:—

Rabbitskins.—Our next sale will be held on April 5.

Sheepskins.—We held our fortnightly sale to-day, when we offered a good catalogue. The attendance of buyers was larger than usual and bidding was very brisk for all classes of skins, prices being fully up to late rates. Quotations: Best half bred, 6½d to 7½d; medium to good, 5d to 6½d; inferior, 3½d to 4½d; best fine crossbred, 6d to

7d; medium to good, 4½d to 5½d; inferior, 3d to 4d; best merion, 5d to 6½d; medium to good, 3½d to 4½d; pelts, 3d to 3½d; best lambskins, 4½d to 6½d; medium to good, 3d to 4d.

Hides.—Our next sale will be held on April 1.

Tallow and Fat.—All tallow and fat coming is readily placed at late quotations. There is good demand for all kinds. Quotations: Best rendered tallow in casks, 20s to 22s 6d; medium to good, 18s to 20s; inferior, 14s to 16s; best rough fat, 16s to 18s 6d; medium to good, 14s to 15s; inferior, 12s to 13s.

Masterton

(From our own correspondent.)

March 20.

The Rev. Father Saunderson, who has been appointed assistant to the Very Rev. Dean McKenna, has taken up his duties here.

For the third year in succession it has been wet here for the St. Patrick's Day sports meeting, consequently it had to be postponed. The social gathering which was held in the Drill Hall in the evening was a great success from every point of view.

The usual meeting of St. Michael's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society was held last Tuesday, Bro. J. Connor in the chair. The committee appointed to go into the matter of obtaining a more suitable meeting room recommended that the Foresters' Hall be procured, which report was adopted. The members of the branch approached the Holy Table in a body on Sunday last.

The Catholic Maoris of Hamua fittingly celebrated the opening of their church on last Sunday. His Grace Archbishop Redwood was present, as were also the Very Rev. Deans Regnault and McKenna, and Rev. Fathers Delach, Cognet, and T. McKenna. In addition to the early Masses, at which there was a large number of Communicants, there was Mass at 11 o'clock, when his Grace the Archbishop preached an impressive sermon. In the afternoon there was a reception of the Children of Mary, the second of the kind ever held in New Zealand, into which Maoris were received. The Very Rev. Dean Regnault (Wellington) conducted the service, and his sermon was translated into Maori by Father Cognet (Otaki). During the day a large number of Europeans visited the pa, and all were hospitably treated by the Natives. The gathering was organised by the well-known Hamua chief.

March 26.

There was a large attendance at St. Bride's Convent on Thursday afternoon to witness the presentation of musical certificates to the pupils of the convent who were successful in the recent examinations for theoretical and practical music from both the Trinity College and the Royal Academy of Music. The proceedings were commenced by the rendering of a very excellent programme of musical items by those who took honors in the senior examinations, which was very highly appreciated by those present. The following programme was rendered:—Pianoforte solo, 'Irish diamonds,' No. 2, Pape, Miss McKenna; vocal solo, 'With verdure clad,' Miss Holloway; violin and piano duet, 'Gavotte in E minor,' the Misses O'Neill and Hanify; pianoforte solo, 'Souvenir' (Ames), Miss Fuller; vocal duet, 'Venetian boat song,' the Misses Holloway and Harris; pianoforte solo, 'Italian Concerto' (Bach), Miss Hanify; vocal solo, 'Orpheus to his lute,' Miss Edwards.

The Rev. Father Saunderson, in the absence of the Very Rev. Dean McKenna, made the presentation of the certificates, giving as a preliminary a very able address. In the course of his remarks he referred to the absence of their worthy pastor, who, he said, as the founder of the convent, had watched its splendid progress through the ten years of its existence. Regarding the success of the pupils the speaker said that out of the fifty who sat for the examinations it was worthy of note that not one of them had failed to secure a certificate, which he thought was a most creditable achievement, and one of which the Sisters might justly feel proud. In addition to the general success of the students Miss Phyllis Hanify had received the Royal Academy silver medal for the advanced grade of pianoforte music, and Miss Mary O'Neill had been awarded a College Exhibition of the value of six guineas for violin playing in the junior grade of the Trinity College examinations. Miss Hanify's success was all the more meritorious owing to the fact that she was only one mark behind the winner of the gold medal, who had received 137 marks, while she had received 136. This young lady, who was two years younger than the gold medallist, had been greatly praised by the examiner, Mr. T. F. Dunhill, who predicted that her musical career would be highly successful. The performance of Miss O'Neill was equally creditable, when it was considered that the young violinist had scarcely had two years' musical train-

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ing, and the exhibition coming on the recommendation of such an eminent violinist as Mr. Henry St. George, was a most praiseworthy feature. Miss O'Neill was fifth on the list for the examinations held in New Zealand, Canada, and Tasmania. 'Facts are stubborn things and speak for themselves,' said the speaker, 'and the success of the fifty pupils and the two distinctions that had been gained bore out the old saying most conclusively.' Touching on the advance of the convent, the speaker said that when the institution was established there were only six Sisters in the convent, and now after a comparatively short period more than three times that number were scarcely able to cope with the work. In addition to this a branch convent had been established at Pahiata. In conclusion he thanked all those who were present and expressed the wish that their patronage would not only be continued, but considerably widened in the good cause of the convent.

Palmerston North

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

March 21.

St. Patrick's Day was celebrated with the usual national concert in the Zealandia Hall. There was a very large attendance, including Lady Plunket and suite. The hall was tastefully decorated with palms and ferns, which gave a charming appearance to the stage. One of the features of the evening was a strong orchestra of twelve performers, under the baton of Mr. W. T. Ward, which gave two very fine selections. The following was the programme:—Part I.: 'Irish National Overture,' orchestra; song, Mr. J. Rogers; song, 'Kathleen Mavourneen,' Miss Segrief; pianoforte solo, Miss O'Connor; vocal trio, 'Erin Mavourneen,' Mesdames Larcomb and Broad, Miss Segrief; song, 'Killarney,' Mrs. C. Louisson; song and chorus, 'Eileen Allana,' Mr. T. Rodgers and chorus. Part II.: 'Humors of Donnybrook,' orchestra; recitative and air from 'The Lily of Killarney,' 'From Inchegala,' 'It is a charming girl I love,' Mr. Rowe; song, 'The meeting of the waters,' Mrs. Broad; quartette, 'Oh! where's the slave?' Mesdames Louisson and Broad, Messrs. T. Rodgers and G. C. Keeble; song, 'The Irish emigrant,' Mrs. Rennall; song, 'The minstrel boy,' Mr. G. C. Keeble; song, 'She is far from the land,' Miss Segrief; song and chorus, 'God save Ireland,' Mr. Rowe and chorus; 'God save the King.' All the numbers were well received and mostly encored. The accompaniments were artistically played by Miss Rawlins, Mrs. J. Rogers, and Mrs. T. Rodgers, whilst Miss Ward presided at the piano in the orchestral items. The energetic committee, who had worked so hard prior to the function, had their reward in the splendid success of the night's entertainment.

Two successful candidates in the recent teachers' examinations were prepared at the Convent of Mercy, Grey-mouth—Miss Honora Trouland (Class C) and Miss Ethel Dempsey (Partial D).

A list of the winning numbers in the art union in aid of the Convent, Winton, appears in this issue.

The All Seasons' Carnival, which opens in His Majesty's Theatre, Christchurch, on April 10, promises to be the most entertaining display ever seen in that city. The marches, dances, artistic groupings, and typical tableaux will be given under the direction of Madam Cathro, whose experience in this line with several of the principal opera companies is a guarantee that the spectacular effects will be most charming. The carnival is in aid of the Cathedral parish building fund, and will no doubt receive the most generous support and assistance from the Catholics of Christchurch and district....

OBITUARY

MRS. BRIDGET O'CONNOR, DUNEDIN.

The many friends of Constable Michael O'Connor throughout the Dominion will hear with sincere regret of the death of his wife, which took place at her residence, Union street, Dunedin, on Saturday last. The deceased, who was in her 58th year, was born in Deryline, County Fermanagh, and at an early age went to the United States, where she married Mr. O'Connor. Soon after they came to New Zealand, where Mr. O'Connor entered the police force 28 years ago. Since then he has been stationed in various parts of the Dominion, but for the past fifteen years has been in Dunedin. The late Mrs. O'Connor was a practical and fervent Catholic, and died fortified by the rites of the Church. The funeral took place on Wednesday from St. Joseph's Cathedral for the Southern Cemetery. The deceased leaves a husband, four sons, and two daughters to mourn their loss. The youngest son is at present a student at the Christian Brothers' Training College, Strathfield, Sydney.—R.I.P.

MR. JAMES SPEDDARI, GIMMERBURN.

It is with sincere regret that we have to record the death of one of the oldest pioneers of Otago Central in the person of Mr. James Speddari, who passed away at the Naseby Hospital on March 16 after a very long illness. The deceased was a native of Malta, and arrived in Otago about 50 years ago. He spent a considerable number of years mining in and around the Naseby district, eventually settling down to farming in Gimmerburn, where he had resided up to the time of his demise. Mr. Speddari, who leaves a family of four, was predeceased by his wife, who died several years ago. The family are Mrs. Caldwell, Mrs. P. McLane, Miss Speddari, and Mr. Speddari. The remains were removed from the Naseby Hospital to the residence of the deceased, from where the funeral left for the cemetery. Notwithstanding the inclement weather a very large number of mourners were present to pay a last tribute of respect to one who was greatly esteemed. The Rev. Father McMullan officiated at the graveside.—R.I.P.

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of both the official and the unofficial exaggeration of the
delinquencies of the Irish people; to present to the reader
detailed evidence of this curious phase of political agita-
tion; and to advance large and outstanding facts and
features of Irish life which go to show that the wrongs
perpetrated by the law, by the ministers of the law, and
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graver, more studied, and more systematic than the offences
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ANSWER TO CORRESPONDENT

SUBSCRIBER.—It would be impossible for us to supply the
information suggested by you.

DEATHS

O'CONNOR.—On March 27, at Union St., Dunedin,
Bridget, dearly beloved wife of Michael O'Connor;
aged 58 years.—R.I.P.

SPEDDARI.—At Naseby Hospital, on March 16, after a
long illness, James Speddari, in his 77th year.—R.I.P.

MESSAGE OF POPE LEO XIII. TO THE N.Z. TABLET.

*Pergant Directores et Scriptores New Zealand Tablet, Apo-
tolica Benedictione confortati, Religionis et Justitiæ causam
promovere per vias Veritatis et Pacis.*

Die 4 Aprilis, 1900.

LEO XIII., P.M.

TRANSLATION.—Fortified by the Apostolic Blessing, let the
Directors and Writers of the *New Zealand Tablet* continue to
promote the cause of Religion and Justice by the ways of Truth
and Peace.

April 4, 1900.

LEO XIII., Pope.



THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 1909.

