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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.

ORANGEMEN
AND CATHOLIC
PUBLIC
SERVANTS.

THE brethren of the Invercargill Orange lodge are, like the musical porker in the ballad of The Whistling Thief, 'onaisy in their minds.' So much, at least, we gather from a brief paragraph in the local *News*.

They are deeply concerned at the fact that Catholics—who, by the way, make such admittedly trusty officials—are to be found in various branches of the public service. The oath-bound intolérants profess, of course, to suspect that an 'unfair proportion' of those unspeakable 'Papists' are in the employment of the State. But, taking the matter on the double count of relative numbers, and more particularly of average salary, we hold that the discrimination, if any, is against Catholics. For Orangemen, however, it is an intolerable 'unfairness' for any Catholic to be appointed to any position in State or Municipality, whether it be that of premier or banister cleaner, mayor, dustman, or street sweeper.

The objection of the members of this underground association to Catholics holding any position in the State is illustrated by a recent secret circular issued by the Queensland Grand Lodge, which instructs the secretaries of all private lodges throughout the Colony in the following terms (the small capitals are in the original): 'Let us know of EVERY appointment of a Roman Catholic to any public position, etc., in your town or district, so that the information can be circulated amongst the lodges.' It is not necessary for us, in view of the past and notorious action of the Orange Society, to point out the purpose of this disgraceful instruction. Many of our readers may remember the details of the shocking conspiracy hatched in a Melbourne Orange Lodge over five years ago for the purpose of driving Catholics from the public service in Victoria. Some of the facts of this scandalous affair were brought to light by the Melbourne Post Office Inquiry Board of 1896, and were published in the minutes of evidence of its report, which lies open before us. At the ceremony of initiation of a 'brother' to the first Orange degree, and during the blasphemous and semi-indecent tomfooleries which accompany his elevation to the 'two-and-a-half' or 'royal arch purple,' the members of this dark-lantern fraternity swear on bare or bended knees to never, in any circumstances, vote for a 'Papist' at parliamentary or municipal elections; they bind themselves to support with their vote and interest 'Orange and Protestant candidates only, and in no wise refrain from voting, remember our motto: "He who is not with us is against us." The candidate at the same time gets the sharp reminder: "Your neglecting to fulfil these conditions will render you liable to expulsion." Protestants would do well to ponder the significant motto just quoted above. It is not sufficiently well known that by virtue of their secret 'Rules for Elections'—which are before us as we write—every Orangeman, at both municipal and parliamentary elections, is bound, even against his conscientious convictions, to cast his vote and use his interest for an Orange candidate, of no matter how disreputable character, in preference to a non-Orange Protestant, of no matter how high respectability and fitness. Briefly, the Orange Society is, in effect, an organised boycott against decent Protestants as well

as against the 'Papist' enemy against whom the brethren bound themselves at one period of their career by the following sanguinary oath: 'I, A.B., do swear that I will be true to King and Government, and that I will exterminate the Catholics of Ireland, as far as lies in my power.'

In Belfast, Derry, Portadown, and, generally, at every time and place at which Orangemen have held the upper hand, they have waged a ruthless war against Catholics and never knowingly permitted a member of the hated creed to hold any position of public trust, honor, or emolument. They still live and feed upon the evil memories of the year 1690, and swear on initiation to 'ever hold sacred the name of our glorious deliverer, William the Third, Prince of Orange.' Their worship of the little Dutchman is based on the fact that, in rampant violation of the provisions of the Treaty of Limerick, he placed the heels of the Protestant ascendancy party upon the necks of the Irish people and inaugurated the infamous penal code against Catholics, of which Edmund Burke said: 'It was a complete system, full of coherence and consistency, well digested and well composed in all its parts. It was a machine of wise and elaborate contrivance, and as well fitted for the oppression, impoverishment, and degradation of a people, and the debasement in them of human nature itself, as ever proceeded from the perverted ingenuity of man.' One of the laws passed in the Dutchman's reign has a direct bearing on the resolution of the little menagerie of intolérants at Invercargill, and illustrates the whole policy of the Orange organisation from its foundation in 1795 down to the present hour. It was passed in the seventh year of William III, and provided that no Catholic could hold any office whatsoever, civil or military, under the Crown. By the same Act this patron saint of the lodges provided that no Catholic could be governor, head, or fellow of any university; or barrister-at-law, attorney, or clerk in Chancery; or professor of law, medicine, or any other science. Three years later another Williamite Act imposed a fine of £100 on any Catholic who would dare to act as solicitor in any court in the kingdom after March 1, 1698. The fine was recoverable by any common informer. By this same Act, even if a Catholic barrister renounced his faith by taking an Oath of Abjuration of Popery, he was not permitted to practise unless he educated his children in the Protestant faith. The spirit of those penal laws lives on to the present hour within the guarded portals of the Orange Lodge. Till the reign of William IV. Orangemen bound themselves by oath to 'support and defend the present King, George the Third, his heirs and successors'—but only 'so long as he or they support the Protestant ascendancy' and the persecution of their Catholic fellow-countrymen. 'He who serves queens may expect backsheesh.' So says Darkush is Disraeli's *Tancred*. And the Orangemen of those days made no secret of the upset price which they put upon their expressly conditional loyalty. They defined Protestant ascendancy to mean: 'A Protestant King in Ireland; a Protestant Parliament; a Protestant hierarchy; Protestant electors and Government; the benches of Justice, the army and the revenue, through all their branches and details, Protestant; and this supported by a connection with the Protestant realm of Great Britain.' Briefly, the Orange fraternity promised loyalty to the throne only on condition of a guarantee of strict and perpetual monopoly of place, power, and pelf for

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themselves and their co-religionists, and the permanent persecution and degradation of Catholics and Dissenters, who formed five-sixths of the population of the country. To this hour the wholesale exclusion of Catholics from every public employment is a favorite theme with the brethren and a frequent subject of comment in the noisome columns of the blackguardly monthly publication which claims to be the 'accredited organ' of the lodges in these colonies and which some time ago denounced the Catholic Emancipation Act as 'a fatal error.'

IRISH **DISSENTERS.** **DISSENTERS** are now the chief, and almost the only, support of the Orange lodges in these colonies. The good folk have either little knowledge or short memories. They either know not or forget that Dissenters were for a long period almost as rigidly excluded from membership of the lodges as were the unspeakable 'Papists.' At a time when Irish Catholic Members of Parliament were straining every nerve to remove the last shackles of religious disabilities from 'Roman' and Dissenter alike, Irish and English Orangemen were offering violent and turbulent opposition to every Bill which was intended to promote the cause of civil and religious liberty—from Reform to the repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts. In 1828, and again in 1832, that great ruling head-centre of Orangeism, the Imperial Grand Lodge of London, made heated attacks on measures which were intended for the relief of some of the special grievances which had so long lain heavily upon Dissenters. Even at a much later date—during the agitation on the Burials Bill (Ireland)—the Orange Member for Tyrone not merely voted against the Presbyterians being free to inter their dead in the sepulchres of their fathers, but even went so far as to publicly advocate the burial of all Ulster Presbyterians at low water mark!

