

The Senior Secretary of the Education Board.—Mr. Seymour, the senior secretary of the National Education Board, has retired from service. As he is a Catholic, his place will be filled by one of the same religion.

Success of Christian Brothers' Pupils.—At the recent examination for second division clerkships 26 Irish candidates were successful. Of these five were ex-pupils of the Christian Brothers, North Richmond street, and doubtless more of the victors owed their success to the same splendid teaching Order. The first place in all Ireland was won by Mr. C. Sexton, who was educated at North Richmond street, and is only 18 years of age. Judging by his past record both as an intermediate student and as an aspirant to the Civil Service a brilliant future awaits him. The same may be said of Mr. Charles Joseph Barry, who was educated in the Presentation College, Mardyke, Cork. He took second place in all Ireland, and seventeenth in the United Kingdom amongst over 1000 candidates.

The Lord Lieutenant's Salary.—The official salary of the Viceroyalty of Ireland, which is now £20,000, was originally £30,000; but just over 70 years ago the Duke of Northumberland undertook to fulfil the duties at a reduction of £10,000.

A Great Evil.—In the course of a recent eloquent sermon Dr. Murphy, the rector of Blackrock College, said the day seemed to be approaching when the great disasters caused by the lack of higher education would be retrieved. When that day came the people would have reason to be grateful for the consistent action of the Bishops of Ireland in connection with which, if he might be permitted to say so, their own Archbishop had been a leader. Under his wise guidance, and animated by a spirit of wisdom, they trusted that the solution of this great question would soon be found—a solution which would place higher education upon the broad basis of national life, and that would not be in any sense sectional. Referring to the drink question the preacher said there was a great danger that whilst the eternal obstacles to progress were disappearing, there existed an evil which was a tremendous barrier, which had been alluded to, in the most direct way, by the Bishops of Ireland in their Pastoral Letter. It was a pernicious evil which was still working havoc in town and country; a plot visible to her own eyes, and to the eyes of the world; a horrid monster, which, unless disarmed, would continue to bar the way onward; a monster which had murdered more of the Irish people than a thousand Cromwells and Williams of Orange; had ruined more homesteads than the confiscations of evil days; had sent more Irishmen to be hopelessly lost in the cities of other lands than the great famine of '48. And it was still here. Let them join issue with it. Let them unite in a struggle against the drink evil, the great bane of the people. So long as it remained there could be no real progress.

Not Mathematicians, but good Mothers.—At the conclusion of the celebrations in honor of the centenary of the Sacred Heart Order in Armagh, the Right Rev. Mgr. Byrne, Dean of Armagh, delivered an important speech on convent education, in the course of which he said that to his mind man was intended by his Creator to be in a well-regulated state of society the bread-winner, and that woman's natural position was the Christian householder. The filling of so many positions by women, which could be at least as well filled by men, was tending to drive males out of the United Kingdom to seek employment elsewhere, or condemning them at home to a life of idleness. The banishing of the male population was still further increasing the disproportion of the sexes, which even at present was causing serious alarm to political economists. He knew of no religious institute which turned out better material in the matter of the Catholic education of young girls than that of the Sacred Heart. After 36 years' experience of missionary life he was happy to be in a position to render his unqualified testimony on the point. That institution had resisted all temptations to put pupils in for intermediate examinations, and he trusted in God they would ever continue to follow on the same safe lines. What Catholic Ireland wanted in her future matrons was not distinguished mathematicians, but good, pious mothers, who would be able to impart a large share of Christian doctrine into the minds of their children, and impress upon them holy and salutary maxims—maxims which would help those children to fight the battle of life much more effectually than would the possession of extensive knowledge unaccompanied by Christian virtues, humility, self-denial, sobriety, and modesty of demeanour.

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

Tussicura, the wonderful cough remedy—sold by all chemists and grocers.—*.*

Tussicura, Wild Cherry Pectoral Balm, the famous remedy for coughs, bronchitis, asthma, and consumption, has the largest sale of any throat and lung medicine in New Zealand. Those who have taken this medicine are amazed at its wonderful influence. Sufferers from any form of bronchitis, cough, difficulty of breathing, hoarseness, pain or soreness in the chest, experience delightful and immediate relief, and to those who are subject to colds on the chest it is invaluable, as it effects a complete cure. It is most comforting in allaying irritation in the throat and giving strength to the voice, and it neither allows a cough or asthma to become chronic nor consumption to develop. Consumption has never been known to exist where coughs have been properly treated with this medicine. No house should be without it, as, taken at the beginning, a dose is generally sufficient, and a complete cure is certain. Beware of coughs. Remember every disease has its commencement, and consumption is no exception to this rule. Obtainable from Messrs. Kempthorne, Prosser and Co., Limited, and all merchants throughout the Colony. Price, 2s 6d.—*.*

THE NEW COMMONWEALTH.