A CARDINAL'S JUBILEE



ILLAURI has well said that the names and
memories of great men are the dowry of a
nation. And one of the assets of Australia—
and, no doubt, its strongest, most picturesque,
and most striking personality—is the great
purpled Prince of the Church, the silver
jubilee of whose translation to the Mother
See of Sydney has just been celebrated by
our co-religionists beyond the Tasman Sea.

In March, 1884, Bishop (now Cardinal) Moran
was transferred by the Holy See from the diocese of
Ossory, Ireland, to the archbishopric of Sydney, in suc-
cession to the Most Rev. Roger Bede Vaughan, O.S.B. In
the smaller sphere of his Irish See the distinguished church-
man was known as a wise and active administrator. He
joined with this a depth and range of learning—especially

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in the fields of history and archæology—which placed him in the foremost ranks of the scholars of our time, made his episcopate in the Green Isle a memorable one, and added a fresh lustre to the Catholic hierarchy of his country. During the twelve years of that fruitful episcopate, this great ecclesiast gave a new impetus to the study of Irish archæology, and, in addition to the work of a busy episcopate, sent out from the press works—dealing with such widely different periods as the early Christian and the post-Reformation days in Ireland—that still remain standards in their diverse themes.

It was, however, in the wider field, and in the newer conditions, of the Southern lands that the first Australian Cardinal's powers have been most widely exercised and deeply impressed. He still continues to enrich Catholic literature with apologetic and historical works—his most memorable achievement in this line being, thus far, his monumental *History of the Catholic Church in Australasia*. Still true to his old love, his studies in Irish archæology and hagiology have never ceased under the Southern Cross, and great stores of literary and monumental lore have been added by him to his already rich treasury of earlier and later Celtic knowledge, including the life-story of the martyred Archbishop of Armagh, the Ven. Oliver Plunket—a subject in which he is acknowledged to be the foremost living authority. With administrative gifts of a high order, the great See over which he has ruled for a quarter of a century has advanced all along the line in what must be described as a remarkable way. Perhaps in no English-speaking land are what may be termed the machinery of the Church, and its varied and beneficent activities, more thoroughly organised and co-ordinated—Catholic education better equipped, Catholic charity broader, more varied, or more energising. In those five-and-twenty years a nation's ransom has been expended upon the work of organising and consolidating, and God's good work has gone triumphantly on. As a citizen and patriot, the Cardinal-Archbishop of Sydney is an Australian of the Australians. 'In the early nineties,' says the *Sydney Freeman*, 'he gave the word of advice which ended the maritime strike; in the late nineties he pronounced the word at Bathurst which led to the Commonwealth; and since and all the time he has been with the people.' In the recent naval scare he struck the note which has been accepted as the Federal policy in the matter of Australian defence. The distinguished churchman stands, as a leader, abreast of all that is best in our age and day; neither time nor toil diminishes his robust and generous sympathies; and he retains ever the simplicity that adorns greatness. We wish him *ad multos annos* to lead his people up the gleaming heights.

Notes

The 'New Zealand Times'

Some one has evidently been 'heckling' the *New Zealand Times* (Wellington). So much, at least, we gather from the following doleful answer to a correspondent in its issue of March 26: "Observer" (Christchurch).—We have no quarrel with the editor of *The Tablet*, and do not see why you should have. He seems a very worthy pressman with an exemplary faculty for obeying instructions. No useful purpose would be answered by criticising his methods.

It takes a great load off our mind to know that the *New Zealand Times* has 'no quarrel with the editor of *The Tablet*.' We note likewise that it finds 'no useful purpose' in criticising our criticisms of its methods. We—not acting under 'instructions,' but of our own initiative—have twice pointed out that the *New Zealand Times* has, under its present régime, fallen sadly away from its former high repute and literary strength and standing; that it has given the hospitality of its columns to specific coarse-grained stuff fit only for gutter-journals; that its managing-editor made, and published in its columns, a profession of journalistic faith, that, if put textually into practice, would land him every day of the week into conflict with laws that place a serious discount upon slander, libel, and 'offensive publications.' These are, in substance, our 'criticisms' of the methods of the *New Zealand Times*. And we are joined therein by some of the ablest secular daily papers in the Dominion. The *New Zealand Times* is right in its remark: 'No useful purpose would be answered' by criticising critics who know—and can maintain in or out of the columns of the *New Zealand Times*—the things whereof they write; and it is, generally speaking, wise policy and good discretion to have 'no quarrel'

with people who, having struck once, can strike again in the same place. In thus meekly kissing the rod, has the editor of the *New Zealand Times* been displaying 'an exemplary faculty for obeying instructions?' If he has been, then we have better hopes for him and for the *New Zealand Times* than we have had for some time past.

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

A telegram received on Wednesday morning announced the death of Sister M. Magdalene in Queenstown.

The preachers during Holy Week at St. Joseph's Cathedral will be Rev. Father Lynch (Palmerston) on Holy Thursday, Rev. Father Morkane (Lawrence) on Good Friday morning, Rev. D. O'Neill (South Dunedin) on Good Friday evening.

We understand that a number of Catholic men of the city and suburbs intend to visit the Home of the Little Sisters of the Poor on Saturday, and assist in putting the grounds in order. All who are willing to assist will be heartily welcomed.

The local secretary of Trinity College in Invercargill, (says the *Southland Times*) furnishes us with the following information regarding the musical examinations held by the College last year: The gold medal for senior honors, pianoforte playing (the only one obtained in Southland), was won by Miss Reina C. Gifford, pupil of the Dominican nuns, Bluff.

The following are the names of the students who received the subdiaconate from his Lordship the Bishop on March 25, in the chapel of the Provincial Ecclesiastical Seminary, Holy Cross College, Mosgiel:—Revs. Henry Woods, Cornelius Collins, Michael Scanlan, of Dunedin diocese; Revs. James McMenamin, Thomas Connolly, Leo Daily, of Wellington archdiocese.

The Memorial Church to the Irish Martyrs, Cromwell, which is now nearing completion, will be solemnly blessed and opened on Sunday, April 18, by his Lordship Bishop Verdon. The Rev. Father Hunt and his committee appeal to the Irish men and women of the Dominion to aid them in their work, so that the church may not be burdened with a heavy debt at the opening. A further list of subscriptions is published in this issue.

There was a good attendance at the annual meeting of St. Joseph's Harrier Club on Monday evening. Mr. T. J. Hussey, who presided, complimented the members on the satisfactory condition of the affairs of the club as disclosed by the reading of the report and balance sheet. The election of office-bearers for the ensuing year resulted as follows: Patron, Rev. Father Coffey; president, Hon. J. B. Callan, M.L.C.; vice-presidents, Rev. Father Buckley, Mrs. Jackson, Drs. O'Neill and Hastings, Messrs. Deehan and M. Coughlan; secretary and treasurer, Mr. J. V. Quelch; captain, Mr. J. B. Callan, jun.; deputy-captain, Mr. T. J. Hussey; committee, captain, deputy-captain, secretary, and Messrs. J. Kilmartin and Jas. Swanson; auditor, Mr. E. W. Spain; delegate to N.Z.A.A.A., Mr. J. B. Callan, jun. A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. J. B. Callan, jun., for the manner in which he had carried out the duties of delegate during the last season, and complimentary reference was made to the prominent part Mr. Callan, as president of the local centre, had taken in settlement of the recent athletic trouble. The opening run will be held from the residence of the Hon. J. B. Callan, M.L.C., on April 24.

Bishop Verdon in Invercargill

The Victoria Hall, Invercargill, was crowded on Monday evening, when his Lordship Bishop Verdon was accorded a formal reception, this being his first official visit to Invercargill since his return from Rome. About 8 o'clock the Hibernian Band led large numbers to the hall, where a most enjoyable conversation was held. During the evening an excellent programme of music and other items was given. Addresses of welcome were presented to his Lordship from the Catholics of the town and district by Mr. J. Collins, the Young Men's Literary Society by Mr. L. W. J. Morton, the H.A.C.B. Society by Mr. T. Pound, the Children of Mary by Miss Waterston, and the pupils of the Dominican Convent and Marist Brothers' School.

His Lordship thanked the parishioners and the various societies for their addresses and for their cordial welcome. Their reception that evening was a proof of the union that existed between pastor and people. His Lordship then gave an account of his travels, especially of his visit to Rome.

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Drill Shed, and other stones.

At the conclusion of the Bishop's address the Mayor of Invercargill (Mr. W. B. Scandrett) expressed his pleasure at seeing such a large gathering present to welcome his Lordship.

We are promised a full report of the conversazione for our next issue.

DIocese of Christchurch

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

March 29.
The Rev. Father Richards, pastor of Hawarden, returned from Australia last week, his health being much improved.

The Rev. Father Drohn, M.S.H., arrived last week to assume charge of the Lincoln parochial district, replacing Father Lee, M.S.H., who has returned to Sydney.

Mr. W. Hayward, sen., who has been appointed judge of trotting horses at the Sydney Royal Show, left here last week by the Maheno to fulfil his duties. He was accompanied by Mr. J. R. Hayward, and they are taking with them ten of the finest cobs that have ever left the Dominion.

Matters in connection with the All Seasons' Carnival, promoted in aid of the improvement fund of the Cathedral parish buildings, are progressing with every indication of successful results. The carnival is to commence on the Saturday prior to Easter, and will continue for nine days. The Hon. D. Buddo, Minister of Internal Affairs, has kindly consented to perform the opening ceremony should he be in Christchurch at the time.

The return of the Nimrod and band of brave explorers from Antarctica well up to the expected time occasioned much enthusiasm at Lyttelton and in the city.

The programme of the Christchurch Catholic Club on last Tuesday evening was a debate on 'Immigration,' as affecting the labor conditions of the Dominion. The affirmative was taken by Messrs. J. McNamara, J. Hamilton, and H. Salmon, the opposing side consisting of Messrs. P. McNamara, M. Finlay, and M. O'Reilly. The president (Mr. J. R. Hayward) occupied the chair, and there was a large attendance of members. The debate was spirited throughout, many interesting and instructive facts concerning the question being advanced by both sides. On a show of hands the question was decided on the point of view of the affirmative side by a majority of two. After the debate several other members made speeches on the subject under discussion.

Timaru

(From our own correspondent.)

March 22.
A meeting was held in the Catholic Girls' School on Tuesday evening to form a Hockey Club. Fully forty girls attended the meeting, and Rev. Father Kerley presided. It was decided to name it the Avoca Hockey Club, and to run two teams during the season. The subscription was fixed at 2s 6d, and officers were appointed as follows:—Patron, Rev. Father Tubman; president, Rev. Father Kerley; vice-presidents—Messdames E. Ward, Gillespie, S. Mackenzie, Loughnan, P. O'Meehan, M. O'Meehan, Aldred, and Father Smith; club captain, Miss Mara; field captain, Miss M. Sullivan; secretary, Miss K. Mara; treasurer, Miss H. McGrath; committee—Misses B. Ward, E. Kennedy, M. Sullivan, and M. Shea; selection committee—The club and field captains, and Miss M. McGrath; delegate to the association, Mr. M. Mahoney.

