



## BUILT BY THE REMINGTON ARMS COMPANY.

Did it ever occur to you that this was a Good Recommendation? Particularly in these days, when the SOLE OBJECT OF MOST OF THE BICYCLE MAKERS seems to be to produce Wheels almost without cost, regardless of Quality, Workmanship, or anything but outside show. The specifications of most of the cheapest and shoddy Wheels are copied word for word from the catalogues of the better makers, and the printed cuts of such wheels compare with the best.

THE WISE COURSE by all odds is to PURCHASE CYCLES that are Built by RELIABLE MAKERS, and then you will take no chances.

OUR REMINGTON BICYCLES HAVE A REPUTATION THAT IS WORLD-WIDE, And never have we put REMINGTONS on the Market the quality of which could even be questioned. Write or call or fully Illustrated Catalogues.

**M. O'BRIEN AND CO.,**

REMINGTON CYCLE AGENCY,  
ARMAGH STREET, CHRISTCHURCH.

the Pope himself will complete his 90th year on March 2. The address has already been drawn up, and is as follows.—'Having arrived at an age when the soul feels itself free from influences which, at other stages of life, often mislead or smother its nobler impulses, the undersigned are able to understand better than ever before those great truths of which your Holiness has never wearied of reminding the world, and which the latter, to its own misfortune, obstinately ignores. The remembrance of the great past of your Holiness's life must fill your soul with gratitude to God for all that He has accomplished through you. And to this consciousness your Holiness must certainly be indebted for the flourishing health, the ever youthful strength, which are the wonder of the world and the joy of the Universal Church.'

**SCOTLAND.—Marriage of a Nephew of Gerald Griffin.**—Mr. Gerald Griffin, nephew to the famous Irish writer of the same name, was married in St. Patrick's, Glasgow, during the first week in December, to Miss Grieve, of Greenock, a granddaughter of the late Mr. J. J. Grieve, who at one time represented Glasgow in Parliament. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Dean Taylor, M.R., St. Mary's. Mr. Griffin is a Resident Magistrate at Belmullet, County Mayo.

**Clerical Appointment.**—The Rev. Father Fitzgerald, of the archdiocese of Cashel, Ireland, has been appointed curate of St. John's, Glasgow.

**Presentation to a Priest.**—The Rev. Father McDaniel, in charge till recently of the Catholic mission of Dunbar, and now of Bathgate, has been presented with a handsome marble timepiece and bronze ornaments, subscribed to by a wide circle of friends, in recognition of his successful labours in the eastern district.

**An Important Appointment.**—Mr. Francis Gilmour, a member of the Holy Cross Congregation, Glasgow, left that city recently for Spain, where he goes to take up an important position as traffic manager of a railway near Gibraltar. Mr. Gilmour, who was formerly actively connected with many parochial organisations in St. Francis's parish, spent a number of years in San Domingo, where he also held a responsible position in railway administration. In railway circles Mr. Gilmour is well known and highly esteemed, his counsel and co-operation being frequently availed of by local railway magnates, who have more than once given public manifestation of their regard for him. Needless to say, he leaves for his latest sphere of labour with the heartiest good wishes of hosts of the warmest friends.

**UNITED STATES.—A Generous Gift.**—Mrs. De Navarro, whom they affectionately call 'Our Mary' in America, and her brother, Mr. Joseph C. Anderson, some time ago gave to the Minor Conventuals 100 acres of land bequeathed to them by a priest-uncle, the Rev. A. Millar.

**A Valuable Prize.**—A letter written by Leo XIII. in 1851, whilst Bishop of Perugia, to Signor Beccari, of Rome, is being offered as a prize at a bazaar in aid of St. Joachim's Church, New York.

**Fortunate escape of Cardinal Gibbons.**—Cardinal Gibbons and Bishop Foley were passengers on a train which was damaged by a collision near Louisville recently, but happily they were uninjured.

**A Great Painting.**—A unique feat in church decoration was inaugurated recently in St. Bernard's Catholic Church, Chicago, when the Dantons, father and son—both artists of note and descendants in the direct line from the celebrated Jacques Danton of French revolutionary fame—began the work of hanging behind the high altar their great painting entitled 'Calvary.' Three weeks will be required to get the picture in place, and in addition to the two artists' work of superintendence the labour of a dozen men will be required to complete the task. The immense painting represents a spread of canvas 40ft long by 30ft wide, and its value is said to be close to £10,000. It is the product of the joint labours of the two artists during a period of three years, but in conception the picture has been wholly the elder Danton's—the son's part being confined to the aiding of his father in the details of the palette and brush work.

