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

Pergant Directores et Scriptores New Zealand Tablet, Apostolica 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.

Current Topics

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

THE
ANTI-STOKE
PRESS.

THERE is, for Catholics, a sweet significance in the attitude of the hysterical portion of the New Zealand Press towards the Stoke trouble. So long as the case was being whooped against the Marist Brothers, the anti-Stoke newspapers published columns of sensational reports, stuffed odd corners with rabid correspondence, and emphasised the whole with blistering editorial articles. But the whirligig of time brought swift revenge. The prosecution broke down in a way which the *N.Z. Times* describes as 'absolutely staggering.' From the emotional point of view all this was splendid 'copy.' But the triumph of innocent men over persecution was dismissed by those hysterical organs with a few brief and snappy telegrams supplied by the Press Association. The loud halloo of June-November dwindled suddenly into a still, small voice which was not the voice of conscience. We have looked in vain to some of the newspapers that took a prominent and discreditable part in raising the hue and cry against the Marist Brothers and in indecent and cowardly comments or insinuations on the cases while still *sub judice*, for any expression of editorial opinion on the happy termination of what some of them habitually referred to as 'the Stoke scandal.' The newspapers in question are themselves responsible for the widespread conviction which found expression in the editorial columns of the *N.Z. Times* (Wellington): 'It is impossible to avoid the conclusion that a certain section of the Press of this country wished above all things that these charges were true, and is disappointed in consequence.'

It is a singular coincidence that the same papers which sent up the most sky-piercing shrieks over the conduct of the Dreyfus courts-martial, were precisely those that took the most prominent and disgraceful part in aiding and abetting the rabid fanatics of Nelson in their endeavor to prevent the Marist Brothers securing a fair trial, and to have the verdict decided by an artificially created popular clamor. The American 'pious editor' of Lowell's *Biglow Papers* thus begins the first article of his political creed:—

I du believe in Freedom's cause,
Ez fur away ez Payris is;
I like to see her stick her claws
In them infarnal Pharisees;
It's wal enough agin a king
To dror resolves and triggers,—
But libbaty's a kind o' thing
That don't agree with niggers.

We have evidently among us some of the 'pious editor' class who believe in fair-play, 'libbaty,' 'an' things o' thet description' when they are 'ez fur away ez Payris is.'

ANOTHER
NEWSPAPER
VERDICT.

THE Wellington *Free Lance* says of the Stoke cases: 'No trial could have been stricter or more searching. Every possible effort was put forth to secure a conviction. The evidence was collected by clever detectives, skillful lawyers conducted the prosecution, and every care was taken to obtain a jury panel that could not be suspected

of any religious bias in favor of the accused. Some of the cases were heard before Mr. Justice Edwards, and some before the Chief Justice. And in each and every instance the result has been the same—a verdict of acquittal for the accused. Now there has been a disposition in many people's minds to believe the very worst that has been urged against these men, merely because they were members of a monastic order. In some quarters there has been an inclination to take it for granted they were guilty for the simple reason that they were Roman Catholic monks, and to hold them up to public odium and execration in consequence. But those who have followed the trials must now admit, however strong their prejudices may have been, that although the prosecution was skilfully conducted, it would have been surprising if the jury on such evidence had found any other verdict than that which they did. So contradictory was the testimony, that in one case it elicited from Mr. Justice Edwards the remark that he would not hang a cat upon it. . . . These men have submitted to the most rigorous tests the law could apply, and have emerged from the trial unscathed.'

JUDGE JEFFREYS is said to have decided ROTTEN STICKS. the guilt or innocence of accused persons by the size and cut of their beards. 'My Lord,' said one of his victims, 'if you measure consciences by beards, you have no conscience.' The little coterie of self-constituted Jeffreys in Nelson, and their mouthpieces in Press and Parliament, judged the Marist Brothers, of Stoke, not by evidence, but by the shaven chin and the cross and the long cassock and the other signs which proclaim them unpaid members of the great army of charity of the Catholic Church. It would be difficult to imagine tools better fitted for the work than those selected by the Nelson fanatics and the Crown to throw an air of decent legality over this discreditable persecution of the Stoke Brothers. Nearly all of the Crown witnesses belonged to the 'committed' or criminal class, who had been apprehended by the police and sent to the Stoke Industrial School by the sentence of the courts.

It was Cardinal Newman who said that a certain class of fanatics would no more dream of pausing to consider the character of the weapon which they use against Rome than they would of stopping to examine the geological formation of the stone which they pick up to throw at a dog. The nature of the weapon used against the Marist Brothers was sufficiently well known to their enemies in and about Nelson. It was a rotten stick. And it has broken in their hands. They and their blowing-horns in the Press passed over in significant silence the grave moral delinquencies which have been time and again laid to the charge of certain State Industrial Schools and other institutions of a similar nature, under Government control, in the Colony. And their maudlin sympathy with the caning of a youthful horse-thief in Stoke reminds one of Catullus writing an elegy, in heroic numbers, on the death of an impudent pet sparrow, and of Sterne shedding salt tears over the corpse of a kicking donkey.

A SPLENDID
REBUKE.

THERE is 'many a gem of purest ray serene' in the writings of Father Sheehan, the gifted parish priest of Doneraile. Here is one, from his *Triumph of Failure*—a splendid rebuke to those spineless, and by no means rare, Catholics who are

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ever ready to decry any new discovery, if it should happen to be the work of a Catholic, or to minimise its value until it has received the hall-mark of the non-Catholic world: 'There is a good deal of what is good and pure and holy amongst the Catholics of to-day, but we want the trumpet-blast of a Tertullian to awaken us to higher things. For the old cry, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" is in the hearts of the worldly Catholics to-day, though it is not on their lips. They are prepared to admire everything, provided it is not introduced to their notice under the Church's sanction. In philosophy you are called upon to admire Plato, but not St. John. Porphyry and Plotinus we know, but who was Justin? The hybrid Greek of Lucian we admire, but what of Clement and Origen? We are told of the hidden beauties in Plautus and Tibullus, Bion and Moschus; but who ever heard of Ephrem the Syrian? We all know about Giordano Bruno, but what of St. Thomas? We call Kant and Fichte and Spinoza the demigods of science; what of Suarez and Velasquez? For one Catholic who has heard of apologists like the Abbé Moigno, there are a hundred who have heard of great iconoclasts like Spencer and Darwin. We are ashamed of our immortals; we are proud of the "parvenus" of science. And yet what a glorious roll of illustrious names illumines the history of the Church. Even in modern times what a litany one may sing of Tycho-Brahe, Copernicus, Descartes, Galileo, Leibnitz, Pascal, Bossuet, Gerdie, Malebranche. In oratory what a galaxy of French and Italian geniuses. In science, three-fourths of the world's inventions sprang from the children of the Church—from the discovery of gunpowder to the discovery of dynamic electricity. All the world's sacred orators were Catholics. All the world's discoverers were Catholics. We conquer the world, and bow before its idols; we lead the world and suffer ourselves to be harnessed to its triumphal car; we give the world the example of our genius, our self-sacrifice, our zeal, and then cry "Io triumphe!" when it parades its own little deities.'

NOT AN ADJUTANT BIRD.

The *Ave Maria* has a pleasant reply for those who find fault with the Church because she has not, as some of the sects have, the appetite of the adjutant bird, which bolts with equal composure a healthy frog or a saw-file. 'This comparison of the Church with the sects,' says the *Ave Maria*, 'not only limps; it hasn't a leg to stand on. Father Ryder has pointed out that a healthy man will naturally reject indigestible food that is offered to him, while a carpet bag rejects nothing that is put into it. But since a man is a living organism, and the carpet bag is not, it is inconclusive to point to the greater receptive power of the carpet bag, which really assimilates nothing of what it takes in. Moreover, when poison is offered as food, what a healthy man needs is not power of assimilation but an emetic; and in cases of heresy the Church promptly administers an emetic. That sort of medicine has never been pleasant to take, but is it reasonable to cast the odium of it on the physician who finds it necessary to prescribe the emetic rather than on the poison for which it is the antidote?'

DARK- LANTERN ASSOCIATIONS.

DARK-LANTERN and underground associations receive, it appears, almost as scant sympathy in the Reformed Presbyterian as in the Catholic Church. The Rev. W. J. Coleman, pastor of the Allegheny, Pa., congregation of that denomination, said in a recent discourse that 'the law of the Church is that none who are "members of associations, either sworn or pledged to secrecy in regard to the nature and doings of such associations, may be admitted to ecclesiastical fellowship."' Among other reasons for condemning oath-bound societies, he gave the following: 'Lodge influences are unfavourable to spiritual life. There are more lodges than churches in this city. There are many more men than women in the lodges, and many more women than men in the churches. The presence of many men in the lodge may help to account for their absence from the church. The men who cultivate the lodge do not generally cultivate the prayer meeting. Secret societies are rivals to the Church, offering a way of salvation that is not based on the merits of Christ and a life of godliness. They are unchristian in that while they recognise God they do not recognise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. They are parasitical, drawing all the vitality they have from the divine institutions of the family, the Church and the State. The secrecy of co-operative insurance societies is either useless or deceptive, mostly the latter. Secret societies are modern survivals of the heathen mysteries of Egypt, Chaldea, and Greece, which are denounced in the Bible.'

DYING OF THE POPE.

It is not the custom of Catholic journalists to load their columns with blistering attacks on the faith of Protestants. But, alas! for the rarity of Christian charity under the sun, our good example has not received the extensive imitation which it deserves in the offices of some of our Protestant contemporaries. Of such is a small Auckland monthly which is edited

by an animated pair of shears and sub-edited by a pot of paste. Copies of the current issue of this publication have been circulated among our co-religionists by the Waitemata—presumably because of a blasphemous parody of Catholic doctrine which it contains. This is a variant of the moth-eaten old calumny that Catholics place the Pope on a level with the Almighty Creator of all things. This time the story comes from Italy. A gay romancer informs us that a leaflet was issued by a Catholic society in Florence containing the following blasphemy (among others): 'The Pope really constitutes one moral person with Jesus the Incarnate Word.'

Perhaps the unkindest thing we can say of this monstrous tale is this: that it appeared in the brimstone column of the *Christian World*. As usual with such calumnies, the scene of this latest piece of sanctified fiction is laid afar off—in a place where inquiry is slow or difficult or costly. It is, in good sooth, a 'travellers' tale'—as wild as the best (or worst) of Mandeville or Morden or Le Blanc or De Rougemont (*alias* Grin). An annotator of Le Blanc's romances of India shrewdly remarked that if travellers 'write nothing but what is possible or probable they might appear to have lost their labor, and to have observed nothing but what they might have done as well at home.' But Mandeville's tales of horned and one-eyed peoples, of ducks and oysters being produced by trees, etc., were more firmly believed by the *gobemouches* of his time than the inspiration and historical accuracy of the Word of God are in our day among the denominations for which the Auckland monthly professes to cater. Sectarian passion is notoriously credulous of horrors and monstrosities and impossibilities. Your healthy bigot is like the Queen in Lewis Carroll's Looking-Glass Land. He draws a long breath, shuts his eyes, and for half an hour each day practises believing impossibilities. And he becomes in time so expert in the art that he brings himself at last to believe 'as many as six impossible things before breakfast.'

The whole story of the Florentine pamphlet is from top to bottom a fabrication—a wild 'travellers' tale' and nothing more. The 'quotations' given from it have not even the merit of novelty. They are an old 'fake,' saddled, for the sake of bluffing inquiry, on the far-off city of Florence. They are part and parcel of an extensive stock of counterfeits that have been in circulation at any time during the past ten to fifty years among the rag-tag-and-bobtail of the so-called 'religious' Press, and are found in most malodorous abundance in the noisome 'literature' of the Orange lodges. It came from the same kind of agencies that produced the *Arsenal of Devotion*; that published a rabid anti-Catholic news-sheet under the sham title of *The Catholic Banner*; that sent forth a notorious 'extract' from the *Shepherd of the Valley* (St. Louis, U.S.A.), which held its ground for over forty years till exploded by the writer of this note a few years ago; that manufactures the bogus 'quotations' from 'Romish canon law' which form part of the stock leaflet 'literature' of the Orange lodges and the Protestant Alliance, and the bogus Papal briefs, rescripts, and encyclicals and episcopal letters that have played so infamous a part in certain controversies in England and still more in the screaming no-Popery campaigns of the A.P.A. in the United States. Papers like the *Christian World* and the least respectable of the smaller fry of 'religious' journals make themselves the mediums for the circulation of this form of base coinage—without even the decent pretence of preliminary inquiry, and undeterred by the repeated exposure which has so frequently followed such forgeries. We are willing to subscribe to a fund having for its object to frame and hang up in the offices of such papers the commandment which says: 'Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.' But we fear that portion of the decalogue has already been hanged—and drawn and quartered as well—in some of the offices that we refer to.

We entertain a great respect for the truthfulness and honesty of fair-minded Protestants of every degree. But we cannot blink the fact of the persistent lying and manufacture or distribution of forged documents by many of their organs in the Press, and by some of their Church associations, such as, for instance, the Protestant Alliance. The conduct of these compels us to believe that there is even still a solid substratum of fact in the terrible and too sweeping words which Dr. Whitaker—himself a Protestant—said of his co-religionists of another day in the third volume of his *Queen Mary*: that 'forgery [of documents] seems to have been peculiar to the Reformed,' and that it 'seems to have been the peculiar disease of Protestantism.' 'I look in vain,' said he, 'for one of those accursed outrages of imposition amongst the disciples of Popery.' It is hard to have patience with the cowardly form of calumny to which we have drawn attention in these paragraphs. And the moral of it all is this: that the worst enemies of Christian charity, the most unscrupulous fomentors of sectarian passion, are to be found among the editors of a numerically large, though not intellectual, class of so-called 'religious' journals.

THE FLOWERY KINGDOM.

BITS OF CHINA OLD AND NEW.

THE FRANCISCAN MARTYRS.

The Feast of St. Francis of Assisi was celebrated in Paris in an unprecedented manner at the Franciscan Church of the Rue des Puteaux, erected in honor of St. Anthony of Padua. The feast in question took the form of a Solemn Requiem for the religious of the Franciscan Order, men and women recently massacred or martyred in China. Notwithstanding the church's dirge-like strains and funeral decorations, there was much of a religious festival in this celebration. Alleluias and 'Te Deum' chants seemed to mingle with the strains of the 'Miserere' and the 'De Profundis.' In truth the Church was celebrating that morning the triumph of a fresh contingent of her martyrs. M. Francois Veillot, writing in the *Univers* on this ceremony in the Church of Rue des Puteaux, said: 'Those around the catafalque, enlightened by God, looked higher, and in the victims being mourned saw martyrs in heaven.' The same writer went on to say: 'Chinese paganism, in putting to death the Christians in its midst, has just given itself its own death blow. Its immense empire has remained until now impenetrable, and has resisted the efforts of our apostles and missionaries. But now that the Christians of China with their chiefs have so largely given their lives for their faith, their land is opened up. And the Catholic faith, instead of being burdened there with them, will flourish triumphant on soil rendered fertile by their blood. The Franciscan Order is one of those that have suffered the most by recent events in China. Its latest martyred missionary is the Rev. Pere Theodorio de Saint-Martin de Tour, Missionary-Apostolic in Northern Chan-si since 1884.

AN UNSATISFACTORY EXPERIMENT.

When Chinese affairs became interesting the editor of a leading New York newspaper decided to employ a Chinaman to give an account of passing events in Chinese for the benefit of his countrymen in the United States. The yellow writer was a rather costly addition to the staff, but his contributions were looked forward to with much interest in all parts where Celestials congregate. The Chinese were delighted with what they read, and it was some time before the 'foreign devils,' who also looked upon the strange characters with curiosity, were able to learn the meaning of them. The first article began: 'If these lines meet the eyes of one of our brother Chinamen let him accept the salutation of the author, and let him receive the blessings of the 97 gods. If a dog of a Christian asks him about the present article he should reply that it refers to great battles, ruinous and bloody, between the Japanese and the Chinese. This journal belongs to a cursed Christian, and is not even worthy to be spat upon by a self-respecting Chinaman.' The yellow scribe has ceased to write articles for that newspaper.

THE MISSION AT NAN TONG.

Mrs. Conger, the wife of the American Minister to China, in a long letter to a friend, mentions the firing and persecution of the Catholic mission at Nan Tong by the Boxers, who burned the Cathedral built in 1600. 'This is a grand, wealthy mission,' she writes, 'with its hundreds of people. This mission cared for our smallpox sufferers a year ago. The good work of this large mission was considered wonderful and far-reaching. The Catholics have a still larger mission at Pa Tong and a small one in the east city, which was burned the night before.'

DESTRUCTION OF A MISSION.

The *Times* correspondent at Vienna, writing on October 28, says:—A member of the Catholic religious community the Childhood of Jesus has sent to the president of the association, the Aulic Councillor Dr. Zschotte, an account, dated August 17, of the destruction of the Chinese missions in the province of Kiang-si. After describing how the mission at Kin-te-tchin was demolished he relates what happened at the larger establishment in the town of Yao-chau. The latter consisted of a dwelling-house for the Sisters of Mercy, a church, a hospital for natives, an asylum for old men, an orphanage accommodating 200 children, a girls' school, a separate asylum for old women, and a dispensary for the poor. These buildings were divided by a garden from the house where the priests lived, close to which was a boys' school and a school for adults. The population was not hostile to the mission. The good work of the Sisters of Mercy and the personal benevolence of the Superior had won the hearts of the prefects, sub-prefects, and some of the *litterati*. There were, at the time, over 160 children in the orphanage, and a number of patients and old people in the other establishments. The Mandarins, admitting their good will, were powerless to face the mob, which mustered from 6000 to 7000. The soldiers, who only numbered from 100 to 200, were scarcely to be depended upon, and were only allowed to use their rifles to shoot in the air.

While the missionaries were deliberating on the 21st as how they could save the children and old people, a messenger brought tidings that the mob had broken into the orphanage and hospital. The troops tried to disperse them but to no purpose. It would seem that the Mandarins and sub-prefects had endeavored to help the missionaries to escape, but the Superior was seriously wounded by stones thrown at him by the crowd while the writer and another priest were with great difficulty, assisted by a few soldiers, able to reach one of the military junks, by means of which they crossed the river. While they were crossing they saw their establishment in flames. At midnight they were joined by the Superior and four English Protestant missionaries, with whom they proceeded down the river as far as the Lake of Po-yang, and arrived at Kin-kiang on the afternoon of the 23rd. The writer continues:—

'Thus ended our flourishing mission. Alas for our poor Christians, whose property was plundered and whose houses were burnt! Alas for our poor orphan children who fell a prey to the Chinese!

Two of the poor patients perished in the flames. I would willingly have given my head if I could have saved them and our Christians. . . . There are people in Europe who reproach the missionaries with being the cause of the disturbances. It is true that they are a thorn in the eye of the Chinese Government, which regards them as political agents. But they are looked upon even by the heathen Mandarins as propagators of the truth and comforters of the poor and sick. It is not the spread of religion in itself that has exasperated the indifferent Chinaman, but the well-founded apprehension that his country would fall into the hands of the Europeans. We are in presence of great political events, the beginning of which you will have heard of by telegraph, but of which the end cannot be foreseen. The Catholic missions have received a heavy blow, trade has sunk to a low ebb, and the work of civilisation has become problematical. But religion alone can civilise China. . . . The Chinese Christians are gradually becoming familiar through religion with true civilisation. They respect and like the nation which makes it a point of honor to protect Christianity. In the midst of persecution they hold fast to their faith, and hope for help and peace from the Almighty and the protecting European Powers.'

HEROIC DEATH OF TWO MARIST BROTHERS.

Brother Cleophas, writing from Peking on August 24 to the Superior-General of the Marist Order, gives the following account of the death of two Marist Brothers:—At last our deliverance has come; it was effected on the 13th inst., after a terrible siege of two months, in the course of which we have lost our dear Brother Visitor and our regretted Brother Joseph Felicite, both meeting their deaths in the discharge of heroic deeds and works of charity. I can only narrate briefly this double occurrence. Brother Jules André, Visitor, who met his death on August 12, had with several other Brothers taken refuge at Pe-tang, the portion of the city in which are situated the Catholic Cathedral and the institutions of the Lazarist Missionary Fathers, as well as those of the Sisters of St. Vincent de Paul. At 5 o'clock in the morning he heard Mass and received Holy Communion in the chapel of the Sisters' Orphanage, and was in the act of assisting at another, when suddenly a dreadful explosion took place which filled all who were present with terror. A mine of dynamite was fired, and the explosion blew away a great portion of the orphanage, but the chapel providentially escaped. We left the chapel immediately to render assistance to those who would need it. The Brother Visitor hearing the groans of a woman proceeding from the midst of the smoking debris, advanced courageously to render her assistance, though bullets fell about like hail. But alas! he was struck almost at once with one that penetrated the right side, grazed the heart, and passed right through his body. Brother Marie-Nizier rushed to his aid and endeavored to raise him from where he had fallen, but found that he was already dead. This happened at half-past six.

Brother Joseph Felicite likewise fell a victim of devotedness. On the 15th of July it was discovered that the Chinese were laying a mine, and that already they had excavated as far as the buildings in the missionary quarter. An effort was made forthwith to counteract the nefarious plans of the enemy, and Brother Felicite was chosen to direct the works. On the 18th the workmen had only to dig down another 50 centimetres (about 20 inches) when the mine exploded, burying in the ruins it made 20 of the workers, wounding 25 others, and throwing to a considerable distance the devoted Brother who was directing the sinking operations. After the lapse of a quarter of an hour he was found among the ruins, and although apparently he had only received a slight wound in the head, yet he was found to be already dead. Thus perished, or rather met a glorious death, these two worthy members of the Congregation, who fell victims and martyrs to their courage, devotedness, and charity.

In the Sisters' property four mines were laid, two of which proved disastrous, and so turned a great portion of their buildings into a pile of ruins. The Lazarist Fathers escaped being undermined, but their dwellings and basilica have suffered great havoc.

ENGLAND AND CHINA.

The integrity of China could only be preserved (says the *London Tablet*) by an international compact stringently enforced by a joint and several guarantee. Since no such guarantee can or will be given, the process of partition already in progress must go on. That it is entirely contrary to the interests of this country is unfortunate, but cannot be remedied by refusing to look facts in the face. The commercial interests of England in China are so vast as to be necessary to her prosperity—we had almost said to her existence. Two-thirds of the trade of Lancashire are carried on with it, and many of its looms are working half-time in consequence of its partial cessation. In Bombay, which supplies the Far East with the bulk of the yarn woven there, many mills are closed and operatives starving owing to the same catastrophe. The whole foreign trade of China in 1897 amounted to 235 millions (of Haikwan taels) with Great and Greater Britain, as compared with 105 with the rest of the world. Out of 10,855 foreign residents, 4362 were British, and out of 672 foreign firms, 363. But these figures are but a fraction of those which would represent the increased intercourse of the future with the largest unopened market in the world. In an independent and united China, the commercial position of England was secure, since, despite many hindrances to trade, all nations were on equal terms with regard to it. Its partition, on the other hand, would result in her exclusion by preferential tariffs from the spheres of her rivals. Hence, if the integrity of China, the ideal of her statesmen and merchants, cannot be maintained, she is bound in self-defence to secure a portion of its territory for herself, under penalty of being shut out of its entire area. The policy of the so-called 'open door' is an illusory alternative, since foreign nations will never admit her goods to compete on equal terms with their own within territories monopolised by them.

Diocesan News.

WAIHI NOTES.

(From our own correspondent.)

December 13.

After a slump of a few years this place is again starting to boom in mining matters. Great activity is now shown in repegging out all the old abandoned claims, and Waihi stocks have a much healthier tone on the share market. As the floating of 'wild cats' was played out at the last boom, no doubt these claims will be properly prospected, and give a large amount of employment.