BAD **PUBLIC** **SERVANTS.** At many and various periods during the nineteenth century, Orangemen were officially declared—by reason of their disloyalty, turbulence, and frenetic bias—to be unfit to hold the commission of the peace and other positions of honor and trust under the British crown. Many such official announcements will be found in our work entitled *The Orange Society*. A memorable instance in point was furnished by the English Parliamentary Committee appointed in 1835 to inquire into Orangeism in Great Britain and the Colonies. In the course of their report to the House they declared that the influence of those oath-bound fanatics was 'baneful and unchristian,' that it was necessary 'to protect the country from all such associations,' and that the suppression of the Orange organisation was, in the public interest, 'imperatively necessary.' 'Your Committee,' said they, 'anxiously desirous of seeing the United Kingdom and the Colonies of the Empire freed from the baneful and unchristian influence of the Orange Societies, recommend the early attention of the House to this important subject, with a view to the immediate removal from office of all public servants who shall continue, or become, members of any Orange lodge, or of any other association bound together in a similar manner.'

This was accordingly done. On February 25, 1836, the King (William IV.), at the request of the House of Commons, called upon all 'loyal subjects' to aid him in the measures he proposed to take 'for the effectual discouragement of Orange lodges,' and a few weeks later, on March 15, 1836, a Treasury Minute on the subject was issued to all the Departments of the Civil Service in the British Isles. Having quoted the words of the King's message to the House, it continues as follows: 'It has become the duty of my Lords to use every proper means to carry into effect his Majesty's most gracious message. His Majesty has been pleased to express his reliance on the fidelity of his loyal subjects to support him in his determination. My Lords entertain no doubt of the result of this appeal to his Majesty's subjects in general; but they consider that it has specially become the duty of all who serve, in whatever capacity, under the Crown, to act in immediate accordance with his Majesty's most gracious intention. They desire, therefore, that a communication should be made to the respective Boards and Heads of Departments under their control (transmitting to them a copy of the Minute), and that they should be directed without delay to make it known to all persons acting in any capacity in their respective Departments. My Lords further desire that they should inform their officers that it is the express direction of this Board that every party who is now a member of an Orange lodge, or any particular society excluding persons of a different religious faith, using secret signs and symbols, and acting by means of associated branches, should immediately withdraw from such society; and that no person in the Service shall hereafter become in any way a member of or connected with such a society. And if it hereafter become known to this Board that any public servant under their control shall, after this warning, either continue or become a member of such society, my Lords will feel it their duty, without hesitation, to dismiss him from the Service. Inform them

further that my Lords rely on their carrying the intentions of his Majesty and the directions of this Board zealously and impartially into effect.' We have lately given details of the great armed conspiracy which led to the suppression of Orangeism in Great Britain and Ireland and the British colonies—a conspiracy whose object was to prevent the accession of the Princess (late Queen) Victoria and to place the crown of England upon the head of their Imperial Grand Master, the coarse and brutal old *roué*, Ernest, Duke of Cumberland.

BULLET-PROOF CLOTH. THERE is a fashion in literature, music, and even in war, as there is in bonnets and skirts. And each, in its way, displays a marked tendency towards the revival of modes that are dead and gone. Magazine rifles, quick-firing artillery, and smokeless powder have made frontal attacks on entrenched positions practically impossible nowadays, and military men have for some time been seriously considering the desirability of equalising matters somewhat by reintroducing the shield as an adjunct to modern warfare. Various patterns have been devised by Maxim, Boynton, and others. The suggested protectors of Mr. Thomas Atkins's epidermis bears, however, little resemblance in its details to the old cowhide or timber or iron or bossed bronze bucklers which the warriors of long, long ago used to clang with spear or sword when going into battle in order to scare the fight out of their opponents. The new shield, as proposed, is a small structure made of a special kind of steel plate loopholed for rifle fire, and placed on the ground in front of each of the men who are attacking an entrenched position.

A few years ago, when Maxim, of automatic gun fame, had just brought out his particular pattern of protective shield, the newspapers were teeming with accounts of Father Casimir Zeglen's invention of bullet-proof cloth. Here was, indeed, a chance of reviving under strictly modern conditions, the protective armor of the middle ages—

The burgonet, the beaver, buffe, the collar, curates, and
The poldrons, grangard, vambraces, gauntlets for either hand
The taishies, cushies, and the graves, staff, pensell, baisses, all
The greene knight had tilted with, that held her love in thrall.

Father Zeglen was resident in Chicago. Private and public tests of his new and mysterious defensive fabric were made, and the most extravagant claims of its inventor were completely justified by the result. There was a fortune in store for Father Casimir. His bullet-proof cloth was desperately needed, first in the Spanish-American, and later on in the South African, war. But just when he had his hand on fame and fortune, Father Casimir and his textile armor suddenly went beneath the surface of things, and inquiring military valiants were left to twist the wax out of the tips of their moustaches in angry disappointment.

But the inventive Polish priest has risen to the surface again. And he has had sundry bullets fired at his chest with as much *sang-froid* and as little material damage as that prince of modern conjurers, Robert Houdin, when, at the request of the French Government, he gave to a crowd of disaffected Arab chiefs in Algiers an exhibition of his own (and incidentally of his countrymen's) invulnerability—to skilfully palmed 'bullets' that were made of black-lead and rammed into impalpable powder in the false barrel of a 'fake' pistol. But the weapons used upon Father Zeglen were American army revolvers. And the bullets were of the kind that speedily dissolve the partnership between soul and body, provided only that—like a famous nostrum of our time—they 'touch the right spot.' Father Zeglen's reappearance on the world's stage is described as follows by the Montreal *True Witness* from the reports of several of its contemporaries: 'Father Casimir Zeglen, of St. Stanislaus' Church, Chicago, is the inventor of a bullet-proof cloth. He brought a vest of this material up to the top floor of the City Hall to show it to the police chiefs who were meeting in national convention in the offices of the identification bureau. Some of the chiefs were sceptical as to whether the cloth would really stop a bullet, and so Father Zeglen gave them a practical demonstration. Policeman Antonio Depka fired a bullet point blank at Father Zeglen in the City Hall, Chicago, last week. The report of the policeman's revolver caused a sensation about the big building, but neither the explosion nor the bullet disturbed Father Zeglen. The bullet hit him full in the breast, but fell to the floor flat and harmless. Chief Kipley saw the shooting, but he only laughed. The father leaned over and picked up the bullet. "This vest," said Chief Kipley, speaking for Father Zeglen, "was invented here in Chicago by this clergyman. It will stop any kind of bullet you fire against it."

'REQUIEMS' **FOR THE LATE** **QUEEN.** FALSEHOOD often comes on the wings of lightning over the electric wire, while truth lags behind in the hold of a twelve-knot mail-boat or of a lumbering ocean tramp. One of the Munchausens who furnish these colonies with such peculiar views of Catholic happenings informed

the southern world—perhaps on no better authority than that of the *Daily Mail*—that the Pope had celebrated Mass for the soul of the late Queen and ordered services for her in the churches of Rome. The aged and venerable Pope was, says the *Catholic Times*, deeply grieved at the announcement of her death and spoke touchingly of her admirable qualities and the universal esteem she enjoyed. But the same paper has the following paragraph in the latest issue to hand:—‘The letter which his Eminence Cardinal Vaughan has sent from Rome, has dispelled the doubts raised by the evidently misleading telegrams of the Central News and the *Daily Mail* as to whether public requiem services were to be held by Catholics for the deceased sovereign. No exceptional course is to be adopted. The same rule is to be followed on this occasion as is observed in the case of all others who, in passing away, are not in visible communion with the Church. There will be no public prayers by Catholics, and this, as Cardinal Vaughan observes, is not only in conformity with Catholic custom, but also with the proprieties due to the deceased, for it would not be fitting that we should claim her as a member of our denomination, which we would be doing were we to perform in her behalf rites that are exclusively applicable to deceased Catholics. But if there are those who believe that one has died in communion with the soul of the Church, though not in external communion with it, they are at liberty to offer prayers and good works privately for the soul of the departed. Of course, in respect to the purely civil and social mourning and the civil honors in memory of the Queen, Catholics have the same freedom of action as all other citizens.’