The Celtic Football Club held their annual meeting in the Catholic Schoolroom last Monday night. Rev. Father Kerley presided over a large attendance of members. The report mentioned the great loss the club had sustained by the removal of its founder, Rev. Father Le Floch, to Temuka. It also contained sympathetic reference to the death of Mr. Michael Jennings. The finances of the club were shown to be in a flourishing state, the credit balance being £10 13s 2d. It was decided to enter a team this year in the senior grade. The Rev. Father Tubman then presented Rev. Father Le Floch with a handsome dressing case, etc., from the members of the club. Father Tubman referred to the great interest taken by Father Le Floch in the young men of the parish during his six years' residence amongst them. He had founded a splendid football club second to none in New Zealand, and the tokens before them were the tangible expression of their feeling of gratitude, goodwill, and respect for him. These remarks were heartily endorsed by all present. Rev. Father Le Floch, on returning thanks, expressed the pleasure that he had always found in their company. He had spent many happy years with them, and they had never once caused him any anxiety. He would have much pleasure in presenting the new senior team with their first football. The election of officers resulted as follows:—Patron, Rev. Father Tubman; president, Rev. Father Kerley; vice-

presidents—Ven. Archpriest Le Menant des Chesnais, Messrs D. Mahoney, E. Ward, J. Collins, Dr. Loughnan; club captain, Mr. P. Mahoney; secretary, Mr. W. Jordan; treasurer, Mr. Gillespie; delegates to South Canterbury Rugby Union, Rev. Father Kerley and Mr. W. Jordan; management committee—Messrs. T. Brosnahan, J. Leigh, G. Fitzgerald, J. O'Brien, G. Niall; coach, Mr. T. Brosnahan; selection committee—Captain, coach, and Mr. J. O'Brien; auditor, Bro. Egbert.

March 29.

At the boys' school on Tuesday evening there was a meeting of about 60 young men to consider the advisability of forming a Young Men's Society. The Rev. Father Kerley presided. Rev. Father Tubman was present and said a few words of encouragement. It was unanimously decided to form a Timaru Catholic Club, and officers were elected as follows:—Patron, Rev. Father Tubman, S.M.; president, Rev. Father Kerley, S.M.; vice-presidents, Rev. Bro. Egbert, and Messrs. T. Mara, J. Dunne, Shea, and P. Kane; secretary, Mr. T. Knight; committee, Messrs. T. Mara, J. Wade, M. Schaab, S. Venning; spiritual director, Rev. Father Smith. A low subscription rate was fixed, and it was decided to have weekly meetings.

Akaroa

A concert by the pupils of the Convent School was given in the Oddfellows' Hall, Akaroa, on the evening of St. Patrick's Day. A visitor to Akaroa and non-Catholic, writing in the *Mail*, has this to say of the entertainment: 'The good time kept by six little girls throughout the singing of "We shan't go to school any more" struck me as being highly commendable for ten-year-olds, in a quiet little place like Akaroa. After sitting out the Christchurch Musical and Elocutionary Competitions morning, afternoon, and night for six days, and hearing the judges' criticisms of the whole, my ears are naturally awake to detect the common mispronunciations of amateurs, yet, while I listened to the elocution of the convent children the other night a firm belief settled upon me that the Sisters know how to teach English, and that there are some good little actors and actresses in Akaroa. Miss Myrtle Lelievre spoke out clearly and distinctly, though there was the usual childish "hurry to get it over" style in the prologue. . . . A keen appreciation of music is mine, but not having a keen ear for its technique and classical points I can only say that the rendition of the musical items afforded me all pleasure. The best acting was decidedly that exhibited in the farce at the finish, "The Doctor's Mistake," and, secondly, by the maid with broom in hand in "Using the weed." The machinery was in splendid working order, and needed no oiling; in other words, the items followed one after the other in quick succession. Everybody knew their place and part well, and the changing that went on behind the scenes gave one the impression that magic still exists in this matter-of-fact era.'

DIocese of Auckland

(By Telegraph from our own correspondent.)

March 29.

The Executive Directory of the Hibernian Society is anxious that every district should be represented at the next biennial meeting to be held in Hobart three months hence. Contributions to the management funds are inadequate, consequently the fund is low and efforts must be made at Hobart to make it sound and workable.

At a meeting of the St. Patrick's Day celebration committee, held this evening, Mr. J. J. O'Brien in the chair, the Vicar-General and a large number of priests being present, a communication was received from the Bishop, in which he requested that a provisional committee be formed, with the Bishop or the Vicar-General as chairman, with three priests (Fathers Mahoney, Edge, and Holbrook), and three laymen (Messrs. J. J. O'Brien, P. J. Nerheny, and M. J. Sheehan). The duty of the provisional committee would be to receive and arrange for the banking of the money in hand in the name of the Bishop, Father Mahoney, and Mr. J. J. O'Brien; to draw up resolutions as suggestions to clergy and laity of the whole diocese, so that a representative committee of clergy and laity be appointed, and thus all will have an interest in this work connected with the schools of the diocese. The whole of the financial returns from the carnival have not yet been received. The executive committee meets again on Thursday night.

Mr. Paul Kavanagh, late of St. Patrick's College, has been chosen to represent the Auckland University at the annual University tournament to be held in the Town Hall, Wellington, on Easter Saturday. Mr. Kavanagh is the youngest representative yet chosen by Auckland University.

Te Aroha

On St. Patrick's Day (says the *Te Aroha Mail*) a most enjoyable time was spent by the pupils attending the Te Aroha Convent School. Notwithstanding the bad weather, a sports programme was carried through, and, thanks to the kindness of a few friends, handsome prizes were awarded to the successful competitors. The events included: The Convent Marathon, infants' handicap, potato race, egg and spoon, thread the needle, three-legged race, and obstacle race. The prizes were won by Joseph Gavin, Peter Geaney, P. Gavin, Mossie Sheehan, Rita Fitzgerald, Percy McSweeney, Mollie Gavin, and Frances Fitzgerald. Special prizes were awarded for an essay on the life of St. Patrick, the recipients being: Mollie Gavin, 1; Peter Geaney, 2. The sports being over, the children were regaled with good things by the Sisters, and much amusement was caused by the digging for nuggets in a miniature gold mine. The photographs of the children were taken by Mr. Burrows, and a musical programme, consisting of various Irish airs, was gone through, and after the singing of the Irish National Anthem the children dispersed with many happy memories of a pleasant afternoon at the convent.

Hamilton

A glow of enthusiasm (says the *Waikato Times*) accompanied the celebration of the annual picnic held in connection with St. Mary's Church, Hamilton. Doubtless the fine spirit shown was due, in great measure, to the efforts of the committee. So enthusiastic were its members that they fired the rest of the congregation with a like spirit. The day commenced with Mass at the church at 8.30 a.m. Even at that early hour the church was taxed to its utmost capacity. The music was sung by the children, and in a few well-chosen words Father Darby wished the people a happy feast day. At 9 o'clock all the waggons had assembled outside the church, and at 9.30 a start was made for the charming picnic ground at Mr. Chitty's property about three miles on the Hukanui road. To see ten waggons, loaded for the greater part with children, who cheered, laughed and talked, and waved their flags, according as the mood took them, was a sight to make life feel very bright and fill all with a desire to be once again little children. Arrived at the ground at 11 o'clock, the children spent the first hour on the swings and other amusements, and at 12 o'clock they had their first meal. At 1 p.m. the races for the children began, and here the keenest of contests took place, and sport in its best form was to be seen. Whilst the children raced the adults amused themselves, some in watching the races, some in playing croquet, some ping-pong, and others table billiards. At 3 p.m. afternoon tea was served. Then there was an impromptu concert, which elicited talent which took the audience by surprise. At 5.30 the waggons were once again loaded up with their human freight, and at the call of Father Darby gave three ringing cheers for Mr. and Mrs. Chitty and family that literally made the sturdy oak shake. At 6.30 all had returned to the starting point, whence cheers were called for the drivers, the committee, the Sisters, and Father Darby.

Napier

(From our own correspondent.)

March 21.

A national concert was held in the Waipawa Town Hall on the evening of St. Patrick's Day. The promoters have every reason to be satisfied with their labors. The programme, which was as follows, was well arranged, and contained many musical gems, which were rendered with considerable ability:—Overture, Orchestral Society; Mr. G. Staunton (song); St. Patrick's choir ('Erin, the tear and the smile'); Mr. Rosewarne (humorous monologue); Mr. M. L. Gleeson (violin solo); Mrs. Rosewarne (song); Mrs. T. St. Lawrence Toner (songs); Mr. and Mrs. Rosewarne (vocal duet); Miss M. Shanley, Messrs. Lee, Gleeson, and Shanley (instrumental quartet); Mrs. Williams and St. Patrick's choir (song and chorus). The second part of the programme opened with the overture, 'Spirit of the nation,' which afforded the Orchestral Society an opportunity of displaying their proficiency. Mrs. Rosewarne ('A song of thanksgiving'), Miss Lee (piano solo), Mr. Rosewarne (song). The 'Gloria' was admirably sung by the choir; Mr. Toner (songs), Mr. and Mrs. Rosewarne (duet), Mr. P. S. Carroll (recitation). Selections from 'Maritana' by the Orchestral Society brought one of the most successful concerts held in the town to a close. The accompaniments were tastefully played by Mrs. Rosewarne, Mrs. Lock, Messrs. Eccleton, Maroney, and Shanley.

Invercargill

(From our own correspondent.)

On Sunday afternoon his Lordship the Bishop, who was attended by the Very Rev. Dean Burke, administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to 165 boys and girls. The church was crowded during the ceremony. His Lordship, addressing the children, reminded them that they would be soon leaving school and entering upon the battle of life and be subjected to all its temptations. He said that the first few years after the schooldays were perhaps the most dangerous of a whole life, but God had provided an additional help for them to overcome the trials to which they would be exposed. His Lordship then went on to explain the effects of the Sacrament of Confirmation. Addressing the parents, his Lordship added a word on Catholic education, and made a strong appeal to those who had the care of children to send them to the Catholic schools, where they would receive not only a good education, but that grounding in their religion which would keep them strong in the faith till the end. The congregations were very large both morning and evening. The Rev. Father O'Neill (Wrey's Bush) preached in the evening.

The annual meeting of the Athletic Football Club was held on March 19, Mr. G. W. Woods in the chair. The report and balance sheet proved the club to be in a good position. An extract from the S.R.F.U. annual report showed that the club had been successful in both the junior and third grade competitions, and that the Marist Brothers' boys had won the schools championship. The election of officers resulted as follows:—President, Mr. G. W. Woods; vice-presidents, Messrs. J. Butler, J. Collins, G. Heads, M. Ward, T. McGrath, C. Wells, J. Shepherd, P. J. Scully, T. Cavanagh, J. Deegan, and T. Pound; captain, Mr. J. Ferry; deputy-captain, Mr. H. McKillop; committee—Messrs. T. Pound, P. Scully, H. Grace, E. Byrne, T. Cavanagh; secretary, Mr. M. F. Scully. The opening day was fixed for March 31.