The activity in the building trade seems to never cease, and at present, among the numerous handsome buildings being erected, the largest are Mr. Power's new hotel, a public hall, and the National Bank building. Among other large buildings wanted at an early date may be mentioned a new Catholic church, the present St. Joseph's being not nearly large enough to hold the present Catholic population, which is rapidly increasing.

The Waihi Brass Band are to take part in the Christchurch Jubilee contest, and as they have always acquitted themselves creditably at former competitions, their friends have every confidence that the same will be the case at the forthcoming one.

The question of Waihi residence site titles is still a much vexed one, and appears no nearer solution than ever. Another burning question is that of forming Waihi into a borough, a great number of ratepayers wishing to do so, while the Ohinemuri County Council are doing their best not to lose such a splendid source of revenue.

REEFTON.

A packed house (says the *Inangahua Times*) amply rewarded the efforts of those who took part in the Convent pupils' annual entertainment, which was of a most entertaining description. The opening item, a pianoforte trio, afforded Misses Horne, McDonald, and Horton a good opportunity of displaying their proficiency as pianistes. A similar opportunity in the dancing line was afforded Misses McMasters and Knowsley, who acquitted themselves to great advantage in the 'Sailor's hornpipe.' This was followed by an action song, 'The motor car,' given in a very creditable manner by the senior boys attending the Convent school. Next came a recitation, 'The Goblins,' by Miss Lilly McKitterick, a tiny girl of five or six summers. Miss Ruby McDonald's violin solo was nicely played, and she was honored with an encore. A skirt dance by Misses Sutherland, Whitten, McMasters, Knowsley, Crowley, De Phillippi, Fitzmaurice, and Scarlett elicited much applause. An action song by the junior boys, another violin solo by Miss Ruby McDonald, and an Irish jig, danced with grace by Misses Malloy, Duffy, Okeby, and Knowsley, and Masters Kilkenny, Moore, Corbett, and Duffy, brought the first portion of the programme to a close. Miss Horne opened the second part with a pianoforte solo. Miss Scoltock rendered a vocal solo with her usual success, and Misses McMasters, Knowsley, Crowley, Whitten, and Sutherland brought down the house by their performance of the 'Hunters' dance.' Miss McDonald again drew forth rounds of applause by another violin solo, which was encored. Miss Anderson, a tiny maiden, gave the audience a pleasant surprise by her clever rendering of a pianoforte solo; and last, but by no means least, came an operetta entitled 'The Gleaners,' by young lady pupils. This piece was a pretty conclusion to a highly successful performance from which all present derived the greatest enjoyment and satisfaction.

OAMARU.

The concert given in St. Joseph's Schoolroom last evening (says the *Oamaru Mail*, December 14) was in every way a splendid success. The audience was quite as numerous as the comparatively small accommodation would admit of. Of the items the choruses by the children were all exceptionally good, and showed much more respect for time and tune than is usually evinced by those so young. The solos to these came as a surprise, sung by maids of very limited summers with the utmost *sang froid*, and sung very well. Of the choruses, the pick was 'Birdie,' and although the action song 'Fairy moonlight' was very cleverly and prettily executed, the evolutions militated, as they must do, against the volume of sound. A pianoforte duet by Misses O'Grady and Potter showed that careful training and preparation for which the convent has been so long famed. This indeed, and much more, may be said of all the pianoforte items. Perhaps the best of these was that so prettily and artistically played by Miss Hannon. We have all heard Mrs. Lynch sing and know how to appreciate her fine voice, but not only must her singing, but also her kindness in journeying from Timaru to perform, be appreciated. As her solos Mrs. Lynch chose those best suited for such a performance, namely 'The greatest gift,' and, as an encore, 'The last rose of summer.' Her second song, 'She wore a wreath of roses,' came in for greater applause than its predecessor, and then Mrs. Lynch sang that song which, without doubt, is the greatest favorite with the children of Hibernia, 'Killarney.' As a third song, the same soloist chose 'The Kerry dance,' and the audience, appreciating the splendid rendering, again claimed an encore, which was supplied in the form of 'Dublin Bay.' The best known of all farces, 'Cox and Box,' in which Miss Fagan and Messrs. Hanning and Byrne took the respective parts, dismissed the audience in a happy frame of mind. The whole performance reflects the greatest credit on the Sisters for their indefatigability in organising such an entertainment. Referring to the exhibition of work in St. Joseph's schoolroom on Friday last the same paper says that the numerous visitors could not fail to be impressed with

the value of the work carried on in Oamaru by the Dominican Nuns. The exhibition of works of art fully demonstrate the careful training the pupils receive at their hands. Such an array of work on the tables and pictures on the walls shows the result of months of determined work, and the excellence attained must be more than satisfactory to both teachers and pupils. There were quite a number of cushions, cosies, etc., worked with very natural raised flowers in every conceivable material, with lovely tints in poona. The many articles worked in arrasene, floeselle, and rococo all added to the variety. Then there were pen and ink drawings on linen done by tiny little scholars, who surprise their own parents by developing an aptitude for such accomplishments. The pictures and drawings for the art union were also exhibited, and assisted in making the exhibition a most interesting one. The articles of needlework and the wonderful drawings of little Horace Benson were extremely original. The nuns deserve great praise for the patient, zealous labor bestowed upon the training of the youthful mind and the fact that the pupils are loth to sever their connection with the school is an evidence of the good feeling and lasting friendship that exists among all.

CONVENT SCHOOL, INVERCARGILL.

THE attendance of parents and friends of the pupils at the Convent School, Invercargill, conducted by the Dominican Nuns, when the annual distribution of prizes took place was very large. The Very Rev. Dean Burke, who officiated (says the *Daily News*) complimented the children on the good work they had done during the year. In conduct they had been particularly good; no fault had been found with them either by teachers or others. Those who were not to return to the school would, he hoped, do credit to the convent, and he was sure they would always remember their teachers with gratitude. He hoped all would spend a pleasant holiday and return to their work with renewed health and strength.

An inspection of the work of the pupils—paintings in oil and water colors, carving, overmantels, stools, cushions, and all descriptions of plain and fancy needlework—was then made, and elicited general encomiums. The work as a whole was tasteful, and in several instances skill of a high order was manifested. During the afternoon songs were given by Misses J. McLeod and Vanini, piano duets by Misses Feldwick and Herlihy, L. Godby, and Collins, and piano solos by Misses Alice Collins and Carrie Sheehan.

The following is the prize list:—

Cours superieur: Edith Feldwick, Metallist (senior grade B), Ngaio Wilkin; next in merit, Nellie Shepherd. Metallist (intermediate grade A), Lily Godby; next in merit, Cora Feldwick. Metallist (intermediate grade B), Alice Collins; next in merit, Frances Enright. Prize (junior grade B), Mavora Vyner; next in merit, Vera Wilkin.

Religious knowledge (senior), Edith Feldwick, Nellie Shepherd; do (junior), Maggie Griffin. Politeness, E. Feldwick and Florence St. Paul; hon. mention, Cora Feldwick, Maggie Griffin. Fancy needlework, Teresa Enright, Alice Cushen; hon. mention, Ethel Kingsland, F. Enright, Mabel Feldwick, N. Shepherd, C. Feldwick, Ethel Price, Susie Roche, D. Forde, Mary Herlihy, Lily and Lorna Godby, Alice Collins. Improved application, Susie Roche. Short-hand, Mary Herlihy. Wood carving, Lorna Godby. Music: senior grade, extern pupil; junior, Alice Collins. Improvement, Mary Herlihy. Drawing, Ida McKenzie; hon. mention, Lily Godby. Painting (senior), extern pupil; junior, May Wilkin; hon. mention, Ngaio Wilkin, Lorna Godby. Nuns' conduct prize, Edith Feldwick; hon. mention, Jane Roche, Ida McKenzie, Ngaio Wilkin, Delia Forde.

Wreath awarded by the votes of her companions to the most amiable girl in the school, Nellie Shepherd. Misses Carrie Sheehan and Ethel Kingsland were mentioned as having passed the Royal Academy examinations in music.

Junior and kindergarten prizes—Politeness, Janet Millar; gentleness, Intisil Jackson; amiability, Nellie Burke; class work, Eileen Mahoney; geography, Daphne Vyner; good conduct, Madge Turner; kindergarten, Ethel Murray; painting, Kitty Farrell; mat weaving and arithmetic, Edna Mohr; attention to lessons, Johanna Burke; plain sewing, Dorothy Norton; drill, Ethel Grace; gentleness, Muriel Kingsland; first gift, Mary Affleck; good conduct, Lena Jackson; third gift, Hilda Norton; kindergarten, Marjory Murray; singing, Fred Wood; reading, Willie Steans; writing, Jack Mahoney.

CONVENT SCHOOLS, NELSON.

St. Mary's School Hall was crowded on the occasion of the annual distribution of prizes to the pupils of the Select and High School. The Mayor (Mr. J. A. Harley) presided, and Mr. J. Graham, M.H.R., Mr. Trask, Very Rev. Dean Mahoney, and Very Rev. Dr. Kennedy, Meane, were among those present. An excellent entertainment (says the *Colonist*) was given by the pupils, which comprised vocal and instrumental music, recitations, an operetta entitled 'The triumph of virtue,' and choruses. The following was the programme:—

Song, junior pupils; duet (4 pianos), Misses Crisp, Mercer, Lodge, O'Brien, Vaughan, J. Thompson, Neilson, and Ferguson; duet (harmonium and violin), Miss Egan (harmonium), Miss Gibbs (violin); accompanists, Misses Mercer (piano), Light (harp), and McMahon (guitar); chorus, senior pupils; accompanists, Misses Mercer (piano), Wimbett (harp); trio (5 violins), Misses Gibbs, McMahon, McCarthy, Gardner, Parmenter; accompanist, Miss Rapley; duet (4 pianos), Misses Gapper, Kelly, Stewart, Hailes, Rapley, A. Eden, Wiesner, and S. Eden; solo (3 violins), Misses Gibbs, McMahon; accompanist, Miss Stewart. The characters

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in the operetta were sustained by Misses Tatton, Kelly, F. Stapp, C. Armstrong, McMahon, E. Wimssett, and the junior pupils, duet, Misses Light, Wimssett, Curran, Mercer, Louisson, C. Armstrong, Thomson, and Crisp.

At the close of the entertainment, Dean Mahoney asked the Mayor to distribute the prizes. He said for over 20 years the Chief Magistrate of the city had been asked and had always kindly performed the task of distributing the prizes for St. Mary's Schools. He was pleased to welcome his old friend, Mr. J. A. Harley, in his official capacity, and he was glad to see present Mr. F. Trask, the ex-Mayor, who for so many years performed the duty that his successor to the mayoralty was about to undertake.

His worship the Mayor said he considered it an honor to be asked to distribute the prizes, and he had great pleasure in being present. The schools had for many years maintained a high standard for music, drawing, and general knowledge. He heartily congratulated the Rev. Mother and her able assistants on the success of their labors, and said he felt sure the entertainment given by the pupils that afternoon could not have been surpassed by any school in any other part of the Colony.

Mr. F. Trask also spoke briefly. He referred to the noble work the Rev. Mother and her assistants were engaged in.

At the convent specimens of the pupils' work were exhibited. They included paintings, drawings, handwriting, and plain and fancy needlework. The whole was a very creditable exhibition, and an evidence of the extensive range of instruction given at the schools, and the thoroughness of the teaching imparted.

The following is the prize list:—

ST. MARY'S SELECT SCHOOL.

Good conduct: C. Gapper, J. Devery, F. Martin, I. Oldershaw, N. Vaughan, Irene Stapp, Isabel Seymour, Cecilia Devanney, Amiability and politeness: — Kelly, I. Martin, M. Oldershaw, L. Mathews. Christian doctrine: — Gapper, A. Mathews, K. Stapp, Minnie Burk, M. O'Brien. Regular attendance: — Emms, F. Stapp, and J. Frank.

Sixth Class—Arithmetic, geography, grammar, science, drawing, and highest number of marks: C. Gapper. Composition, N.Z. geography and arithmetic: E. Kelly. History, writing, neatness, and geography: M. Devery. Reading and general progress: F. Stapp. Diligence: Agnes Day.

Fifth Class—Drawing, writing, and highest number of marks: J. Devery. Arithmetic, reading, and diligence: F. Emms. Neatness, arithmetic, and diligence: T. Martin. Composition, neatness, and mental arithmetic: R. Young. General progress: Misses Louisson, Gardner, Cullinane, Jennings, and Richardson.

Fifth Class (2nd division)—Politeness, diligence, and general improvement: Amy Corbett. Diligence and special prize for mountmellick: F. Martin. Drawing, arithmetic, and geography: M. Mercer. Arithmetic and drawing: E. Wilson. General progress, politeness, and diligence: N. Constable, L. Hickey, F. Frank, B. Thomson, H. Stewart, N. Cullinane.

Fourth Class—Politeness and neatness in school-work: A. Mathews. Drawing, reading, and arithmetic: M. Friend. Singing, regular attendance and plain sewing: K. Stapp. Reading, spelling and writing: I. Waters. Arithmetic, diligence, and highest number of marks: I. Oldershaw. Arithmetic, spelling and drawing: E. Saunders. Geography and mental arithmetic: L. Barry. Reading, arithmetic, and history: R. Sowman. Writing and composition: C. Parmenter. Reading and recitation: M. Kelly. Application and general progress: K. Burke. Arithmetic and composition: G. Woodward. General improvement and diligence: — O'Brien, J. Woodward, B. Thomson, M. Hart, D. La Frantz, J. McDonogh.

Third Class—Arithmetic, reading, spelling, and highest marks: G. Wilson. Spelling and geography: I. Martin. Reading, recitation, and arithmetic: A. Mathews. Geography, spelling, and catechism: N. Vaughan. Writing, spelling, and reading: R. Andrews. Composition and reading: C. Stapp. General improvement: G. Mercer.

Second Class—Spelling, composition, and singing: M. Burke. Writing and reading: I. Seymour. General progress and sewing: J. Hannigan. Arithmetic: D. Newport. Politeness and reading: I. Kelly. Transcription and spelling: K. Burke. General progress: J. Frank. Arithmetic: M. O'Donald.

First Class—General progress: C. Devanney. Diligence: F. Hart. General improvement: M. Hannigan. Arithmetic: E. Way. Writing: K. Floyd. Application: G. Downes. Writing: A. Hart.

Preparatory Class—Catechism and regularity: A. Hayden. Writing: Flora Saunders. Mental arithmetic: M. Friend. Copying: K. Frank. Transcription: N. Phelan. Amiability: R. Saunders. Gentleness: D. Seymour and L. Devanney.

Extras—Plain sewing: K. Burke. Fancy work and Mountmellick embroidery: M. Devery. Fancy work and drawn thread: D. Gardner. Singing and drawn thread: F. Stapp. Singing, plain sewing, and Mountmellick embroidery: E. Kelly. Mountmellick embroidery: C. Gapper. Singing: I. Waters. Drawn thread work: E. Frank. Music (violin): M. McMahon. Piano: M. Mercer and N. Vaughan.

SACRED HEART HIGH SCHOOL.

Good conduct: Sara Eden, Mary Condell, and Dorothy Frank. Amiability and politeness: L. Tatton, E. Frank and K. Condell. Diligence: — Arnold, M. Harris, and M. Condell. Catechism: — Waters, T. Curran, and I. Crisp.

Matriculation Class—Mathematics, English French, drawing and writing: — Arnold.

Civil Service Class—Physiology, geography, history, drawing and French: — McCarty; calligraphy, mathematics, English and drawing: — Egan; history, physiology, and mathematics: — Knapp; general proficiency: — Waters.

Sixth Standard—Arithmetic, geography, English and history: M. Seymour; writing and English: — Clark; composition and drawing: — Eden.

Fifth Standard—Arithmetic and writing: — Tomlinson; geography and reading: T. Curran.

Fourth Standard—Reading and recitation, E. Light; composition and reading, E. Wimssett; geography and arithmetic, I. Seymour; writing and arithmetic, S. Eden; reading, history, and geography: — Condell.

Third Standard—Writing, E. Frank; reading and arithmetic, K. Condell, reading and spelling, V. Armstrong; general improvement, E. Andrews.

Second Standard—Reading, arithmetic, and writing: D. Roughton; geography and spelling, G. Frank; writing, G. Boundy; reading, R. Armstrong.

First Standard—Writing, D. Frank; reading, L. Neilson; arithmetic, W. Betts; reading, V. Hobbs.

Fancy work, — Tomlinson and A. Eden; Mountmellick emb., S. Eden and E. Frank; drawn thread, A. Ladley and — Rapley; plain sewing, — Naylor and E. Andrews; crayon drawing, — Gapper and A. Ladley; oil painting, — Hales; water colors, — Eden and — Waters; music (piano), — Eden and I. Crisp; violin, — McCarthy; shorthand, — Egan and — Rapley; type-writing, — Hailes and Egan.

THE BOER WAR.

NOTES AND POINTS OF INTEREST TO CATHOLIC READERS.

HART'S IRISH BRIGADE.

Dr. Conan Doyle, who has just published a book on the Boer War, says of Hart's Irish Brigade that no other section of Buller's army 'held such a record. "Their rushes were the quickest, their rushes were the longest, and they stayed the shortest time under cover," said a shrewd military observer. To Hart and his brigade was given the task of clearing the way to Ladysmith.

VICTORIA CROSS HEROES.

An analysis of the 25 Victoria Crosses which had been awarded up to the end of September as the result of the South African campaign shows that the captains have won the lion's share of the decorations. Eight officers of this grade have been awarded the cross, and they are followed by four corporals and four sergeants. Three lieutenants, including Lord Roberts's son, have also achieved the cross 'for valor,' and so have two majors, one gunner, one driver, one trooper, and one private. The engagement which conferred the greatest number of decorations is Colenso, on December 15th, for which five crosses were awarded.

CHURCH LOSSES IN ORANGE RIVER VICARIATE.

The Right Rev. Bishop Gaughran estimates that the losses to the Catholic missions in his vicariate in consequence of the war will be about £10,000.

THE IRISHMEN OF BLOEMFONTEIN AND LORD ROBERTS.

On hearing of Lord Roberts's intended departure from South Africa the Irishmen of Bloemfontein sent him an address in which they said:—"Your clemency and invariable kindness to the Dutch people have endeared you to the hearts of all South Africans. To your correct and most Christian leniency some cynics and adverse critics have taken exception. Angels in heaven and honest hearts all the world over will, however, praise you, and bless you for this same love-inspiring mercy. If harsher measures—which God forbid—should be deemed necessary in this sorely oppressed country, it is meet and fit that they should be executed by other hands than yours, thou most worthy and illustrious son of St. Patrick's Isle. "God chasteneth those whom He loveth," and your honored head has been sorrowfully bent here in Africa, while your noble heart was being chastened by the cruel blow which deprived you of an only son, and our Empire of a brave soldier. How grandly you have acquitted yourself, how faithfully you have carried out your most onerous duties, how honorably you have endeared yourself to all men of goodwill throughout Christendom will be hereafter recorded in history and is already written in our hearts."

To this Lord Roberts replied as follows:—"It is with feelings of peculiar gratification that I have received from you, my countrymen of Bloemfontein, such a hearty "God speed" for Lady Roberts, my daughters, and myself, and I thank you from the bottom of my heart for this expression of your goodwill. Truly Irish, as your letter is in its affectionate kindness, it will always be preserved in my family as a treasured possession, and as a proof that Irishmen lose none of their national, generous, and warm-hearted characteristics by being transplanted to a foreign soil, and as a proof also that Irishmen in South Africa are animated by the same devotion to Ireland as their countrymen at home, and by the same loyalty which has been lately so conspicuously displayed in our dear little Emerald Isle on the occasion of our beloved Sovereign's visit. I value especially the appreciative manner in which you have alluded to my services in South Africa during the war, and it will always be a source of pride and pleasure to me that I have earned the approval of my countrymen in Bloemfontein."

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.—"

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People We Hear About.

Mr. Stanhope Forbes, A.R.A., the celebrated fishing village painter, is an Irishman.

It is stated that the late Lord Bute's possessions are roughly set down at five millions sterling. A large sum will fall to the Exchequer in the form of death duties.

The Hon. Arthur Russell, eldest son of the late Lord Chief Justice of England, has been appointed Judge of County Court, circuit number 52, holding courts in Bath and elsewhere in Somerset and Wilts. The judgeship was rendered vacant by the recent death of his Honor Judge Gardiner.

Lady Mary Keppel, who was married a few weeks ago at the London Oratory, and her two sisters, Lady Hilda and Lady Florence Keppel are Catholics; but not so her brothers, the Earl of Albermarle, who gave her away, and the Hon. Derek Keppel, at whose house the wedding breakfast was held. Their father, the late Earl of Albermarle, became a Catholic when, as Lord Bury, he held a post in Lord Beaconsfield's administration.

Among those who have been elected to the freedom of the City of Dublin are the following:—Mr. Isaac Butt (first freeman), the Right Honorable W. E. Gladstone, General Grant, Captain Potter, Mr. Parnell, Mr. Dillon, Dr. O'Doherty (of Queensland), Senator Patrick Collins, Mr. William O'Brien, the Marquis of Ripon, Mr. John Morley, Cardinal Moran, Mr. T. D. Sullivan, Mr. Sexton, Mr. James Stansfield, Rev. Dr. Salmon, and Sir Stewart Knill (Lord Mayor of London). There is one lady freeman—Lady Sandhurst.

The Earl of Shannon arrived in Kinsale (Cork County) lately to join his yacht Naotia, when he was told one of the crew of the yacht, John O'Brien, had been drowned, while going on board, leaving a large and helpless young family. Lord Shannon called on Rev. L. Cummins. After a short interview Lord Shannon promised to allow O'Brien's wife and family 10s per week for two years, and appointed Father Cummins trustee. Lord Shannon paid all debts and demands connected with the deceased's death and funeral. Earl Shannon lives in Castlemartyr.

Swift (says an exchange) was 59 when his brain gave birth to *Gulliver's Travels*. Sir Walter Scott was 44 when his *Waverley* made its appearance, and nearly all those stories which have conferred lasting fame upon him were composed after the age of 46. Milton's mind rose to its highest capacity when the blind poet was between 54 and 59. It was at this period of his existence when he offered to the world *Paradise Lost*. Cowper had turned the half century when he wrote *The Task* and *John Gilpin*; and De Foe was within two years of 60 when he published *Robinson Crusoe*. Thomas Hood's *The Song of the Shirt* and *The Bridge of Sighs* were written when he was 46. Longfellow wrote *Hiawatha* at 48; and Oliver Wendell Holmes gave us *Songs in Many Keys* when he had passed his fifty-fifth birthday. George Eliot was near her fiftieth year when she wrote *Middlemarch*, and this was succeeded by *Daniel Deronda*. Bacon's greatest work took 59 years to mature, and Grote's *History of Greece* some years longer.

A girl belonging to a Sussex village (says M.A.P.) was entering the service of a lady living at Arundel. Arriving at the railway station, she engaged an outside porter to carry her box, and having gone a short distance, she mentioned she could not give him more than threepence, as the box was quite small. Thereupon, after the manner of so many of his kind, he set it down in the road and walked off. A homely-looking man, wearing a coat green with age, chanced to overtake her. In spite of old clothes, he looked very respectable, she thought, and, thinking he might be glad of a few pence, she offered him the job. He picked up the little box and walked with her, but on reaching the destination he set it down on the doorstep, and hurried away without waiting to be paid. She mentioned the fact to her mistress, and from her description of the man, the lady's amused suspicions were aroused, but she said nothing until a few days later, when the Duke of Norfolk happened to pass the house. 'That's the man that carried my box,' the girl said promptly, about to rush out forthwith and pay him, for the Duke was wearing the identical green garment. Her confusion may be imagined on hearing that the erstwhile porter was the first peer of England.