PRIEST AND SOLDIER. WAR, pestilence, the trials of the foreign mission field—these are the occasions in which the value of a celibate clergy is so evident that the man who runs may read the

lesson. The celibate has no regrets—no one tugging at his coat-tails. The typical married clergyman—whatever his personal bravery and goodness of heart—has wife and little ones barring the path to the exercise of that heroic charity which faces all, risks, all, defies all, with a heavenly rapture of self-sacrifice. The splendid heroism of the priest came out in South Africa and at Santiago as it did at Liverpool in 1848, at Madras during the bubonic plague, at New Orleans in its periodical visitations of yellow fever, and in that lone island of death, Molokai of the Lepers. Another breezy instance of cheerful courage and high devotion to duty is recorded as follows by Mr. T. P. O'Connor in the latest issue of *M.A.P.* to hand: ‘Many are the stories that are being told about Father O'Leary, attached as Catholic chaplain to the first Canadian contingent in South Africa. The following, which I take from that sparkling little paper the *Outlook*, is particularly good, and show what a remarkable man Father O'Leary proved himself under the stress of campaigning. “Seek cover, Father, seek cover,” the troopers, themselves entrenched, would call again and again to him as he marched here and there amid the bullets, encouraging the men in action. But all the reply they could get was: ‘Faith, I'm all right, boys; the bullets don't come my way.’ And he certainly had a remarkable record of escapes. After one engagement, in which the Canadians suffered severely, he was to be seen going from wounded man to wounded man, giving the last consolation of religion to each.” But (says T. P.) with all his belief in his luck Father O'Leary was laid low and he has his tales to tell of hospital life.’

The story told in the columns of *M.A.P.* recalls to our minds the testimony given during the Spanish-American war by a Protestant soldier, Joseph Prauke, of Company C, Sixth Regulars, as he lay wounded in the Bellevue Hospital, New York. ‘If it had not been for the Catholic chaplains in the Santiago campaign,’ said he, ‘many more of our men would have lost their lives. I have seen them pick up wounded men in their arms and carry them out of the firing lines while the bullets whizzed all around them. Then they bound the wounds and gave the sufferers food and drink. I did not see chaplains of any other denomination on the firing line.’

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Mrs. Donald MacDonald, wife of the well-known Australian war correspondent, last month rode from Launceston to Hobart—a distance of 110 miles—in 12 hours, notwithstanding a strong head wind the whole journey. Mrs. MacDonald is a well-known Melbourne cyclist and journalist, and has, we believe, covered more country with the aid of her Dunlop-shod cycle than any other cyclist in Australia.—*.*

We have received from the Dunlop Pneumatic Tyre Company, Christchurch, their annual booklet, *All About Dunlop Tyres*, which is produced in an artistic style that reflects much credit on the firm. As the title implies, the publication is devoted to matters pertaining to pneumatic tyres—cycle, vehicle, and motor—and it is contained that after a study of the contents the veriest novice would be able to manipulate and repair a Dunlop tyre.—*.*

IN THE WAKE OF THE RISING SUN.

(By 'VIATOR'.)

Damascus, December 12, 1900.

SINCE Thursday morning, December 6, we tread the sacred, historic soil of Canaan—a land redolent of the earliest memories, the theatre of God's active, visible dealings with man, the scene of the most tragic and thrilling events in history, sacred and profane, the ‘Promised Land’ of the chosen people, a land flowing with milk and honey. From the time God blessed Noah after the Deluge, there is no record that the Divine Voice was heard by man till He appeared to Abraham when he dwelt in Mesopotamia. Four hundred years after the covenant with Noah and his seed the word of the Lord came unto the son of Thare, descendant of Sem: ‘Get thee out of thy country and from thy kindred and from thy father's house into a land that I will show thee; and I will make of thee a great nation and I will bless thee. . . . and in thee shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.’ And Abraham departed as the Lord hath spoken to him. Abraham went forth, therefore, to the Land of Canaan. And the Canaanite was then in the land. And the Lord appeared to Abraham and said: ‘Unto thy seed will I give this land’ (Gen. xii). And then Abraham built an altar to the Lord. This, then, is the consecrated soil on which we at length stood in wonder and thankfulness.

Critics of the final school may take exception to the heading I continue to use in these hasty notes put together at odd moments of rest and leisure from travel and sightseeing; but I would forestall the possible objection by stating that on proceeding south from Egypt we shall, still, in wending our way east through Syria and Palestine, travel towards the dawn, and so justify our title ‘In the Wake of the Rising Sun.’ I would also preclude against too high expectation on the part of your readers who may follow these jottings. Learned works there are of critical and historic worth bearing on the places made sacred in the Holy Land by the footprints of the Man God, by His prototypes in times past, by His heralds in apostolic days. Disability apart, nor time, nor opportunity is available for much work. My aim and object are to set down, from a pilgrim's standpoint, the impressions made as we visit scenes of the highest interest to Catholics, and to try to make your readers share in some measure the privileges and delight of our journey. This is my objective.

BEYROUT

After two days of quarantine, and due and jealous scrutiny of our passports we are given pratique and land on December 6 in high spirits in Beyrout at the foot of the Lebanon hills. The day we turn to account in true disciplinary energy by a visit to the city, the bazaars, the churches and other centres of interest in the headquarters of the Canaanite. Here we found French second only to the Arabic language, with a thin smattering of English. The big majority of the inhabitants—some 90,000—are Christians—Latins, Greeks, Maronites, Syrians, Armenians; while there are only about 36,000 Moslems. All honor to the Jesuit Fathers, the Lazarists, the Sisters of Charity, the Sisters of Nazareth and other communities for the excellent work they do in the up-bringing of the youth of this place. There is a Latin Archbishop with title of Papal Delegate of Syria. The city, elegantly perched on the slopes of Ras Beirût facing the sea, rises tier above tier to the plateau above. By evening light the crimson and purple tints of the mountain settling on the deep blue of the sea, glinting off the red roofs of the nestling houses, dying away in the haze of gathering shadows, make the picture of the prettiest. In full bloom are the anemone, convolvulus, crocus, cyclamen and other rich tinted flowers, and orange groves bending low under their weight of golden fruit stretch away over the plain.

The University of St. Joseph at Beyrout conducted by the Jesuits is an institution connoting the characteristic energy and ability and enterprise that mark the works of the great Company of Jesus. We were kindly shown over this vast establishment—the result of years of assiduous toil. Primary schools, secondary college, ecclesiastical seminary, medical school, chemical laboratory, each separate and distinct, cluster round the University, which thus throws its protecting arms over some 1,500 pupils. Attached to the University is a printing press which, we saw, turning out printed matter in French, English and Arabic in quite new and modern style. The morning of the sixth saw us off by train en route to Baalbek and Damascus. The climb up the ranges reminded us of the Rimutuka railway, and gave us over the bay in the brilliant morning light the loveliest glimpses of scenery. Some barren reaches of rock and sand were passed as we climbed Mount Lebanon and then we take to the high road for Baalbek. Our Moslem Jehu whipped his willing roadsters into a lively pace and rattled through the village, mid a bewildering crowd of camels and asses and dusk forms relieved in kaleidoscope by crimson fezzes and white turbans, and many colored flowing robes of black and blue and red and yellow. Little Mohammedan hamlets of mud-built huts, flat-roofed and unchimneyed looked down from the gentle rise, or peeped out from the lee of the hills further away where droves of cattle, and yellow goats, and fat-tailed sheep browsed undisturbed under the watch of much-mantled shepherds. It was cold between the hills, and the 30 miles posting to Baalbek has little of interest to show, leastways in winter time. The ruins of a watch tower, off the road, rising in gross monoliths are warning us that we are coming near to the ruined city of

BAALBEK.