The Opening of the Memorial Church of the Irish Martyrs, Cromwell.

TO EVERY IRISH MAN AND WOMAN IN NEW ZEALAND.

His Lordship the Most Rev. Dr. Verdon, Bishop of Dunedin, will solemnly open and bless the Memorial Church of the Irish Martyrs at Cromwell on Sunday, April 18. Everything possible has been done as far as the means permitted to make the building a worthy Memorial of the Martyred Dead of Ireland and a suitable Monument of the Faith and Patriotism of the Irish men and women of New Zealand. Will you, when so much has been done, allow the Memorial Church of the Martyred Dead of Ireland to be heavily burdened with debt at the opening? We appeal to every man and woman in the country with the last drop of Irish blood in their veins to help to open the Memorial Church of the Irish Martyrs completely free from debt. Surely the Blood of Ireland's Countless Martyrs cannot appeal to a single true-hearted son or daughter of Erin in vain.

All subscriptions acknowledged in the *New Zealand Tablet*.

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Previously acknowledged	1315	14	4
John Kerin, Hawea Flat	5	0	0
William O'Leary, Dunedin	1	1	0
Mrs. Cameron, Cromwell	1	0	0
Miss Annett, late Bald Hill Flat	1	0	0
John Barrett, Christchurch	1	0	0
Mrs. Margaret Mulqueen, Balfour	1	0	0
James Gibson, Bannockburn	1	0	0
Mr. Keleher	1	0	0
Mrs. H. M. Garr, Highcliffe	0	10	0
Mrs. R. Cairns, Cromwell	0	10	0
Jessie Gallaher, South Dunedin	0	5	0

Total £1329 0 4

(To be continued.)

All contributions to be addressed to the Rev. G. M. Hunt, Cromwell.

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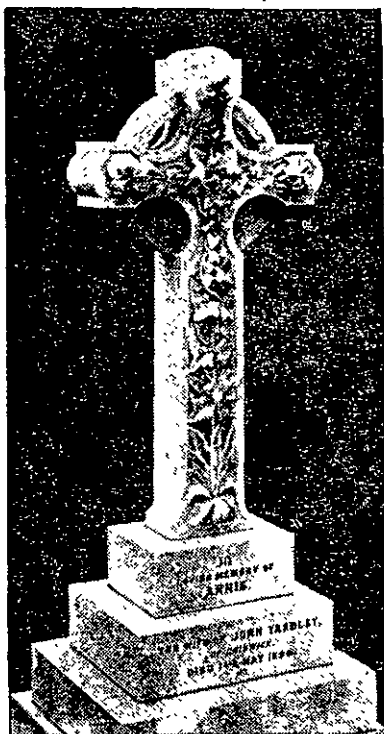
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C877

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Irish News

ANTRIM—Shipbuilding in Belfast

It is reported that orders for a large P. and O. liner and a passenger steamer for the Società di Navigazione di Genoa City have been placed with the firm of Messrs. Workman, Clark, and Co., Ltd., Belfast. The firm is shortly to launch a 12,000-ton Orient liner for the Commonwealth mail service.

The Catholic Truth Society

The Most Rev. Dr. Tohill, Bishop of Down and Connor, in an address delivered at Belfast, said the publications of the Catholic Truth Society were uniformly interesting, and were doing an immense amount of good.

Death of a Priest

In the diocese of Down and Connor, the death of Very Rev. John Conway, P.P., V.F., Larne, County Antrim, which took place on January 30, is deeply regretted. Deceased was a native of Rasharkin, a parish in the county in which he died, and came of a good Catholic and Celtic stock. Born in 1850, he evinced a desire to devote himself to the service of God in religion from an early age. In St. Malachy's College, Belfast, he made his preliminary studies, and after a distinguished course in Maynooth was ordained by the Most Rev. Dr. Dorrian in 1873. His career on the mission was characterised by wonderful energy, which was directed by great intellectual ability.

ARMAGH—Sad Shooting Accident

While Mr. Hamilton Henderson, brother of the ex-Mayor of Kimberley, was shooting at Armagh on February 6, his gun went off accidentally as he went through a hedge. He was wounded so seriously that death ensued almost immediately. A verdict of accidental death was returned at the inquest. Deceased served with distinction in the South African war, and was for some time in the American army, with which he saw service.

DUBLIN—The National University

A demonstration, organised by University and other students, was held in Dublin to show how strong feeling is in favor of making Irish a compulsory subject for matriculation in the new University. A meeting was held in the Mansion House, followed by a torchlight procession through the principal streets to the Gaelic League rooms, Rutland square, where an open-air meeting was addressed by Dr. Douglas Hyde and other speakers.

Aid for the Italian Sufferers

The total amount received in the diocese of Dublin in response to the Archbishop's appeal on behalf of the Messina and Calabrian sufferers has reached over £2000.

Irish Parliamentary Funds

Speaking at the National Convention of the United Irish League in Dublin, Mr. John Redmond, M.P., chairman of the Irish Party, said it had been constantly thrown in their teeth lately that the greatest mark of want of confidence in the party was that the Irish subscriptions had fallen away. That was absolutely untrue. These people had compared this year's Irish subscriptions with funds of years before, which included subscriptions from Canada, Australia, and America. A list of subscriptions from Ireland since 1900 showed, as a matter of fact, that the subscriptions this year amounted to £1252 more than last year, and taking an average for the period from 1900 to 1908 the subscriptions for 1908 were above the average for all those years.

GALWAY—The Archbishop of Tuam

The report read at the quarterly meeting of the Catholic Truth Society of Ireland says: 'In the year 1909, our president, Most Rev. Dr. Healy, Archbishop of Tuam, will celebrate the silver jubilee of his Episcopate. The committee of management, in order to mark their keen appreciation of the great interest his Grace takes in our society, and the unceasing and invaluable aid he has given it from its very foundation, have decided to bring out a jubilee edition of his Grace's selected Essays. The volume will contain between 600 and 700 pages, and will be brought out in good style, on good paper, and well bound in cloth. It is intended to be ready for issue in August next, on the 31st day of which month his Grace will have completed the twenty-fifth year of his distinguished Episcopate.'

The Vacant See

At a meeting of the parish priests of the diocese of Galway on February 4, the Most Rev. Dr. O'Dea, Bishop of Clonfert, was chosen to be recommended as 'Dignissimus' for appointment to the Bishopric of Galway, rendered vacant by the resignation of Most Rev. Dr. McCor-

mack, the doyen of the Irish Hierarchy. The voting was: For Dr. O'Dea, 18; Father Cullen, P.P., Moycullen, 4; Dr. Higgins, Tuam, 3; and Dr. Gilmartin, Maynooth, 1. The Most Rev. Dr. O'Dea is a native of the diocese, and had a distinguished course in Maynooth, where he was for some years a professor and subsequently vice-president. He was raised to the Bishopric of Clonfert in 1903, and since then has been indefatigable in the discharge of his sacred duties.

GENERAL

Victims of the Italian Earthquake

The Holy Father on February 8 received Monsignor O'Riordan, who presented £2800 as a contribution from the dioceses of Armagh, Meath, Waterford, and Derry for the earthquake sufferers. The Pope declared his gratitude for the generosity shown by the Irish people.

Laborers' Cottages

In its annual report the standing committee of the National Directory of the United Irish League stated: There is no branch of the work of the committee which has yielded more satisfactory results than this in connection with the Laborers Act. Under Acts prior to 1906, 26,210 cottages, with allotments, were erected. Under the Act of 1906, no less than 20,300 cottages, with allotments, have been sanctioned, whilst claims for about 500 others are under consideration. That is to say, that 46,710 cottages, with allotments, have already been erected or sanctioned, and 500 have yet to be dealt with. In other words, in round numbers, about 50,000 Irish agricultural laborers, representing about 250,000 persons, have been enabled to change their former miserable dwellings for decent, roomy, sanitary houses with plots of land attached, at an average rent of from 1s to 1s 6d a week. The effect of such a change upon the social life of the country cannot fail to be of the most beneficent and gratifying character.

The Evicted Tenants

The General Directory of the United Irish League, in its annual report, stated that 'the work during the year in connection with evicted tenants has been exceptionally heavy, and the number of claims dealt with has been unusually large. As the result of the operation of the Evicted Tenants Act, and owing to the representations made to the Estates Commissioners, over two thousand of those tenants have already been restored, and we have reason to believe that about 1600 more will be reinstated within the next six months. Nearly 4000 claims have been investigated by the organisation. In every instance the utmost pains have been taken to make the investigation as complete as possible, and, wherever any right existed, to ensure that it received every consideration from the official administrators.'

A Contrast

Speaking at a concert at Pinnaroo, the Governor-General of the Commonwealth said: 'Nothing strikes me more in Australia, and, if I may say so, in this part of South Australia, so much as the happy and contented look upon the faces of all the people I meet. That satisfactory condition of the producers means a good deal, not only for the present, but also for the future of Australia. Perhaps the contrast is the more striking to me because for a few years before coming to Australia I lived in a country where, alas, the people do not enjoy the same measure of prosperity as in Australia. When one has been, as I have, in Ireland for some years, and has been made familiar with the hardships suffered by the people, say, in the West of Ireland, he is struck all the more with the look of happiness and contentment on the people of Australia.'

An Excellent Thing for the Landlords

The *Daily Chronicle*, commenting on the returns published regarding the price of Irish land, says the returns show what an excellent thing the Irish landlords have made out of Mr. Wyndham's Act. The idea of the bonus, it declares, was to provide a bridge between the price at which a landlord could afford to sell and that at which a tenant could afford to buy. Yet the landlords have obtained better terms even without the bonus than under the previous Act. The figures show the wisdom of one of the proposals in Mr. Birrell's Bill. The bonus has hitherto been uniform, no matter what the terms of purchase are. Thus there have been cases where the number of years' purchase has been as high as 25. It is absurd to add any bonus in such cases. Mr. Birrell's proposal is to graduate the bonus in inverse ratio to the number of years' purchase paid for the land. This is obviously a more equitable arrangement.

THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

On Tuesday, February 9, the great National Convention under the auspices of the United Irish League took

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place in the Mansion House, Dublin. There has probably never been an occasion (says the *Freeman's Journal*) when such an exceptionally large number of delegates attended. It probably exceeded in some respects the largest of the great conventions in numbers and in its varied and representative character. Although the business was fixed to begin at half-past 11 o'clock, the precincts of the Mansion House presented a very animated scene long before that hour. The Round Room, it need scarcely be said, was densely crowded. Every available seat on the ground floor was occupied, and the galleries were filled at quite an early hour. There was an exceptionally large number of clergy present. The entrance at half-past 11 o'clock of Mr. John Redmond was the signal for loud and prolonged cheers.