Mr. Justin McCarthy (says the *Daily Chronicle*), almost simultaneously with his retirement from public life, has been the recipient of a private presentation, in the form of a substantial annuity settled upon him for life. What makes the testimonial the more gratifying is that it was set on foot and carried through almost entirely by men with whom Mr. McCarthy had no association in politics, the owner of a Conservative paper being the first contributor with the sum of 500 guineas. Mr. McCarthy was born in 1830, the eldest son of the late Mr. Michael Francis McCarthy. He was educated privately, for in the days of his youth no Catholic might receive any academic degree. At the age of 18 he became a journalist in Cork, and four years later removed to Liverpool, where he was similarly engaged until 1860, when he came to London. As the editor of the old *Morning Star* from 1864 to 1868, and as a leader writer on the *Daily News* after 1870, Mr. McCarthy did much to form sound public opinion on many subjects, but particularly on that of Irish National aspirations. He first entered Parliament as member for Longford County in 1879, afterwards representing Derry City, and, since 1892, North Longford. From 1890 to 1896 he was chairman of the Irish Parliamentary Party, a position which circumstances forced upon him, but which he found irksome and ungenial. He has excelled in widely diverse ways; his novels would suffice for one man's reputation, while his *History of Our Own Time* is universally accepted as a scholarly and judicial work, which bears no trace of the political bias which people would be only too ready to detect in the writing of an Irish Nationalist.

A CENTENARY RECORD.

AN interesting and decidedly clever *brochure* has been published in connection with the recent centenary celebrations at the S. H. Convent, Timaru. It is entitled *Our First Centenary*, and its title-page informs us that it was 'published for the amusement of the Timaru children of the Sacred Heart.' The second edition of this interesting and original school publication is before us. It makes decidedly good reading. It opens with a thoughtful and well-written article on 'Our Centenary.' Other solid pabulum for the budding intellect is supplied by an article bearing the suggestive heading, 'The Fool of the House'; an amusing story-skit on arithmetic, which reminds us of the famous chapter on snakes in Ireland; a series of 'Stray Leaves from Our Sketch Book'; 'Latest Biographies,' etc. The Centennial Debating Club supplies, in conversational form, an exceedingly clever and amusing discussion on 'Vertebrates v. Invertebrates,' and another in French, on 'Intellect and Will'—the latter quite an achievement in philosophical discussion. Local school news chiefly accounts of the centenary celebrations, and original poetry by the children occupy a goodly portion of the publication. It concludes with some quaint and witty 'advertisements'—chiefly 'wants,' and a few pages of school-child answers, which are decidedly amusing. We learn, for instance, from some of the little folk that 'in Tibet corn grows to the height of 18,000 feet'; that the kingdom of the Queen of Sheba was 'on the West Coast'; that 'Sarah prepared tea for the angels and made them some scones'; and other interesting facts that are not generally known. *Our First Centenary* is very daintily got up, and is quite a novelty in school publications.

THE MAIL FOR THE VATICAN.

As I was leaving the Vatican the other day, writes the Rome correspondent of the London *Daily Telegraph*, I met a postman at the bronze doors, who groaned as he walked, while the perspiration rolled from his face. To my sympathetic inquiries he growled out that he wished the Vatican had to carry their own letters.

In fact, about 20,000 newspapers and letters arrive there daily, all of which have to be sorted, opened and classified, and for this purpose a special staff is kept at the apostolic palace. The Pontiff is supposed to open and read all communications addressed 'Sanctitati Suae Leoni Papae XIII., feliciter regnanti'; but as that would be impossible, even to a strong man, Cardinal Rampolla, Secretary of State, has it done under his direction, submitting to the Pope the most important and pressing communications. However, there are some documents the opening of which by any other than the Pontiff is punished by excommunication. These are addressed 'To His Holiness the Pope, Prefect of the Holy Roman and Universal Inquisition.'

Of newspapers Leo XIII. each day glances through about seven or eight. Italian and French, also many translated extracts from English, German, and even Russian ones, which have been specially prepared for him. It has caused surprise in many quarters that Leo XIII. is so well informed about outside matters as he is, as of course it would be supposed that when extracts are made from papers only what the reader desires comes before him. But the Pontiff is very shrewd, and reads French and Italian journals so thoroughly that he has a very good idea whenever anything is being kept from him and insists—and has his way—on having full reports.

His Lordship Dr. Doyle, Bishop of Lismore, left Naples for Australia by the Ortona on November 18, and was expected back before Christmas. He has secured six priests for the diocese, two of whom—Rev. Fathers Carroll and Durney—left by the Omrah on October 12, and the others were to leave immediately. It is in contemplation to give his Lordship an enthusiastic welcome on his return, as first Bishop of Lismore.

On Sunday, December 2, the foundation-stone of a new presbytery at Essendon was laid by his Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne. The new building is costing about £3000. On the same day his Grace laid the foundation-stone of the new Church of St. John in East Melbourne, the contract price for which is £3000. Also on that date the ceremony of unveiling and blessing the beautiful marble altar and baptismal font, presented to St. John's, Clifton Hill, by Mr. T. E. Verga, took place. Mr. Verga is a public-spirited Catholic. Just recently he donated to St. John's Church the Stations of the Cross—perhaps the finest possessed by any church in Victoria.

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Wanted, about 50 clerks to help read testimonials re Tussicura. Sole manufacturer, S. J. Evans, 2s 6d.—*.*

Witches Oil cures pains and aches, neuralgia, headache, sciatica rheumatism. Price, 2s 6d. Try it.—*.*

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Friends at Court.

GLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR.

(Written for the N.Z. TABLET.)

December 30, Sunday.—Within octave of Nativity of Jesus Christ.
31, Monday.—St. Sylvester.

1900
January 1, Tuesday.—Feast of the Circumcision.
2, Wednesday.—St. Macarius, Anchorite.
3, Thursday.—St. Genevieve, Virgin.
4, Friday.—St. Thos. Plumtree, Martyr.
5, Saturday.—St. Simon Stylites.

ST. GENEVIEVE, VIRGIN AND PATRONESS OF PARIS.

In A.D. 429, St. Germanus, Bishop of Auxerre, was sent into Britain by Pope St. Celestine to combat the rising heresy of Pelagius. Travelling in company of St. Lupus of Troyes, he arrived at Nanterre in the neighborhood of Paris, where many of the inhabitants came out to meet him. Germanus made them a suitable exhortation, and looking round upon the assembled crowd fixed his eyes upon a little girl of six years old, in whom he remarked something supernatural. Having called her to him, he reverently kissed her on the head, to the great surprise of the spectators, and inquired her name and that of her parents. He was told that she was called Genevieve, and that her father's name was Severus and that of her mother Gerontia. Her parents coming up, he congratulated them on being blessed with such a daughter, and declared that the day would come when she would be a bright example to people of both sexes. He then exhorted her to reveal to him the secret thought which she nourished in her heart, and asked her whether it was not her desire to become the consecrated spouse of Jesus Christ. She replied that this was her fixed intention, and begged him to give her the solemn benediction bestowed on those who embraced the state of virginity. They then entered the church for the office of none, after which certain psalms were sung and prayers recited, while the Bishop kept his right hand upon the child's head. He afterwards took his meal with her parents, and bade them bring their daughter to him on the following morning. They did so, and Germanus asked her if she remembered what she had promised the previous day. 'Yes, holy Father,' she replied, 'and with God's help and by the aid of your prayers, I hope to observe it.' Then looking upon the ground he perceived a piece of copper marked with a cross, which he picked up and gave to her, saying, 'Keep this for my sake, and wear it always round your neck in place of other ornament. As for gold and precious stones, leave them to those who serve the world.' He then commended her again to the care of her parents and resumed his journey.

From the age of 15 to that of 50, Genevieve ate but twice a week—namely upon Sunday and Thursday. Her food was only barley bread and beans, and she never tasted wine or other intoxicating liquor. A few days after the departure of St. Germanus, her mother wished to prevent her from going to Church, and not succeeding struck her on the cheek. At the same moment the mother was struck blind, and remained so for two years. At the end of that time, calling to mind the prediction of St. Germanus, she bade her daughter bring some water from the well and make the sign of the cross over her. Genevieve did so, and when she had washed her mother's eyes, the latter began to see a little, and after two or three washings was entirely restored to sight. Upon the death of her parents, Genevieve went to live with her grandmother in Paris. She there received the veil from the Bishop with the usual solemnities in company with two other virgins. Almighty God tried her with many sufferings. On one occasion her body was struck with paralysis, and for three days she appeared as if dead. Upon returning to herself she related that an angel had conducted her to the abode of the just to behold the reward which God had prepared for those who love him. She also received the gift of being able to read the secrets of hearts.

A report having gone abroad that Attila, King of the Huns, was coming to ravage Gaul, the inhabitants of Paris were so terrified that they resolved to emigrate and transport their goods into other cities of greater strength. Genevieve did all in her power to dissuade them, and, gathering together the women, exhorted them to have recourse to prayer and fasting, as in the days of Judith and Esther, to avert the anger of God. They accordingly assembled in the baptistery, where for many days they gave themselves up to prayer and works of penance. She warned their husbands not to quit Paris as by the Divine protection it would remain uninjured, while the cities to which they thought of flying would be laid waste. Her words, however, were unheeded by the citizens, who raised an outcry against her and treated her as a false prophetess, threatening to stone her to death or drown her in a pit. At this crisis the Archdeacon of St. Germanus arrived from Auxerre. He found the Parisians assembled at the corners of the streets, and talking of killing Genevieve. 'Beware,' said he, 'of committing so great a crime. She whose death you are plotting is, as we have learned from our holy father Germanus, a chosen servant of God.' These words delivered the virgin from further molestation, and when afterwards the citizens beheld the Huns turning their forces in another direction, they began to regard her as a Saint.

While the admirable virtues and tender charity of Genevieve secured for her the affection of the people, the miraculous gifts with which God favored her, strongly excited their veneration. Frequently did they behold her with the sign of the cross cure the sick, give sight to the blind and speech to the dumb, cast out devils, and even raise the dead to life. For the hand of God was with her in all that she undertook. After a life of 89 years spent in the practice of every good work, Genevieve happily expired on January 3, A.D. 518, and was interred in the famous church of her name at Paris, of which city she has always been regarded as the principal patron.

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Evening Star, June 22, 1889, says:—"Messrs W. Gawne and Co of George Street, have sent us a sample of Worcestershire Sauce manufactured by them, which is in no respect inferior to the imported article, so long celebrated for flavouring sauces and as an agreeable addition to grills, fish, and steaks. We can safely recommend it as a valuable addition to our rapidly developing local manufactures. The bottles are neatly labelled and ornamental, not only for home use, but for exportation; and we hope the manufacturers will realise a demand equal to the merits of the savoury article they have produced."—*.*

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Irish News.

ANTRIM.—A Venerable Voter.—The oldest voter in Ireland has been discovered in South Antrim. Mr. R. J. Craig, of Bandalstown, writing on the subject, says:—At Toome polling station in South Antrim, in my capacity of presiding officer, I issued a voting paper to an elector who claims to be 105 years old. He is named Henry McCloskey, and resides at Breacart, Toome, where he has spent all his long life. I have known him for a considerable time, and was aware that he was the oldest man in the locality. When he came to the polling booth and applied for a ballot paper I was curious enough—especially as he walked in all the way from his residence, about two and a half miles—to ask him his age. His reply was 105 years. If, as his neighbors testify, this statement is correct, I think he may fairly claim to be the oldest elector, not only in the North of Ireland, but in the whole of the United Kingdom.

DONEGAL.—Tory Island Exempted from Taxation.—Remote Tory Island has a 'King,' or used to have. If there is a sovereign reigning now in the Irish *Ultima thule* he can sing, 'I am monarch of all I survey,' as conscientiously as Alexander Selkirk. The Donegal County Council have given up Tory to itself. They passed the following resolution at a recent meeting: 'That inasmuch as we have been unable to collect any rates on Tory Island through a collector on the mainland, and the utter futility of attempting to appoint a collector on the island as no person living thereon would dare to take such an appointment; and inasmuch as we spend no money on rates or anything else for the benefit of the inhabitants, we request the sanction of the Local Government Board to strike the island off the county map for taxation purposes, as we consider it useless to strike rates which could not be collected and had to be carried from term to term as uncollected rates.'

DUBLIN.—Presentation to a Popular Teacher.—An interesting function took place recently in St. Gabriel's National Schools, Anghrim street, Dublin, in presence of the teachers and pupils. Miss M. Shanahan, who has acted as head mistress in the girls' department for the past five years, is about to be married, and the occasion was availed of by the pupils and teaching staff of testifying to the high esteem in which Miss Shanahan is held. A handsome illuminated address and a silver tea and coffee service were presented by the teachers, and the monitors and pupils on their own behalf presented an address, together with a valuable dinner set and a tea set of very pretty design.

Presentation to Mr. Harrington.—Mr. Harrington, M.P., has been the recipient of a presentation from the members of the North Dock National Registration Association as a token of their esteem on the occasion of his unopposed re-election for the Harbor Division after 15 years' public service to Ireland.

Reception at the Mansion House.—The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress gave an 'At Home' at the Dublin Mansion House in the early part of November, invitations having been issued to the number of 2500 to meet the members of the various temperance societies in Ireland.

Increased Pay to Corporation Employees.—The Dublin Corporation has improved the condition of its laborers in the very important matter of pay. An inquiry regarding the relative remuneration offered by the Dublin Corporation compared with the big English cities proved very unfavorable for the laborers of the capital. Henceforth the men hitherto receiving 17s 6d, 18s 6d, and 19s will receive £1 a week each; and those already in receipt of £1 will receive an advance of 1s, the change to take effect from April next.

Proposed Monument to Wolfe Tone.—A movement to promote the erection in Dublin of a memorial commemorative of the great struggle for Ireland's independence in 1798 was inaugurated in 1898. It is a movement which embraces all sections of Irish Nationalists. Dublin possesses neither statue nor public testimony of any kind to Wolfe Tone or to the other guiding spirits of the great insurrection. The sites of the prisons which held them or of the scaffolds on which they were done to death are still left as the sole witnesses to their magnificent devotion in the cause of Nationhood. This has been a reproach to all Irishmen who cherish their names and memories, and who believe in the principles associated with a fight for freedom which deserved victory for its lofty National purpose, and which defeat has been unable to rob of either glory or renown. It is therefore intended to ask the co-operation of the Irish race at home and in exile in a work of recognition and gratitude, such as can be pointed to in after generations as an evidence of the living spirit of independence which dominated the countrymen of Theobald Wolfe Tone a century after his herculean efforts to crown his fatherland with the priceless heritage of national liberty.

Housing the Poor.—A meeting of the committee of the whole house of the Dublin Corporation was held recently for the purpose of considering the question of the housing of the very poor in the city. The committee had principally under discussion the report of the Town Clerk bearing on the matter. In that report the Town Clerk stated that having consulted with Sir Charles Cameron with a view to obtaining some approximate idea as to the accommodation required to meet the housing problem in Dublin, he found, according to the estimate of Sir Charles, that proper housing accommodation was required for at least 10,000 of the very poor. These being taken with the other classes improperly housed it might be said that about 6000 families in the city required to be provided with cheap and healthful dwellings, consisting of from one to three apartments. It appeared to him that the Corporation

could do very little more than they had already done in the matter until they had obtained by legislation power to borrow £500,000 for the purpose of clearing unhealthy areas, and on such areas erecting dwellings for the working classes and for the very poor, and meeting all incidental and necessary expenses. Alderman Farrell, who presided, proposed that the Corporation should proceed immediately to take steps to borrow £500,000 for the purpose of providing the required housing accommodation. Councillor Jones proposed as an amendment that the committee should adjourn for a month, and that the Public Health Committee be requested in the meantime to procure a return showing the area of the city slums, their population, etc. After a discussion, Alderman Farrell agreed not to press his motion, and the proposal of Councillor Jones was adopted.

GALWAY.—Presentation of an Organ.—Mr. Martyn, of Tillyra, has presented an American organ to the nuns at the Gort Workhouse.

KERRY.—The Bishop of Ross.—At a meeting held in Skibbereen it was resolved to present an address and testimonial to the Most Rev. Dr. Kelly, Bishop of Ross, on his return from Rome.

Death of a Schoolmaster.—In the *Kerry Sentinel* of a recent date there is an account of the death, after a brief illness, of Mr. D. Leyne, Annascaul. Mr. Leyne, who was a first-class teacher, was head teacher of the local National School for 19 years, a position which he filled with great ability and success. Mr. Leyne belonged to a well-known Iveragh family, the Leynes, to which also belonged on the paternal side another scholarly family, the Horans, who attained high distinction as scholars in Ireland and the colonies in recent years.

LIMERICK.—Proposed Fish Hatchery.—At the first meeting of the new Fishery Board held in Limerick, M. F. M. Pitt, solicitor, presiding, the secretary, Mr. H. E. Poe Hosford, read a letter from the Department of Agriculture which stated that in the event of a definite proposal to erect a hatchery on the Shannon the Department would be prepared to direct a representative, assisted by an engineer, to examine any suggested site and report as to cost. The cost of maintenance would be the wages of one man during the whole year and for two or three assistants during the hatching season. Messrs. Ballingall, Place, and Blood Smith were appointed a committee to draw up a scheme.

LOUTH.—Proposed Presentation to an Archdeacon.—A committee has been formed in Drogheda with a view to presenting a testimonial to the Very Rev. Father Segrave, who was recently appointed parish priest of Drogheda and Archdeacon of the diocese of Armagh.

ROSCOMMON.—Death of Lady de Freyne.—The death occurred on October 26 of the Dowager Lady de Freyne, at her residence, Caher House, Loughlynn, Roscommon. The funeral took place from Caher to Frenchpark parish church, where a Solemn *Requiem* Mass was celebrated. Most Rev. Dr. Lyster, Lord Bishop of Achonry, presided, and there were present 28 priests from the dioceses of Elphin and Achonry. The remains were interred in the family vault at Cloonshanville graveyard.

WEXFORD.—The Gorey Memorial of Ninety-Eight.—The unveiling of the Gorey '98 memorial gave rise to a great National demonstration a short time ago. Triumphant arches, gay bunting, patriotic mottoes, and innumerable green and other flags lent a lively and picturesque appearance to the scene. The special trains from Dublin and Wexford brought thousands of visitors, whilst every parish in the north of the county was largely represented. The procession, which marched through the principal streets of the town, was a most magnificent affair. On the arrival at Gorey Hill the memorial was unveiled by Lady Esmonde. The memorial takes the form of a Celtic cross of a chaste and artistic design. Sir Thomas Esmonde said it was those '98 demonstrations that were the means of bringing together all sections of Irish Nationalists to the one platform, and the good work thus commenced in '98, he hoped, would continue until the ranks of the Irish people were thoroughly cemented.

Death of a Priest.—We regret (says the *Wexford People*) to announce the death of the Rev. John Furlong, Sutton's parish, which occurred at his residence, Kilmannock, after a brief illness. Father Furlong, who was in his forty-first year, belonged to the Franciscan Order for some years, and was a member of the communities in Wexford, Limerick, and Multifarnham convents. He was a native of Kilmore, and was educated at St. Peter's College and afterwards at Isidore's, Rome. Father Furlong was a scholarly man and a very able and eloquent preacher. With the permission of his superiors he joined the secular mission some years ago, and acted as curate in Annacurra and Blackwater. The interment took place in Ballinamona.

A Retreat at New Ross.—The Right Rev. Dr. James Murray, Bishop of Queensland and successor to the late Bishop Hutchinson, opened a week's retreat in the Augustinian Church, New Ross, on Sunday, October 21. This is the first time within our recollection, says the *Wexford People*, that a bishop conducted a retreat in New Ross, and it was availed of to a great degree.

The Oldest Town Clerk in Ireland.—Mr. John Tobin, of New Ross, claims to be the oldest Town Clerk in Ireland. He is retiring shortly from the position which he has held for the last 40 years.

GENERAL.

The Irish Pilgrimage to Rome.—The Irish pilgrims have left the Eternal City (writes a Rome correspondent), delighted with their reception at the Vatican and greatly impressed by all they have seen. At the Church of San Clemente, where they attended

Mass, they were received with great cordiality by the Irish Dominicans. Father Mulooly, O.P., kindly acted as their guide in viewing the interesting remains disclosed by excavations beneath the church. A visit was next paid to Cardinal Logue's titular church, S. Maria della Pace. In the evening a reunion was held at the Arcadia, when, on the motion of Cardinal Logue, thanks were enthusiastically tendered to Mgr. Bartolini for his courteous attention to the pilgrims. The High Mass at the Irish College, when the Cardinal pontificated, assisted by the Bishops of Killala, Ardagh, and Ross, was a solemn and imposing function. A particularly appropriate sermon was preached by Dr. Healy, Bishop of Clonfert, his subject being the Communion of Saints. The festival of All Saints was, he said, instituted to commemorate the uncanonized as well as the canonized saints of the Church. Great was the multitude of the uncanonized saints who fought Ireland's battle with sword or pen. Could they not count amongst them King Brian the victor of Clontarf, those who slept in Monitorio, the four Masters who worked so effectually for the greater glory of God and their country, and O'Connell, perhaps the greatest Irishman that ever lived, at once the Moses and the Joshua of the Irish people, whose maxims were the maxims of the Gospel, and who had left them a lesson of devotion to the Holy Father and the pastors of his Church. His Eminence Cardinal Logue, the Irish Bishops, the Rector of the Irish College, Father King, O.M.I. (without whom there would have been no pilgrimage), and Canon Fricker, who had done so much for the improvement of their music, were all heartily thanked by the preacher. Later on a banquet was given at the Irish College by Mgr. Kelly. On the same evening the magnificent salons of the Hotel de Rome were crowded when Count Moore gave a reception in honor of Cardinal Logue and of the Irish Bishops and pilgrims. A number of distinguished prelates, including his Grace Archbishop Stonor and the Rectors of the English-speaking Colleges responded to Count Moore's invitation, and the evening was a most successful one, animated by truly Irish cordiality and good fellowship.

Proposed Presentation to Mr. T. D. Sullivan.—His Eminence Cardinal Logue and the Bishop of Meath have become members of the committee which is making arrangements for the presentation of a testimonial to Mr. T. D. Sullivan. 'Writing from the Irish College, Rome, to Mr. W. F. Dennehy, his Eminence Cardinal Logue says:—'Nothing could afford me greater pleasure than to join in a movement intended to pay a tribute of respect and acknowledgment to Mr. T. D. Sullivan. He has deserved well of the country. He has rendered her long, devoted, and disinterested service. Even his zeal for her welfare has never brought him into unpleasant conflict with those who differed from him. While his kind, genial, considerate disposition has won for him hosts of friends, I do not believe that he has ever given real reasonable grounds for enmity. Apart from all these considerations, I believe it would be a reproach to our patriotism to permit the Poet Laureate of Ireland to retire from public life without giving him a substantial testimony of the respect, esteem, and admiration in which he is held by his fellow-countrymen.'

A Necessary Change.—Hitherto a person born in Ireland who has become chargeable to a Poor Law union in England has been removable to Ireland under the provisions of the Poor Removal Act, 1845, unless he has acquired a settlement in England or a status of irremovability from the Poor Law union in which he applies for relief, irrespective of the length of his residence in England. This arbitrary rule has now been altered by a new Act, which provides that a person who has resided continuously for five years in England shall not thereafter be removable to Ireland under the Acts relating to the relief of the poor. The Act further provides that in cases where a pauper is removable from England to Ireland, Boards of Guardians may make agreements that the pauper, instead of being removed, shall be maintained by the Board of Guardians of the Poor Law Union from which he is removable, at the expense of the Board of Guardians of the union to which, if removed he would be chargeable. Such agreements may be entered into whether application for a warrant of removal has been made or not.