ADDRESS BY THE HIERARCHY OF NEW SOUTH WALES. On Saturday, January 5, his Eminence the Cardinal presented at Government House an address to his Excellency Lord Hopetoun, on behalf of the Hierarchy of New South Wales. Accompanying the Cardinal were his Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne; the Right Rev. Dr. Murray, Bishop of Maitland; the Right Rev. Dr. Doyle, Bishop of Lismore; the Right Rev. Dr. Gallagher, Bishop of Goulburn; and the Very Rev. Dr. O'Haran. The address, which was neatly illustrated by the Sacred Heart nuns, Rose Bay, was as follows:—

May it please your Excellency,—On the part of the Catholic Archbishops, Bishops, and clergy of Australia, it is my privilege on this auspicious occasion to present to you as the representative of her Most Gracious Majesty and first Governor-General of the Australasian Commonwealth this expression of our devoted homage, and to accord you a most hearty welcome. In the Commonwealth which you have come to inaugurate, the aspirations and fond desires of Australian patriots, past and present, are at length realised, and Australia, arrayed in the freshness of freedom and the vigor of youth, yet unimpaired in her affection to the Sovereign and in her loyalty to the throne, enters on the glorious career that destiny has marked out for her. It will be our constant prayer that, through the blessing of Divine Providence, prosperity and peace may never cease to smile upon this Australian Commonwealth, and that for ages yet to run it may uninterruptedly pursue the pleasant paths of Christian enlightenment and genuine progress. May it ever stand erect before the world, a beacon and a model to other nations by the devotedness and energy and harmony of all classes of its citizens, the loyalty and patriotism of its sons, and the virtuous deed of all its children. Once more we offer your Excellency a hearty welcome, and we trust and pray that your administration, by its beneficent measures and brilliant results, may assert its place as a golden page in Australian history, and that every happiness may attend you during your stay in this fair land. Signed on behalf of the Catholic Archbishops, Bishops, and clergy of Australia.

✠ PATRICK F. CARDINAL MORAN, Archbishop of Sydney.

The Governor-General replied:—

To his Eminence the Cardinal-Archbishop of Australia. Your Eminence—I received with very great pleasure the address which you have just presented, and most cordially accept the expressions of welcome and the good wishes which it contains. I am further gratified to receive your assurance of the continued loyalty and devotion to her Most Gracious Majesty of the members of the great Roman Catholic Church resident in these portions of her dominions. I am fully aware of the vast aid lent by the members of your denomination in securing the consummation of this great work of the federation of the Australian colonies, and I join with you in the fervent hope that the new era upon which we are just entering may be marked from the outset by the social advancement and the spiritual well-being of the people of the Commonwealth. I am deeply sensible of the heavy responsibilities attaching to the high office of the first Governor-General of the Commonwealth, but the knowledge that I have, in the fulfilment of my many difficult duties, the assistance of your prayers will always tend to cheer, help, and support me. For your good wishes for my future welfare pray accept my most heartfelt thanks.

NEW BOOKS.

We have received from Young and Co., publishers, 27 Barclay street, New York (per Gille and Co., Sydney), two recent school dramas—*Tara* (25 cents) and *Queen Floradine* (25 cents). *Tara* is puzzlingly described on the title-page as 'A drama from the opera "Pinola," by Charles Dawson and Moore's Melodies.' The drama is suited for the upper classes in convent schools. *Queen Floradine* is of the usual type of fairy drama, and is intended for the little ones. Neither of these publications will do much to relieve the almost uniform dullness of the dramatic exhibitions that usually bring the convent scholastic year to such a melancholy close. A real service would be rendered to our educational institutes if some Catholic dramatic writer of real ability set himself the task of providing a series of live plays for our conventual and collegiate establishments.

The *Arc Maria* has republished, in its usual attractive form, that exquisite recital of the experiences of a convert on his way to the Church—*A Troubled Heart, and How it was Comforted at Last*. We now learn that its author is the distinguished American Catholic writer, Mr. Charles Warren Stoddard. It is an exquisite little gem of autobiography, and tells with refined delicacy and with the charm of style for which its author is so distinguished, the inmost story of the religious doubts and yearnings which sent him forth on the long and weary pilgrimage that brought rest at last to his troubled heart in the bosom of the Catholic Church. Our copy of the early edition of this fascinating little volume has helped on his or her toilsome journey many a pilgrim similarly circumstanced. The reprint of this little work should be in every Catholic home and on the prize list of every Catholic school. Procurable from *Arc Maria*, Notre Dame, Indiana, U.S.A., and all Catholic booksellers advertising in our columns. (Pp. 192, cloth, 75 cents.)

Like an old and welcome friend, *The Xaverian*, the school annual of St. Francis Xavier's College, Kew, Melbourne, turns up regularly at this season of the year brimming over with good things, in addition to the more sedate articles dealing directly with school work. Unlike our old friends, *The Xaverian* grows more lusty and verile year by year. It runs into 40 pages of reading matter made up of contributions from the students and records of school doings. The editors—Masters Charles Gavan Duffy, William Keane, and Bertie Jackson—have performed their work well, and have turned out an annual which is creditable alike to themselves and the institution.