

NEW ZEALAND: GENERAL.

THE Oamaru Mail states that it will probably be a fortnight before harvesting is general in the Oamaru district. The greater part of the grain is yet unripe.

AN exchange understands that the Post Office authorities have, by instruction of Hon. J. G. Ward, abolished the fine known as 'double deficient postage.'

THE Very Rev. Dr. Watters, S.M., and Dr. and Mrs. Mackin, of Wellington, who are visiting the Holy Land, arrived in Jerusalem on December 15, and were received by the Latin Patriarch.

MR. WILLIAM SWAN, formerly Mayor of Dunedin, died in Oamaru on Monday evening. He was going north for the benefit of his health, and, feeling exhausted, left the train, dying soon after.

INSPECTORS of dairies have been appointed as follow: Wellington and suburbs—P. O. Thompson, of Invercargill; Christchurch—Alex. McPherson, formerly manager of the Longburn Freezing Works, and at another time manager of one of the New Zealand and Australian Land Company's stations in South Canterbury; Dunedin and suburbs—G. Parker, of Napier.

It is not generally known that venomous marine snakes are found off the coasts of New Zealand. At the last meeting of the Wellington Philosophical Society, Sir James Hector showed some specimens of Hydridae, with other sea snakes from various parts of the world. The sea snakes, he explained, inhabited the Pacific ocean and tropical seas, but had been captured as far south as Catlin's river in New Zealand.

A meeting of the Wellington St. Patrick's Day Demonstration Committee was held last week. The chair was occupied by Mr. B. Nolan and there was a fairly large attendance of members. It was decided to hold a sports meeting, with art union, on Saturday, March 16, and an Irish concert in the evening. It was also resolved that the City Council should be communicated with and asked to grant the use of the Basin Reserve for the sports gathering.

SPEAKING of the departure of Sir Westby and Lady Perceval and their family by the P. and O. s.s. China for the antipodes, 'Anglo-Colonial' in the Citizen says: 'Sir Westby, who succeeded Sir Francis Dillon Bell in the Agent-generalship of New Zealand in 1891, and who also acted as Agent-general for Tasmania, in which colony he was born 46 years ago, has of late years been turning his attention to company work in the city, but this, I believe, has proved rather ungenial, and I understand that he is anxious to re-enter public life in New Zealand. A barrister by profession, he was first elected to the House of Representatives in the Jubilee year of 1887, and was filling the office of Chairman of Committees when he was asked to represent the Colony in London.'

OUR Rome correspondent, writing under date December 8 says: 'The friends of Rev. J. H. Kennedy, son of Mr. Kennedy manager of the Greymouth Gas Works, New Zealand, will be pleased to learn that he was raised to the dignity of the priesthood in the Propaganda chapel, Rome, on the Feast of All Saints, by his Eminence Cardinal Respighi, Vicar to his Holiness Leo XIII. They will be pleased likewise to learn that he was successful in obtaining his doctorship in divinity, thus bringing his course to a brilliant close. The rev. gentleman, who is an old student of St. Patrick's College, Manly, is at present taking a well-earned vacation and may be expected in New Zealand about the end of April.' We most heartily congratulate Dr. Kennedy on the honor which has been conferred upon him, and hope that his labors in the Christchurch diocese may yield a rich and abundant harvest.

THE London correspondent of the Dunedin Evening Star writes:—The Ven. Archdeacon Devoy, S.M., V.G., of Wellington, and the Very Rev. Dean Carew, S.M., of Greymouth, who were chosen last July to proceed to Europe to attend a General Chapter of the Marist Order, recently arrived in London, after a pleasant voyage by the Messageries liner La Ville de La Ciotat, from Sydney. After finishing the work which brought them to Europe they, in company with the Very Rev. Father Keogh, the newly-appointed rector of St. Patrick's College, Wellington, took a trip round Italy, visiting Turin, Milan, Rome, Naples, Venice, etc. At Rome they had an audience with his Holiness the Pope, and obtained his blessing, and then came on to London by way of Florence, Genoa, Lyons, and Paris. Here they are the guests of the Marist Fathers at St. Anne's Church, Underwood street. Their next move will be to Ireland, where both Archdeacon Devoy and Dean Carew have a large circle of relatives and friends. They expect to remain in Ireland about three months, and will journey back to New Zealand by way of the States. They expect to reach New Zealand some time in June.

An elderly man is required as gardener for the Convent, Nelson.—*.*

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

A shipment of the beautiful Sterling Bicycles—chain, chainless, and free wheels—has just been received. They are more beautiful, if possible, than ever. Intending purchasers of bicycles should certainly see the Sterlings before deciding on any other. Morrow, Bassett and Co., Christchurch, Ashburton, and Dunedin sole agents.—*.*

Rims generally buckle because of their inability to stand lateral strains. The Dunlop-Welch rim, by reason of its tubular edges, is exceedingly strong in this respect, and a buckled rim of this make is very rarely seen indeed. The Dunlop Company's guarantee to replace any rim which becomes damaged by any cause, save wilfully, when fitted to a cycle, is sufficient proof of its reliability.—*.*

INTERCOLONIAL.

The following changes have been made in the archdiocese of Sydney:—The Rev. Father J. Fitzpatrick, from St. Francis' to Camperdown; Rev. Father Holland, from Camperdown to Nowra; Rev. Father Gunning, from Nowra to Cooma.