Then and Now.—The Feast of St. Gall was celebrated in the church dedicated to his name in Miltown, County Dublin. In the course of a very eloquent sermon, Father Darlington, S.J., drew a striking contrast between the state of University education in Ireland many centuries ago and to-day. The rev. preacher said: All over Ireland in the sixth century we find thoroughly equipped university schools, teaching all the sciences then known to the enlightened world—the classics, Hebrew, and Gaelic; poetry, geometry, rhetoric, natural science, astronomy. To Bangor in Ulster, to Lismore, Glendalough, Clonard, Clonmacnoise, Durrow, and a hundred other schools students in thousands flocked from every country of Europe. Teaching was free, as well as board and lodging in many cases. From Durrow, in the King's County, St. Columba founded a great school at Iona, in Scotland, which civilised the pagan Picts of North Britain. From Bangor, in Ulster, went St. Columba, with 12 companions, of whom St. Gall was one, to found university schools in France, Switzerland, and Northern Italy. St. Gall has left his name in the canton and town called after him near Lake Constance. His ancient monastery there is still the richest depository of Irish MSS. on the continent of Europe. The writings of these professors from the Irish schools prove them to have been men of the greatest secular learning as well as men of exalted faith. It was through these teachers from Ireland that the pagan hordes of Europe received their higher studies. Let us turn, continued the preacher, to Ireland of to-day. The countrymen and co-religionists of St. Gall, who gave, through their university schools, civilisation to Europe, are now themselves denied an adequate provision for higher education. We have witnessed within the last few days here in the city men of wealth and position acting like the uneducated pagans of the past, banding together and using their wealth and position to deprive the countrymen of St. Gall of their right to adequate instruction, which Ireland enjoyed in the sixth century, when the Saxons were still pagans.

THREE MASSES ON CHRISTMAS DAY.

ON Christmas Day every priest, as is well known, is permitted to celebrate three Masses. It is the only day in the year on which this privilege is given. These three Masses symbolise the threefold meaning of Christ's birth, His birth as a man, as a king, and as a Redeemer. It is not necessary (says an exchange) to hear three Masses, one Mass, like on every other holyday of obligation, will suffice. It is, however, a salutary practice to attend three Masses if possible.

T H E C R I B.

THE institution of Cribs owes its origin to St. Francis of Assisi. St. Francis arranged a stable in a field so as to represent most vividly the place and surroundings of Our Saviour's birth in the flesh. He gathered together on this spot a multitude of lay people, clergy, and religious, who met here on Christmas Night to offer to their Infant God the homage of their praise and supplication. Midnight Mass was sung, and after the Gospel St. Francis poured forth the tenderness of his soul in a discourse in honor of the Babe of Bethlehem. The impression he made was by no means transient, as from that time forward Cribs were erected in churches and private houses, where, in accordance, with Isaiah i. 3, the ox and the ass were figured. The effects of this representation on young and devout minds soon rendered this pious custom general.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

THE Rev. Thomas J. Shahan, D.D., has an account of 'The Catholic Missionaries from France and Germany,' in a recent issue of the *Catholic World*. After introducing his readers to general sources of information in regard to the actual administration of the Catholic Church, such as the 'Missiones Catholice' of the Roman authorities, 'Die Katholische Kirche,' by the Germans, and the works published by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, of which the familiar *Annals* is a specimen, he takes up the Abbé Kannengieser's new volume on the Catholic missions of France and Germany, and shows us how truly and admirably France has won her right to the French protectorate of Catholicism in the Orient. 'It seems incredible,' he says, 'that 7,745 French missionaries, mostly priests, are scattered through the foreign missions—a body that almost equals the entire Catholic clergy of the United States in the last census. They are everywhere, in Turkey and China, in farther Asia and in Africa, in Madagascar and in Egypt, in Palestine and in Persia, wherever the name of Christ is preached.' Yet the Catholic women of France have surpassed the missionaries. In January of this year there were 9,150 French Sisters attached to Catholic missions in Asia Minor, China, Africa and India. Surely the race that has produced such men and women as these must not only, as Dr. Shahan says, one day return to its high pedestal among the nations of the earth, but to a higher station still. And Catholic Germany, while by no means so far to the front, is making noble strides forward. 'The total of the genuine army of salvation that labors on the foreign missions of Catholicism is about 60,000 men and women, priests and Brothers.'

The art union in aid of the schools and churches of the Hawera parish has been unavoidably postponed to March 17. The winning numbers will appear in our issue of March 28.—*.

Tussieura.—The most wonderful remedy of the age for coughs, colds, bronchitis, influenza, and all other affections of the throat and lungs. Those suffering should obtain it at once. Give it a trial.—*.

Mr. W. Langford, undertaker and embalmer, Christchurch, has a business notice in this issue. Mr. Langford has been in business in the City of the Plains for a great number of years, in fact he claims that his firm is the oldest established in the Colony.—*.

Residents in Christchurch and district who are about to build would do well to visit the establishment of Mr W. Sey, Colombo street, where they will find a select assortment of artistic wall papers at moderate prices. Mr Sey is also a wholesale and retail oil, color, and glass merchant, and keeps an extensive stock of these goods.

Messrs Dwan Bros, the well known hotel-brokers and estate agents, of Wellington, have several hotels in various parts of the Colony for sale. Among these are houses in Rangitikei, Wellington city, Taranaki, Hawke's Bay, Feilding, and Marton. *Bona fide* purchasers will be supplied with full particulars on application.—*.

Messrs. Herbert, Haynes and Co., of Dunedin, claim that if their tailoring department is visited, and the stock carefully examined, it will be demonstrated that their prices are in accord with the highest standard of quality, style and fit being beyond question. No attempt is made at cheapness at the expense of excellence of material and work. Visitors to Dunedin should not fail to visit this well-known establishment.—*.

The desire for lightness in tyres, from the racing crack to the road rider, brings in its wake trouble and worrying delays. To ride anything on the road but a Roadster Dunlop is a short-sighted policy indeed, for whilst the pace may be effected in the slightest degree on good roads by riding a little heavier tyre, the loss of speed is more than compensated for by the gain in comfort—coupled with less chance of puncturing. Again, the Dunlop Tyre Company guarantee all their roadster tyres for 12 months, a big concession to cyclists who do much road riding.—*.

Largest "Pot-Still" Distillers in the World.

THE DUBLIN DISTILLERS' COMPANY, LTD.

The Popular Brands of this Company are
WM. JAMESON & CO.'S "HARP BRAND,"
GEO. ROE & CO.,
"G.R."

Guaranteed absolutely Pure Malt Whisky.

Head Office for Australasia:

JOHN MEAGHER & CO.,
82A Pitt Street, Sydney, N.S.W

£20 for a NAME

for the Second-Grade Dunlop Tyre
we intend placing on the market to
meet the existing demand for a

Good Wearing Tyre at a Low Figure.

CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION.

The *Name* to be concise and appropriate.

The Competition is open to all.

Competitors may send in as many selections as they like, provided that they are sent in separately, with the selected name on one side of a sheet of paper and the sender's name and address on the other.

Should more than one Competitor select the winning *Name*, the award will be made by priority. All letters will be numbered and filed as received, so that it is advisable for Competitors to send in their selections as soon as possible.

Letters to be addressed to "A." care of any of our Australasian Depots.

The Competition will close on December 31st, and our award advertised early in January.

The Dunlop Tyre Co. to be sole judge of the winning *Name*, which will be the property of the Coy.

A cheque for £20 will be forwarded to the successful Competitor as soon as our award is made.

THE DUNLOP PNEUMATIC TYRE CO. OF AUSTRALASIA LTD.,

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.

GLOBE HOTEL,

OAMARU.

P. KELLY Proprietor.

P. KELLY wishes to inform his friends and the public generally that he has purchased the Globe Hotel, and will be happy to meet them there. Country Visitors and the Travelling Public will find every convenience. The Hotel, which is being renovated throughout, has accommodation for a number of Boarders; has its Private Sitting Rooms, Billiard Room, Bath Room, etc. Convenient to the New Railway Station and opposite the Theatre Royal. A good table kept. All Wines and Spirits of the Best Quality. Free Stabling accommodation.

THE

MUSICAL EXCHANGE

FOR

PIANOS AND ORGANS,

Either for Cash or very easy Time Payments.

R. FRANCIS,

159 & 161 MANCHESTER STREET
CHRISTCHURCH.**RAILWAY HOTEL,**

MANCHESTER STREET,

CHRISTCHURCH

(One minute from the Railway Station).

MR. WILLIAM JOHNSTON, late of Timaru Refreshment Rooms, has taken over the above favourite house, and offers every comfort to his patrons and friends.

ESTABLISHED 1880. TELEPHONE No. 69

BAKER BROTHERS,
FURNISHING UNDERTAKERS,
ASHBURTON.

Direct Importers of Best and Latest Designs in Funeral Furnishings.

FUNERALS Conducted with the greatest Care and Satisfaction, at most Reasonable Charges.

Corner of Wakanui Road and Cass streets, and Baker and Brown's Coach Factory.

GENUINE SEEDS

From a

RELIABLE FIRM.

It is rapidly becoming known throughout N.Z., that

CRAVEN'S SEEDS GROW.

Sound, pure and reliable seeds are

WHAT YOU WANT,

And

WE WANT TO SUPPLY THEM.

Illustrated catalogue and guide, free to any address.

JAMES CRAVEN AND CO

SEED SPECIALISTS,

2 MANNERS ST.,

WELLINGTON

MACALISTER AND CO

(J. J. HISKENS),

CHEMISTS, INVERCARGILL.

A Complete Stock of Everything that is looked for in a first-class Pharmacy

Sole Agents for the supply of

PURE NATURAL LYMPH FOR VACCINATION.

P.O. Box 120, Telephone 90,
INVERCARGILL.**JOHN GILLIES**

Furniture, Carpet, Floorcloths, and Linoleum Warehouse,

8 GEORGE STREET, DUNEDIN.

Has just landed Brussels and Tapestry Carpet of magnificent designs, Floorcloths and Linoleums, all widths up to 12 feet in new designs and various qualities.

Bedsteads and Bedding, all kinds fresh and new.

A large assortment of Bamboo Tables, Whatnots, Brackets, Screens, Stools, new colourings and designs.

A large stock of New Furniture of latest new styles.

Houses Furnished on the Time-Payment System. Terms very easy. Everybody in town and country cordially invited to visit and inspect our Immense Stock.

FLETCHER, HUMPHREYS & CO.,

WINE, SPIRIT, & CIDER MERCHANTS.

Also Importers of

Cigars, Cigarettes, Indian, Ceylon, and China

Teas, and American Goods

WAREHOUSE AND BONDED STORES:

CATHEDRAL SQUARE,

CHRISTCHURCH.

W A V E R L E Y H O T E L ,

QUEEN STREET,

A U C K L A N D .

MAURICE O'CONNOR (late of Christchurch and Dunedin) begs to notify that he has taken over the above favourite hotel, close to Train and Wharf. Splendid view of Harbour.

Best brands of Wines and Spirits always on hand.

MAURICE O'CONNOR.

J A S . S P E I G H T A N D C O

MALTSTERS AND BREWERS,

CITY BREWERY, DUNEDIN.

VETERINARY SHOEING FORGE,

WASHDYKE, TIMARU.

JOHN ROBERTSON, PROPRIETOR

(Late of Oamaru),

Begs to return thanks for the liberal support accorded to him since coming to Washdyke, and trusts by strict attention to business and good workmanship to merit a continuance of favors. All work received promptly attended to.

HORSE-SHOEING A SPECIALITY.

T H O M S O N . B R I D G E R A N D C O . ,
DUNEDIN AND INVERCARGILL.IRONMONGERS, HARDWARE AND TIMBER
MERCHANTS AND MANUFACTURERS.

Importers of Fencing Wire (plain and galvanised),
Barbed Wire, Sheep and Rabbit Netting, Fencing
Standard 'n', 'Kiwi' and 'Reliance',
Rabbit Traps, etc., etc., including all
kinds of Farmers' requirements
in Hardware.

STANDARDS PUNCHED

True to gauge. Net weight after punching only charged.

Manufacturers of Doors, Sashes, and all Building Requisites, also
of Churns, Butter Workers, Printers, Milk Vats, and all
Dairy Implements.

General, Builders', and Furnishing Ironmongery, Electro-Plated
Ware, Cutlery, &c., &c., in great variety.

PRICES LOW.

QUALITY EXCELLENT.

Building Timber of all kinds supplied direct from Sawmills when
required.

Totara and Black Pine, to any description, from our own mills at
OWAKA.

THOMSON, BRIDGER AND CO.,

Princes Street, DUNEDIN; Dee Street, INVERCARGILL.

For **STYLISH,**
RELIABLE **Boots and Shoes**

VISIT

H. R. MORRISON'S,

95 GEORGE STREET, DUNEDIN.

NOTE.—Shipments of the cream of the World's Markets constantly
coming to hand. SEE WINDOWS.

SEE
THAT YOUR BOOTS
ARE BRANDED ON THE HEEL

STANDARD

FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS

FIRST.
Boots with this Brand on the heel are Guaranteed to Fit and Wear Well.

SECOND.
On this Brand only the Very Best of Workmen are employed.

THIRD.
Only the Very Best of Materials are used in this Brand of Boots and Shoes.

FOURTH.
Farmers, Miners, and all who want to keep their feet dry, try this Brand.

FIFTH.
The "STANDARD" Brand Boots and Shoes are known from Auckland to the Bluff for sterling quality.

Commercial.

(For week ending December 26.)

PRODUCE.

MR. F. MEENAN, King street, reports:—Wholesale prices only—Oats: Fair to good feed 1s 4d to 1s 6d; milling, 1s 6d to 1s 7d. Wheat: milling, 2s 5d to 2s 6d; fowls', 1s 9d to 2s 1d. Potatoes: Northern, L4; Southern, L3 15s. Chaff: Inferior, 30s to 40s; good to prime, 47s 6d to 50s. Straw: pressed 27s; loose, 28s. Flour: Sacks, L6 10s; 50lbs, L7; 25lbs, L7, quiet. Oatmeal: 25lbs, L9 10s. Butter: Dairy, 6d to 8d; factory, 9d to 10d. Cheese: Dairy, 5d; factory, 5d. Eggs, 11d. Onions: Melbourne, L8.

LIVE STOCK.

ADDINGTON STOCK MARKET.

There were good entries at Addington to day.

FAT CATTLE—The yarding comprised 259 head, including some prime steers, some of which were taken for freezing at L14 5s. Lots of unfinished cows and heifers made the market irregular. Second quality was easier, but anything prime sold at full rates. Steers brought L8 to L11 10s for best, and L6 10s to L8 for others; best heifers, L7 10s to L10 7s 6d; others, L5 17s 6d to L7; best cows, L6 10s to L8 10s; others, L4 15s to L6.

FAT SHEEP—These were mostly good wethers and ewes with a sprinkling of unfinished sorts and aged ewes. Owing to the large market there was less competition. Wethers sold at 18s to 22s; ewes, 12s to 16s, and up to 18s for good; merino wethers, 12s to 14s 6d.

FAT LAMBS—Exporters were operating freely, and took the bulk of the yarding at from 14s to 16s 4d, and up to 17s 3d for extra good. Unfinished sorts sold at down to 13s.

STORE SHEEP—These were mostly ewes and lambs, which sold at 10s 10d, 11s 11d, 12s 2d, 12s 6d, and 13s 9d all counted, and all shorn wethers and maiden ewes 15s 1d to 15s 2d; lambs, 8s 9d.

PIGS—There was a large entry, many unfinished sorts being in the fat pens. Stores were dull of sale. Baconers brought 30s to 48s 6d, or 3d to 3d per lb; porkers, 18s to 30s, or 3d to 4d per lb; stores, 10s to 18s; small, 5s to 9s.

BURNSIDE STOCK REPORT.

Wednesday, December 19.

FAT CATTLE—156 head yarded. Only a small proportion was prime Christmas beef, the balance being bullocks and heifers of medium to good quality. Good beef was well competed for, and realised prices slightly in advance of late quotations. Best bullocks sold at L7 15s to L9 15s; extra prime and heavy, to L12 2s 6d; medium, L5 15s to L7; best cows and heifers, L5 15s to L7 15s; medium, L4 to L6 15s.

FAT LAMBS—490 penned. Being the Christmas market, there was a larger entry of lambs than usual. Good to prime lambs met with exceptionally strong demand, and realised prices about 3s in advance of late quotations. Best lambs sold at 13s 6d to 17s; others, 10s to 13s.

FAT SHEEP—1,891 penned. The sale opened at prices slightly below those of last week, and although certain qualities sold on a par with late values, the sale throughout showed a decline of about 1s per head. Best cross-bred wethers, 21s to 23s 6d; medium, 15s 6d to 18s; best ewes, 17s to 20s; extra prime, to 22s 3d; medium, 12s 6d to 16s.

PIGS—196 forward. These were fully equal to requirements, the sale being but slow. Suckers, 6s to 10s; slips, 12s to 16s; stores, 17s to 21s; porkers, 24s to 32s; baconers, 33s to 36s heavy pigs, to 50.

WOOL, SKINS, TALLOW, ETC.

DUNEDIN WOOL SALES.

The first wool sale of the season was held in the Agricultural Hall on Thursday. The catalogue was small, and the bulk of the wool offered was somewhat inferior to that which will be submitted at the next sale on January 11, as it is usual for the better class of wools to come in for the second sale. A total of 1688 bales was submitted, against 4376 at the same time last year. There was a large attendance of buyers, including representatives of English and foreign manufacturers and local mills. The prices for all descriptions showed an advance of 1d on those ruling at the last London sales, and fully 4d per lb on those ruling at the Christchurch sales. On the whole there was a good tone, and bidding was fairly brisk, considering the heavy fall in values which has taken place during the past 12 months. The top price realised for halfbred was 8d. The following were the quotations:—Greasy halfbred—Superior, 8d to 8d; good, 7d to 7d; medium, 6d to 6d; inferior, 5d to 5d. Greasy merino—Superior, 8d to 8d; good, 7d to 7d; medium, 6d to 6d. Greasy crossbred—Superior, 6d to 6d; good, 6d to 6d; medium, 5d to 5d; inferior, 4d to 5d. Greasy longwools—Good, 5d to 6d; medium, 4d to 5d; inferior, 4d to 4d.

Meers Stronach Bros. and Morris report on the first wool sale of the season in Dunedin as follows:—Since the beginning of this year the London sales have showed a steady decline, culminating at last series with a fall which was estimated to leave values 40 to 50 per cent. lower than that of 12 months previously. In view of this it is satisfactory to be able to report that prices, compared with with Christchurch sales on the 13th inst., show an advance of at least 4d per lb, while current Dunedin values may be stated to be a full 1d above London equivalent. The catalogues comprised a very few choice clips, the bulk being made up of inferior and shabby wools, principally from the early shearing districts. The total quantity submitted by the brokers barely reached 1700 bales, as against 4200 for the corresponding sale of last year. This difference was principally owing to several owners electing to hold their clips until they saw the result of the opening sale, and no doubt the second series on January 11 will be a record one, and include, at all events, a large proportion owned by those who hitherto contemplated risking the London market. Included in our catalogue was the well-known clip of Mr Peter A. Watt, Kaihiku, branded JW, and with this we established a record for this year's wool sales in the Colony, the halfbred, under keen competition, making 8d. The merino from this grower's stud flock realised 8d, and the crossbred ewe 7d. Values may be quoted as follows:—Greasy halfbred super, 8d to 8d; do medium to good, 6d to 7d; do inferior, 5d to 6d; merino—super, 7d to 8d; do medium to good, 6d to 7d; do inferior, 5d to 6d; crossbred—super, 7d to 8d; do medium to good, 6d to 6d; do inferior, 4d to 5d. Pieces and locks sold exceptionally well, the former bringing up to 5d, and the latter to 3d. Our catalogue comprised 201 bales, and of this we sold 176, the balance not reaching owners' reserves or our own valuations.

The last issue of the *Austral Light* (writes a Melbourne correspondent) completes its first year under its new management and as the recognised ecclesiastical organ of the archdiocese. During that twelve months its circulation has risen from a shade over 1000 to 3500 copies per month. The index for the year reveals the names of distinguished ecclesiastical and lay writers from every province of Australia and New Zealand. In the last number Archbishop Carr suggests that the *Catholic Record*, of Sydney, and the *Austral Light* should invite lists of the best 100 books for the young from laymen and ecclesiastics. It might not be a bad idea for a weekly Catholic paper to invite lists of favorite books from its young readers—not by any means 100 each each, any number from one to twelve would do—to see what the taste of young Catholic Australia really is, and how the combined information might be usefully assorted.

A. J. MALLEY,

SOLICITOR, corner Cashel and Manchester Streets, CHRISTCHURCH, has MONEY TO LEND at current rates, repayable on easy terms.

J. G. WARD & CO. WOOL, GRAIN, SEED, AND MANURE MERCHANTS,

AUCTIONEERS AND STOCK AGENTS,

Invercargill, Gore and Bluff.

Full Stocks of Cornsacks, Woolpacks, Manures, Seeds, etc., kept, and Farmers are asked to call upon us before purchasing their requirements.

AGENTS FOR—Massey-Harris Implements, Huddart, Parker Steamers, Manchester Fire Insurance Co., Lawes' Dips and Manures.
MANAGING AGENTS FOR—Ocean Beach Freezing Works, (Birt & Co., Limited, Proprietors).

BOUSKILL AND McNAB

THREE FIRST AWARDS AND SPECIAL GOLD MEDAL AT THE AUCKLAND EXHIBITION, 1899.

These Awards were gained by work manufactured on our premises, Symonds street, and distanced all competing work, both local and imported. We invite inspection of our large stock of

MONUMENTS, TOMBS, HEADSTONES, CROSSES, ETC.

The Largest Stock of Designs of IRON TOMB RAILINGS in the Colony. Designs and Prices forwarded Free on Application.

Lowest possible Prices consistent with Good Work and Material.

BOUSKILL AND McNAB,
SYMONDS STREET,
AUCKLAND.

J. FANNING & CO.

Telephone 650.

House, Land, Estate, & Financial Agents.

ROYAL EXCHANGE, OPERA HOUSE,
WELLINGTON.

Money Invested, Loans Negotiated, and entire Management of Properties and Collection of Rents undertaken.

The firm have Special Facilities for disposing of Town and Country Properties.

Correspondence invited from property owners also persons wishing to buy.

SCOTIA HOTEL

Corner of
LEITH AND DUNDAS STREETS, DUNEDIN

MICHAEL O'HALLORAN (late of the Police Force, Dunedin and Ashburton), Proprietor.

Having leased the above well-known and popular Hotel, which has undergone a thorough renovation. Mr O'Halloran is now prepared to offer first-class accommodation to families, boarders, and the general public.

The very best of Wines, Ales, and Spirits supplied.

NEW BUTCHERY.

JOHN MCINTOSH

(For many years salesman to City Co.),

Opposite Phoenix Company,
MACLAGGAN STREET, DUNEDIN,

Has opened as above.

Only the best of meat at lowest possible prices.

Families waited on for Orders.

A TRIAL SOLICITED.

GEORGE DENNIS.

Late of Park Hotel, Newtown, Wellington and West Coast South Island,

Has taken over BARRETT'S HOTEL Lambton Quay, WELLINGTON, where he is prepared to provide for his old patrons and the public generally every accommodation.

Two minutes' walk from Post Office and wharf.

Tram passes door.

IMPERIAL DRAPERY COMPANY.

KILROY AND SUTHERLAND,
176 and 178 PRINCES STREET (near Stafford St.)

Extensive alterations and additions to above premises have now been completed, making them in every way quite up to date. Special attention to light has been given, and we have now secured a well lighted interior. Everything has been ordered FRESH AND NEW FOR THE COMING SEASON. A distinctive and leading feature of our stock will be goods of British manufacture. At Home there is a strong impulse in favor of goods made within the British Empire, and we feel confident all true Imperialists will help us in this matter.

OPENING DAY: FRIDAY, AUGUST 24TH.

NEW SHOPS! NEW GOODS!! NEW IDEAS!!!

IMPERIAL DRAPERY COMPANY,

176 and 178 PRINCES STREET, (near Stafford Street).

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

DUNEDIN PAWN OFFICE,
5 GEORGE STREET, DUNEDIN.

(Late A. Solomon.)