Mr. P. LONDON, Phoenix Chambers, Wanganui, is still busy putting people on the soil. He has also hotels in town and country For Sale and To Lease. Write to him.—\*.\*

## THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

## THE PAINTER OF THE 'ROLL CALL.'

Lady Butler has sent to Colonel Gildea, to be sold for the benefit of the families of soldiers on service, a water-colour drawing of an artillery officer engaged in the exercise of tent-pegging. The artist's 'Missed,' published as a coloured supplement to the *Graphic*, many years ago, is still familiar, dealing with the same sport; but the drawing now presented is one of later date, made at Aldershot, and capturing of both horse and rider, within a delicate scheme of colouring, the very movement of life itself.

## THE ARMY POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

Lord Edmund Talbot, brother of the Duke of Norfolk, who is on General Buller's staff, remained at Capetown, after his arrival in South Africa, acting as Postmaster-General of the army. As soon as his chief commenced active operations Major Talbot went to the front.

## A FAMILY OF SOLDIERS.

'Hickie, a Beaumont fellow, was hit between his toes. He is not in hospital, but lies in his tent.' This text is taken from the particularly frank and graphic letter written to his father by Lieutenant Maxwell Scott, of Abbot'sford, about the battle of Reitfontein. Lieutenant Carlos Hickie belongs to a family of soldiers. His father fought with distinction in the Crimea; married a Spanish lady of many endowments, whom he met while on duty at Gibraltar (whence the 'Carlos'), and gave three sons to the service of the Queen. Lieutenant Hickie belongs to the Gloucesters, to whom Lieutenant Maxwell Scott (of the Cameronians) is merely attached, but there is a note of fellowship in the allusion to old comradeship at Beaumont.

## THE HEROIC SISTERS OF MAKING.

The following message appeared in the London *Times* from its own correspondent at Mafeking under date November 18.—'The convent has been hit eight times. The nuns refuse to leave their post beyond taking refuge in the bomb-proof shelter adjoining the convent. These heroic Sisters take their share in the hard work, making and distributing coffee and tea to the neighbouring redans. Their gallant conduct has set a magnificent example to the town.'

## PRESIDENT McKinLEY AND THE WAR.

In his Presidential message President McKinley said.—'This Government has maintained an attitude of neutrality in the unfortunate contest between Great Britain and the Boer States of South Africa. We have remained faithful to the precept of avoiding entangling alliances as to affairs not of direct concern. Had circumstances suggested that the parties to the quarrel would have welcomed any kindly expression of the hope of the American people that war might be averted, our good offices would have been gladly tendered.'

## REMEMBERING THOSE WHO HAD FALLEN IN BATTLE.

At the Church of St. Joseph, Florence, a Mass of *Requiem* has been offered for the repose of the soldiers who have fallen in the Transvaal. It was attended by the Italian civil and military authorities, by her Majesty's Consul-General, the Vice-Consul from Leghorn, and a large number of the English colony.

## THE JOHANNESBURG FORT.

The Johannesburg Fort is situated at the north side of the town, and has been handed over to the care of a nephew of President Kruger. It is built on the highest part of the Witwatersrand, and therefore commands a very extensive tract of country. By means of the heliograph, messages can be flashed nearly thirty miles away, and it is only a gentle rising in the land that prevents messages being flashed right through to Pretoria. The usual routine of the fort commences with the drilling of raw recruits from 7-30 to 8-30 in the morning. They wear any clothing they please, and 'march' in splendid disorder. It is said that the fort contains immense stores of ammunition, as well as Maxim, Krupp, and field guns, and thousands of magazine rifles. Convicts are constantly at work on the fortifications. Very little gun drill is done, except with the deadly Maxims. When the searchlight was first erected the Boers appeared to have been overcome with the novelty, and it is said frightened the lives out of the patients in an adjacent hospital by flashing the light into the windows. The closest secrecy is observed, and casual observers of the drill and fort are always requested to 'move on.'