

People We Hear About.

The Duke of Norfolk, who recently celebrated his 52nd birthday, succeeded his father in 1860. The premier Duke has, therefore, the further priority of having borne his title—the only one in existence granted by Richard III.—for 40 years, a longer period than has fallen to the lot of any other English Duke outside the Royal Family.

Miss Agnes Macready, who has written under the *nom-de-plume* of 'Arrah Lucan' for the Sydney *Catholic Press*, went quietly to South Africa a few months ago to nurse the wounded on the battlefield. Miss Macready is a qualified nurse. She paid her own expenses. She is also acting as correspondent for some of the Sydney newspapers.

Lord Salisbury brought up all his children to do something. His eldest son is a hard-working member of Parliament. Another is rector of the family parish; another is an industrious barrister; another is a tall soldier now at the front. One of the daughters is married to Lord Selbourne; another, a very clever lady, elected to devote herself to her father and mother.

The owner of some of the most valuable silver and gold mines in Arizona is Mr. Patrick Driscoll, a County Antrim man. Though deriving a large income, Mr. Driscoll is of the most frugal turn of mind, and his monthly expenses do not exceed 30 dollars. He is a man of unbounded generosity, any sons of the Old Soil who happen to be in difficulties find him a splendid and open-hearted benefactor.

Probably every admirer of Robert Louis Stevenson supposes that he wrote his fascinating books fluently; but his own testimony, in a playful postscript, is this: 'Be it known to this fluent generation that I, R.L.S., in the forty-third year of my age, and the twentieth of my professional life, wrote 24 pages in 21 days, working from 6 to 11, and again in the afternoon from 2 to 4 or so, without fail or interruption. Such are the gifts the gods have endowed us withal.'

Rev. Father Hudson, editor of the *Ice Maria*. Rev. Father Baart, of Michigan, and Father Elliott, of the Paulists, have by request prepared papers to be read at the Australasian Catholic Congress, which is to meet in Sydney next October, under the presidency of Cardinal Moran. Father Hudson treats of Christian principles as our guide, our individual conduct in family life and in our duties to the State. Father Baart treats of Church and State relations in the United States. Father Elliott writes on Christian charity, as applying Christian principles in our dealing with those around us.

The late Father Halsen, C.S.S.R., who died recently at the Redemptorist Monastery, Waratah, N.S.W., was in early life in the Commissariat Department of the British Army. He served in the Crimean War, and at the conclusion of hostilities made his way like so many others to the goldfields of Victoria. He was an Anglican, and made his studies in Oxford. Some years after his reception into the Church, he made up his mind to enter the priesthood and was ordained in Rome in 1877. Having joined the Redemptorist Fathers, he was one of the first batch of the fathers chosen to come to Australia.

Lord Lovat, who has been writing an account of his adventures in Abyssinia, is the owner of a vast domain of deer forests in Inverness-shire and of a great deal of the soil in Inverness itself. His principal abode is Beaufort Castle, close to Beaulieu, where the fishing has been rented more than one season by the Duke of Portland. The late Lord Lovat, who died while deer-stalking, once made a bet he would leave London for Beaufort and be back in forty-eight hours, having caught a salmon, shot a brace of grouse, and killed a stag; and he won his bet. He spent enormous sums on the house at Beaufort. Lord Lovat is the head of Catholicism in the North of Scotland.

Politics, like poverty, make strange bed-fellows. The present Victorian Ministry, according to the Melbourne correspondent of the *Otago Daily Times*, is certainly a peculiar political combination. Mr McLean is a rabid protectionist and anti-federalist; Mr Shiels a most erratic individual, all fireworks and glitter, the very worst Treasurer the colony ever possessed, again at that important post; Mr Irvine a staunch freetrader and federalist; and so on. Rather a curious specimen is Mr Melville, of the Upper House, who is the new Minister of Defence. He is an amiable, simple-minded, garrulous Scotchman, something in the grain trade, who has made a competence by careful, steady, hard work. He continues in his good old simple way—rising every morning at 5 and milking his own two cows regularly, just as he has done these 40 years.

There was an amusing episode at the Irish Literary Society's lecture in London recently between Mr. Charles Russell and his father, the Lord Chief Justice. The former lectured on Curran, and lectured very well. Then the latter criticised, and regretted that the lecturer had not given more samples of Curran's wit, an omission which he partly supplied. He related, amongst others, the retort so often ascribed to Curran of a certain judge who declared that if the law was as counsel had laid it down, he would go home and burn all his books, and the well known retort—'You had better go home and read them.' It was not till Mr. Russell's response to a vote of thanks that he gave his reason for not relating that anecdote. The real author of the retort, he explained was Sergeant Dunning in reply to Lord Mansfield, and not Curran at all.

A delicious story of an interview between President Kruger and the Duke of Abercorn should not be unrecorded, inasmuch as the accuracy of the story can be vouched for on the authority of a Minister of the Crown. Conversation was carried on by an interpreter. 'Tell the President,' said the Duke, 'that I am the Duke of Abercorn.' Kruger nodded his knowledge of the fact. 'Tell him I am chairman of the South African Chartered Company.' An assenting nod from the President apprised his Grace that his 'Honor' was aware of that interesting connection. 'Tell him,' said the Duke, 'that my father was the Viceroy of Ireland, the representative of her Her Most Gracious Majesty in that country.' At length the President grew communicative. 'Tell him,' said President Kruger, 'that my father was a shepherd.'

Mr. P. LUNDON, 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.—* * *

ESTABLISHED 1859.

NEW ZEALAND INSURANCE COMPANY

(FIRE AND MARINE).

CAPITAL	£1,000,000
PAID UP AND RESERVES	£420,000

WITH UNLIMITED LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS.

THE PREMIER COLONIAL COMPANY

Fire and Marine Risks accepted at Lowest Current Rates. Losses settled with promptitude and liberality.

OTAGO BRANCH: Corner of Rattray and Crawford Streets, Dunedin.

WILLIAM I. BOLAM, Manager.

A Well-known Citizen's Opinion of KOOLIBAH!

Mr. S. G. SMITH, J.P., "Dalmore," Pine Hill, Dunedin.

THE MANAGER, LOASBY'S WAHOO MANUFACTURING CO., LTD.

DEAR SIR,

A few weeks ago I suffered very severely from pains in my back. I tried hot baths, had hot oil well rubbed in, and tried all known remedies for several days. A friend who called in noticed the pain I was enduring and suggested my trying KOOLIBAH. A bottle was procured and I was well rubbed with it that night. In the morning I felt very much better. KOOLIBAH was applied at intervals during the day and evening, and next morning when I awoke I found that all the pain had vanished. I have not the slightest hesitation in saying that KOOLIBAH cured me. You are at liberty to make what use you like of this entirely unsolicited testimonial—Yours very truly,

SPENCER GEO. SMITH, J.P.

Loasby's KOOLIBAH cures all pains, relieves Neuralgia and Headaches after single application.

Who esale Agents. KEMPTHORNE, PROSSER & CO.'S N.Z. DRUG CO., LD.

PRICE—2s. Obtainable Everywhere.

Sole Manufacturers and Proprietors.

LOASBY'S WAHOO MANUFACTURING CO., LTD., DUNEDIN.