Rev. Father Cannon and Mr. Joseph Devlin, M.P., were appointed secretaries of the convention. Father Cannon said that letters had been received from Cardinal Logue and many Irish Bishops. A cable message from Cardinal Moran was as follows:—'Heartiest of congratulations to Irish Party on past victories, presage of future triumphs. Australia united with you, wishing convention complete success.' A cablegram from the United Irish League of America was to the following effect:—'Philadelphia draft for £1000 on way, making £5000 since October 1. Another remittance will follow speedily. Friends of cause here anticipate splendid harmonious convention. Sustain loyally United Party under your leadership.'

After the opening remarks by Mr. Redmond, Monsignor Kelly, Dean of Clonmacnoise, moved the first resolution as follows:—'That this convention, representing Irish national opinion, places upon record its profound conviction that nothing can satisfy the national aspirations of Ireland or bring peace and contentment to our people but a measure of self-government which will give to the Irish people the legislative and executive control of all purely Irish affairs; and that we invite all the Nationalist forces of the country to unite with the Irish Parliamentary Party in working to make Home Rule the vital issue at the next general election.'

The resolution, which was seconded by the Mayor of Sligo, was agreed to.

The next resolution, expressing the renewed confidence of the Irish people in the Irish Parliamentary Party, was moved by the Rev. M. B. Kennedy (Fermoy), and was carried almost unanimously after some amendments moved by Messrs. Cruise O'Brien, Ginnell, and E. T. Keane (Kilkenny) had been negatived.

The Chairman then addressed the convention on Mr. Birrell's new Land Bill, and moved the following resolution:—'That the Land Bill introduced by Mr. Birrell on November 23, 1908, containing, as it does, many of the provisions for which the United Irish League has been fighting for the past eight years, deserves the favorable consideration of the country; that we heartily approve of the action of the Irish Party in voting for the second reading of the bill, and declaring their determination to press in committee for the removal of its defects; and that we call upon the Government to redeem their pledge by reintroducing the bill immediately on the re-opening of the new session, and pressing it through all its stages as rapidly as possible.' Every syllable of Mr. Redmond's address was heard with the utmost attention. The British Parliament in its soberest mood was never more restrained, more appreciative, more thoroughly deliberative in its demeanor than this mighty meeting of 3000 or 3500 Irishmen drawn impartially from all the Irish provinces and from all classes. Mr. Redmond's telling periods were heard and weighed—every word; and when he turned to the financial clauses of the Act there was not a man in the splendid hall who did not thoroughly understand every point made by the speaker.

Mr. William O'Brien moved an amendment to the effect that Mr. Birrell's Land Bill or any similar measure would lead to the stoppage of land purchase for a number of years. He delivered a lengthy speech in support of his motion, but evidently the convention was out of sympathy with his views, and his arguments did not carry conviction. Mr. O'Brien's proposition was supported by Messrs. T. O'Donnell, Crean, and Rev. Father Ciancy (Kilkeel), but the convention negatived it by a vote of 3000 to 10, and then passed the original motion.

The other resolutions passed related to proposed amendments to the new Land Bill, the restoration of evicted tenants, advances to laborers to enable them to purchase untenanted lands, etc.

The business of the convention was brought to a conclusion on February 10.

Mr. Dillon moved the thanks of the convention to the Irish in America for the welcome accorded to the envoys. The resolution was adopted.

A letter was read from the Archbishop of Cashel, approving of the work of the Irish Party, and a cablegram was sent to Cardinal Moran thanking him for the message of the previous day.

People We Hear About

Miss Murphy, once well known in Melbourne as a writer for social journals, is Madame Melba's principal secretary.

Miss Ethel Dickens, a granddaughter of Charles Dickens, is the head of a large typewriting bureau in London, and is described as a keen business woman.

Mr. R. Ranalow, the Irish baritone who accompanies Madame Melba on her Australian tour, was born in Dublin, and was educated at a Westminster school. He has appeared in many big works, including oratorio, and is expected to be a great success in Australia.

From Brussels is announced the death of Josephine Rubay, the only living woman who spoke to Napoleon on the day of the battle of Ligny. She was 104 years of age, and her recollections of her interview with the French Emperor were still quite exact. The great man patted her on the head.

King Alfonso has sent to the Queen of Italy a message that the Cross of the First Class of the Order of Charity has been conferred upon her in recognition of her admirable endeavors on behalf of the sufferers from the recent earthquake. The distinction is one that is greatly coveted, as it is only conferred for acts of real heroism. The Emperor of Austria and the German Emperor have also conferred decorations on her Majesty.

King Alfonso, whose own governess as a child hailed from the land of Erin, has, with his young Queen, selected an Irish woman to assume charge of the little ones at Madrid as governess in the place of Miss Bunting, who succumbed so suddenly to heart disease the other day while in the performance of her duties. The choice has met with general approval. For hostile as the Spaniards are to foreigners in general, they make an exception in favor of the Irish, and there is no continental aristocracy among which the Emerald Isle is so extensively represented as among that of Spain.

On Sunday, March 21, his Eminence Cardinal Moran celebrated the silver jubilee of his translation from the See of Ossory to Sydney. His Eminence was born in County Carlow in 1830, and, as a boy of twelve, accompanied his uncle, Cardinal Cullen, to Rome, where later he made his ecclesiastical studies and was ordained. As student and Vice-Rector of the Irish College, and professor of Hebrew at the College of Propaganda, he resided in Rome for twenty-five years. He returned to Ireland in 1866 as secretary to his uncle, the Cardinal Archbishop of Dublin, and in 1872 was consecrated as Coadjutor of Ossory, and ruled that see as Bishop from 1873 to 1884. In the latter year he was translated to Sydney.

The arrival the other day in New Zealand of two members of the Queensberry family reminds us that the head of the house, the Marquis of Queensberry, was received into the Catholic Church only quite recently. The ancient earldom of Queensberry was, in 1683, raised to a dukedom; but, on the death of the last duke, who was unmarried, in 1810, the higher dignity then became merged in the Dukedom of Buccleuch. The vicissitudes of fortune have brought to the present Marquis no part of the vast territorial possessions held in past centuries by the great House of Douglas, one of the most important—as it was one of the most powerful—of the Border families. Lord Queensberry's conversion to the Catholic faith took place at Farm street, London, the public announcement of his adhesion to the religion of his ancestors having been made by himself. In taking that step, Lord Queensberry has but followed the example of his near kinswoman, the late Caroline, Marchioness of Queensberry, so well known for her piety and charity during her life in London, which she passed in almost conventual seclusion during its closing years in the nineteenth century. Some of her children followed their mother into the bosom of the Church, including the Very Rev. Canon Lord Archibald Douglas, for many years a hard-working priest in the dioceses of Westminster and Southwark, whose name will be for ever honorably associated with the foundation of the Catholic Boys' Homes in the Harrow road. To that noble institution Lord Archibald and his devoted sister, the late Lady Gertrude Douglas, applied many years of earnest and self-sacrificing labors. Their accomplished sister, the late Lady Florence Dixie—distinguished in the fields of literature and of travel, and one of the early advocates of the 'Women's Rights' movement, was another member of this once historic house. The Marquis of Queensberry has travelled over a great part of the habitable globe, and has served his country both in the Royal Navy and in the Army. He has a son and heir—Lord Douglas of Hawick—now a boy of twelve.

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COMBINE—'To form a union, to agree, to coalesce, to confederate.'

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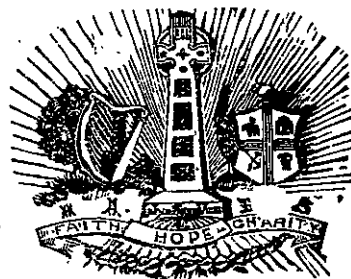
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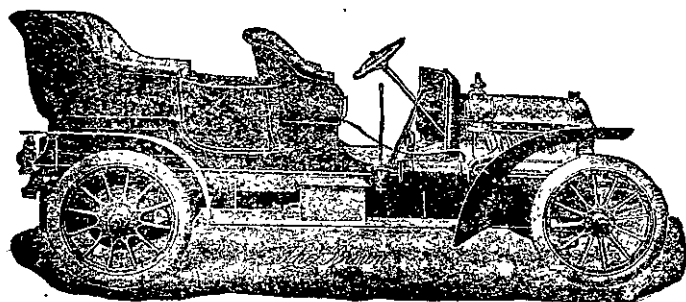
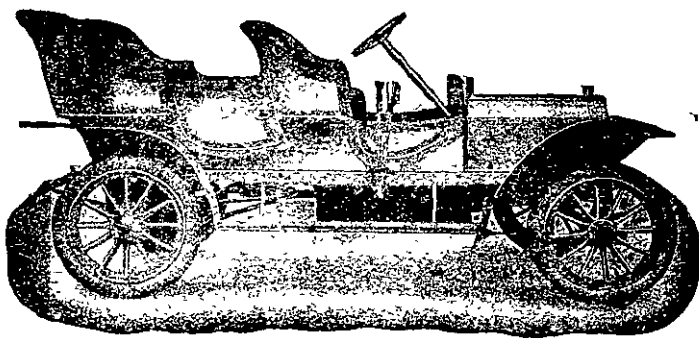
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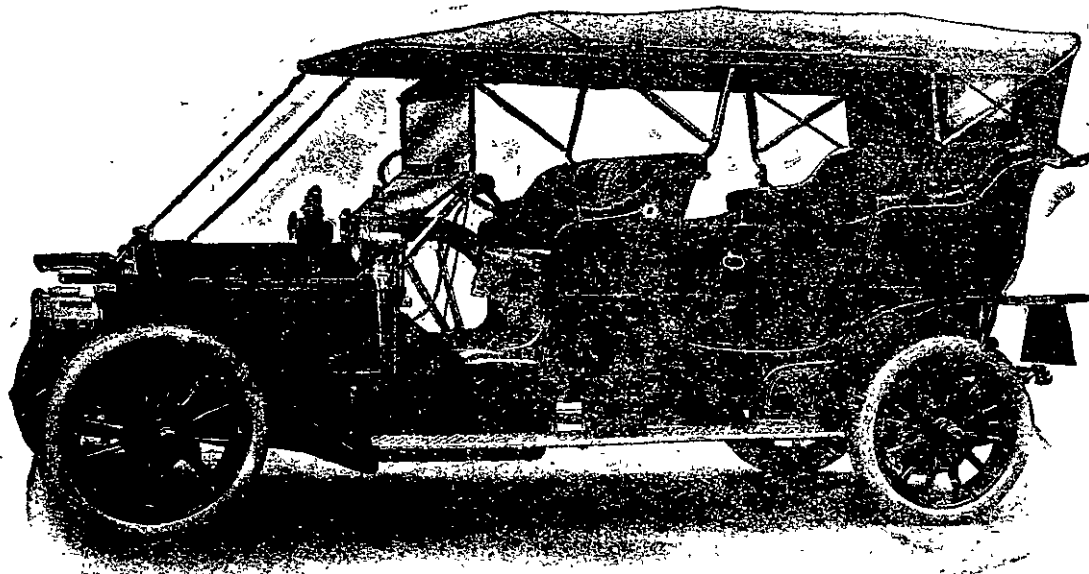
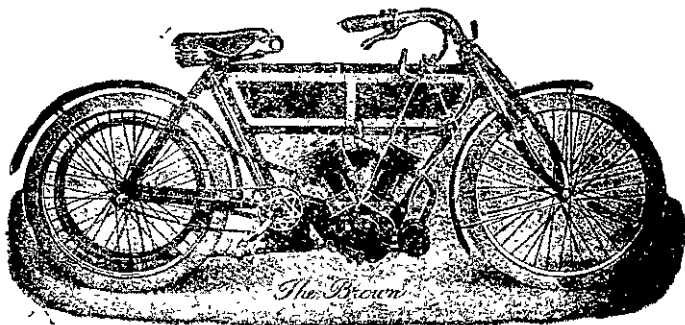


