

Dunedin, £3,400, by £5 as an indication that all aid to these institutions should be withdrawn. Ten members followed Mr. Meredith in this dastardly attempt: Messrs. Arnold, Atkinson, Collins, Graham, Herries, Lewis, Pirani, Rhodes, Tanner, and Hutchesson. Those who voted 'No' were 26, namely: Messrs. E. G. Allen, Bennet, Buddo, Carroll, Duncan, Ell, Field, Flatman, A. L. D. Fraser, Hall, Hall-Jones, Laurenson, Lowry, McGowan, R. McKenzie, McLachlan, Palmer, Parata, Seddon, Smith, Stevens, Symes, Ward, Witheford, Mills, and Morrison. Now let us glance at the division lists appearing in No. 32 of *Hannard*.

MR. G. W. RUSSELL

moved to strike out the word 'inspection' from the title of the Industrial Schools Act Amendment Bill, with the object of amending the Bill so as to provide for State control pure and simple. This division raised the whole question of whether the scant capitation now paid to private industrial schools should continue, and 24 members actually supported Mr. 'Ricketty' Russell's amendment, namely: Messrs. Arnold, Atkinson, Barclay, Buddo, Collins, Colvin, Fowlds, Graham, Hanan, Herries, Hornsby, Lang, Laurenson, Lewis, T. Mackenzie, R. McKenzie, McNab, Meredith, Pirani, Tanner, J. W. Thompson, Wilford, Hutchesson, and J. W. Russell. Twenty-three voted for justice to Catholic orphanages: Messrs. E. G. Allen, Carncross, Duncan, Ell, Field, A. L. D. Fraser, Hall, Heke, Hogg, Lethbridge, McGowan, Monk, Napier, O'Meara, Palmer, Parata, Seddon, Smith, Stevens, Ward, Witheford, Mills, and Morrison. The following members 'paired': For Mr. Russell's amendment: Messrs. Massey, W. Fraser, and Hardy; against: Messrs. Carroll, Hall-Jones, McLachlan. Thus by one vote the word 'inspection' was struck out, and for the moment it seemed as if the bigots would win.

THE PREMIER,

however, moved that the word 'regulation' be inserted instead of the word just struck out, and this was carried by 32 to 25. The 'ayes' were as follows:—Messrs. E. G. Allen, Buddo, Carncross, Duncan, Ell, Field, Flatman, Fowlds, A. L. D. Fraser, Gilfedder, Hall, Heke, Hogg, Houston, Lawry, Lethbridge, McGowan, McLachlan, Napier, O'Meara, Palmer, Parata, Pere, Seddon, Smith, Stevens, Steward, Symes, Ward, Witheford, Mills, and Morrison. The following voted against the Premier's amendment:—Messrs. Arnold, Atkinson, Barclay, Collins, Colvin, Graham, Hanan, Hardy, Herries, Hornsby, Lang, Laurenson, Lewis, T. Mackenzie, R. McKenzie, McNab, Millar, Monk, Pirani, Rhodes, G. W. Russell, Tanner, J. W. Thompson, J. Hutchesson, and Meredith. Pairs: For the Premier's amendment: Carroll, Hall-Jones; against: Massey and W. Fraser. I pass over several divisions of minor importance and come to

MR. MILLAR'S AMENDMENT

on page 621. To properly appreciate the nature of this amendment, it is necessary to state clause 4. It reads as follows:—

'With respect to every such private or local school as aforesaid already established at the time of the passing of this Act, the following special provisions shall apply—

"(1) In no case shall any child be hereafter committed to such school.

"(2) At the expiration of six months after the passing of this Act every such school shall cease to be a school within the meaning of the principal Act, and no public money shall thereafter be granted in respect thereof."

Now the object of this clause was to prevent any industrial school controlled by any Order (such as the Marists) whose head was outside the Colony receiving any capitation. But Mr. Millar, who owes his political existence to the votes of Catholic laborers, wanted to make the clause apply to *all* private industrial schools, and he therefore moved to omit the word 'such' in the first line of the clause, and 27 members voted for this rascally amendment, namely: Messrs. Arnold, Atkinson, Barclay, Buddo, Collins, Colvin, Fowlds, Graham, Hardy, Hanan, Heke, Herries, Hogg, Hutchesson, Lang, Laurenson, Lewis, T. Mackenzie, R. McKenzie, McNab, Meredith, Pirani, Rhodes, G. W. Russell, Tanner, J. W. Thompson, Hornsby, and Millar. The following voted against the amendment:—Messrs. E. G. Allen, Carncross, Duncan, Ell, Field, Flatman, A. L. D. Fraser, Gilfedder, Hall, Houston, Lawry, McGowan, McLachlan, Napier, O'Meara, Palmer, Parata, Pere, Seddon, Smith, Stevens, Steward, Symes, Ward, Witheford, Mills, and Morrison. Thus the bigots won by a vote, and great was the delight among them. But they soon found that their object had not been attained. Mr. McNab, who suggested Mr. Millar's amendment (so the story goes), came in for a great 'keel-hauling.' The words 'as aforesaid' were left in the second paragraph of the clause, and therefore the meaning was precisely what it was before the word 'such' was excised. The Bill had now to go through the ordeal of the Legislative Council, and some

VIGOROUS CANVASSING

was resorted to in order to ensure the excision of the odious words 'as aforesaid.' I do not propose to give the Council's division lists, because that body is not elective, and the attitude of members towards our schools cannot be checked. But certainly the Legislative Council did not justify its existence as a body one of whose alleged functions it is to place a wholesome curb on panic legislation. The words were eliminated, and the Bill passed the Council absolutely withdrawing all aid from the Catholic industrial schools after twelve months!