W. G. ROSSITER (for the last 15 years Manager for the late Mr. A. Solomon) having bought the old-established and well-known pawnbroking business of the late Mr. A. Solomon, begs to announce to the public of Dunedin and Suburbs that he will carry on the business with the same attention and fidelity as formerly.

Note Address:

W. G. ROSSITER,

PRACTICAL WATCH AND CLOCK MAKER,

No 5, GEORGE STREET, DUNEDIN.

WAIMATE HOTEL, WAIMATE

T. TWOMEY ... Proprietor.

T. TWOMEY (late of the Grosvenor Hotel, Christchurch) having now taken possession of the above favorite and centrally-situated house, will spare no pains to make the place as comfortable as possible.

Wines and Spirits of the best brands.

The Hotel is being refurnished and renovated throughout.

J. AND W. GRANT
Blacksmiths, Wheelwrights, and
Coachbuilders, Temuka.

J. and W. G., in thanking the public for their support in the past, beg to solicit a continuance of the same. As we have now a very complete stock for carrying on our several branches, and having secured the services of one of the best painters in the Colony, we have now a very strong staff of men in their different lines.

Shoeing, as usual, a specialty.

HUGH GOURLEY
desires to inform the public he still continues the Undertaking Business as formerly at the Establishment, corner Clarke and MacLaggan streets, Dunedin.

Funerals attended in Town or Country with promptness and economy

SANITARY PIPE
AND STONEWARE FACTORY,
KENSINGTON.

The undersigned, having purchased the above Works, is prepared to sell at Lowest Current Rates.

J. H. LAMBERT,
NORTH-EAST VALLEY AND KENSINGTON.

UNION STEAM SHIP COMPANY OF NEW ZEALAND LIMITED

Steamers will be despatched as under (weather and other circumstances permitting):

LYTTELTON and WELLINGTON—

Mokoia	Mon., Dec. 24	4 30 p.m. D'din
Talune	Wed., Dec. 26	4 30 p.m. D'din
Waihora	Fri., Dec. 28	5 p.m. D'din

NAPIER, GISBORNE and AUCKLAND—

Talune	Fri., Dec. 26	5 p.m. D'din
Waihora	Fri., Dec. 28	5 p.m. D'din

SYDNEY, via WELLINGTON—

Mokoia	Mon., Dec. 24	4 30 p.m. D'din
Moana	Thurs., Jan. 3	1 30 p.m. D'din

SYDNEY via AUCKLAND—

Talune	Wed., Dec. 26	5 p.m. D'din
Mararoa	Tues., Jan. 8	3 p.m. D'din

MELBOURNE via BLUFF and HOBART—

Waikare	Dec. 23	4 p.m. D'din
Monowai	Mon., Jan. 7	4 p.m. D'din

GREYMOUTH via OAMARU, TIMARU, LYTTELTON, WELLINGTON, and NEW PLYMOUTH.

Cargo only.

Janet Nicoll	Wed., Jan. 3	3 p.m. D'din
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WESTPORT via TIMARU, LYTTELTON, WELLINGTON.

Cargo only.

Upolu	Fri., Jan. 4	3 p.m. D'din
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SOUTH SEA ISLAND SERVICE.
TONGA, SAMOA, FIJI, and SYDNEY.
(From Auckland.)

Manapouri Thurs., Dec. 27

RARATONGA and TAHITI.

(From Auckland.)

Ovalau	Tues., Jan. 15, 1901
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For FIJI (From Auckland).

Taviuni	Wed., Jan. 2
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“DEAR ME! I've forgotten that SYMINGTON COFFEE ESSENCE, whatever shall I do! Call at the nearest Store you pass; they All Keep it.

WEDDING BELLS.

MCCARTNEY—NICHOLL.

Considerable interest (writes a correspondent) was taken in an event which took place at Longridge village on December 5—the marriage of Mr. Thomas McCartney to Miss Nicholl, eldest daughter of Mr. John Nicholl. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Father Keenan, in the presence of a number of friends of both parties, at the residence of the bride's parents. Miss Elizabeth Nicholl, sister of the bride, was bridesmaid, and the duties of best man were carried out by Mr. Denis Corcoran. The bride was attired in a costume of cream lustre, with the usual veil, and wreath of orange blossoms. The bridesmaid's dress was of white muslin with hat to match. Both bride and bridesmaid wore gold brooches the gift of the bridegroom. After the ceremony the wedding breakfast was partaken of, and in the evening a social gathering took place when Mr. John Little in a happy and felicitous speech proposed the health of the newly-wedded couple, his remarks being supplemented by Mr. J.A. Mills and others. The wedding presents were ornamental and useful, and their number showed the esteem in which Mr. and Mrs. McCartney are held by a large circle of friends.

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS' SCHOOL, DUNEDIN.

The annual entertainment and distribution of prizes in connection with the Christian Brothers' School, Dunedin, took place in St. Joseph's Hall on Friday evening, when there was a crowded attendance, which included his Lordship Bishop Verdon and the local clergy. Hanging at the back of the stage was the school's championship pennant won by the Christian Brothers' football team last season. Included in the programme were three class songs—'Erin, the tear,' 'Music and her sister, song,' and 'Be kind to the dear ones'—which were rendered very nicely by a number of pupils under the direction of Brother O'Hare. A very enjoyable item was a violin solo by Master Alan Shain, a boy of about seven years, who gave a selection of Scottish and Irish airs in a manner which would be creditable to a violinist of double his age. His contribution earned for him a well-merited encore. There were gymnastic contests by a number of senior and junior boys, under the direction of Mr. J. C. Smith, all of which were performed very creditably and elicited warm applause from the audience. The feature of the entertainment was a parliamentary debate, which, while it highly amused the audience, tended also to show them that the pupils are being taught to express themselves clearly and distinctly and to the point. The subject of the debate was one in which most school-boys are deeply interested, viz., 'Should bad boys be birched.' Master J. Wilkinson was Mr. Speaker, and the occupants of the Treasury Benches were Masters T. Pound (Premier), E. Campbell, James Collins, W. O'Connell, J. Treston, F. Bevin. Those on the Opposition Benches were Masters R. Burke (leader), J. O'Sullivan, M. Rosbotham, T. Meyer, Claude Thomas, Thomas Day, and P. Wilson. The debaters showed a very intimate knowledge of parliamentary procedure, and displayed elocutionary powers of no mean ability, indeed if many of our real legislators would only express themselves as clearly and cogently there would be less grumbling in the reporters' gallery. When the discussion was getting warm an Opposition member moved an amendment to the effect that boys should be birched when they desired it, an alteration which was acceptable to both sides of the House, and eventually carried without dissent. The results of the gymnastic competitions are given in the prize list. The accompaniments during the evening were played by Master J. Tobin. Messrs. T. Deehan and R. Brown acted as judges of the gymnastic competitions.

At the conclusion of the entertainment Brother Fogarty (Superior) delivered an address in which he briefly reviewed the work of the past year. He said; I would like to impress on parents that the prizes are not to be looked upon as Christmas gifts. They have been awarded on strictly competitive lines. The parents of the successful children will naturally feel proud of their children's success. To some extent they will look upon it as a personal triumph. For my part I think they are justified in so doing. Parents have more to do with the progress of their children than is generally supposed. Some few appear to think their responsibility ceases when they have their boy's name entered on the school register. They expect too much from the school. It is only when the duties devolving on the parents are efficiently and faithfully performed that the teacher is placed in a right position for discharging his. A certain English school inspector on one occasion found in a portion of his district an amount of enthusiasm for school work on the part of the pupils which to him was novel and astonishing. On inquiry he discovered that the cause was not very superior ability on the part of the teachers, but the interest felt and shown by the parents. I am glad to say the parents of our boys for the most part seem to understand thoroughly the necessity for keeping their children regularly at school, of providing them a time and a place and every convenience for preparing their home lessons, and, above all, of seeing that they make a good use of the time and the place and the convenience provided. The physical education of the boys has been in the hands of Messrs. J. C. Smith and James McCleary, the former in the gymnasium and the latter in the football field. You have seen some of Mr. Smith's work to-night, and I leave you to form your own opinions as to its quality. Mr. McCleary's department was equally successful. He entered his team for the school football competition, and brought them through the season winners of the pennant and as yet unbeaten. I may mention that this was the school's first year in the Schools' Association, and I have great pleasure in saying that the reception given the Christian Brothers' boys by the public schools was in every case cordial and courteous. Our annual examinations, held in March last by our inspector from Sydney, were on the whole satisfactory. Masters P.

Skene, J. P. Hastings, J. O'Leary, and James Scanlon passed the junior civil service examination last January. The general conduct of our boys was up to the usual, and their punctuality in frequenting the Sacraments was edifying. This year, thanks to the generosity of Mr. W. A. Shain, we are enabled to present the dux of the school with a superior gold medal. I have great pleasure in awarding it to John Patrick Hastings. To Mr. Shain and our other kind friends who so generously contributed prizes the Christian Brothers return their most sincere thanks.

The prizes were then distributed by his Lordship Bishop Verdon, assisted by the Rev. Father Murphy and Brothers Fogarty and Foran. The following is the list:—

HIGH SCHOOL.

Seniors—Matriculation class: J. P. Hastings dux, C. J. Collins 2, J. O'Leary 3.

Examination honors (first in subject)—Christian doctrine, M. Rosbotham; church history, M. Rosbotham; Latin, J. O'Leary; French, C. Thomas; English, J. P. Hastings; Euclid, J. O'Leary; algebra, C. J. Collins; arithmetic, J. P. Hastings; shorthand, F. Bourke; penmanship, C. J. Collins.

Civil Service class—Albert Knox 1, Thomas Pound 2, John Scanlon 3.

Examination honors (first in subject)—Christian doctrine, W. Shain; church history, A. Knox; English, A. Knox; geography, A. Knox; arithmetic, J. Scanlon; algebra, J. Delargay; Euclid, T. Pound; shorthand, E. W. Spain; typewriting, J. O'Sullivan; book-keeping, J. Scanlon; penmanship, J. Scanlon.

Intermediate class—J. Tobin 1, F. Bevin 2, James Collins 3, M. Scanlon 4.

Examination honors (first in subject)—Christian doctrine, James Collins; Bible history, J. Tobin; reading, J. Brennan; spelling and dictation, J. Brennan; recitation, M. Scanlon; grammar, M. Scanlon; composition, J. Tobin; geography, F. Bevin; mapping, F. Bevin; arithmetic, J. Wilkinson; home exercise, James Collins; handwriting, James Collins; Euclid, J. Tobin; algebra, J. Brennan; French, M. Scanlon; Latin, M. Scanlon; book-keeping, E. Campbell.

Junior class—A. Macdonald 1, T. Garvey 2, G. Byrne 3, W. O'Connell 4, F. McBride 5.

Examination honors (first in subject)—Christian doctrine, G. Byrne; Bible history, C. Pollock; reading, G. Byrne; spelling and dictation, G. Byrne; recitation, P. Wilson; grammar, J. Hart; composition, F. Freed; geography, F. Freed; arithmetic, W. O'Connell; home exercises, F. Freed; handwriting, J. Skene; mapping, F. Freed; Euclid, F. McBride; algebra, G. Byrne; French, G. Byrne; Latin, F. McBride; shorthand, C. Pollock.

PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Fifth class—W. Higgins 1, C. O'Brien 2, J. Skinner 3.

Examination honors (first in subject)—Christian doctrine, R. Bourke; reading, T. Meyer; recitation, W. Layburn; dictation, R. Bourke; writing, A. Davis; arithmetic, C. Hannagan; composition, W. Higgins; grammar, R. Bourke; geography, J. Skinner; Australian history, A. Byrne; English history, A. McCallion; Euclid, W. Higgins; drawing, H. M'Hugh; home exercises, A. Davis.

Fourth class—C. Popplewell 1, T. Day 2, J. Walsh 3.

Examination honors (first in subject)—Christian doctrine, J. O'Sullivan; reading, J. Blanchfield; recitation, J. O'Sullivan; dictation, A. Wood; writing, F. Fogarty; arithmetic, E. Kiely; composition, S. Anderson; grammar, E. O'Connor; geography, J. Treston; Irish history, E. O'Connor; objects, T. Laffey; drawing, M. Jones; home exercises, J. Walsh.

Third class—D. Fogarty 1, Eric Spain 2, W. O'Connor 3, C. Tarleton 4, E. Popplewell 5, Claude Mackaneas 6, B. Connor 7, D. Murphy 8, A. Dean 9, A. Adlam 10, D. Burke 11.

Examination honors (first in subject)—Christian doctrine, J. Ryan; reading, C. Banwell; arithmetic, J. Bryant; grammar, D. Moore; geography, Eric Spain; writing, W. O'Connor; home exercises, J. Fogarty; recitation, W. Griffith; drawing, C. Mackaneas; dictation, D. Fogarty.

Second class—H. Freed 1, A. Shain 2, Timothy Laffey 3, W. Power 4, F. Power 5, C. Keenan 6, R. Hungerford 7, George Lawlor 8.

Examination honors (first in subject)—Christian doctrine, A. Shain; reading, W. Kavanagh; dictation, H. Freed; arithmetic, T. Laffey; grammar, A. Shain; geography, H. Freed; drawing, W. Dillon; writing, M. Coughlan; home exercise, H. Freed.

First class—W. Ryan 1, J. Tarleton 2, J. McQuillan 3, J. Salmon 4, G. Wakelin 5, J. McDonald 6, Joseph McKay 7, B. Long 8, R. McClue 9, C. Spain 10, C. Crichton 11, H. Dixon 12, J. Stapleton 13, Charles Hill 14.

Examination honors (first in subject)—Christian doctrine, B. Long; geography, P. Olsen; writing, W. Ryan; reading, B. Moore; arithmetic, W. Ryan; drawing, John McKenzie.

Special prizes—Elocution: Senior, P. Wilson; junior, T. Meyer. Gymnastic contest: Seniors, H. Hungerford 1, J. O'Sullivan 2; juniors, J. Ryan 1, W. O'Connell 2.

In bringing the proceedings to a close his Lordship congratulated the pupils on the result of the year's work. The pupils had very many advantages at the school. They had experienced teachers, who belonged to that widely known Society the Christian Brothers, who, wherever established, were highly honored and respected. They had been doing good work in Dunedin for many years, and he trusted they would continue to spread the blessings of religious education around them. His Lordship hoped that the boys about to leave school would join the junior branch of St. Joseph's Club.

Mr. P. Hally, in moving a vote of thanks to the Right Rev. Dr. Verdon for presiding, took occasion to pay a well-deserved meed of praise to the Christian Brothers for the successful manner in which they conducted their school, and also complimented the gymnastic instructor, Mr. J. C. Smith.

WHITAKER BROS.,NEW ZEALAND CATHOLIC DEPOT,
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Just Landed from New York.

	s.	d.		s.	d.
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Meditations for Secular Clergy, Chaignon (2 vols.)	16	0	Sermons for Children of Mary, Callerio	6	0
Way of Interior Peace	5	0	Striving after Perfection	4	0
Characteristics True Devotion, Gron	3	0	True Politeness, by Abbe Demora	2	6
Kellus, St. Anthony, Blessed Virgin, Sacred Heart, Blessed Sacrament, each	3	0	Interior of Jesus and Mary, Gron (2 vols.)	8	0
How to Comfort the Sick	4	0	Manifestation of Conscience	2	0
Glories of Divine Grace, Schubert	6	0	Meditations for Retreats	3	6
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Round Table American Catholic Novelists	6	0	Pere Monnier's Ward	5	0
Round Table English and Irish do do	6	0	Mr. Billy Buttons	5	0
Marcella Grace, Rosa Mulholland	5	0	How to Get On	4	0
Passing Shadows	5	0	Fabiola's Sisters	5	0
Fabiola	4	0	Legends Holy Child Jesus	3	0
			Fred's Little Daughter	2	0
			True Story Master Gerald	5	0
			Let no Man put Asunder	4	0
			An Every Day Girl	2	0
			A Hostage of War	2	0
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The Railway authorities notify several alterations in and additions to the ordinary time-table in connection with the New Year holidays. Full particulars will be found in our advertising columns.—*.*.

NEW ZEALAND RAILWAYS.**NIGHT TRAINS.**

TICKETS for the 10.35 p.m. Train to Christchurch on 22nd December can be obtained at the Booking Office at any time during SATURDAY.

TICKETS for the 10.35 p.m. Train to Christchurch, 11.20 p.m. Train to Oamaru, and the 11.20 p.m. Train to Invercargill on 24th December can be obtained at the Booking Office at any time during MONDAY.

By Order.

NEW ZEALAND RAILWAYS.**NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS, 1901.**

The following ALTERATIONS IN AND ADDITIONS TO the Ordinary Time-table will be made in connection with the New Year Holidays:—

SATURDAY, 29th DECEMBER.

An Excursion Train will leave Dunedin for Christchurch at 10.35 p.m., Waitati 11.33 p.m., Seaciff 11.57 p.m., Waikouaiti 12.18 a.m., Palmerston 12.45 a.m., Hampden 1.28 a.m., Maheno 2.3 a.m., Oamaru 2.35 a.m., arriving at Christchurch 8.55 a.m. on December 30. This train will stop at Upper Port Chalmers, Waitati, Seaciff, Waikouaiti, Palmerston, Hampden, Herbert, and Maheno; also at any station where required north of Oamaru to allow Passengers to alight.

An Excursion Train will leave Christchurch for Dunedin at 10.40 p.m., Oamaru 4.45 a.m., Hampden 5.50 a.m., Palmerston 6.45 a.m., Waikouaiti 7.15 a.m., Seaciff 7.45 a.m., Waitati 8.5 a.m., arriving at Dunedin at 9 a.m. on December 30. This train will stop at the stations named; also at other stations where required to set down passengers from north of Oamaru.

A Train will leave Balclutha for Otago at 8 p.m., returning from Otago at 9.30 p.m.

MONDAY, 31st DECEMBER.

An Excursion Train will leave Dunedin for Christchurch at 10.35 p.m., Waitati 11.33 p.m., Seaciff 11.57 p.m., Waikouaiti 12.18 a.m., Palmerston 12.45 a.m., Hampden 1.28 a.m., Maheno 2.3 a.m., Oamaru 2.35 a.m., arriving at Christchurch 8.45 a.m. on January 1. This train will stop at Upper Port Chalmers, Waitati, Seaciff, Waikouaiti, Palmerston, Hampden, Herbert, and Maheno; also at any station where required north of Oamaru to allow Passengers to alight.

An Excursion Train will leave Dunedin for Oamaru and intermediate stations at 11.20 p.m., Sawyer's Bay 11.45 p.m., Waitati 12.35 a.m., Seaciff 1.10 a.m., Puketeraki 1.20 a.m., Palmerston 2.15 a.m., Hampden 3.5 a.m., Maheno 3.55 a.m., arriving Oamaru 4.40 a.m. on January 1.

An Excursion Train will leave Christchurch for Dunedin at 10.40 p.m., Oamaru 4.45 a.m., Hampden 5.50 a.m., Palmerston 6.45 a.m., Waikouaiti 7.15 a.m., Seaciff 7.45 a.m., Waitati 8.10 a.m., Upper Port Chalmers 9.5 a.m., Burkes 9.22 a.m., arriving at Dunedin at 9.40 a.m. on January 1. This train will stop where required between Oamaru and Palmerston to set down Passengers from north of Oamaru, and at any station between Palmerston and Dunedin to pick up and set down Passengers.

An Excursion Train will leave Dunedin for Invercargill and intermediate stations at 11.20 p.m., Mosgiel 12.20 a.m., Waikouaiti 1.15 a.m., Milton 2 a.m., Balclutha 3.25 a.m., Clinton 4.55 a.m., arriving at Invercargill 8.20 a.m. on January 1.

An Excursion Train will leave Invercargill for Dunedin at 11.15 p.m., Clinton 2.45 a.m., Balclutha 3.55 a.m., Milton 4.55 a.m., arriving at Dunedin 7.25 a.m. on January 1.

The Train usually leaving Otago for Balclutha at 1 p.m. will NOT run.

Trains will leave Balclutha for Otago at 11.30 a.m. and 8 p.m., returning from Otago at 2 p.m. and 9.30 p.m.

TUESDAY, 1st JANUARY.**CALEDONIAN SPORTS AT OAMARU.****RACES AT WAIKOUAITI.**

The Train usually leaving Dunedin for Oamaru at 7.40 a.m. will be accelerated, leaving Sawyer's Bay 8.5 a.m., Waitati 9.0 a.m., Seaciff 9.30 a.m., Waikouaiti 9.55 a.m., Palmerston 10.30 a.m., Hampden 11.15 a.m., Herbert 11.40 a.m., Maheno 11.55 a.m., arriving Oamaru 12.30 p.m.

Special Train will leave Dunedin for Palmerston at 9.0 a.m., Sawyer's Bay 9.32 a.m., Purakanui 10.2 a.m., Waitati 10.22 a.m., Seaciff 10.57 a.m., Waikouaiti 11.28 a.m., arriving Palmerston 12.0 noon.

Special Train will leave Dunedin for Waikouaiti at 9.40 a.m., Upper Port Chalmers 10.5 a.m., Waitati 10.50 a.m., Seaciff 11.35 a.m., arriving Waikouaiti 11.50 a.m. This train will stop at the stations named only.

Trains return from Palmerston to Dunedin at 4.0 p.m., 4.55 p.m., and 7.20 p.m., Waikouaiti 5.0 p.m., 5.32 p.m., and 7.55 p.m., Seaciff 5.40 p.m., 6.17 p.m., and 8.30 p.m., Waitati 6.10 p.m., 6.51 p.m., and 9.0 p.m., Purakanui 6.35 p.m., 7.17 p.m., and 9.25 p.m., arriving Dunedin 7.25 p.m., 8.10 p.m., and 10.15 p.m.

THE NORTH AND SOUTH EXPRESS TRAINS WILL NOT STOP AT WAIKOUAITI.

Train will leave Dunedin for Christchurch at 10.20 a.m., Waitati 11.23 a.m., Seaciff 11.50 a.m., Waikouaiti 12.9 p.m., Palmerston 12.35 p.m., Hampden 1.14 p.m., Herbert 1.39 p.m., Maheno

1.49 p.m., Oamaru 2.25 p.m., Christchurch arrive 8.25 p.m. This train will make the same Stops as the North Express between Dunedin and Christchurch.

Train will leave Christchurch for Dunedin at 10.20 a.m., Oamaru 4.40 p.m., Maheno 5.6 p.m., Herbert, 5.19 p.m., Hampden 5.44 p.m., Palmerston 6.28 p.m., Waikouaiti 6.52 p.m., Seaciff 7.20 p.m., Waitati 7.38 p.m., Dunedin arrive 8.30 p.m. This train will make the same Stops as the South Express between Christchurch and Dunedin. It will also stop at Pukeuri to allow Passengers to alight.

The 8.30 p.m. Train Dunedin to Port Chalmers and the 9.20 p.m. Train Port Chalmers to Dunedin will NOT run. Train will leave Dunedin for Port Chalmers at 9.0 p.m., returning from Port Chalmers at 9.35 p.m.

Trains will leave Balclutha for Owaika at 11.30 a.m. and 8 p.m., returning from Owaika at 2 p.m. and 9.30 p.m.

Train will leave Dunedin for Balclutha and intermediate stations at 11.20 p.m.

SPORTS AT MIDDLEMARCH.

Train will leave Dunedin for Hyde at 8.15 a.m., Wingatui 8.55 a.m., Hindon 10.15 a.m., arriving Middlemarch 11.37 a.m.; returning from Middlemarch at 6.35 p.m., Hindon 8.5 p.m., arriving at Dunedin 10.15 p.m.

SPORTS AT CLINTON.

Train will leave Clinton for Balclutha at 6.25 p.m.

Train will leave Clinton for Gore at 7.0 p.m.

SPORTS AT INVERCARGILL.

The Train usually leaving Clinton for Invercargill at 6.0 a.m. will not leave till 6.30 a.m.