A good two hours is still in hand, and keen as pointers for game, we pull ourselves together, and under the guidance of a local archaeologist we make for the ruins now standing out giant and gaunt in clear silhouette against the heavens. If all the ruins of ancient and modern Rome, it is authoritatively stated, were

grouped together, they would not in volume or extent equal the ruins of Baalbek. Seen at first in all their colossal grandeur, these ruins are magnificent, stupendous, awe-inspiring, unique, desolate.

'No, not in Egypt's ruined land,
Nor 'mid the Grecian Isles,
Tower monuments so vast, so grand,
As Baalbek's early piles.'

On the watershed, dividing the rivers Litany and Orontes, nearly 4000ft above the sea rise the ruins of Baalbek. The Baal-god of Joshua, the City of the Sun, or Heliopolis of the Greeks, was once a magnificent and flourishing city.

'All are gone once by one,
Save the temples of our sires.'

Though poverty, lethargy, decay are written big on the brows of those who eke out life round about the fallen city, still the Cyclopean masonry, the mammoth columns, the fluted pillars, the tracery of pediment and capital, the bold and noble arches—all tell in no halting language the magnificence and competency of those who in days gone by ruled and lived in Baalbek—Persian, Greek, Roman, Arab, Tartar—all have passed here in turn—all have left footprints on the sand. For centuries the Temple of the Sun, the Temple of Jupiter, and the Circular Temple have been the wonder of the world, and even now—at the end, in the last and dying hours, of a century of seething energy and mechanical and scientific progress—these fallen columns, and lonely pillars, keen cut against the sky, the ghosts and shadows of departed greatness, rising still in mute ambition on the slope of the Anti-Lebanon Hills, extort from the traveller the ungrudging tribute of awe and reverence.

'Baalbek is included among the most ancient cities of the world. All the nations that in turn took possession have dated its foundation from time immemorial. According to the legends passed down in the ages, Adam and the Patriarchs inhabited the country round about Baalbek. Adam lived in Damascus and died at Zébedani, quite near; Abylène, as the name shows, was the scene of the murder of Abel; Nêbi Schitt was the residence of Seth; Noah was buried at Karak-Neuh and his son Shem at Ham; Cain, in consequence of the curse fallen on him, constructed the tower and fortress of Baalbek to serve him as a place of refuge.' 'While Moslem tradition asserts that Abraham reigned at Damascus, and that Baalbek was his residence; that Solomon too had a magnificent castle built at Baalbek, the Christians of the Levant recognise in Baalbek the forest of Libanus where Solomon had a magnificent edifice constructed.'—(Alouf).

From the above it will be gathered that for its ancestral claims the ruined city of Baalbek has a proud pedigree to boast of.

'The huge blocks of these primeval constructions (Baalbek), without any claim to architectural style and capable of defying the onslaught of every century, carry us back to the remotest era of time. Such marvellous edifices in question only teach that here at Baalbek a race of giants worshipped the Sun God. Hidden at the foot of mountains, protected by Libanus against pirates from the sea, and by Anti-Libanus against the surprises of buccanera from the East, Baalbek was a city and sanctuary for the worship of Baal, whose mysteries must ever remain hidden by an impenetrable veil. Baalbek was ever a great religious centre, a renowned sanctuary of Baal, the capital of a priestly state. Reluctant to surrender its position of grandeur and activity to the neighbouring towns, it profited by the religious veneration with which it inspired them, and by their gifts and their resources, whereby were erected these gigantic, enduring monuments, the ruins of which are to all generations a source of admiration and wonder.' (Alouf). Baalbek has long been, and as I surmise, will long continue to be the favourite tilting ground of archaeologist and antiquarian, and while their researches have shed so far no fierce white light of historic truth on the origin of the ruined city, still much gain has accrued to our store of ancient knowledge from the untiring efforts of those whose leisure and taste lead them to devote to a fascinating subject their undoubted industry and ability. As Horace wrote:—

'Grammatici certant et adhuc sub judice lis est!'

The acropolis, commonly called Kalaat, composed of a series of temples, showing five terraces of deft and splendid sculpture, is a masterpiece of Greek architecture. The perfection of art and proof of prodigious strength are here seen at their best. Running underneath is a subterranean passage 28 feet in height. Several keystones of vaults bear inscriptions and figures of deities; and niches without end testify to the numbers of gods set up here for minor adoration and cult.

SOME OF THE RUINS.

'The great Temple of the Sun, the largest and most celebrated of antiquity, and magnificent still in its ruins is the structure that gave its name to the town of Baalbek or Heliopolis. Measuring 310ft in length from east to west by 148ft in breadth, it was enclosed by 54 unfluted columns in Corinthian style, 8 columns in front and 19 on each side. Of these, however, only six are standing. The others are lying on the ground, shattered and broken. Each column is composed of three enormous blocks, resting on a huge base, and is surmounted by a Corinthian capital of entablature, frieze, and cornice glistening with sculpture in which acanthus leaves, miniature lions and bulls, and tiny roses are well in evidence. To describe the great court or Pantheon, the small Temple of Jupiter, the Arabic Citadel, the Temple of Venus, the Necropolis, is beyond the purpose of these notes. Let me only add, as showing beyond yea or nay, the stupendous proportions of these structures, that the Cyclopean Wall of the Temple of Baal is a "trilithon," composed, as its name indicates, of three blocks of hewn stone of phenomenal size, laid on a basis of six blocks, nearly as large, at the height of 28 feet above the level of the ground. The first of the three, on the right, measures 65ft in length; the second, 64ft 10in; the third 63ft 2in, all 13ft 6in in height and doubtless the same in depth.

Hence each block has a volume of from 323 to 328 cubic metres, and a weight of about 707 tons. Putting seventy of these stones end to end they would extend close on a mile in length. In spite of their immense size these stones are so accurately put in position and so carefully joined that it would be almost impossible to insert a sheet of paper between them. No description can convey a shadow of the over-weighting effect produced by their stupendous size, or a tithe of the veneration felt for the hands which in the long, long ago adjusted them in permanent position. Though shaken by earthquakes, notably in 1759, many of the pillars still remain in position monuments of power energy and mechanical force. Five minutes' walk from the village is still seen the quarry from which these stones for the temple were hewn. Still seen there are blocks vertically hewn, which were intended for the temple and ramparts. At the entrance to the quarry, not far from the road, is the enormous stone Hagar-el-Houbia, never lifted from its resting place, though hewn and squared. It measures 69ft in length, 15ft 10in in breadth, and 13ft 10in in height, making a solid weight of 915 tons. How and by what mechanical means these stones were moved to the city and accurately and elegantly put in position is a problem that still exercises and defeats the ingenuity of scientist and expert. To move the last-mentioned stone, it has been calculated, would need the united efforts of 40,000 men. Our astonishment still grows when we look at the high position these miniature mountains were moved to, and the accuracy with which they were laid in position.