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The Catholic World

CHINA—Church Progress

Here are the latest statistics of the Catholic Church in the Chinese Empire:—Vicariates or Prefectures, 44; Bishops, 44; European priests, 1346; Chinese priests, 592; students in seminaries, 1215; European Brothers, 229; Chinese Brothers, 130; European nuns, 558; Chinese nuns, 1328; Catholics, 1,071,920; Catechumens, 424,000.

Golden Jubilee

The Right Rev. Bishop Cesaire Schang, of Chan-tong, China, celebrates this year the golden jubilee of his priesthood. The venerable Bishop has been twenty-five years among the Chinese.

ENGLAND—Appeal for African Missions

The Rev. Father O'Sullivan, S.M.A., preached in aid of his society, the West African Missions, on Sunday, February 7, at the High Mass in the Brompton Oratory, London. In the course of an impressive appeal for British sympathy and support, he said: For fifty years the Society of African Missions has been doing the work of British civilisation in West Africa. The graves of more than four hundred of our martyr missionaries along the deadly Guinea Coast, and the numerous missions that have grown above them—missions where English is preached in the churches and where English is taught in the schools—are there to-day in testimony of the fact. And yet only twice in those fifty years have we appealed for financial aid in England: the missions since their inception having been maintained almost entirely through the generous charity of the Catholics of France. The result of the appeal reached a very substantial figure.

FRANCE—A Sister of Charity Decorated

A message from Montpellier says:—General Marion, Commander of the Sixteenth Army Corps, has presented at a hospital in the suburbs, in presence of a large body of officials, a medal of honor to Sister-Antoinette, a Sister of Charity, for her devoted care of invalid soldiers during the past thirty years.

Tyranny of the Government

The following case (says the *New York Catholic News*) illustrates how severely Catholic teachers in France are dealt with when a charge is trumped up against them. In this case members of a religious Order were engaged only in carrying out their work of education. But as it was Catholic education, of course, they must be punished. The case is reported in the *Gazette de Creil*, an independent Republican journal. The Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny at Senlis, after their boarding school was closed, had the hardihood to conduct a private school, which was attended by a small number of pupils. They were watched by agents of the Government, and some days ago had to appear before the Correctional Tribunal in company with criminals. Their offence was: (1) That they gave lessons in painting and advice as to manual labor to pupils of their former boarding school who applied to them; (2) that they organised an infants' school for children who were not of the school age; (3) that they established a labor bureau, the object of which was to provide work for young girls and women. On such a charge the Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny have been condemned by the Correctional Tribunal.

ROME—The Holy Father's Gratitude

The sailors of the United States auxiliary vessel Celtic, after having distributed supplies to refugees from the earthquake stricken regions, were received in audience by Pius X. on February 8. The Pontiff expressed his gratitude, and desired his thanks to be conveyed to President Roosevelt and the commander of the Celtic for the splendid work done by Americans in Calabria and Sicily.

SPAIN—Catholic Social Work

The Bishop of Madrid has inaugurated a new movement for the extension of social work amongst Catholics in Madrid, and in a Pastoral letter he explains that he has been moved to do this by his knowledge of what has happened in France. The Spanish prelate does not hesitate to say that if when the French parishes were thoroughly Catholic measure had been taken to organise the people and get them to engage in works of mutual improvement under the ægis of religion, the condition of the French Catholics to-day would be far different from what it actually is. The enemies of the Church are active in the capital of Spain, but the Bishop intends to establish a powerful Catholic organisation which will render their attacks ineffectual. Some time ago he called together all the parish priests of the city and a number of laymen who take a practical interest in social questions. A commission was thereupon appointed and entrusted with the task of framing a schema

for the formation of parochial societies. All the parochial bodies will work under the general direction of a Central Diocesan Council. The organisation will be something like the Catholic Federation, and it is probable that it will branch out from Madrid into other populous centres in Spain.

UNITED STATES—Death of a Distinguished Jesuit

The Rev. William O'Brien Pardow, S.J., rector of St. Ignatius Loyola's Church, at Park avenue, New York, died of pneumonia on January 23. His reputation as a theologian and preacher was high. Father Pardow was born in New York sixty-two years ago. From 1875 to 1880 he studied in France and England. He was one of the six Jesuits who represented the United States in the Assembly General in Rome for the selection of their General.

Development of Catholic Education

One of the interesting developments of Catholic education at Washington, U.S.A., is the rumored foundation of a normal school for Catholic nuns, with the approval of the authorities of the Catholic University.

Returning to the Fold

The Rev. Father Kolaszewski, of Cleveland, Ohio, a Polish priest who was suspended and excommunicated for defying ecclesiastical authority and presiding over an 'Independent' Church, having returned to the Fold, asks through the *Cleveland Catholic Universe* for pardon for the scandal he has given.

The Catholic University

Cardinal Gibbons has announced that the Very Rev. Thomas J. Shahan, D.D., has been appointed by the Sacred Congregation of Studies, of which Cardinal Satolli is the head, rector of the Catholic University, to succeed Bishop Denis J. O'Connell, recently appointed Auxiliary Bishop of the archdiocese of San Francisco. Dr. Shahan holds the chair of Church History at the University, and has been connected with the institution for the past seventeen years. Dr. Shahan's name has been in the public eye very prominently for the last three years as one of the editors of *The Catholic Encyclopedia*, without any question the most important expression of American Catholic scholarship ever attempted. In his capacity as editor of this work, Dr. Shahan has had occasion to employ all the wide knowledge which has characterised his career, and has largely contributed to the creation of the high repute in which the *Encyclopedia* is held on both sides of the Atlantic. As the appointment of the Rectorship comes direct from the Congregation of Studies at Rome, it is regarded not only as a recognition of Dr. Shahan's worth, but also of the editorial direction of the *Encyclopedia*.

HAWERA

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Two highly respected parishioners passed away during the last week—Mrs. Hepburn and Mr. Slattery, sen., of Manaia.—R.I.P.

During the past few weeks Very Rev. Father Power has been making a special collection for the purpose of liquidating the parish debt and enlarging the church. So far the results have been very gratifying; and already the sum of £200 has been collected.

Miss D. Rielly, who has been indisposed for some weeks now, has been ordered a change and rest by her doctor, and leaves at the beginning of April on a trip to the Old Country with her father. Miss Rielly will be much missed in musical circles in Hawera.

Although the local branch of the Hibernian Society has been only three years in existence, it is making wonderful progress. It has now over £100 to its credit, and at the last meeting six candidates were nominated for membership.

Mr. P. O'Dea, who until recently was head master of the Patea High School, has started practice as a barrister and solicitor in Hawera. We now have three Catholic solicitors in Hawera—Mr. G. H. Regan, Mr. B. McCarthy, and Mr. P. O'Dea.

On Wednesday evening last the local branch of the Hibernian Society held its second annual concert in the Opera House. The following contributed to the programme:—Mrs. Sutcliffe (Wellington), Mrs. J. Goodson, Mrs. Quin, Misses O'Donnell (2), Flynn, O'Reilly, A. Gallagher, and Messrs. Hutchens, Lawless, Hooker, and M. McAlpine. The concert was a thorough success.

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It often happens that those who do washing at home are puzzled about the blueing, which persists in spotting. To prevent this, break the blue up quite small and tie in a piece of flannel. Dip this flannel bag into the water, and squeeze until it is blue enough. The blue will percolate through the flannel, hence the blue cannot spot.

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Constant vigilance is necessary to overcome the annoyance and painfulness of chapped lips. In slight cases a soothing lotion is usually sufficient, but when chapping, as it often does, degenerates into cracks or bleeding, radical remedies must be applied. A simple lotion that can be rubbed on every night is made from an ounce each of rose water, glycerine, and a half drachm of borax, thoroughly mixed and kept closely bottled. For cracks and severe chapping nothing is better than camphorated cold cream, applied each night before retiring and well rubbed in.

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Moisture produces a close and disagreeable odor. All brass, copper, nickel, and lacquered ware should be kept dry.

To keep chopping bowls from splitting, keep them somewhat moist. These bowls are made from maple and buckeye wood, and their peculiar shape makes them split easily if too dry.

Shellac varnish is made by putting the shellac in a bottle and covering it with 90 per cent. alcohol. Keep in a warm room and shake it occasionally, and if the shellac is not thoroughly dissolved add a little more alcohol. This makes a good varnish for almost anything, and dries very quickly.

Collect all the small candle ends, melt them, then add as much turpentine as you have candle-grease. Let it cool and use for polishing floors, oilcloth, etc. This makes an excellent polish, and is much superior to beeswax.

How to Find a Gas Leak.

It is unfortunately very usual to seek for a gas leakage with a lighted candle, a proceeding which is responsible for many explosions. Instead open the windows of the room to let out the obnoxious gas and admit the fresh air, and mix a pound of soap, cut in shavings, with three and a half pints of water, and apply this sticky fluid to the gas pipe with a brush. The leak in the pipe will be indicated by bubbles in the soapy application, and the damage may be temporarily rectified by rubbing the spot with a cake of soap, softened by being used, which will stop the leakage of gas till the plumber can arrive to execute a permanent repair.

How to Loosen a Glass Stopper.

There are several ways of loosening the glass stoppers of bottles or decanters. One is to stand the bottle in hot water; another is to drop a little oil between the stopper and the decanter with a feather and set near the fire. After a time strike the stopper gently on all sides with a piece of wood, and if it does not move repeat the process. A strip of flannel around the neck of the bottle, pulled backward and forward to produce friction, will sometimes loosen stoppers.