But the Council's amendment had yet to be acquiesced in by the popular Chamber. The Premier moved, on the Bill being reported to the House as amended, that the amendment be not agreed to, and that a committee, comprising Captain Russell, Mr. Palmer, and himself, be appointed to confer with a committee of the Council. The Council, by 15 votes to 10, decided not to insist on the amendment, and the

BILL BECAME LAW

without effecting the purpose for which a coterie of parliamentary bigots, spurred on by the Orange lodges of the Colony, and by such papers as the *Nelson Mail* and the *Evening Post*, had been scheming for months.

The crucial division occurred when the House, on the motion of the Premier, was asked not to agree to the excision by the Legislation Council of the words 'as aforesaid.' There voted for his motion 35 members: Messrs. E. G. Allen, Bennet, Bolland, Carncross, Carroll, Duncan, Field, Fisher, Flatman, A. L. D. Fraser, Gilfedder, Hall, Hall-Jones, Heke, Houston, Kaihau, Lawry, McGowan, McGuire, McLachlan, Mills, Morrison, Palmer, Parata, Pere, W. R. Russell, Seddon, Smith, Stevens, Steward, Ward, Witheford, O'Meara, and Symes. Noes 27: Messrs. Arnold, Atkinson, Barclay, Buddo, Collins, E. I. Fowlds, W. Fraser, Guineas, Graham, Hardy, Herries, Hogg, Hornsby, Hutchesson, Lang, Laurenson, T. Mackenzie, McNab, Millar, Rhodes, G. W. Russell, Tanner, R. Thompson, J. W. Thompson, Pirani, and Meredith.

It has been said that the Government would not have won this division had certain members not refrained from voting. It is quite true that several members purposely absented themselves, evidently believing they had already done enough to conciliate the bigots without unduly offending their Catholic supporters. But even had these jelly-fish politicians voted, the result would have been the same.

I would like, before concluding, to allude to the conduct of one member who voted with the Noes in the last-mentioned division,

MR. A. R. GUINNESS,

Chairman of the Committees. This gentleman owes his seat in Parliament for years past to the votes of staunch Catholic supporters, and, despite the fact that at the last election he was opposed by a most estimable Catholic gentleman (Mr. Hannan, of Greymouth), it is beyond question that Mr. Guinness owes his handsome majority to Catholic support. Yet he was amongst the most virulent, though certainly not the most conspicuous, of those who attempted to intensify the cruel hardship Catholics already suffer, by withdrawing all capitation grants from their orphanages! Mr. Guinness did one characteristically clever trick when the division took place on Mr. G. W. Russell's amendment to strike out the word 'inspection.' As Chairman of the Committees, he could only vote in the event of a tie. Knowing that the division would be close and that the Deputy-Chairman of Committees, Major Steward, was friendly to Catholic orphanages, Mr. Guinness absented himself; Major Steward's vote was lost by his occupying the chair, and the amendment was carried by *one* vote. Thus Mr. Guinness avoided the awkward predicament of deciding a tie and at the same time helped the coterie whose efforts had his cordial sympathy. On the final division, however, he 'came out of his shell' and voted to rob our orphanages. What a rich reward for his Catholic supporters!

Space will not allow me to detail the conduct of other members—notably one West Coast member who received every Catholic vote in his electorate at the last election, and of another who received 50 per cent. of the Catholic support, although his opponent was a Catholic. But the following list of members who voted against Catholic orphanages include those who certainly received either the entire Catholic vote or a large measure of it: Messrs. Hanan, McNab, G. W. Russell, Collins, Lewis, Graham, R. McKenzie, Guinness, Colvin, Hornsby, Millar, Arnold, and Barclay. I do not presume that this list includes all the representatives who were supported by Catholic electors, but I am well within the mark in saying that not one of the above could have been elected but for the support of those whom last session they tried their level best to insult and injure.

Diocesan News.

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON.

(From our own correspondent.)

January 5.

Rev. Father Piquet, who is to conduct the retreat for the Sisters of Mercy, arrived from Sydney on Tuesday.

Rev. Father Holley made a short trip to Leeston this week. While there he celebrated the marriage of his brother, Mr. Frank Holley.

Rev. Father Walsh, who recently underwent a serious operation, has gone to Christchurch. He will remain there until after the retreat of the clergy of that diocese.

Fathers Clancy and Bowden from the college, accompanied by Dean McKenna, are off for a cruise in the Marlborough Sounds next week. Rev. Father Herbert has gone to Christchurch.

Professor W. Michell Clarke, M.A., whose death was reported in your last issue, was buried on Saturday morning at Karori, where the funeral service was conducted by Rev. Father Holley.—*R.I.P.*

Agriculturists in the Wairarapa and Manawatu districts are at present on the best of terms with themselves. Crops are further advanced now than at any corresponding period in the last ten years, besides which grass is very plentiful and stock are consequently in first-class condition.

Sub-Inspector Mitchell, for the past ten months stationed in Wellington, has been transferred to Auckland. He and Mrs. Mitchell take with them the best wishes of a host of people with whom they have come in contact during their short residence here.

The Te Aro Christian Doctrine Society held their annual picnic this year at Picton on New Year's Day. Accompanied by Rev. Father Goggan (president), the members went across in the steamer Tarawera and though, in consequence of a heavy swell in the strait, several suffered from *mal de mer*, the enjoyment of the time ashore more than compensated them for their discomfort.

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