In the silence of the evening, when darkness was faintly dispelled by the struggling gleams of pale moonlight, fascination prevailed, and we gravitated towards the pile of ruins that, like giant spectres, gaunt and towering, stood out across the hill. The picture and the effect were intensified in the shadows of night:

'For the gay beams of lightsome day
Gild but to flout the ruins grey.'

Pillar and column and arch and broken wall, dismantled, crumbling, defiant withal of the ravages of ages, wrought an impression not soon to be blotted out. As under a spell we gazed 'and still the wonder grew,' as though the flickering shadows mantled betimes in sable pall of night, lintel and frieze and architrave, and peristyle and entablature and grinning gargoyle looked down from the fixity of ages in gloomy triumph over the havoc of time, 'majestic tho' in ruins.' In fancy we peopled the courts with the busy forms and busy brains and deft hands and brawny arms that away in the dawn of ages left to feeble generations monuments that stand out as imperishable memories to heroes of toil.

On our way to our hotel, we called on the local Maronite priest to make arrangements for morning Mass, for was not the morrow to be the feast so dear to us, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Our Blessed Lady? With Syrian courtesy he received us in his humble room, made us welcome, passed us the cigarette of peace and conversed with us for a time in broken French. The church was at our disposal. Early next morning, while the dim dawn had hardly broken, we were at the church and satisfied our devotions before resuming our three hours' drive to Muallaka.

THE CORONATION OATH.

NEWSPAPER PROTESTS.

THE *Weekly Argus* (Greymouth), of March 8, in the course of a leading article on the subject of the Coronation Oath, asks: 'What need can there be for putting into the mouth of Royalty expressions that cannot but jar on the feelings of all Catholic subjects.' 'It is really inexplicable (adds our West Coast contemporary) that the Crown, under which Catholics hold the most exalted offices in the public service, should be subjected to an unnecessary slur because of a particular form of religious faith and especially in an age in which religion counts for so very little in the conduct of public affairs.' Having quoted the words of the Coronation Oath, the *Argus* says: Any impartial person not desirous of flouting or insulting fellow-Christians serving the country as well as their neighbors will admit that no section of Christianity should be subjected to a humiliation that is altogether needless, and agree that it is time the coronation oath should be recast and the useless, unnecessary, and offensive expressions altogether eliminated. The British Government have always been particularly careful to avoid offending the caste customs and prejudices of their Indian soldiers. Surely they are entitled to do as much for their Catholic subjects.

The *Free Lance* (Wellington), of March 2, having quoted in a leader the clauses of the Oath which denounce the Mass and the veneration of the Blessed Virgin and the Saints as being 'superstitious and idolatrous,' goes on to say: 'It is a deep and gratuitous outrage upon the most sacred and cherished beliefs of a large and loyal and eminently law-abiding section of His Majesty's subjects. It is a flagrant violation of that spirit of toleration, and freedom of opinion, of which it is our perpetual boast that we, as a people, are the peculiar champions. It is repugnant to our ideas of liberty of conscience, and absolutely out of keeping with the age in which we live. Just as well might the King be required to take an oath denouncing as an impostor and a charlatan the founder of Mohammedanism, whom sixty-five millions of British subjects revere and hold in highest veneration as the Prophet of God. If the King must publicly brand certain cardinal doctrines of the Romish Church as 'superstitious and idolatrous,' why should the King stop there? Why not also call upon him to declare that the rite of baptism by immersion, as practised by the Baptists, is heretical; that the Wesleyan system of itinerancy is opposed to the safety of the State; and that the Presbyterians' substitution of a Confession of Faith for the 39 Articles, and their preference for the Geneva gown and bands as a badge for their clergy, rather than the surplice, is at

variance with good morals and the respect which is due to persons in constituted authority? The man who would seriously promulgate such a form of oath would be laughed to scorn as a crank. But the difference between it and the coronation oath, by which the King is now obliged by law to offer insult to the deepest feelings of his Roman Catholic subjects, is only one of degree. In essence and principle they are the same. This coronation oath is a relic from bigoted times. It is a startling anachronism which, but for the abnormally long reign of the Queen, would have been ended long ere this. It places an unwarranted stigma upon 11 millions of our Roman Catholic fellow-countrymen. Why, of all the multitudinous religious beliefs which are entertained and preached by subjects of the British Empire, should theirs be the only one singled out for this public reproach and studied dishonor? They have given to our common country generals, admirals, judges, statesmen, governors of colonies. Their blood has been lavishly poured out in defence of and for the advancement of the State. They form the bulk of the population of Ireland, and in every walk of life, and in every function of citizenship, they discharge their duties with the same zeal, loyalty, and patriotism as their fellows who profess other religious creeds. There is no reasonable excuse for the longer retention of that antique coronation oath. It is foreign to the spirit of the age, and must go.

In an interview with a representative of the *Catholic Press*, Cardinal Moran, after having referred to the words of the Coronation Oath, said: 'Since these words were adopted Mohammedans have become an integral part of the Empire in England and elsewhere, and yet in the coronation oath there is no insulting reference to the Mohammedan creed or to the Hindoos or other pagan subjects. Catholics are singled out, and their religion foolishly insulted on such a solemn occasion as the coronation of the Sovereign, and they cannot tolerate it.'

A writer in the Auckland *Herald* says in the course of a vigorous letter upon the subject: 'To put the matter briefly, we are told that Protestants are justified in forcing the King's conscience and compelling him to be a Protestant whether he likes it or not, simply because the Protestants are in the majority, and they have put themselves to a great deal of trouble and expense in obtaining power to enslave the King's soul, and to make him barter his liberty of conscience for the luxury of wearing a crown. As to the argument founded upon the Protestant majority, it vanishes into thin air when we remember that they are in reality only a very trifling minority of the new King's subjects, being only 70,000,000—as against 330,000,009 of non-Protestants. If the King's religion must be that of the majority I fear that King Edward VII. can be neither Protestant nor Catholic, nor indeed a Christian of any color, but just a Mohammedan, a Buddhist, or an idolater or pagan of some sort, since these kinds of people constitute the vast majority of his subjects. Again, if the Protestants of former times went to a great deal of expense and trouble in doing a manifest wrong by forcing the King's conscience and degrading their monarch to the condition of a gorgeously upholstered puppet, instead of a King who could call his soul his own, are the enlightened Protestant Christians of the present day justified in perpetuating the enslavement and degradation of his person—merely because their less enlightened and more bigoted forefathers set them this evil example?'

Diocesan News.

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON.

(From our own correspondent.)

His Grace Archbishop Redwood has been the victim of an attack of rheumatism and is spending some time at Rotorua.

The addition of a number of Sister Agnes's pupils just made to the Sacred Heart Church choir, Thorndon, should prove a great acquisition to that body.

The Very Rev. Father Keogh, rector of St. Patrick's College, will sing High Mass on St. Patrick's Day at St. Joseph's Church, Buckle street, and will preach in the evening.

The last mail brought news of the Ven. Archdeacon Devoy, Provincial, from Dublin. At the time of writing he was in excellent health.

Rev. Father S. Mahony, of St. Patrick's College, is to replace Father Ainsworth in the work of accompanying his Grace for the purpose of preaching missions and collecting throughout the archdiocese for the new Cathedral.

Miss Kate Connell, one of Sister Agnes's most promising pupils, is touring New Zealand with a concert company of her own prior to her departure for Europe. A farewell concert at the Opera House is to be given next Thursday evening. She has met with a warm reception in the northern towns, where she has had most successful concerts.