Maureen

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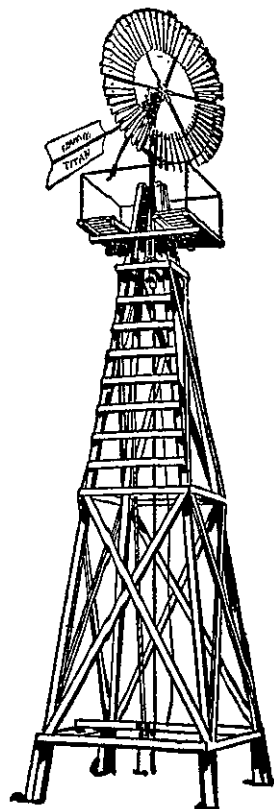
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A Volcanic Island.

A rim of land enclosing a fresh-water lake in the middle of the Pacific Ocean is a novelty in the way of islands (says a writer in the *Weekly Telegraph*). This small island is Ninfafou, which is quite apart from other ocean lands. It lies midway between the Fiji and Samoan groups, and is under the government of the Tonga group, though it is 200 miles from these islands. Some time or other a volcano vent opened at the bottom of the ocean, and the lava that poured out of it piled higher and higher until it finally overtopped the sea. A great volcanic mountain had been formed, and the part of it that came into view above the waste of waters was, of course, an island. In the course of time this volcano was the scene of one of those tremendous explosions that sometimes tear mountains to pieces. The explosion had a remarkable result. The interior of the crater was blown out to a considerable depth, leaving only the narrow rim; in this is a nearly perfect ring around the deep central cavity. This is the island of to-day. Some years ago a thousand Tongans lived in the five villages that lie along the outer slope of that crater wall. The drainage from the inner slope partly fills the cavity, forming a lake. From the top of the crater rim one looks down upon the peaceful lake within, with its three little islands, and the curiously shaped peninsula jutting out into it; and outside the rim is the ever-restless ocean.

Cultivation in the Philippines.

Governor-General Smith of the Philippines recently made a tour of the mountain provinces of northern Luzon, chiefly inhabited by pagan tribes. On his return to Manila he said: 'The journey through the mountain country was a revelation. I have never seen such cultivation as we saw in the mountains. Those people have terraced the mountains in some instances a thousand feet high, and every bit of the land is under cultivation. I do not believe there is anything in the world that can equal the manner in which the people of the mountains have made their country productive. It certainly surpasses anything I have ever seen. The terraces in Japan are pig-mies compared with it. The earth and stone were brought for miles, and the most wonderful part about it is that the terraces are as solid and substantial as if they were part of the mountain itself. Some of them are seventy or a hundred feet high, and remain undisturbed through all sorts of weather and landslides. And at the time these terraces were made the people were under arms, working with their knives and shields close at hand, and with sentries on every high point of land and mountain top.'

Characteristics of Lions.

If a lion or a tiger suddenly appears before you, just hold a chair out in front of him, and he won't do a thing. Allen Williams, who in the course of his experience with wild animals has been in that predicament often enough to know, says: 'These creatures have a much more limited intelligence than is generally supposed. They can take in only one thing at a time, and the four legs of a chair would keep any lion busy thinking for a long time. That is the reason why animal trainers carry two whips when they are in the circus ring. One for cracking and awing the performers, the other for emergencies. If one of the lions tries to attack him the trainer simply holds the reserve whip in front of him. The two objects together are too much for the lion's intelligence, and he is immediately subdued.' Another proof of the limited intelligence of the cat tribe, say trainers, is the fact that their performances must always come in the same order of succession. If by some accident the order is broken, the animals are completely lost, and the trainers are few who can keep them in submission once they become confused. In fact, most trainers consider themselves lucky in a case of this sort if they can get the lions quietly back into their cages. The whole cat family, moreover, is as treacherous as it is stupid.

Intercolonial

The estimated population of Victoria at the end of 1908 was 1,273,313.

His Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne is expected to arrive in Melbourne about the last week in May.

The Rev. Father F. Kiley, of Copmanhurst, has been permanently appointed parish priest of Coff's Harbor.

Monsignor Bourke, V.G., of Perth, celebrated recently his golden jubilee, and was presented with a cheque for £250 by the Catholics of St. Brigid's parish, West Perth.

The full total received in subscriptions towards the new Catholic Cathedral, Armidale, is £4027 5s. This is highly satisfactory, considering the scheme was only mooted on January 31 last.

Pope Pius X. has raised Messrs. J. B. Kelly (Lismore), Thomas McDermott (Lismore), and R. Campbell (Bangalow) to the distinguished Order of Knighthood of St. Gregory the Great (K.S.G.).

The total amount contributed by the various parishes in the Archdiocese of Sydney for the sufferers by the Italian earthquake was £563 odd. The amount was forwarded direct to the Archbishop of Messina by his Eminence Cardinal Moran.

Nine of the students of St. Stanislaus College, Bathurst, who are following the agricultural course as a preparation for settling on the land, have recently passed the theoretical and practical examinations in wool-classing, conducted by the Government expert at the Technical College.

Rev. Brother Walsh, who has been in charge of the Maryborough College, Queensland, has succeeded the Rev. Brother McGee as principal of the Christian Brothers' College, Lewisham. Brother Walsh was the recipient of many presentations before his departure from Queensland, including one from the Mayor on behalf of the Hibernian Society.

His Eminence Cardinal Moran presided at High Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, on St. Patrick's Day, and his Lordship Dr. Gallagher, Bishop of Goulburn, preached the panegyric. Afterwards the Cardinal went out to the Agricultural Grounds, where the Industrial Exhibition in connection with the celebrations was opened by Miss Rawson.

At the annual meeting of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, Melbourne, it was reported that the receipts for the past twelve months had been £2017, and the expenditure £1653. During that period 937 families had been relieved, 6000 garments and 570 pairs of boots had been distributed, and situations had been found for 90 men and women.

St. Patrick's Day celebration at the Exhibition Building, Melbourne, was graced by the presence of Lord Dudley and his amiable consort. An address was presented to their Excellencies, in which their great services to Ireland were recalled, his Excellency being thanked for his help to the cause of Home Rule, and her Excellency for all she had done for the industries of Ireland.

His Grace Archbishop Delany blessed and laid the foundation stone of the new church at the Good Shepherd Convent, Lower Sandy Bay, Tasmania, on February 21. At the conclusion of the ceremony the Sisters entertained the visitors at afternoon tea. The contributions received amounted to £200. The gathering included his Excellency the Governor (Sir Gerald Strickland), the Premier of Tasmania (Mr. Evans), and representatives of all creeds.

On Wednesday night, March 10, a gathering of parishioners and friends of the Rev. Father H. J. Maguinness was held in the schoolroom, Bourke, for the purpose of bidding him farewell, prior to his leaving for a trip to Ireland. Father Maguinness was presented by his parishioners with a purse of sovereigns. He also received a beautiful travelling trunk from the Sacred Heart Society, and a set of Mass vestments and a silver-mounted umbrella from the Sisters and Children of Mary.

The executors of the estate of the late Michael Lennon, of Cohuna, Victoria, have forwarded drafts of £309 2s 6d to each of the following charitable institutions:—The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Melbourne; the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Bendigo; the Bendigo Hospital; the Fund for Infirm Priests, Bendigo; St. James's Asylum, Oakleigh; the Girls' Orphanage, Geelong; St. Aiden's Orphanage, Bendigo; the Foundling Hospital, Broadmeadows; the Home for Destitute Children, Surrey Hills; the Home for Old People, Northcote; St. Joseph's Receiving Home, Carlton; Nazareth House, Ballarat; Rosary Place, South Melbourne; and the Abbotsford Convent. The total amount divisible among these institutions was £4327 17s.

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WHAT MAKES GRANDMA CROSS

My mamma's gone away to-day,
And grandma's cross;
My mamma told me to be good,
I've tried to help just all I could,
And haven't done a thing that should
Make grandma cross.

I cleared away the breakfast things
Quick as a fly;
The gravy spilled a little mite,
Although I hugged the platter tight.
But, if I was an 'awful sight,'
I didn't cry.

I went upstairs to make the beds
And dust around;
I filled the bathtub to the brim,
So Jack Tar could learn to swim—
And then I jumped in after him
Before he drowned.

I really thought the parlor should
Be dusted, too;
An angel fell down on his face
And hit a Royal Worcester vase—
I put the pieces back in place
With Stickum's glue.

I've been as good as good can be—
But grandma's cross;
I've swept, I've ironed all my clothes,
I've washed the windows with the hose,
What in the world do you suppose
Makes grandma cross?

ROBERT'S REFERENCE

'Mr. Hinks, the grocer, tells me you are looking for a boy to work on your place, sir. I would like to apply for it.'

Robert Coulton's hopes were high as he addressed himself to the white-bearded gentleman on the verandah. This big white house, with its beautiful grounds and maple-bordered drive, looked as if it might be a happy place in which to work.

'Right, young man,' Captain Gordon returned. 'Have you any references—for industry and honesty?'

That simple question dashed Robert's hopes. He and his widowed mother had just come East from far-away Iowa. Neither of them knew a soul who could honestly give such a reference.

'That's too bad,' the Captain sympathised, when Robert explained. 'I would want a boy in and around the house all the time, and I wouldn't feel justified in engaging anyone without a reference.'

The tone was kindly, but it could not prevent the bitter disappointment which Robert experienced. No one knew how poor he and his mother were. Mrs. Coulton had spent nearly all her savings to come East, only to be disappointed in her expectation of finding a situation. A little bit of sewing helped out, to be sure, and Robert occasionally found an odd job; but every day conditions were getting worse.

Mrs. Coulton had been quite cheerful that morning when the grocer suggested that Robert apply to Captain Gordon. Her savings grew less every meal time. She had spoken as if she thought the chance at Captain Gordon's was the turning point in their fortunes.

Robert had counted quite as much upon the place. Now he turned slowly and dejectedly away. He felt that he could not bear to tell his mother of the failure to get work. He knew how gloomy it would make her.

'Oh—my boy,' the Captain called, 'would you like to earn twenty-five cents before you look for another place?'

Robert turned about so quickly that the Captain smiled. He did not need words to assure him that the boy would like to earn anything.

'My wife wants a little patching done on the arbor above the woodshed. Come along and I'll show you.'

From the recesses of the woodshed the Captain brought forth a hammer. Then he showed Robert that the slats of the arbor were nearly all loose. A box of old nails was forthcoming, and Robert set to work.

It was a pleasure to be working, even if very little money would result therefrom. Robert found a brief forgetfulness of his financial difficulties while he labored.

One of the posts of the arbor was loose. After that had been set more firmly in the ground, Robert discovered that one whole slat was missing. A brief search in the woodshed discovered it tucked away. It was in two pieces, but there were plenty of nails with which to correct the damage.

The climbing vines were somewhat tangled for want of repairs to the arbor. When the slats had been made fast Robert twined the long shoots upward to the top pieces which ran from the arbor to the shed roof. Several of the cross strips were missing also. The vines would not have a fair chance to weave their way from the arbor to the shed unless these strips were replaced.