Train usually leaving Clinton for Invercargill at 2.30 p.m. will not leave till 3.0 p.m.

Train usually leaving Invercargill for Clinton at 4.15 p.m. will not leave till 6.0 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, 2nd JANUARY.

A Train will leave Dunedin for Palmerston at 9.0 a.m., Sawyers Bay 9.32 a.m., Waitati 10.22 a.m., Seaciff 10.57 a.m., Waikouaiti 11.28 a.m., returning from Palmerston at 4.25 p.m., Waikouaiti 5.0 p.m., Seaciff 5.40 p.m., Waitati 6.10 p.m., arriving at Dunedin 7.25 p.m.

Train will leave Dunedin for Christchurch at 10.20 a.m., Waitati 11.23 a.m., Seaciff 11.50 a.m., Waikouaiti 12.9 p.m., Palmerston 12.35 p.m., Hampden 1.11 p.m., Herbert 1.39 p.m., Maheno 1.49 p.m., Oamaru 2.25 p.m., Christchurch arrive 8.25 p.m. This train will make the same Stops as the North Express between Dunedin and Christchurch.

Train will leave Christchurch for Dunedin at 10.20 a.m., Oamaru 4.40 p.m., Maheno 5.6 p.m., Herbert 5.19 p.m., Hampden 5.44 p.m., Palmerston 6.28 p.m., Waikouaiti 6.52 p.m., Seaciff 7.20 p.m., Waitati 7.38 p.m., Dunedin arrive 8.30 p.m. This train will make the same Stops as the South Express between Christchurch and Dunedin. It will also stop at Pukeuri to allow Passengers to alight.

Trains will leave Palmerston for Dunback at 8.35 a.m., 11.10 a.m., and 8.10 p.m., returning from Dunback at 9.25 a.m., 3.35 p.m., and 9.0 p.m.

An Excursion Train will leave Dunedin for Christchurch at 8.10 p.m., Waitati 9.25 p.m., Seaciff 9.55 p.m., Waikouaiti 10.20 p.m., Palmerston 10.50 p.m., Hampden 11.35 p.m., Maheno 12.10 a.m., Oamaru 12.43 a.m., arriving at Christchurch 7.0 a.m. on January 3. This train will Stop at the stations named; also at any station north of Oamaru to set down Passengers.

An Excursion Train will leave Christchurch for Dunedin at 8.15 p.m., Oamaru 3 a.m., Palmerston 4.48 a.m., arriving at Dunedin 7 a.m. January 3. This train will Stop at any station between Oamaru and Dunedin to set down Passengers from north of Oamaru.

BLUFF REGATTA

Train usually leaving Clinton for Invercargill at 6.0 a.m. will not leave until 6.30 a.m.

Train usually leaving Clinton for Invercargill at 2.30 p.m. will not leave until 3.0 p.m.

The Train usually leaving Invercargill for Clinton at 4.15 p.m. will not leave until 6.10 p.m.

All Goods Traffic between Oamaru and Clinton will be entirely SUSPENDED on 1st and 2nd January.

The GOODS SHEDS at Dunedin and Port Chalmers will be CLOSED on Tuesday and Wednesday, 1st and 2nd January.

By Order.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Complaints re irregular Delivery of Paper should be made without delay to the Manager.

All Communications with the Commercial Department of the 'N.Z. Tablet' Newspaper are to be addressed to John Murray, Secretary, to whom all Post Office Orders and Cheques are in all instances to be made payable.

Annual Subscription, 25s. booked; 22s. 6d. if paid in advance; shorter periods at proportional rates.

NOTE.—Our limit of Credit is Six Months.

The great Austral Wheel Race was accounted for by 'Maori-lander' Forbes on Dunlop tyres in world's record time, and Connell's win in the New Zealand Wheel Race was also a record for Dunlops.—".



'To promote the cause of Religion and Justice by the ways of Truth and Peace.'

LEO XIII. to the N.Z. TABLET.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1900.

'A MERRIE CHRYSSTEMASSE.'



CHRISTMAS is once more upon us—the last Nativity Feast of the swiftly passing century. Gifts are exchanged; good wishes flit back and forth; and 'A Merry Christmas' resounds from many millions of lips. A thousand innocent joys are associated with this sweetest feast of all the year. And so intimately has it entered into our social life and domestic usages that few of the bands of merry-makers can realise that at one period all observances of the Christ-Child Festival were placed under the ban of law in England, Scotland, and the Puritan colonies of North America. The customary greeting that now passes between friend and friend is but the revival of the old 'Merrie Chrystemasse' of the Catholic England of the Middle Age. England was 'Merry England' then. And people flung themselves with the fresh abandon of schoolboys into joyous celebrations in memory of all that was brought to our race on the first Christmas Day by the Divine Babe of Bethlehem. Sir WALTER SCOTT says in his *Marmion* :—

England was merry England, when
Old Christmas brought his sports again.
'Twas Christmas broached the mightiest ale;
'Twas Christmas told the merriest tale;
A Christmas gambol oft could cheer
The poor man's heart through half a year.

The Scottish poet and novelist tells us how,

When the year its course had rolled
And brought blithe Christmas back again,
With all his hospitable train,

the baron's hall was opened wide to 'vassal, tenant, serf, and all'; and how

Power laid his rod of rule aside,
And Ceremony doffed his pride.

A bright log fire 'went roaring up the chimney wide.' It was a time of quaint old ceremonies, of feasting, of festive gambols, and of childlike and generally innocent merriment. This was the light and airy side of the Christmas festival of the far-off olden time. But deep beneath the rippling, sunlit mirth of those picturesque old celebrations of the Nativity there lay the ever-present consciousness of its spiritual side. This was evidenced in the Advent fasting preceding it; in the midnight Mass; in the prayers; in the solemn Mystery Plays; and in the quaint carols that sang of the miraculous coming of the new-born King.

In England and Scotland the religious observance of the Christmas festival was swept away by the Reformation. But many of the old social and domestic usages long survived—shorn of their meaning and deprived of their religious setting. By the time of CHARLES I. the Christmas festivities had degenerated into mere disorderly revels. In CROMWELL'S time the day was ordered to be observed as a day of solemn fast. Then arose a loud and angry protest throughout the land. Serious riots broke out and raged sporadically here and there, and excited mobs led the military a merry dance. Parliament met to transact business on the festival. Business people were ordered to open their shops. The ringing of chimes was forbidden. Preaching and the holding of religious services of any kind were visited with penalties of a very convincing character. But in England, nevertheless, the Puritan Parliament failed to quite suppress Christmas observances. In Scotland the

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course of legislation was more drastic; its administration more searching and successful. Christmas games and shows were forbidden. Actors of mysteries and other plays were fined, imprisoned, or publicly whipped at the cart's tail. Women and girls were forced to spin in the open, under the public eye. Mulcts were imposed on all who rested from work or otherwise attempted to sanctify that sacred day. Laws of a similar import were passed by the legislature of Massachusetts. The anti-Christmas legislation died in England with the Commonwealth, in 1660. In his *Social Life in England*, CONNOR SYDNEY writes as follows of the period between the Restoration and the Revolution:—'The festive season of Christmas was kept in regal style throughout the country. Distinction, for once in the year, lowered its crest. The host and his tenants met on terms of perfect equality. There were great mirth and ceremony almost everywhere. . . . The exhilarating wassail-bowl and the boar's head, crowned with garlands gay and rosemary, were not wanting. The yule-log crackled on the hearth. The sirloins of beef, the minced pies, the plum porridge, the capons, the turkeys, and the geese, smoked upon the hospitable board. The wandering minstrels patrolled the streets blithely, singing their ancient carols, and countless forms of amusement were provided for all.' But the spiritual meaning of the Christmas festivities was to a great extent lost in England, and was not recovered till the days of the Oxford movement.

The old days of the anti-Christmas crusades are dead, and buried full many a fathom deep. Christmas celebrations have already secured the force of custom in most Anglican churches. Certain other denominations show signs of following the lead thus given. And we may hope in time to see many of our separated brethren adopt in part or in whole the Catholic conception of the spiritual significance of this great festival. Our age may be as material as you please. But the non-Catholic world cannot permanently, nor even for long, forget the one day in all the year that is a day of pure joy, the heirloom of the best joy of more than eighteen centuries. Of that sacred joy we wish all our readers a full and flowing measure.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Subscribers are entreated to forward the amounts due by them at the earliest possible moment. The amounts due by individual subscribers are not considerable, but taken together they amount to a very large sum. The many calls that we have to meet make it imperative on us to greatly reduce the amount of indebtedness of our subscribers. We therefore ask those who have received accounts to wipe off their indebtedness to us before the close of the dying century. This will be a suitable mode of celebrating the parting of the nineteenth, and the beginning of the twentieth century.

MARIST BROTHERS' FUND.

We have received and duly forwarded to the Rev. Treasurer (Father O'Shea, Boulcott street, Wellington), the sum of £1 1s from the Christian Brothers, Dunedin, in aid of the fund being organised to reimburse the Marist Brothers, late of Stoke, the heavy financial outlay which they have been compelled to undergo in their necessary defence during the recent trials.

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON.

(From our own correspondent.)

December 22.

The retreat for the Marist Brothers begins immediately after Christmas, and will be preached by the Rev. J. McInerney, S.J., who recently arrived from Australia.

After the monthly meeting of the Children of Mary last Sunday four aspirants were received into the Association by the Rev. Father Moloney.

Mr. M. J. Crombie has passed his barrister's examination in 'contracts and torts,' and Mr. A. H. Casey his solicitor's in the same subjects. Both are ex-students of St. Patrick's College.

The Sacred Heart Church is to be lighted with electricity, and a contract for the wiring of the building has been let. The contract price is about £200.

The Very Rev. Dr. Pestre is extremely anxious to return to New Zealand, and the Superior of the Order has, I understand, acceded to the request. Should he return it is not unlikely that he will be stationed at Meane.

The Marist Brothers' Old Boys' Association picnic, postponed from the 9th November, is now fixed for Anniversary Day, 22nd January. The Railway Department has purchased grounds for picnic purposes at the Upper Hutt, and these have been secured by the Association for the day mentioned.

The Ven. Archdeacon Devoy has been appointed to succeed the Very Rev. Dr. Pestre as Provincial of the Marist Order in New Zealand. The position of Vicar-General in the archdiocese vacated by the former has been conferred on the Very Rev. Father Lewis, Administrator of the Cathedral parish.

On Monday afternoon at the school in Newtown the parents and friends of the children assembled in large numbers for the mid-summer concert. A programme of fourteen items—vocal and instrumental—was gone through. A violin solo by Miss Harcourt was specially appreciated, and her younger sister, a child only four years of age, received a well merited encore for her singing of 'Won't you tell me.' At the conclusion of the concert Rev. Father O'Shea, addressing the parents, spoke of the advantage the children have now that the nuns were resident in Newtown. He congratulated the children on the excellent entertainment, which, he said, gave great promise of even more successful performances.

A most successful social 'as an expression of sympathy with the Marist Brothers' was held at the Skating Rink on Wednesday evening. His Grace the Archbishop and several of the local clergy were present. The musical portion of the programme was contributed by Mrs. Oakes, Misses McParland and Driscoll, Messrs. Taylor and Dunne. Mr. Freeman gave a recitation which, like each of the items, was highly appreciated. The duties of secretary were attended to by Mr. R. B. Williams, and Mr. T. Davis acted as M. C.

The Very Rev. Augustine Keogh, S.M., M.A., who has been appointed to the Rectorship of St. Patrick's College, is a native of Dublin. He began his education at the University School, Leeson street. Later on he went to St. Mary's, Dundalk, spent several years in France, whence he returned and took out his degrees at the Royal University. At the early age of 30 he became president of his own *Alma Mater*, and was transferred after a few years of brilliant success to the London mission. Several junior members of the clergy in New Zealand studied under him, and look forward with pleasure to his arrival.

The Federal Theatre was well filled on Thursday evening at the annual distribution of prizes in connection with the Marist Brothers' School. A well arranged programme of dumb-bell and drill exercises, recitations, and choruses was given by the pupils. Brother Borgia was responsible for the training of the performers. At the conclusion of the entertainment the prizes were presented by his Grace the Archbishop who in a few words congratulated the Brothers on the success which had attended the school during the year. The following is the prize list:—

Civil Service Class—Good conduct, Herbert Swan; Christian doctrine, Michael McWilliams; general proficiency, Charles Smith 1, Patrick Carmody 2, James Butler 3; geometry, Charles Smith; English composition, Patrick Carmody; grammar and analysis, James Butler; arithmetic, Thomas Faul; algebra, Charles Smith.

Standard VII.—General proficiency, Charles Casey 1, John O'Connor 2, Thos Power 3; reading, John O'Connor; writing, Thomas Power; algebra, Charles Casey; Euclid, Charles Casey; arithmetic, Thomas Boyce; drawing (freehand), Victor Hugo; English history, Victor Hugo; dictation, Charles McGrath; English, composition, Herbert Swan; recitation, Charles McGrath; grammar and analysis, Michael McWilliams; drawing, (scale), Francis Geoghegan; home lessons, Thomas Boyce.

Standards VI. and V.—Good conduct, Robert Lavery; Christian doctrine, Joseph McCarthy.

Standard VI.—General proficiency, Reginald Hill 1, Leonard Martin 2, Albert Kelly 3; reading, Leonard Martin; orthography, John McMahon; grammar and analysis, George Smith; writing, Charles Leary; composition, Vincent Ward; arithmetic, Reginald Hill; scale drawing, William Carrig; home exercise, Albert Kelly; geography, Fitz Thompson; history, Joseph Gosling; recitation, Joseph Elliot; mental arithmetic, Bernard Leydon.

Standard V.—General proficiency, Earnest Casey 1, Rich. Gosling 2, Henry McArdle 3; reading, John O'Connor; orthography, Thomas O'Connor; grammar and analysis, Chas. MacDonald; writing, Emmet Healy; composition, John Duggan; Arithmetic, Thomas Duignan; geometrical drawing, Patrick Stratford; home exercise, Albert Tandy; geography, Gerald Leydon; history, Charles McKenzie; recitation, John Fernandes; mental arithmetic, Louis Kay.

Standard IV.—Good conduct, Francis Eller; Christian doctrine, Raymond Fahey; general proficiency, Kevin McGrath, 1, Hilary Henderson, 2, James McKeegan, 3; reading, Bernard Whitaker; orthography, James Daley; grammar, Michael Guthrie; writing, George Tobin; composition, Joseph Byrne; arithmetic, James Devine; drawing, John Tracey; home exercise, Ernest Thomson; geography, Richard Davis; recitation, Vincent Fraser; mental arithmetic, Bennet Tracey; English history, Thomas Davis.

Standard III.—Christian doctrine, Neill McMurrich, 1, James McCarthy 2; general proficiency, Joseph Stratford 1, Leonard King 2, Rupert Truman 3; reading, Joseph Devlin; orthography, Patrick Galvin; grammar, Leo Swan; writing, James Cotterill; composition, Cornelius O'Connor; arithmetic, David Cashman; drawing, Bernard Fama; home exercise, Vincent Mason; geography, Walter Coleman; recitation, Henry Flanagan; mental arithmetic, John Gosling.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

December 22.

His Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Grimes and the Very Rev. Father Le Menant des Cheneais, V.G., were among the honored

guests present at the Jubilee Banquet given by his Worship the Mayor, Mr. W. Reece, on Wednesday evening last in the Exhibition Building. The function was a brilliant one, 600 guests accepting the invitation.

St. Mary's School Hall, Manchester street, was crowded on Friday evening last on the occasion of the annual entertainment given by the pupils of the parish schools, conducted by the Sisters of Mercy. His Lordship the Bishop and a number of clergy were present. The following programme was exceptionally well rendered, after which the Bishop presented the prizes:—Chorus, pupils; pianoforte duet, Misses M. Flynn and L. Joyce; chorus, six boys; pianoforte solo, Miss N. Turner; operetta, 'Too bad,' in which the following took part—Misses Delia Smith, Josie Sweeney, Katie Bernard, Annie Bond, and May Haughey; violin solo, Miss Agnes Nelson; violin solo, Miss Hilda Flynn; pianoforte solo, Miss Maggie Flynn; vocal solo, Miss Buchanan; floral drill, pupils; violin solo, Miss Peggie Bain; chorus pupils.

The prize-list was as under:—

Christian doctrine—Annie Bond, Edward Haughey, Winnie Shaw, Harold Goggin, Olive Main, Fred. Scarf, Louie Langdon, and Grace Haughey.

Good conduct—May Haughey, Michael Flynn, Winnie Shaw, Nellie Brady, Madge Butler, William Shaw, Aileen Mahon, Clare Mullins, Peter Haughey, Kitty McCormack, John Flannelly, and Margaret Barron.

Diligence—Nellie Main, Delia Smith, Henry Haughey, Winnie McAdams, James Flannelly, Charles Haughey, Mary Brady, Harry Hanly, Leonard Lafferty, Kate Hanly, John Flynn, Smelda Sweeney, Dolly Goggin, Gertrude Delahunt, Jane Hornby, John McCormack, and Emily Ryan.

Regular attendance—Josephine Sweeney, Nellie Main, Henry Haughey, Leonard Goggin, Florence Griffen, Kate Joyce, Frank Sisson, Bartle Murphy, Bertie Bradford, Abner Slack, Robert Lafferty, and Bessie Hawker.

Singing—Delia Smith.

The pupils of the Lyttelton (St. Joseph's) Convent Schools, conducted by the Sisters of Mercy, gave a very successful entertainment last week in aid of their prize fund. The Oddfellows' Hall was crowded, and the programme was exceedingly well rendered. A pretty cantata, 'The white garland,' was performed by Misses Hilda O'Brien, C. Williams, K. Burns, Maggie O'Brien, and A. Davies, and Masters T. Purcell and P. Murray. Miss May O'Brien gave a song, Master T. Brounie played a violin solo, part songs were given by the school singing class, and a united recitation by Misses M. Madden, I. Serra, M. Morris and J. Bozanti. An orchestra of violins played two overtures, the school children sang some choruses, the senior pupils gave a tambourine dance, and the junior ones sang action songs. A farce, 'Mrs. Will's will,' was very creditably acted by Misses M. Williams, H. O'Brien, R. Murray, and K. Burns. After an epilogue was spoken by Miss Maggie O'Brien, the entertainment closed with the singing of the patriotic song and chorus 'Zealandia.'

The jubilee of the settlement of Canterbury, so far as the actual day was concerned, fell on Sunday last, the 16th inst., and from a religious point of view was only observed on that date. On the following day, however, the popular celebrations were held. The weather was simply magnificent, and never has the city been more gay or densely thronged. The streets, in every direction, were fairly alive, and the procession, headed by a team of eight oxen drawing a dray containing a number of pioneers in remembrance of early days, was a grand spectacle. The system of street decorations was on a novel and striking scale, and carried out in a lavish manner. The work of preparing for the great occasion had occupied a large and influential committee of citizens for many months, and so well had all arrangements been perfected that every detail passed off without a hitch. Visitors poured in from all parts to witness the celebrations. The Catholic Church was represented in the procession by his Lordship Bishop Grimes, the Very Rev. Father Le Menant des Chesnais, the Very Rev. Dean Foley, and Rev. Father Leen, who were driven in the episcopal carriage. The H.A.C.B. Society made a very effective display, being strongly represented by the city branches, and visitors from Leeston, Timaru, and other centres, having several fine banners emblematic of their association. Celebrations of a minor order have been going on throughout the week, in which the old identities have acted a prominent part.

On Sunday, the 16th, the children of St. Mary's parish, to the number of about 50, made their First Communion, and were afterwards entertained in the adjoining schoolroom at breakfast, which was kindly supplied by the ladies of the congregation. In the afternoon the children reassembled in the church, when the renewal of baptismal vows and acts of consecration to our Blessed Lady and St. Joseph took place. At High Mass the Rev. Father Marnane read the pastoral letter of his Lordship the Bishop on the Jubilee of Canterbury, and also spoke at some length on the position of the Church at the present time and the arduous labors of the early missionaries. At Vespers the Rev. Father Leen occupied the pulpit and delivered a very practical discourse. After Benediction the choir sang the 'Te Deum.'

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN.

The close of the nineteenth century will be marked by special religious ceremonies in St. Joseph's Cathedral. At midnight on Monday next, the closing day of the century, the *Te Deum* will be solemnly sung in thanksgiving to the Almighty God for all the blessings bestowed by Him upon the Church during the course of the century. The *Veni Creator* will next be sung, to implore the Divine blessing upon the century which shall then have just opened. This will be followed immediately by a Pontifical High Mass, during which the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed. The solemn functions will conclude with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

The Rev. Father Keogh, S.J., of Melbourne, arrived in Dunedin, on Monday, for the purpose of conducting the annual retreat for the Dominican Nuns and the Sisters of Mercy.

The entertainment given a few weeks ago by the lady members of St. Joseph's Choir was repeated in St. Joseph's Hall on Wednesday night of last week, when there was a capital attendance. The audience were highly pleased with the various items, and showed their appreciation by frequent applause.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND.

(From our own correspondent.)

December 19.

The local Press, with one solitary exception, and that in a half-hearted, halting fashion, is ominously silent over what for months it facetiously dubbed 'the Stoke scandal.'

Rev. Father Henry, from the Sydney archdiocese, is at present here conducting a Retreat for the Little Sisters of the Poor.

The Rev. Father Kehoe has gone for a fortnight's holiday for the benefit of his health, and during his absence the parish of Parnell will be served by one of the priests from the cathedral.

At St. Patrick's Convent Schools to-day a presentation of prizes was made by his Lordship the Bishop and a beautiful exhibition of work was shown which reflected the very highest credit alike upon the Sisters and their pupils.

An exhaustive criticism appeared in Saturday's *Herald* of Marie Corelli's latest work, *The Master Christian*. It is by 'an occasional correspondent.' It treats it in very uncomplimentary terms as 'the dreariest, dullest, book it was ever my misfortune to read.'

Plans for the enlarging of St. Benedict's Parochial School have been completed by Mr. T. Mahoney, architect, and tenders for the same are due at the end of the present week. The school, when completed, will be taken over by the Sisters of St. Joseph.

A meeting in connection with St. Patrick's Day celebration was held in the Marist Brothers' Schoolroom last Sunday afternoon. The Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly was in the chair, and there were also present Rev. Father O'Hara from St. Benedict's and a representative gathering from the four city parishes. It was decided to hold the demonstration in the Domain Cricket Ground on Saturday, March 16, and the national entertainment on the evening of Monday, March 18. The committee decided to meet again early in January.

At St. Patrick's Cathedral last Sunday at the early Masses and also at High Mass the Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly, in referring to the Stoke trial, denounced in scathing language the action of a large section of the Press and public throughout the Colony and members of Parliament in their treatment of the cases while they were still *sub judice*. The morning paper gave a condensed report of the Monsignor's remarks and that very day a Protestant clergyman, in charge of one of the leading churches in the city, called at St. Patrick's presbytery to congratulate the Monsignor upon his outspokenness, and to express his deep sympathy with the Catholics of the city and Colony generally in the bad treatment to which they had been subjected. He denounced the unreasoning bigotry displayed and deplored it and said: 'I shall, on next Sunday, refer to the matter from my pulpit.'

MARIST BROTHERS' COLLEGE.

The annual picnic and sports of the Marist Brothers' boys took place at St. Helen's Bay on December 13. On arriving at the bay the boys indulged in various amusements. The committee lost no time in starting the sports, and very soon the much coveted prizes were being closely and earnestly contested. The following were the events, with the winners:—College championship: P. Keenan 1, D. Rowles 2. College handicap: P. Langton 1, W. Lees 2. Civil Service class: A. McGuire 1, A. Staunton 2. Half mile open: W. Hogan 1, A. McGuire 2. High jump: J. Hendry 1, A. Staunton 2. Long jump: D. Rowles 1, P. Keenan 2. Half mile walk: W. May 1, T. Fields 2. Manx race: May and Rowles 1. Under 13 years: C. Little 1, G. Mann 2. Swimming handicap: P. Hynes 1, T. Fields 2. Consolation stakes: E. Grace 1, D. Bechan 2. Swimming race, No. 2: J. Finnerty 1, J. Hendry 2.