Given good weather on Saturday week there should be a good attendance on the Basin Reserve at the sports to be held by the St. Patrick's Day Celebration Committee. Splendid entries have been received for the different events. A valuable cup, presented by Mr. Payne, a well-known citizen, is to be added to the list of trophies to be competed for. The Garrison Band has been engaged for the day. In the evening a national concert for which some of Wellington's best talent has been engaged will be given in the Opera House.

On Saturday last three of the Marist Brothers were making oxygen for experimental purposes when an explosion occurred, resulting in their being thrown to the ground and more or less injured. Brother Alfred, whose injuries are more severe, was burned about the face and his left eye severely injured. Brother Aiden received an ugly wound on the arm, pieces of the retort being blown into the flesh above the elbow, and Brother Borgia was

rendered temporarily deaf. Dr. Collins was in attendance in a few minutes after the accident happened. He was very much exercised lest Brother Alfred would lose his sight, but is now satisfied that no permanent injury will result. It will be fully a month before Brother Alfred will be able to leave his room. The others, Brothers Aiden and Borgia, are about their work as usual.

On Monday last the marriage of Miss Isabel Poll, eldest daughter of Mr. G. Poll, of Thorndon, to Mr. Wilfred Scale, eldest son of Mr. William Scale, of Collingwood, took place. The Rev. Father Holley performed the ceremony. Owing to a late bereavement in the bride's family the wedding was very quiet. The bride was attired in a silver-grey costume trimmed with white silk, and was attended by her sister, Miss Ethel Poll who wore white. Mr. Medcalf acted as best man, and the bride was given away by her brother, Mr. C. Poll. The honeymoon is being spent in the Wairarapa district.

The reception of Miss Isabel Keenan, of Auckland, took place in St. Mary's Convent chapel last Sunday afternoon. The ceremony was performed by Very Rev. Father Lewis, V.G., assisted by Rev. Father Holley. Miss Keenan's train-bearers were Misses Harnett and Bunney. Very Rev. Father Lewis, addressing the postulant, took for his text, 'If thou wilt be perfect, sell what thou hast, give to the poor, and come follow Me.' He said these words were addressed to the young man in the Gospel by our Divine Saviour and on this occasion could be applied to one about to become a religious, the spouse of Jesus Christ, and spoke of the great grace bestowed on her destined to so high a calling. Concluding, he congratulated the postulant, summarising the words of St. Bernard, who said a religious lives more purely, falls more rarely, rises more quickly, advances cautiously, rests more calmly, dies more confidently, and is rewarded more munificently than they to whom the grace of a vocation is not given. The young novice's name in religion is Sister Mary Agatha. The friends and relations were entertained at the convent after the ceremony.

The Rev. Father Kreymborg, from Tanpo, is at present in Wellington on business connected with an educational matter, the conduct of which appears to cover a grave injustice to Catholic Maori children. The late Hon. McLean bequeathed a scholarship at Te Aute College to Maori boys, and a Catholic in Father Kreymborg's district was this year the successful candidate. At the college mentioned which, by the way, is a purely denominational institution, in no way connected with the State, students, besides attending usual Church of England services held there, are, I am informed, compelled to study a course of Anglican doctrine, and for this reason Father Kreymborg endeavored, unsuccessfully, I regret, to have the scholarship transferred to St. Patrick's College, so that the boy might receive the benefit of instruction in the faith he professes. The Government annually makes grants in aid, about £20 each I believe, towards the higher education of native boys showing a special aptitude, and Father Kreymborg naturally expected that such a grant would in this case be available to a boy who by public examination has proved himself especially worthy of such a concession. In this, also, he has been disappointed. Further efforts on his behalf are being made, but in any case the boy's parents are decided that he shall attend St. Patrick's College, where he began studies this week.

PALMERSTON NORTH.

(From our own correspondent.)

March 8.

The few Palmerstonians who attended the Connell Concert Company's concert last evening struck a real treat. In the opinion of those who heard her she gives promise of developing into one of the first singers in this Colony. Miss Kate Connell, of Hawera, was trained at St. Mary's Convent, Wellington, and received the Royal Academy gold medal for singing ability a little more than a year ago, and is now raising funds for the development of her rich voice in Europe. This alone should give our Catholic readers at least sufficient impetus to go and hear her wherever she may touch on tour. Mr. J. Higham, her manager, is to be congratulated on the success he has hitherto met in such a worthy cause.

The all absorbing topic in town is at present on the annual grand concert and social in connection with the festival of St. Patrick. It will this year take place on Monday, the 18th inst., in Theatre Royal. With such artists as Mrs. W. P. Kendell, Misses M. Hickley, Rose Rush and M. Scanlon, and Messrs. Arthur Bennett, J. Bett, W. Gamble, F. Dallow and T. Rodgers success is guaranteed, and the public may look forward to a real treat. I understand the influential committee have restricted the items to purely national items and songs.

NAPIER.

On Sunday evening, March 3, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, there was a large congregation at St. Patrick's, and the Very Rev. Dean Grogan preached on the subject of 'Transubstantiation and the new King's oath.' Amongst the congregation were many Protestants, Dean Grogan, taking for his text the words of the institution of the Blessed Eucharist from St. Matthew's Gospel, said, of the many serious news we have received from Home of late, not even excepting the demise of the late esteemed Sovereign or the appointment of her successor, none was so serious, so far reaching or concerned Catholics so much as the 'Oath of Accession' with which the new monarch, Edward VII., has inaugurated his reign, if the cable message be reliable. The other news only prove the instability and changeable nature of things earthly, whilst this news attacks the supernatural and encroaches on the domain of God

Himself as well as on the interests of millions of human souls. The substance of this so-called royal oath consists in this, that King Edward VII., in presence of the Parliament of the nation and in the face of the civilised world, calls God to witness that the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and the invocation of the saints is idolatrous and superstitious. The Dean then showed how Christ instituted the adorable Eucharist, how He gave the Apostles the power not only to do the same, by making them participate in His own divine priesthood, but also gave them the power to communicate this priesthood to others, namely their successors. It was in this way St. Paul and all the bishops and priests coming after the Apostles received the power to consecrate the bread and wine into the sacred Body and Blood of Christ. This power is transmitted by the channel of Holy Orders from Christ at the Last Supper table through the Apostles to every bishop and priest in the Church to the end of time. Hence Transubstantiation is the doctrine of the Catholic Church in all nations for 1900 years, and it is to-day the faith of 260,000,000 Catholics spread throughout the world. How then (continued the preacher) does the question stand? We have on the one side this vast number of Catholics in every age who build their faith on the infallible authority of the Church, 'the pillar and ground of truth,' which Christ commands us to hear and obey. Open the inspired word of God Himself, open the writings of the Fathers as well as on the practices of the saints and the faithful in all past ages. On the other side we have the King of England's royal oath, a sort of a last relic of the penal times, the outcome of the Puritan hatred then in England, which has no parallel in the history of civilised nations. The preacher then explained what an oath is, and how as an act of religion, it is the only means adopted by civilised nations of ascertaining the truth in all cases of doubt. As such, he continued, an oath must have three qualities, truth, justice, and judgment. In the oath of the new King we fail to find even one of the required qualities. The truth of the oath is not founded on the King's own scholarly abilities in being able to study the question even to his own satisfaction. It is not found in history, even in that of his own country, much less in the monuments and practices of the people of England in the past. Where is the justice of such an oath, not only to the Catholics of England and the Empire, but to those of other nations? It is not complimentary to them or their fathers before them to have their religion branded as idolatrous and superstitious? Is there any judgment on the part of a Christian monarch in all this? All honor to the great and noble-minded O'Connell who spurned the idea of taking such an infamous oath. If the French nation (continued the Dean) appointed a king to-morrow and, in contempt of Protestantism, put on his lips an oath to say that the Protestant religion is undoubtedly a human invention, that private interpretation is but a scheme invented by the first reformers to elude the authority of the Catholic Church, what would English Protestants say, though such an oath would have the support of all authenticated history? Need we then feel surprised to hear that Cardinal Vaughan, the chief Catholic authority in England, appointed a special day for a general Communion and a public act of reparation in the churches of England in atonement to God for the insult offered Him by such a blasphemous oath, particularly when taken by the sovereign of the nation. The preacher concluded by asking his hearers to pray together with their brethren throughout the kingdom that the time may not be far distant when this infamous relic of the penal times may be a thing of the past, and that the present sovereign may be the last to have the cowardice to commit himself to it. Dean Grogan said he would take the invocation of saints and the King's oath on next Sunday evening.