Another visit to the shed discovered plenty of old material that served admirably for the purpose. The nails held out, and Robert had the satisfaction of seeing the shady walk and the arbor restored little by little to what he judged was their former neatness.

But all this had consumed much time. It had been comparatively early morning when he started, and although he had no watch, he decided from the position of the sun that it must now be after 3 o'clock.

He felt a little hungry as he put the hammer and nails away. Leaving the shed, he encountered Mrs. Gordon.

'It's a good job, my boy, a very good job. How much do we owe you?' The Captain is not at home, so I will pay you myself.'

'Twenty-five cents,' Robert assured her, pleased with the favor his work found. 'That's what the Captain promised.'

'Oh, nonsense!' she replied. 'The Captain would never ask you to do all that work for twenty-five cents.'

'He told me he would give me twenty-five cents for nailing the loose slats on the arbor,' Robert explained. 'He didn't say anything about the extra work. I did that because I had the time to spare. My father always used to say that a workman couldn't afford to half do a job at any price.'

Mrs. Gordon smiled and nodded approvingly. 'It's a very fine ideal,' she declared, 'and I hope you will always stick to it. There is fifty cents for your work, anyway; twenty-five from the Captain and twenty-five from me.'

Robert thanked her as he took the money. On his homeward way, with fifty cents in his pocket and compliments ringing in his ears, he felt quite rich.

His mother tried to help him think where a reference might be found such as the Captain wanted. But the thinking was in vain.

There were a few purchases to be made in the village that Saturday night. After he had visited the store, and while he waited for the order to be made up, Robert went over to the post office. He had sent in an answer to an advertisement for factory help, which he found in the country paper, and although he was in no wise qualified to take the place outlined he hoped against hope.

The postmaster handed him a long envelope addressed to himself. The handwriting was unfamiliar, and Robert had visions of an offer of work.

He waited until he had reached a quiet spot on the homeward way. Then he set his basket down and tore open the envelope. The sheet inside was written from a town address, and bore date of that very day.

'To Whom It May Concern:

'This is to certify that Robert Coulton is both honest and industrious, having proved himself so in my employ and to my satisfaction.

(Signed) 'Charles Gordon.'

'Why, that's a reference,' Robert told himself out loud, as if someone had just disputed the fact.

There was also a little note enclosed in the envelope:

'Don't forget to call Monday if you happen to have the reference I spoke of.'

HOW TO CONTROL CHILDREN

A mother who was much admired for the way she brought up her daughter was asked for the recipe, which she gave as follows:—'How I control her? Well, I will tell you. In the first place, a great deal of firmness is requisite. Always keep your word, however painful it must be sometimes; then she will know that punishment, which no amount of tears or entreaties will avail, will follow disobedience. And, my dear, avoid scolding, or harsh, violent words; always command your temper in her presence. You can not expect your child to be amiable if you are not so yourself; example is everything. Lastly, take interest in all her little joys and sorrows. Children have their sorrows, and often are their little sensitive hearts wounded by a want of sympathy in the home circle. Always try to make home a pleasant place to live in. Entice her to confide fearlessly all her little secrets; to look on you as a companion, not as one to be feared. There, you have my recipe.'

WHEN ROBERT'S CHANCE CAME

Little Robert, aged four, presented his mother with a large-sized shock the other day. It was a case of sowing a mild little breeze and reaping a full-grown whirlwind.

Robert is Mrs. B.'s first, and has always had a large front seat in her affections. Even when Mrs. B. attended parties she remembered Robert, and would slip a bit of candy into her handkerchief to carry home to him.

Not that Robert did not have as much candy of his own as was good for him—and more, too—but he took an awed delight in anything which came from a party. So his mother always produced some souvenir of her modest social dissipation with which to satisfy Robert.

A few weeks ago Robert himself went to a party—his very first. A maid brought him home and left him, together with a large paper bag, in the eager arms of his welcoming mother. The first rapture of description had scarcely begun when Mrs. B. became conscious of the bulky bag.

'Why, Robert, what's this?'

'It's for you. I brought it to you from the party.'

With some misgivings Mrs. B. opened the bag. It contained a large orange, nuts, candy, grapes, cakes—in fact, a very respectable assortment of refreshments suitable to the juvenile taste.

Robert had supposed it was quite the usual thing to take little consoling items to the uninvited members of one's family, and he had taken a generous delight in securing a truly noble collection for his mother.

That lady faced the double problem of explaining the situation to Robert's hostess and of presenting to Robert a clear reason why what was sauce for the goose, so to speak, was a totally different thing for the gander. The explanation, which simmered down, of course, to a question of size or quantity, was far from being clear to Robert, who is low in his mind and thinks he doesn't care for society after all.

A GREAT SMOKER

An American told the following recently:—'I lunched with Sir Thomas Lipton at the Ghezireh Palace in Cairo just before he set out for his tea plantation in Ceylon, where the ex-Empress Eugenie was to visit him. When the coffee came on I opened my case and offered Sir Thomas a beautiful aromatic cigarette, fresh from the factory down the street. "No, thank you," said he; "I am, with one possible exception, the biggest smoker in the world, but I never smoke cigarettes." "What do you smoke?" said I. "Bacon," he answered.'

ODDS AND ENDS

Tommy: 'Pa, what is the difference between a philanthropist and a philosopher?'

Father: 'A philanthropist is a man who gives away other people's money, and a philosopher is a man who bears with resignation the pain which his neighbor suffers from the toothache.'

'We obtain wool from sheep. The wool is made into cloth, and with the cloth they make clothes. Now, Edmund, what is your overcoat made of?'

'Of an old one of father's, sir!'

Dr. Thompson, the late Master of Trinity, once received a request from the principal of one of the ladies' colleges at Cambridge for the loan of the Trinity Fellows' gardens for a garden party, to which members of the University would be invited. Dr. Thompson replied, 'Madam, our gardens are intended for horticulture, not for husbandry.'

FAMILY FUN

A Bottled Button.—Place a button, attached by a thread to a cork securely sealed at the top, in a clear glass bottle, and see if you can sever the thread, so that the button falls to the bottom, without uncorking or breaking the bottle. Here is how it is done:—Take a lens and focus the rays of the sun, which pass through the glass without heating it, and burn the thread.

Is Water Porous?—Our belief that two portions of matter cannot occupy the same space at the same time is almost shaken by the following experiment:—If we introduce slowly some fine powdered sugar into a tumblerful of water a considerable quantity may be dissolved in the water without increasing its bulk. It is thought that the atoms of water are so disposed as to receive the sugar between them, as a scuttle filled with coal might accommodate a quantity of sand.

All Sorts

The more sunshine there is in some men's lives the less hay they make.

It takes a Persian rug weaver about twenty days to weave a square foot.

A man's chances of sudden death are eight times as great as a woman's.

It is possible to read by the light emitted by half a dozen Jamaican fireflies.

Some of the largest ocean steamers can be converted into armed cruisers in thirty hours.

The road to ruin is always kept in good order, and those who travel on it pay the expense.

Someone remarks that there is no one on earth so depressing as the thorough-going optimist.

Europe loses 960,000 natives every year by emigration, while only 200,000 return in the same period.

At the age of thirty, the female brain begins to lose weight, but that of the male not until the age of forty.

Five miles and a half is the height of the loftiest mountain peak in the world, while the greatest known depth of the ocean is six miles.

Our customs and habits are like the ruts in the roads; the wheels of life settle into them, and we jog along through the mire because it is too much trouble to get out of them.

'Your wife used to sing and play a great deal. I have not heard her lately.'

'Since we have had children she has had no time.'

'Ah, children are such a blessing!'

'So he praised my singing, did he?'

'Yes; he said it was heavenly.'

'Did he really say that?'

'Well, not exactly; but he probably meant that. He said it was unearthly.'

'Pa, is an abyss a sleepy hollow?'

'No, child. Whatever put such an idea into your head?'

'Well, pa, whenever you hear of or read about an abyss, it is always yawning.'

Harry was walking with another boy, when he was joined by a friend, a year or so older and inclined to manners.

'Introduce me, Harry,' the newcomer whispered pompously.

Harry twisted, reddened, and at last turned to his companion with: 'Jim, have you ever seen Gilbert Spencer?'

'No,' the other boy answered.

'Well,' Harry blurted out, reddening still more, and jerking one thumb over his shoulder toward the newcomer, 'that's him!'

The United States Government are planning a gigantic extension of the internal waterways systems, to cost £100,000,000, during the next ten years, to be followed by an annual vote of £10,000,000 for an indefinite period. The scheme is considered necessary because the demands for transportation are increasing more quickly than the railways. The Government propose to link up the East and the Middle West by a circular waterway route 5000 miles long, tapping a district with an area of 1,300,000 square miles.

One feature of the present situation in China to which attention is given is the hoarded wealth lying unproductive in the Palace, and amounting to millions sterling. The bullion entrusted during the foreign military occupation of Peking in 1900-1901, first to the protection of the American General Chaffet, and afterwards to the English General, Sir A. Gaselee, was estimated approximately at £9,000,000. Whatever was the amount of the hoard, it has since considerably increased. Under a more enlightened Regency there is hope that this treasure may become reproductive.

It is questionable (says the *Wide World Magazine*) if any animal on earth could duplicate the swallowing feat that is to be seen daily (or as often as a tourist comes along) at the Cawston Ostrich Farm in South Pasadena, California. Oranges are one of their great dainties—the big 'navel' oranges of California, measuring upwards of 3½ in diameter. One old patriarch named 'Emperor William' will catch the oranges one after another, full 10ft above the ground, until an even dozen may be seen at the time slowly bumping down along the expanse of neck, to be finally lost in the ruffle of feathers where neck and body join.

FITS AND EPILEPSY

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A girl had fits in such rapid succession that she was unable to take food or drink, and the doctor who was attending her said she could not live more than 48 hours. Trench's Remedy at once stopped the fits, and there has not been a further attack since—over 2½ years—and none of the Remedy has been taken for over a year.

DECLARED TO BE INCURABLE.

A girl who had been at various times under treatment by several of the leading doctors of Melbourne was declared to be incurable by them all, and the parents were advised to place her in an asylum. She took from ten to twenty fits a day, yet upon using Trench's Remedy the attacks ceased at once, and she has not had a fit since—nearly three years. She ceased taking the Remedy nearly two years ago.

£1000 SPENT WITHOUT RESULT.

The son of a leading merchant of Melbourne broke down just as he was commencing his University course. All the best physicians of Melbourne were consulted, but none of them could stop the fits. The father then took the young man to England and elsewhere to obtain the best advice in the world, but, after spending over £1000, he brought him back with the fits occurring more frequently than ever. Trench's Remedy at once stopped the attacks, and the young man is now perfectly cured.

The above statements can be verified by personal reference to the parents of the patients, who, from gratitude, have offered to reply to any enquirers we refer to them.

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