As the minor events were taken first a lull in the proceedings ensued, during which all repaired to the refreshment rooms of Mr. O'Leary, when ample justice was done to the good things provided. Brothers Basil, Edward, and Jerome were in attendance, and paid special attention to the wants of each. The Rev. Fathers Corcoran and O'Carroll paid a visit to the grounds, and remained during the afternoon. A meeting of the Education Board, convened by his Lordship the Bishop, prevented the other city priests from attending. A very enjoyable day was passed, the boys returning back to Auckland about 7, some tired, some disappointed, some jubilant, but all pleased and grateful to the Brothers for the pains they took to ensure that nothing was wanting that could contribute to their pleasure and amusement.

The following day the Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly paid a visit to the school to distribute the prizes. The Director, Brother Basil, in thanking him for his kindness in coming to preside, spoke highly of the demeanor and diligence of the boys. A good spirit prevailed among them, their obedience and respect were gratifying, their love of study and desire for knowledge were marked features in the year's work, and, what was of far greater importance, the religious and moral tone of the school had been excellent.

Monsignor O'Reilly said it was always a great pleasure for him to come among them, and on occasions like this to distribute the prizes to the successful competitors. He was glad to hear the Brother Director speak so highly of the boys, from personal observa-

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tion he could affirm all that was said. He was pleased to see such a good spirit of comradeship exist among the boys and to hear that their studious habits had gone on increasing. He spoke highly of the devotedness of the Brothers, of the care they bestowed on the training of the children, of the incalculable good they were doing not only in Auckland, but throughout the world, and expressed a hope, that the coming year would find them located in premises more in keeping with the educational wants of such an important city as Auckland, than the present inadequate arrangements afforded.

The school and college resume work on the 4th of February, when a large increase in the school roll is confidently expected.

ST. MARY'S CONVENT HIGH SCHOOL.

The Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan presided at the distribution of prizes to the pupils of St. Mary's Convent High School, and there were also present the Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly, Very Rev. Dr. Egan, O.S.B., Very Rev. Deans Hackett and Lighthouse, and Rev. Father Purton. The pupils gave a highly enjoyable programme of music and recitations, in which Misses Mahoney, Ralph, Lynch, Amodeo, Lina Hart, R. Sullivan, and Pauline Dempsey took part. They also presented Bishop Lenihan with an address, which was read by Miss Ella Brown.

The following is the prize list:—

Matriculation and Civil Service Class—May McGuire and Ivy Ansley, passing Civil Service examinations; Herlihy, English and science; Meehan, geography and algebra; V. Fitzpatrick, composition and arithmetic; Towers, science and English; Carrington, diligence; H. McCoy, conduct and writing.

Class VII.—Mary Casey, Christian doctrine; Norah Lynch, composition; Corbett, conduct and English; Matilda Brown, arithmetic and geography; Dempsey, elocution; Mary Casey, arithmetic.

Class VI.—Nellie Meehan, Christian doctrine; Nellie Mahoney, composition and writing; Ellen Brown, arithmetic and geography; Ella Brown, composition and reading; Julia Corbett, conduct and geography; Ethel Alison, needlework and French; Maizi Ansley, arithmetic and composition.

Class V.—Dela Lees, Christian doctrine; Hilda Johnston, arithmetic; Marie Ralph, writing and composition; Dela Lees composition; Winnie Cumiskey, reading and general; Alda Ralph, reading and arithmetic.

Class IV.—Monica Gibbons, Christian doctrine; Lenore Johnston, reading; Katie Mahoney, arithmetic; Monica Gibbons, composition; Alice Davison, reading; C. Short, general improvement.

Class III.—Katie Ralph, Christian doctrine; Eileen Cullen, composition and reading; Katie Ralph, arithmetic and spelling; Effie Sheath, writing; Rita Thomson, conduct and writing.

Class II.—Master Sneddon, Christian doctrine; Ida Histed, geography and arithmetic.

Class I.—Cecilia Gibbons, Christian Doctrine; May O'Brien, spelling; Cecilia Gibbons, conduct and reading; Flo. Histed, arithmetic; Nina Johnston, writing; Master Cyril Sneddon, arithmetic.

EXTRA PRIZES.

Matriculation and Civil Service Class: Herlihy and Julia Corbett, painting; Bertling, singing; Towers, French. Certificates for music to Herlihy and V. Fitzpatrick. Certificates for French—M. McGuire, Ivy Ansley, Meehan, V. Fitzpatrick, Carrington. Certificate for mathematics—May McGuire. Certificate for elocution, Ivy Ansley.

Class VII.—Norah Lynch, singing; Corbett, wood carving; Minnie Brown, wood carving; Matilda Brown, music; Certificates for music—Minnie Brown and Laura Cussen. Certificates for painting—Corbett, Brown (3). Certificate for science—Devore. Certificates for general improvement—L. Cussen. Certificates for French—Norah Lynch, Devore, and Matilda Brown.

Class VI.—Ellen Brown, music, singing and French; Eva McDonald, French. Certificates for music—Nellie Mahoney. Certificates for needlework—Mary Ansley and Claire Sheath. Certificate for general improvement—N. Sainsbury.

Class V.—Bita Sullivan, music; Alda Ralph, music; Elsie Bray, music; Gertrude Bray, music; Winnie Cumiskey, French; Alda Ralph, French; Teresa Cullen, French. Certificate for music—Teresa Cullen.

Class 4.—Katie Mahoney, music; Janie Amodeo, music; Monica Gibbons, French; Katie Mahoney, needlework. Certificates for music: Lenore and Eva Johnston, Monica Gibbons. Certificates for French: Katie Mahoney and Eva Johnston. Certificate for general improvement: Norah Quinn.

Class 3.—Eileen Cullen, music. Certificate for music: Katie Ralph. Certificate for needlework: Eileen Cullen.

Class 2.—Certificate for music: Master Sneddon. Certificate for needlework: Miss Ida Histed.

Class 1.—Certificates for music: M. O'Brien and Lena Hunt. Certificate for needlework: G. Carlaw.

Names of those who passed Trinity College examination in theory—Intermediate honors: Cecilia Carrington, Norah Lynch, Matilda Brown, Violet Fitzpatrick, Ellen Brown, Minnie Brown. Intermediate pass: Eileen Herlihy, Maude Towers, Cecilia Carrington, Nellie Mahoney, Minnie Brown. Junior honors: Pauline Dempsey, Mary Corbett. Junior pass: Alda Ralph, Kathleen Meehan, Nellie Meehan, Rita Sullivan.

Trinity College Practical Examination—Senior honors: Norah Lynch, Ellen Brown. Senior pass: Matilda Brown. Junior honors: Janie Amodeo, Gertrude Bray. Preparatory grade: Katie Mahoney, Eileen Cullen.

Singing—Junior pass: Norah Lynch, Ellen Brown.

NEW ZEALAND: GENERAL.

IN consequence of the unusual pressure upon our space several reports are unavoidably held over until next issue, and several others appear in condensed form.

MESSRS. MILLS, DICK AND CO., of Dunedin, have just issued their *Otago, Southland, and South Canterbury Almanac and Directory* for 1901. As usual, this publication is up to date in every respect, and the proprietors may well claim that they live up to their motto—*Quod facimus valde facimus*. It meets the requirements of all classes in the community, and is invaluable to the business man and the farmer in those districts that it deals with.

ON December 1 the Convent school at Darfield was examined by Mr. Baldwin (headmaster of the Sydenham State School), who said in his report that the pupils passed a very satisfactory examination in the pass subjects required by the Government syllabus. He congratulated the Sisters on the result of the first examination of this school, which is composed of children from different schools in the district and who probably passed their last examination at different periods of the year.

SPEAKING in one of the Catholic churches in Wellington on Sunday Rev. Father Holly said the whole business of the prosecution of Brothers Kilian and Wybertus was a poor reward for years of devoted labor, in one case extending to 25 years. He acknowledged the impartiality and sense of responsibility shown by the juries who tried the cases. Out of all the jurors who sat in the seven cases only two, he said, were Catholics, and the counsel for the Brothers did not seek to have any.

DR. MACKIN, of Wellington (writes the London correspondent of the *Evening Star*), having just finished a long course of bacteriological work at King's College, is now going to take a couple of months' holiday with his wife. They are going to do a trip round the Mediterranean in the Assyrian Prince, and will be absent about a couple of months, during which time they will visit Tunis, Cairo, Jaffa, Jerusalem, Beyrout, and several other historic places in the Eastern Mediterranean. They will have as a fellow-passenger the Very Rev. Dr. Watters, late Rector of St. Patrick's College, Wellington, who has improved greatly in health during his sojourn on this side.

OUR Greymouth correspondent, in describing the visit of the Right Hon. the Premier and Mrs. and Miss Seddon to the West Coast, says: The Premier paid a high compliment to the generosity of the West Coasters in the matter of providing for the sick and aged poor, and showed from the books of the Greymouth Hospital some startling facts *re* amounts collected and the numbers of patients that passed—7000—through the institution during the time the old doctor (father of the present medical officer, Dr. Charles Morice) had charge.—Great excitement (adds our correspondent) prevails on the Grey River over the return of 161 ounces of gold from the Grey River dredge.

A KUMARA correspondent writes under date December 19:—A few days ago the priests of the West Coast portion of the Christchurch diocese presented Mr. and Mrs. O'Malley, late of the Bealey, but now of the Otira Gorge Hotel, with a beautiful and valuable canopied sideboard with bevelled mirrors and inlaid mottled silver pine, made specially to order and suitably inscribed. The many priests who passed over the ranges while Mr. and Mrs. O'Malley had charge of the Bealey Hotel were always sure of their being well looked after, the worthy recipients considering no trouble too great to insure their comfort. We feel sure this handsome article—which in itself is a work of art—will be treasured by Mr. and Mrs. O'Malley not on account of its intrinsic value, but more for the associations and memories it will often recall. Mrs. and Miss O'Malley will leave for Europe early next year for a twelve months' well-earned holiday, and we wish them a pleasant voyage and a safe return.

'SNIDER,' of the *Cromwell Argus* of December 18 has the following comment upon the Stoke prosecutions: The Stoke case, which was eagerly snatched up by sensation mongers, as affording materials for a fierce campaign, partly religious but mostly hysterical, has quietly fizzled out, and the accused are found 'not guilty' by a jury which did not contain a single Roman Catholic, so that its verdict could not be impugned on the ground of partiality. The cases simply show that the gentle methods that are usually efficacious with the children of decent parents and healthy home surroundings fail when used towards children of hereditary tendencies in the direction of evil. The 'Hooligans' of London are becoming a standing menace to the peace and safety of the metropolis, and the 'cat' is recommended. The boys put in industrial schools contain in their ranks embryo 'Hooligans,' upon whom severity is the only treatment likely to be successful, and supplejack the only signpost to point out the paths of rectitude from those of turpitude. As for the other charges brought, they are of a character that the debased youth gloats over, and is ever ready to manufacture against those he is not friendly with. The complete vindication of the accused does not surprise me in the least, nor should it surprise anyone at all conversant with the kind of thing that would appeal strongly to the depraved imagination and scheming capacity of a real bad boy. The result of the trials has been only what might have been anticipated.

MESSRS. WHITAKER BROS. Wellington and Greymouth, have just received a stock of that very sparkling and clever novel, *My New Curate*, by the Rev. Father Sheehan, the talented parish priest of Doneraile, County Cork. This work has received the highest praise from critics on both sides of the Atlantic, and should find a place on the bookshelf of every Catholic home.—.

PROSPECTUS

A.M.D.G. ET S.P.H.

(Sectore Fidem.)

S. T. PATRICK'S COLLEGE,
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Rector: THE VERY REV. T. BOWER, S.M., B.A.

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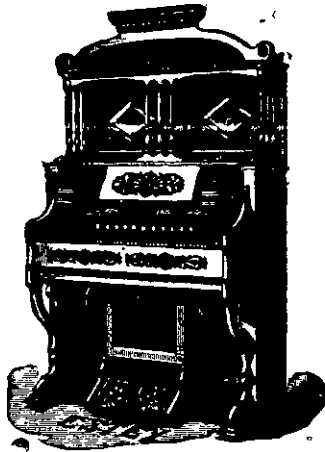
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I.

It was a black day for the Border Guides when, after a skirmish in the beautiful Stormberg country, they came to number their casualties. The men, sturdy young colonists most of them, had signed for three months. The three months were just up, and, seeing that they had lost their commander almost all their officers, and two-thirds of their men, there seemed nothing for it but to disband the corps.

The men stood about in the shadow of the kopje at whose foot their camp was pitched. Most of them leant against their horses' sides, and stared dismally before them. They felt something in the position of the man whom circumstances have turned out of his house, and who stands, homeless and forlorn, in the road outside. The fierce joy of battle had faded to a re-action deadly cold and depressing: the long, low mound to their right hid thirty-two of the gay comrades of yesterday; their wounded even now journeyed groaning in the ambulance waggons towards the nearest railway station. Dead and wounded disposed of, there appeared nothing left for the remainder to do but to return to their homes or to attach themselves to such other volunteer corps as would accept their services.

There was nothing else to do, and yet it was not strange that the thought of either of these alternatives should strike a cold chill to their hearts. Nothing draws men closer to each other than campaigning does; nothing breeds comradeship so fast as the rough-and-tumble of the hardships and dangers of life on the veld. The idea of separating, of forming new ties and new companionships, presented itself to their minds as an inexplicably dreary one, so that the youngest of them all, little Dickie Smith, of the Aliwal district, was moved to exclaim bitterly: 'They might just as well have killed the lot!'

Yesterday such a speech, as calculated to damp the general spirits, would have been received with unqualified indignation; to-day, if his hearers moved at all, it was only to glance at the mal-content and mutter that they agreed with him. Dickie had lost his cousin and bosom-friend in the fight that morning, so perhaps a little grumbling was excusable. But Luiz Basto, a slim swarthy Portuguese, who had been one of the first to present himself at the recruiting office in Queenstown, turned his head and stared at Dickie with an indescribable expression. Long afterwards Dickie remembered the smooth dark face and its strange look. Even now it made him wonder a little.

After making his protest he strolled away to where some of the men were busy over the grave of their comrades; his bony horse followed him, whinneying, its nose over his shoulder. The men were roughly tracing, in stones or cartridge-cases, the names of some of those whose bodies lay beneath, and Dickie stood watching them. After a little he collected pebbles and added his cousin's name to the list.

Presently the quarter-master crawled out of his tent, hugging to his bosom a small sack of tobacco, at sight of which the eyes nearest him brightened perceptibly. 'The last,' he announced with a cheerfulness somewhat strained. 'It'll easy go round—now.' Then he stopped, dismayed at what he had said; but the general spirits were already so low that they could not be brought lower, and his mistake passed unobserved.

The first pipe was not half smoked and there was still some daylight, when suddenly the figure of a horseman appeared on the rising ground to the left of the camp. By virtue of long usage, 70 men sprang to their arms in a flash, and were ready for whatever might occur, though a sense of rest and security was over them all, and the armistice which had been arranged for the burial of the dead had still an hour to run.

The first horseman drew rein as he reached the top of the rise; and now he was joined by a second, whom the men at once recognised as one of their own pickets. The other was as obviously a Boer—an elderly man with a beard that reached his waist, and clothes in the last stage of dirt and disorder. In this last respect the Border Guides were not in a position to be critical, most of them being themselves attired, as they put it, in 'rags held together with clay.'

The old Boer came quietly riding down towards them. He looked about him, as he came, from under shaggy grey eyebrows, and they saw that he carried his left arm in a sling, and his reins lay loosely in his right hand.

Luke Carnaby, who had been second in command of the ill-fated guides, came out of a tent and went forward to meet him. Carnaby was older than most of the others; he had in fact reached the ripe age of 31, and was looked upon in consequence as a person of vast experience. He was an immense favorite with his corps, a born leader of men and as perfect a rifle-shot and horseman as a border farmer may be, and that is saying a great deal.

He saluted gravely as the Boer rode up, and the old man dropped his rein to pull off his battered hat; after replacing which he held out his hand and shook Luke Carnaby's in a matter-of-fact way.

'You speak in my language,' he began in Dutch. 'Yes, of course, you are an Afrikaner; we are all Afrikaners here.'

He glanced at the young faces about him, and his eyes came back to Luke Carnaby.

'I should know you,' he said. 'You are kin to James Carnaby, of the Eastern Frontier; his son, is it not so?'

'Yes, his son,' said Luke.

The old fellow gravely held out his hand again.

'I am Gert van Reenen, and I knew your father well,' he said. 'We fought side by side against the Galekas, in the early days on

the Frontier. And now'—he smiled whimsically, and came to an expressive pause: presently adding, 'This world is a very strange place. Have you any tobacco?'

A dozen pouches were thrust forward; he took the nearest and, in filling a pipe as deplorable as the rest of his outfit. The old man stood about him, waiting for him to speak again; but until the pipe was filled and lit he uttered no further word, though all the time his eyes did not cease to wander from face to face, from tent to tent, from the rocky slopes of the kopje to the mound at its foot. At last he said:

'I see that my son is not here—unless he lies yonder.'

He nodded towards the grave, and smoked calmly, awaiting his answer.

'He cannot be there,' Luke hastened to say. 'It is some comrades of ours only who are buried there. Will you off-saddle and drink a cup of coffee?'

But Gert van Reenen shook his head and gathered up his reins.

'I must find my son,' he said. 'Since the fight this morning we missed him. He is young—scarcely turned 16; and his mother was loth to let him come.' He was moving away, when a thought seemed to strike him and he turned a wistful face on Luke Carnaby. 'My boy is your first cousin,' he said. 'I thought at first I would not tell you. I married your father's sister, Luke.'

Luke stared, remembering the young aunt who had married a Dutch farmer, and gone away with him to live in the Orange Free State, nearly 20 years before; soon after which event Luke's father died, and intercourse between the two families by degrees grew slighter, and at last ceased altogether. Luke had almost forgotten that he had an aunt or cousins, and he looked at his new-found uncle in something like dismay.

'Good-day,' said the old man, once more preparing to depart.

Luke pulled himself together.

'But you are not going like that,' he cried, his hand on the bridle. 'Tell me more about my cousin, how he looks, and how you missed him. And get off and rest yourself; you are hurt, mynheer.'

Old Gert glanced down at his bandaged arm, and smiled.

'Hurt? Yes,' he said. 'To-morrow, they say, my arm must come off; but I will find my son first. Yonder is your comrade who hit me; I saw his face as he rode on. It was a good shot.' He looked across at Dickie, and nodded and smiled encouragingly: 'A very good shot,' he repeated.

'What is your son like?' Luke asked again. 'Let me help you down.'

'Do you remember your aunt?' the old man asked.

'I was a child when she went away, but I think I do,' said Luke a little doubtfully.

'Then you will know Christian when you see him. No, I will not get down. Good-day to you all.'

He shook Luke's hand again, and rode slowly away in the direction in which he had come, while they stood silently watching him out of sight.

The stars still shone in the sky the next morning, and Luke was rolled comfortably in his blanket, when a despatch-rider came into camp with a letter from a very great personage indeed. Drowsy Luke tore it open in a great hurry, to find that it authorised one Luke Carnaby, a lieutenant in the Border Guides, to organise a corps of not more than 100 men: himself to be in command thereof.

Luke sprang to his feet with a beating heart; and outside the tent 70 men awaited him.

And that was how the Border Guides became known far and near in the Stormberg country as Carnaby's Scouts.

II.

In the days that followed, Captain Carnaby had small leisure to think of his own affairs. His little band of men crept slowly and steadily northward, feeling the way for the mighty army that followed them, living a life of toil and privation and danger, for which, such is the nature of man, the hot excitement of their days more than atoned.

One night the Fortune of War, against which no commissariat arrangements can be expected adequately to provide, decreed that Carnaby's Scouts should find themselves, tentless and foodless, spending a miserable night in a kloof amongst the hills of the South-Eastern Free State. They had ridden through a burning day, and in the late afternoon there had arisen such a storm as only the Free State is capable of. A lightning flash had killed two horses, the drenching rain had soaked every man of them to his shivering skin, and converted the veldt into a kind of shallow lake and the track into a rushing rivulet. A fire could not have been allowed under any circumstances, even had other fuel been at hand than soaked brushwood and mimosa-scrub. And, to crown all their miseries, there was not a pipeful of tobacco between them. Carnaby's Scouts repaired up one side of the kloof to the highest and driest spot available, and sat about hugging their knees for comfort, and envying the horses cropping their fill of the coarse veldt grass.

They had, however, been in worse straits than this, and they were too tired to be kept awake by a little discomfort. So they crawled under rocks and slept like the dead; and when, in the grey dawn, the noise of rifle shots awakened them, the general feeling was that to rouse one at such an hour from the eider-down of mud and pebbles and mimosa twigs showed a certain want of consideration on the part of the enemy.

A scout came galloping into camp. As he topped the rise and his figure showed out for a moment against the saffron sky, his horse came to a sudden stop. Then horse and rider fell in a heap, from which presently the latter emerged and came running, glancing back nervously over his shoulder at every few yards.

Other guards rolled in, and now the crack of the rifles was nearer and the bullets were whistling overhead. The grassy slope

was crowned by a rampart of rocks which formed a small natural fortress, capable of affording some sort of protection to men and horses; and here the little force took up a position. Dickie Smith and his friend, an American scout of renown, crouched side by side in their places, watching with strained eyes as the light grew. But there was nothing to be done: the enemy, except for a few feeble flashes here and there, was nowhere to be seen, and though some of the men blazed away with great energy, there is little satisfaction to be gained from wasting good ammunition on rocks and brushwood, when all that you possess is in the belt on your shoulder, and the chances of a further supply are extremely remote.

'Get clear before it is lighter,' said Luke Carnaby, and a man and horse slipped silently away to the rear. Another man followed on foot. Should the swift messenger for help fail the slower and less conspicuous one might fare more fortunately.

The two vanished into the shadows, and at the same moment the rifle shots out yonder ceased as suddenly as they had begun. The first shafts of sunlight turned the far mountains rosy, and bending lower, brought hill after hill out of obscurity: the misty shadows of the kloof were dispersing, its thousand innocent inhabitants, furred and feathered, came forth to a morning world fragrant and dim with dew. But still the enemy made no sign, and Luke Carnaby, straining his eyes through his field-glasses, knew that the silence boded him no good.

'That Portuguese, Basto,' said Dickie. 'Eh?'

'Umph!' grunted his neighbor, who was a man of few words.

'Queer thing,' said Dickie. 'That fight in the Stormberg, you remember. How did the Boers know our plans? And now again. Queer thing.'

'Where's Basto now?' asked the other.

'Went on patrol yesterday and hasn't come back. Dashed queer thing,' mused Dickie.

'A pity,' said the American. His mouth closed grimly, but he opened it again to say, 'I guess I'll know him again when I see him.'

'And in the meantime,' Dickie added, 'he has set us up here to make a target for our friends opposite. Never knew Carnaby taken in like this before. Strikes me we are in a bit of a hole.'

He laid his rifle across his knees, and began fingering the sights. 'Twelve hundred,' said the American, nodding at the opposite slope. Dickie fired at random into the maze of rocks and bristles, and Luke Carnaby looked round over his shoulder.

'Steady there with the ammunition,' he said quietly.

It was one of those moments which force a man to realise that, however clever he may be at his work, he is still only human. The enemy, who he, Carnaby of Carnaby's Scouts, could at that moment have proved conclusively to be thirty miles away, was all about them, obviously well informed of their position and movements, and probably laughing in his unwashed sleeve at their stupidity. Luke, raging behind a calm exterior, saw himself completely outwitted, bested at all points, by what agency he could not then stop to think. He chafed bitterly under the inaction which he knew was the only possible course for him to pursue.