The celebration of the national feast in this parish this year promises to surpass all its predecessors. The social gathering in the Gaiety Theatre is to be preceded by a grand Hibernian procession accompanied by two bands through the principal streets to the hall. It is fully intended that everything connected with it is to be entirely Hibernian. It is anticipated that the Irishmen of the city will have a large amount of support from outsiders and from many friends in the country districts. Besides the beautiful national banner imported recently by Mr. John Higgins from Dublin two others are on their way for private families, and are expected to be here for the celebration.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

March 11.

Sir Westby B. Perceval is at present in Christchurch. After staying here some short time he goes to Dunedin, spending several months, it is said, in New Zealand before returning to England.

The Rev. Father Cooney was, on Sunday, inducted to the charge of the Lyttelton parish by his Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Grimes. Mass was celebrated by Father Cooney and the Bishop preached to a crowded congregation.

In the presence of a large gathering at the Catholic school Ashburton, on Tuesday evening last the Rev. Father Crotty, who is leaving the district, was presented with an address and a purse of sovereigns. The address, which was read by Mr. L. Hanrahan, was printed in gold on green satin. This, with the purse of sovereigns, was handed over by Mr. F. Cooper, the chairman of the meeting.

The Old Boys' Association of the Marist Brothers' School met for a social evening on Monday last in their club rooms, about 100 being present. Among the guests were the Rev. Fathers Galerne and McDonnell, and Brother Arthur. Father Galerne contributed several songs, which were much appreciated, whilst the members of the society, who were attired in the most grotesque style possible, in keeping with the nature of the entertainment, a 'Hard-up Social,' gave items which did not fail to interest and amuse the company.

The following are the names of the successful candidates from the Convent of Mercy, Colombo street, who passed the Trinity College examination held here last November:—Senior division—Mary C. Cremin (singing), 67; Margaret Zita Flynn (pianoforte), 75. Junior division—Lizzie Joyce (pianoforte), 72; Hilda Flynn (violin), 70. Preparatory division—Nessie Bower (pianoforte), 72; Nellie Turner (pianoforte), 67.

Every effort is being made to ensure the success of St. Patrick's day celebration. A first class concert programme is being arranged, and the services of Miss Rose Blaney, who has been specially engaged to come from Dunedin, together with all the leading vocalists of Christchurch have been secured. It is confidently anticipated that the spacious concert hall of the Exhibition Buildings will be thronged on the occasion. It is pleasing to note that year by year a higher tone is aimed at in these gatherings, which do so much to cement the good feeling existing among the people of Ireland when it is a question of celebrating the annual festival of her patron saint.

The Christchurch Catholic Club held their usual weekly meeting on Tuesday evening. Mr. E. O'Connor, vice-president, was in the chair, and there was a large attendance. Four new members were balloted for and elected, and the nomination of several others was received. The evening was principally occupied in the discussion of matters regarding the future operations of the Club. A great deal of practical interest was shown by those present, this proving that the Association is possessed of the right element to ensure permanent good results. Negotiations are in progress for the acquisition of suitable rooms, a billiard table, and all things needful for carrying on the Club.

PRESENTATION TO FATHER COONEY, KUMARA.

A REPRESENTATIVE gathering of Catholics and of other well-wishers met last evening in St. Patrick's schoolroom, Kumara (says the Greymouth Star, March 5), for the purpose of presenting a farewell address to the Rev. Father Cooney who has received notice of removal to the charge of an important parish in Canterbury.

Mr. Robert M'Glone was voted to the chair and briefly explained the objects of the meeting. He expressed the pleasure it afforded him to be present and preside over such a representative meeting, although he stood almost alone of the older generation who had assisted at similar functions in the past. He was glad to see that the young men were following in the footsteps of their fathers. He then called on Mr. Joseph Sherlock to read the following address:

'Rev. and dear Father,—We, the undersigned, on behalf of the parishioners of Kumara and surrounding districts, having heard with pain of your approaching departure from amongst us, beg to express our heartfelt sorrow at the loss the parish is about to sustain. Though your stay with us has been all too short, we have nevertheless learned to appreciate your many excellent qualities of head and heart. As a priest, by example and precept, you have endeared yourself to us, and we would be wanting to allow you to take your departure without in some way showing our appreciation of your worth. The time at our disposal has been so short that we have been unable to mark our full sense of gratitude in a manner worthy of the occasion and that would leave no doubt as to the sincerity of our sentiments. We trust, however, that you will accept this address, not merely as an expression of our sorrow at your departure, but also as the forerunner of a more practical and tangible gift shortly to follow. In conclusion, we pray that God may grant you the graces and blessings necessary to enable you to overcome all difficulties you may meet in your new sphere of labor.'

Signed on behalf of the parishioners,

D. F. O'Hallahan, Jos. P. Sherlock, R. M'Glone, H. Burger, T. P. Fogarty, Thomas Moynihan, W. B. Gilbert, J. Murphy, J. Monaghan, and P. Galligan.

The Rev. Father Cooney, in replying, referred to the difficulty he experienced in finding words to fitly express his sense of gratitude, not merely for the present action of the people of Kumara, but for the kindness and generosity shown him on all hands during his stay. He had done nothing to deserve it. He had never met a more hospitable people, and the time he had spent in Kumara was amongst the happiest of his life. He referred to the grand broad spirit of Christian charity exhibited by all denominations in Kumara, and he hoped and prayed that such would continue to strengthen. After once again thanking those present, the rev. gentleman resumed his seat amid rounds of applause.

The Rev. Father O'Hallahan referred to the sorrow he experienced in losing Father Cooney. They had at all times got on exceedingly well together, and from his perfect knowledge of the parish he could always leave the guest of the evening in charge with perfect confidence had he occasion to go for a few days to any outside district. Besides this, the Rev. Father Cooney had a happy knack of winning the good will of non-Catholics.

Mr. J. Carey also spoke a few words of regret and good wishes.

PRESENTATION TO FATHER MAHONEY, THAMES.