There arrived recently in West Australia from Ireland Rev. Father Lynch for the diocese of Perth, and the Rev. Father Fenelon for the diocese of Geraldton. Father Lynch was accompanied by his sister, a young lady who will enter one of the convents as a postulante. On board the same vessel bound for Sydney, was the Rev. Father Agidi, M.S.H.

Messrs. Cochrane and Co., of Melbourne, have practically completed their contract for the erection of the new Catholic cathedral, which is to be known as the Church of the Sacred Heart, in Wattle square, Bendigo. The structure presents a most imposing appearance and can be seen for a considerable distance. The cost of erecting and furnishing the cathedral is being paid out of the estate of the late Very Rev. Dr. Backhaus, the pioneer priest of Bendigo, who died about 20 years ago, leaving a fortune, almost the whole of which was bequeathed to the Church.

The Catholic colleges (writes a Melbourne correspondent) have again been very successful at the Matriculation Examinations. Their superiority over outside colleges is evidenced by the fact that, while the average of passes for the whole State was 38 per cent., the percentage obtained by the Christian Brothers' School was 80 per cent. An interesting statement prepared by Rev. Father Ryan, Principal of St. Xavier's, Kew, shows that the average of all schools, in every single subject, was handsomely beaten by his college. In Latin, French, algebra, geometry and physiology, the school scored 100 per cent. In Latin, the average of all schools was only 47 per cent. An historic name occurs in the list of distinguished students, that of Charles Gavan Duffy, which is on the list of special distinctions for third-class honors in English and history. It is to be hoped that the young gentleman is going to tread in the footsteps of his famous grandsire along the paths of literature and history.

By the death of Mr. Edmund Keogh, at St. Kilda road (says the Melbourne Argus), Victoria has lost the services of a gentleman who was well known and highly respected, especially amongst business men, and who was a very old colonist. The late Mr. Keogh came to Victoria in 1841. In the early fifties he and his brother established the firm in Latrobe street of Messrs. E. and M. Keogh, wholesale chemists and druggists. He retired from business in 1875. In 1882 Mr. Keogh was appointed a member of the Education Commission as a representative of the Catholic community. This was one of the few occasions on which he took a prominent part in public questions. He was chairman of the Commissioners for Savings Banks up to within a short time of his death. He had reached the age of 72 years, and though he had been in poor health for about eight months, he was only confined to his bed during the last seven weeks.

A meeting of the priests of the diocese of Bathurst for the nomination of three candidates, from whom Holy See may choose one to be future Bishop of Bathurst Diocese, was held at the Cathedral recently. Mass of the Holy Ghost was first celebrated by Rev. Father P. J. Doran (Cowra), his Eminence the Cardinal presiding at the throne. All those entitled to a vote assisted at the Mass, viz., the diocesan consultors, the irremovable rectors, priests in charge of districts, and administrators who have been at least seven years in charge of a parish. There were 18 in all. After Mass the Cardinal gave a short address to the clergy, and they then proceeded to take the formal oath that they would select those only whom they considered fittest to assume the onerous duties of future prelate of the diocese. The clergy then selected two of their number, the Very Rev. Martin Long (Gulgong), and Very Rev. J. Brophy (Dubbo), as scrutineers. The election was then proceeded with, which resulted as follows: *Dignissimus* Very Rev. Jno. Dunne, Administrator of the diocese, 12 votes; *Dignior* Very Rev. Jas. Kelly, Carcoar, four votes; *Dignus* Very Rev. Martin Long, Gulgong, two votes. Formal documents confirming the nominations made were duly signed by the Cardinal and by the scrutineers.

The Melbourne Advocate reports the death of Councillor William Ievers, an old and widely-respected Colonist, who will be keenly regretted, and whose disappearance from society and public life will be generally regarded as a great loss. The departed gentleman possessed in an eminent degree those qualities which enabled so many of the early settlers to carve out their way to fortune, and while doing so to assist in securely laying the foundations of a prosperous country. He was a member of a well-known County Limerick family who were both Conservative and Protestant and a near relative of the late Mr. Robert Ievers of Castle Ievers, but disregarding the family traditions, and breaking from their restraints, he became in his early manhood a member of the Catholic Church, to whose teachings he has been consistently loyal, and at the same time a generous contributor to all religious and charitable works undertaken in Melbourne and Carlton to the greater honor and glory of God. Of recent years other members of the same family have been received into the Church. The deceased gentleman had reached his 82nd year. He came to Victoria in 1855, and took up his residence in Carlton, where he established the estate agency of William Ievers and Sons. In 1885 he was elected in the room of his deceased son, William, as one of the representatives of the Smith Ward in the City Council. He was one of the original directors of the Colonial Permanent Building Society. In 1898, Cr. Ievers and his wife celebrated the diamond jubilee of their wedding, and in the same year Mrs. Ievers died. The deceased gentleman was a member of the board of management of the Immigrants' Home and leaves a grown-up family of two sons and three daughters.

SCOTT, COMMIN & CO.,
Loans Negotiated. Rents Collected.

HOUSE, LAND, ESTATE, FINANCIAL AND COMMISSION AGENTS AND
ACCOUNTANTS " DOWLING STREET, DUNEDIN
Sub-Agents South British Insurance Co.