He turned round to say something to his men, when all at once they were ducking and bending to avoid a spluttering volley which was poured in on them from the other side of the kloof. An answering volley echoed from their rear.

The noise of the rifles went thundering along the hills and waked them roughly from the repose of years. But the great blue mountains looked on gravely from afar, and took no part in the struggle of these men, blood-brothers as they were, fighting, they scarcely knew why, for a cause which was no more to them than a name. The blue mountains had looked on other fights as meaningless perhaps, in the dead dark days of blood and savagery.

The Boers dodged on foot about the rocky slope. When one of them showed for a moment, which was seldom, he was instantly the mark of a dozen rifles; but for the most part the English reserved their fire, seeing, even without their leaders' somewhat emphatic hints on the subject, the futility of expending cartridges on an almost invisible enemy. Slowly but certainly the cordon grew closer. In the rear the Boers, under cover of a projecting spur, had drawn within a few hundred yards; but here they did not command the English position, though they effectually cut off retreat.

In front things were still more serious. The Boers advanced with consummate skill, creeping from rock to rock and from bush to bush until they reached the bottom of the kloof. Here was open ground for a space, and here the English concentrated a desperate fire; but in vain. Boer after Boer rolled over: a dozen figures lay on the narrow strip of grass; but still others came on undaunted, and as fast as they reached cover they began to come up the hill.

Again the fusillade stopped, and now the air was full of other sounds. The groans of the wounded Boers lying below, the shriek of an injured horse close behind him, smote on Dickie's ear out of the sudden stillness. The horse was plunging about amongst the others, creating dire confusion, and it was necessary for someone to go and put an end to its sufferings with a bullet. Dickie arose from his crouching position among the stones, and walked across to do so, and when he came back he remained on his feet looking eagerly down the hill, his tall young figure dark against the sky.

'Lie down!' cried the American in the gruffest of bass voices. His hand closed like a vice upon Dickie's ankle, and in a moment that young gentleman was measuring his length upon the ground. 'You young fool!' said the American sternly. 'Go and make a target of yourself somewhere else if you must—not just alongside the finest scout in the British Army!'

Dickie jeered at him, and got on his feet again as soon as possible, for something of considerable interest was going on below. A tall Boer had popped out from behind a rock quite close to them—so that they could note distinctly every detail of his rough and

ragged dress—and was calling on them in bad English to surrender. He slipped back behind his shelter just in time to avoid the shower of bullets which, by way of reply, whistled indignantly about his ears.

'Not yet!' shouted Luke Carnaby, feeling in his pockets for revolver cartridges. Luke's face showed still that look of quiet self-possession which in the hour of danger gives a man power over his fellows; but his deep-set eyes were blazing, and his heart was sick with the horrible passion for revenge which seizes the best of men, when he has watched friends and comrades stricken down beside him.

The Boer put out his head again. 'I am sorry,' he said in his own quaint tongue. 'We do not want to shoot any more of you.' He disappeared once more, and how or when he subsequently slipped away no one had leisure to notice; for at that moment a deeper, more distant thunder broke through the intermittent crackle of the rifle fire, and away over a hill to southward, plain for all anxious eyes to see, came a puff of smoke with a yellow flash in the heart of it. Carnaby's Scouts looked at each other and laughed, and a cheer broke from their parched throats.

'And that's all right,' said Luke's lieutenant, standing at his elbow. 'By Jove, I didn't think it possible that our express would get through.' He sighed and emptied the last treasured drops from his water-bottle. Then he bent down to twist a blood-stained handkerchief tighter round his leg, just below the knee. 'Never would have believed it,' he repeated, as he picked up his rifle and straightened himself.

Luke glanced round to where five motionless figures lay side by side close behind him, their broad hats over their faces; glanced behind these at the rough shelter of branches with which an attempt had been made to protect a dozen wounded from the blazing sun. 'They will have to make haste,' he said; and even as he spoke his companion gave a little start, a little gasp, and rolled over at his feet.

Luke looked at him once, and turned away, his brain whirling as the horrible, feverish desire for revenge shook him again. The enemy, willing enough before to play a waiting game, knew that they must soon be outnumbered and came pressing on. They exposed themselves recklessly and gave Luke many opportunities; and three or more of them fell before he filled his magazine for the last time, and flung the empty bandolier aside. He was still untouched, but that last effort on the part of the Boers scattered the dead and dying thick around him. There was no longer time to carry them to the rear: they lay where they fell, and the sight and sound of them kept their leader's passion at red heat.

The shells were bursting on the nearer heights: and those Boers who had guarded the rear began riding past down the hill, in full retreat. At this the fire from below ceased abruptly, and Carnaby's Scouts rose to their feet and sent a quavering cheer after the retreating enemy.

Away across the kloof they could see the Boers climbing the hill to the hollow where they had left their horses. A shell, bursting noisily at the bottom of the kloof, hastened their movements. Then another dropped unpleasantly near the Scouts, filling their little fortress with smoke and dust.

'I say,' shouted Dickie Smith, wild with excitement, to the Boers galloping past. 'I say, I wish you would go back and ask those chaps of ours to take care what they're about. They're shelling us!' Receiving no answer to this request, he began cheerfully to sing the Volkelied.

"Heft Burghers, lieder," he chanted at the top of his voice. A young Boer, riding some distance behind his retreating comrades, turned his head to look: and as he did so his horse, struck by a rifle-bullet, dropped dead under him.

Man and horse rolled over for 20 feet down the hill-side, and then lay still. Luke, sparing a glance for them as his eyes swept the prospect, thought that the rider too was killed: but after a few minutes the latter began with some difficulty to extricate himself from his dead steed, and presently stood upright.

His comrades had none of them observed his mishap, and were long since out of sight. The English, busied with their wounded, took no heed of him: and presently, finding himself almost uninjured, he began to climb up towards the spot where he had fallen, and where his rifle still lay. He picked up the rifle and sat down on a stone, considering what to do next.

Dickie, having done his share towards aiding the wounded, returned to his post near Luke. The two stood watching, as shell after shell burst on the hill from which the Boers had made their first advance. The gunners had found the range now: their missiles dropped with pitiless accuracy, and men and horses fell to every shot.

The Dutch boy watched too. He saw his friends flying and falling as the shells burst amongst them, and his eyes narrowed and grew hard. He looked to see if his rifle had been injured by its fall.

But nineteen-year-old Dickie felt his heart swell with triumph. Since daybreak he and his companions had held their own; for many hours, and at the cost of many lives, they had kept their position; and now it was over and the victory was to them. He sprang on a rock and waved his grimy old hat round his head, and shouted at the full pitch of his voice, 'God Save the Queen!'

At 50 yards it was an easy shot. Dickie dropped like a stone. The smile was still on his face as he lay, but his eyes, turned on Luke, widened piteously. 'God Save the Queen!' said Dickie again: and died.

The Dutch boy crouched low, clutching his rifle. He saw Luke's face for a moment, white and terrible, with blazing eyes—the face of an avenger. But the long kloof grasses closed softly over his head as he fell, and it was with tenderer thoughts, of fragrant earth and blue-eyed lobelia blossoms, and of a purple butterfly that fluttered for a moment above him, that his childish life ebbed away.

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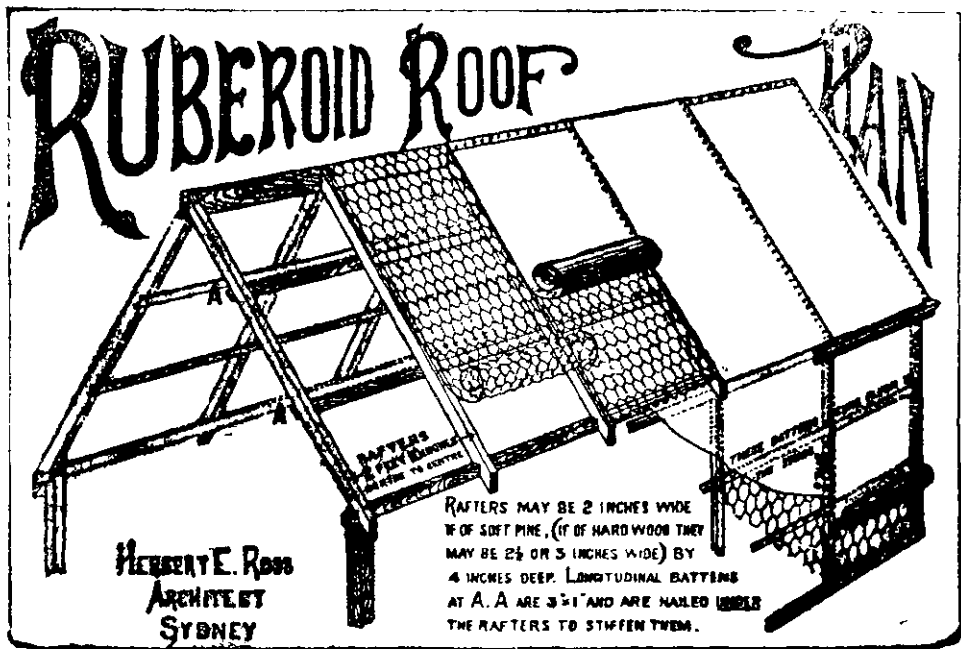
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And now the hills echoed to the clatter of horses' hoofs, the rattle of wheels, the hoarse shouting of orders. A squadron of Lancers thundered past, and following these a long line of Ambulance waggons appeared below, and the men came racing up the slope with their Field Hospital apparatus. Presently Luke found himself under orders to lead his men to the rear.

So Carnaby's Scouts were mustered, and Luke sat his tall chestnut in front of them and looked at them with a countenance void of expression. More than one man came to him and shook his hand, with murmurs of 'an unfortunate mistake,' and 'a gallant stand'; but he scarcely saw or heard them. He looked at the remnant of his men, drooping wearily in their saddles; at the busy Field Hospital, the stretcher-bearers ranging here and there over the field, the thousand evidences of distress and pain which were thick about him. From over the brow of the hill came sounds of strife; a wounded horse in the kloof shrieked humanly; up in the blue sky innumerable vultures hung, waiting.

'My God!' said Luke to himself. 'What is it all for?'

He turned his horse, and slowly led his men away.

In their oblique passage down the hill, they passed the spot where the Dutch boy was lying. Luke in passing bent from his saddle to look at him. The boy lay on his back, pressing down the fragrant sun-warmed grasses. His eyes looked straight up into Luke's.

The old Boer was right. Luke Carnaby knew his young cousin, Christian van Reenan, as soon as he saw him.—*Exchange.*

The Catholic World.

ENGLAND.—Opening of a New Church.—Dr. Preston, Auxiliary-Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle, opened a new Catholic church, to accommodate 1000 persons, at Port Clarence, near Middlesbrough, early in November.

Proposed Presentation to the Abbot of Ampleforth.—The Catholic residents of Ampleforth, York, and the surrounding missions have presented a mitre enriched with precious stones to the Abbot of Ampleforth Abbey, the Right Rev. Dr. Smith.

A Statue of the Duke of Norfolk.—A statue of the Duke of Norfolk has been formally unveiled and presented to the city of Sheffield. The statue was subscribed for in order to commemorate the Duke's services as Mayor and first Lord Mayor of the city.

Mission in Liverpool.—On the first Sunday in November a great simultaneous mission was inaugurated in all the Catholic churches in Liverpool by order of Bishop Whiteside. It was preached by the Irish Dominican Fathers and various other Orders, including the Jesuits, Redemptorists, etc.

Death of a Missionary in India.—Yet another addition to the death-roll of St. Joseph's Foreign Missionary Society. A few days ago we (*Catholic Times*) received from Father Henry a letter intimating that a cablegram had been received at Mill Hill announcing the death from cholera of the Rev. Gerard Hermans, of Madras, a member of the Society. The sad event took place on October 28.

A Visitor from the West Indies.—Most Rev. Vincent Flood, O.P., Archbishop of Trinidad, was recently the guest of the Fathers at St. Dominic's Priory, Haversock Hill, London.

An Appreciation of the Late Lord Russell.—At the reopening of Lincoln's Inn Chapel, after the long vacation, the sermon was preached by the chaplain, the Rev. H. C. Beeching. Referring to the death of Lord Russell of Killowen, the preacher said:—'I may be allowed on this occasion, Fathers and brethren, to take note that the late occupant of the Chief Justiceship, a distinguished and honored member of this society, who has passed away since last we were assembled here, while he was celebrated far beyond our island as an orator of genius, was even more celebrated here for the passion with which he pursued an ideal of justice. His own profession may, perhaps, cherish his memory for this or that splendid exhibition of forensic subtlety or daring, but I am persuaded that his name will live in the recollection of the people of England as that of the judge who set himself the task of rebuking commercial dishonesty, wherever he met it. He sought righteousness, and, by his jealousy in that high cause, he has helped forward the kingdom of God in our midst. He did not worship with us here, being bred up in a branch of the Christian Church with which we have many differences, believing it to have erred from the ancient faith; but may we not imagine such a one, a righteous Roman Catholic, saying to us Protestants, in the words of St. James, "Show me thy faith without thy works, and I will show thee my faith by my works."'

Death of a Northampton Canon.—The Very Rev. Canon Hammond died at Nazareth House Convent, Northampton, on October 26. Born on November 18, 1828, at Ivenham, in Lincolnshire, he was educated at Douay and Rome. Canon Hammond acted for a time as secretary to Bishop Grant, of Southwark. He started the mission of Newmarket in the diocese of Northampton, and served at Shefford and Aston-le-Walls, which he resigned last July when his health broke down. He was appointed a Canon in 1883. The deceased was very highly esteemed, and the funeral was largely attended.

The English Benedictines.—Speaking of the election of the first abbot of Ampleforth, the *Yorkshire Post* says: 'The event was one of interest not only to the monks, but to English Roman Catholics generally. The English Benedictines, formerly known as the Black Monks, trace their history back to 596, when St. Augustine, the first Archbishop of Canterbury, came to England, and they claim to have an unbroken succession to the present time. It is

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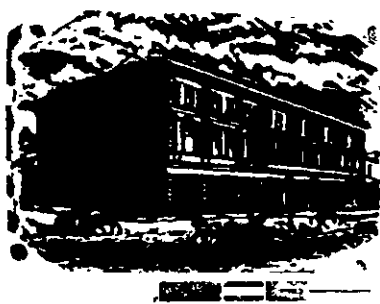
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WITH reference to the above, we feel that it is hardly necessary to assure our Friends and the Patrons of the 'City' that no effort will be spared on our part to merit the Patronage so liberally bestowed on our esteemed predecessor.

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IN reference to the above announcement by MESSRS. CONNOR AND HARRIS, I regret that, owing to ill-health, I am compelled to retire from active business and have sold them my interest in the CRITERION. I have to thank all my Friends for the liberal support I have received in this favourite house, and now bespeak continuance of this support for my esteemed successors, who, I feel sure, will make the CRITERION HOTEL one of the best houses in the Colony.
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just 50 years ago since Pope Pius IX. restored the hierarchy in England, and about 12 months since another important development took place in the restoration of the monastic hierarchy, when the Pope elevated Ampleforth Monastery into an abbey.

St. Joseph's Foreign Missionary Society.—The report presented by the secretary at the half-yearly meeting of St. Joseph's Foreign Missionary Society, in giving the losses of the society by death within the space of a year, supplies a sure proof of the apostolic spirit of the missionaries. In less than 12 months death has carried off seven of the Fathers. Amongst them was Bishop Mayor, of Madras, who was widely known and highly esteemed by all classes; and Father Prendergast, a priest full of energy, who in the space of five years made a distinguished record by his successful labors for the spiritual improvement of the natives of Uganda. It is not easy to fill the places of men so earnest and self-sacrificing, who have cheerfully faced dangers and hardships in ministering to people but partially civilised. Still volunteers for the work are not decreasing, the students at the four colleges of the society—Mill Hill, Rozendaal in Holland, Freshfield in Lancashire, and Brixen in the Tyrol—numbering 128. Naturally, where the missionaries of the society have to overcome such serious difficulties as those that beset them in Borneo and Uganda, there is continual need of financial aid. That the society has large-hearted benefactors is evident from the donations announced at the meeting, not the least interesting of them being an oil painting exhibited at the Royal Academy, the price of which was marked on the catalogue as £80.

The Catholic Truth Society.—The Catholic Truth Society held its half-yearly meeting at Archbishop's House, Westminster, recently, under the presidency of the Cardinal. Mr. Britten, K.S.G., hon. secretary, explained that the society was in a very satisfactory condition. Addresses were delivered by the Cardinal-Archbishop, Bishop Patterson, Canon Keatinge, Father Gretton, S.J., Canon Browne (Derby), and Father Cologan, hon. secretary, all of whom bore testimony to the good work the society is doing. Canon Browne stated that since the Cardinal opened his church at Derby he had received some 80 persons into the Church, and a great deal of that success was due to the publications of the society. Mr. Britten mentioned with much gratification the progress made by the society in other countries, especially in Ireland.

The Mayor-Elect of Wigan.—Councillor Thomas Fyans, Mayor-elect for Wigan, has decided to pay a State visit to St. Mary's Catholic Church, Standishgate. Mr. Fyans will be the first Catholic to be elected to the civic chair of the borough for 200 years, and it is reported that the records show that the newly-appointed Mayor has always paid his State visit to the ancient Parish Church during the past 400 years. There is something in the nature of a revolt among the Conservatives in the Town Council, and it is stated they will not accompany Councillor Fyans to St. Mary's Church.

FRANCE.—The Victims of the Charity Bazaar Fire.—The chapel of the Rue Jean Goujon (designed to commemorate the Charity Bazaar fire in Paris in 1897) was not ready for the service arranged to be held on the *Jour des Morts*. The building will be finished in time for the fourth anniversary of the fire in May next.

ROME.—An Appeal to the Nations.—The Holy Father has issued an Encyclical making an appeal to nations and individuals to return to the principles of Christianity. This Encyclical, which is purely of a religious character, must not be confounded with that on Democracy, which will probably be issued about the end of the year.

The Sacred College.—In a recent work it is stated that during the Pontificate of Leo XIII.—1878 to 1900—no fewer than 134 Cardinals have died. Only four still live who were his fellow-Cardinals under his predecessor, Pius IX.

The Holy Father and the Eastern Christians.—Catholics know with what energy (says the *Catholic Times*) Pope Leo XIII. has worked and prayed for the return to the fold of the scattered Christian Churches in Eastern lands. And it is therefore very

pleasant and encouraging to learn, from information received at Vienna, of a movement in favor of that reunion with the Holy See for which the Pope has been so actively working. A number of Greek Christians belonging to Cassarea in Cappadocia have recently petitioned the Holy Father to send them Catholic priests of the Greek rite, at the same time expressing their anxiety to join the Church. They profess their belief that the Pope is the Shepherd of all the flock of Christ, that he alone has the keys of the Kingdom, and that union with him is necessary if one would escape being a heretic or a schismatic. The *Times* Vienna correspondent considers the wording of the petition 'well calculated to open the eyes of certain Protestant enthusiasts in England who dream of the possibility of the union of the Christian Churches based upon a compromise rather than upon the one condition which is held to be essential in Rome—namely, absolute submission to the authority of the Pope.'

SCOTLAND.—The Late Marquis of Bute.—When the last mail left England the Marchioness of Bute, accompanied by her children and suite, had just reached Jerusalem on a pilgrimage of love and sorrowing devotion in fulfilment of the will of the late Marquis, who desired that his heart should be buried on the Mount of Olives. During the voyage her Ladyship never allowed the precious relic, which was enclosed in a golden casket, to leave her, carrying it always under her left arm against her breast. A spot has been secured on the holy mount for its interment.

The Archbishop of Glasgow.—Archbishop Eyre (writes a Glasgow correspondent), who is at present enjoying very satisfactory health for one of his advanced age, on November 7 celebrated his 83rd birthday. On November 4, his Grace also celebrated his favourite feast day, that of St. Charles Borromeo.

Ordinations at Scots College.—Among those raised to the priesthood at Scots College, Rome, by the Cardinal-Vicar on All Saints' Day were the Rev. John Simpson and the Rev. George Grant, both of the diocese of Aberdeen, and the Rev. Donald Mackintosh, of the diocese of Argyll and the Isles. The Rev. Joseph Keenan, of the diocese of Dunkeld, and the Rev. William McLennan, of the diocese of Argyll and the Isles, were ordained sub-deacons. The College begins the new scholastic year with 29 students in residence—one following the course of Canon Law, 21 that of theology, and seven that of philosophy.

UNITED STATES.—Dedication of a Home.—In the presence of an audience which included members of the United States Supreme Court and diplomatic representatives from other nations, and which crowded all the approaches leading to the chapel, Cardinal Gibbons dedicated the American Home of the Sisters of the Perpetual Adoration at Washington.

The Heroism of the Galveston Nuns.—The heroism of the nuns at Galveston has received attention from a number of Protestant journals. We (*Sacred Heart Review*) say it is pleasant to see such sympathetic recognition of the loyalty and heroism of the Church's members, and yet we have a well-founded fear that the very papers which praise the Sisters for their faithfulness—which was a faithfulness to the death—may in a week or two be attacking editorially, or allowing their correspondents to attack, the Church which teaches and inspires such truly Christian charity and fidelity. Even these Sisters themselves and such as they, leading holy and consecrated lives, will not be immune from the slurs and insinuations of ignorant or malicious scribes, in the very papers that have been giving testimony to the bravery and nobility of soul which prompted them to lay down their lives for the children under their care. We fear that this may be so. We earnestly hope it may not. The brave nuns of Galveston will not have died in vain if the manner of their death, so pathetically heroic, in some measure tends to disperse the clouds of prejudice and bigotry that blind the eyes of so many Protestants to the real truth and beauty of the Church of God.

Wanted, everyone who has proved the worth of Tussicura to recommend it to their friend.—*.*

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(late of Gridiron Hotel).

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BALLINBROS
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CASHIEL AND MANCHESTER STREETS,
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SEASON 1901.

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DATES OF SALES.

The First Sale will be held on Thursday, 20th December, 1900.

The Second Sale " " Friday, 11th January, 1901.

The Third Sale " " Thursday, 31st January, 1901.

The Fourth Sale " " Friday, 22nd February, 1901.

ACCOUNT SALES.—Account Sales will be rendered, and proceeds paid over promptly within six days of Sale, as heretofore.

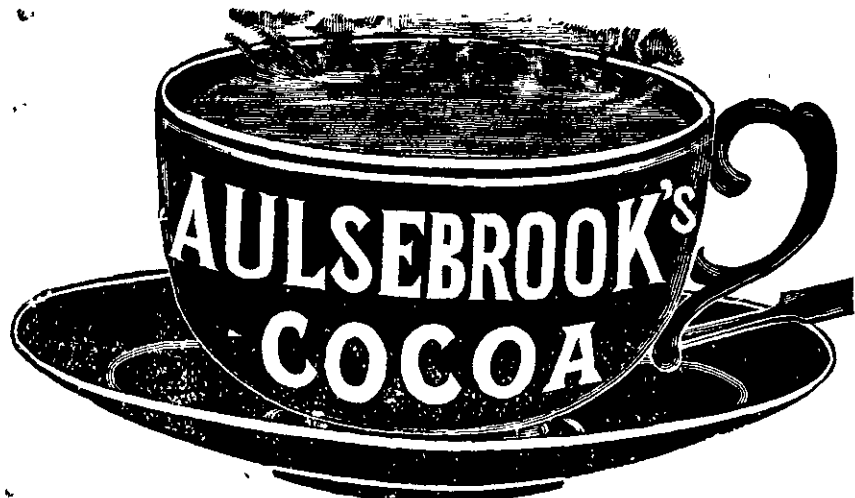
CHARGES.—All Charges throughout will be made on the very lowest scale.

INSURANCE.—All wool and other produce consigned to us is fully covered by insurance from the time it enters our Stores, and wool can be covered from sheep's back if desired. Consignment Notes, Labels, Wool Packs, and all Station Requisites forwarded at once on application.

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