ON the evening of February 24 an address and purse of sovereigns were presented at St. Francis's Church, Thames, to the Rev. Father Mahoney by Mr. J. M. Foy on behalf of the congregation. Father Mahoney (says the local Star) holds a large place in the affections of his people and in the estimation of the general public. Mr. Foy made a few introductory remarks and then read the following address:—

'Dear Rev. Father.—We, the Catholics of the Thames, assemble here to-night to express our sorrow at your departure from us, and to wish you every happiness in the new and extended sphere of usefulness to which the voice of God, in that of your superiors, has appointed you. During the short space of time in which, owing to the absence of our revered pastor on a more important mission, the care of this parish was assigned to you, we have seen how nobly and faithfully the onerous duties which that charge entailed have been discharged by you. Your priestly example has during these two years been the guiding star of those who outside the Sanctuary gates strive for the heavenly crown, and your kindly words have never failed to cheer those who have toiled with you, to comfort those on whom God's chastening hand has been laid, and to reclaim to His love and service the erring children of our holy mother the Church. Whilst assuring you of our hearty appreciation of these services and wishing you many years of health and happiness to continue your noble work, we wish also to assure ourselves of your kindly remembrance by your acceptance of the accompanying purse of sovereigns as a token of our good wishes in your regard, which will, we hope, often remind you also of praying for every temporal and spiritual blessing for your devoted children, the Catholics of the Thames.'

With the address Mr. Foy handed a purse to Rev. Father Mahoney, which was well filled with sovereigns.

In the course of his reply Father Mahoney said that he was afraid that the Catholics of the Thames were giving him credit for far more than he deserved, as they must not forget that when he came here he found he would have no difficulties to contend with, for owing to the administration of Monsignor O'Reilly everything was in perfect order, and so the kindly construction they placed on his efforts was perhaps not so well merited as it would be if the progress of the parish were due to his own initiative. He had come to the Thames with most pleasant anticipations of his stay here, which had been most fully realised, for everybody he met in Auckland who knew the Thames and knew he was coming, promised him that he would like his sojourn among the people of the district. One of the last persons he spoke to before leaving was an Anglican clergyman of his acquaintance, formerly stationed here, who assured him that he would like the Thames people of all classes and creeds, and he now found that after a stay of two years that such was indeed the case, for he could not wish to dwell among a more friendly and sociable class of people on the whole than those of the Thames, and he could quite understand Father O'Reilly's reluctance to leave them. What he appreciated most about the address and presentation was the cheerful and spontaneous manner in which they were given, and that his people should have shown their esteem for him in such a substantial way considering the short time he was among them. He would never forget their kindness wherever he might be, and hoped that he might yet be permanently located among them.

On Friday, March 1 (writes a correspondent), the pupils attending the Convent High School met in the schoolroom to say 'good-bye' to the Rev. Father Mahoney, who had been in charge of the Thames parish during the past two years. As a small token of their gratitude and esteem they presented him with a handsome reading lamp, and an address was read by Miss Nelly McDonnell, in which the children expressed their sorrow at having to say farewell to one in whom they had always found the kindest of friends and wisest of counsellors. They hoped he would carry with him many a pleasant memory of the Thames, and as they wished also to be kindly remembered by him, they trusted their little gift would serve to brighten many a dark hour, and be a constant and cheerful reminder of the many little friends who would treasure his memory at the Thames.

In reply, the Rev. Father thanked them from his heart for their beautifully worded address, and assured them that their gift would be highly treasured by him and would constantly remind him of the many bright hours he had spent with them. Also that he could find no words to express fittingly his gratitude to their parents and themselves for their great generosity towards him, and that in return he could only pray for every blessing for them. After giving his benediction to them he bade farewell to each child and left by the afternoon boat for Auckland. Crowds of people assembled at the wharf to say a last farewell to the Rev. Father, who during his stay at the Thames had endeared himself to all classes and creeds.

The Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly is expected back at the Thames in a few weeks, and until his return the parish will be served by different priests from Auckland.

During the Pontificate of Leo XIII.—1878 to 1900—no fewer than 134 of the Cardinals have died. Only four still live who were his fellow Cardinals under his predecessor, Pius IX.

One applicant for an old age pension at Bendigo, Victoria, in giving evidence as to his antecedents, claimed to be a nephew of William IV., and stated that his father was the British admiral who first planted the Union Jack on the Island of Ceylon. He was granted a pension of 5s per week.

Bishop Gaughran, who died recently at Kimberley, South Africa, and whose name was prominently before the public during the siege, was a distinguished member of the Oblates. Dr. Gaughran, who was a powerful and brilliant preacher and a devoted Prelate, was also a very effective platform speaker and an ardent advocate of Home Rule. So far back as September, 1887, when Bishop of Kimberley, he not only attended but spoke at a great mass meeting of Irishmen in favor of Home Rule which had been convened to hear an address on 'An Irish National Cause' from Mr. Swift MacNeill. It was then stated, and the statement was not traversed, that Dr. Gaughran had broken the record in being the first Colonial Bishop who had addressed the audience from the platform in favor of Home Rule.

Friends at Court.

GLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR.

- March 17, Sunday.—St. Patrick, Apostle of Ireland.
 " 18, Monday.—St. Gabriel, Archangel.
 " 19, Tuesday.—St. Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church.
 " 20, Wednesday.—St. Cyril, Bishop, Confessor, and Doctor of the Church.
 " 21, Thursday.—St. Benedict, Abbot.
 " 22, Friday.—St. Frigidian, Bishop and Confessor.
 " 23, Saturday.—Feast of the Most Precious Blood.

SAINT PATRICK.

St. Patrick, the illustrious apostle of Ireland, was born in A.D. 387 at Bonaven Tabernie in Armorican Gaul—Tabernie, or Travena, was near the site of the modern Boulogne-sur-mer. His father Calpornius, was the son of a Frankish chieftain, and at the time of Patrick's birth, was serving as a legionary officer. His mother, Conchessa, was a lady of gentle birth, and was probably grandniece of St. Martin of Tours. Both she and her husband were Christians, the latter having embraced the religion of his wife along with his father Potitus, who was raised to the ranks of the priesthood after the death of his wife.

Though brought up in the Christian religion, St. Patrick tells us in his celebrated 'Confession' that at the age of 16 he was still ignorant of God, which probably means that he had not yet attained to that lively knowledge and ardent love of God which then began to penetrate his soul. At that period he was carried into captivity by a band of marauders, who took him over to Ireland and set him to keep the cattle among the forests and mountains. Here he was exposed to many hardships and privations, but while his body suffered, his soul was strengthened by the exercise of prayer and the frequent consideration of the vanity and emptiness of earthly things. At the end of six months he succeeded by a special Providence in effecting his escape and returned to his own country. Some years later he was again carried off, but recovered his liberty after two months.

Meanwhile Patrick was inspired by God with an ardent desire for the conversion of the inhabitants of that pagan island which had been the scene of his sufferings, and it was revealed to him, moreover, that he himself was chosen for that glorious work.

On one occasion he beheld in a vision the children of Ireland stretching out their hands to him and imploring him to come to their relief. The tender heart of our saint at once responded to the call, and for some years he devoted himself to prayer and study in preparation for the work of the apostolate. After receiving the sacred orders of deacon, priest, and bishop in his own country, as he himself tells us, Patrick set out for Rome to implore from Pope Celestine his blessing on the work which he had undertaken. It is probable that at this time he visited St. Martin of Tours and St. Germanus of Auxere, making some stay in France on his way to the Eternal City. The holy Pontiff received him with paternal affection, and bestowed upon him his apostolic benediction, together with full powers for the prosecution of his mission. He then set out on his return, A.D. 432, and undeterred by the remonstrances of his friends and relatives, crossed over to the land of his former captivity which God had given him for his inheritance.

During the twenty-eight years of his laborious apostolate, St. Patrick penetrated into almost every part of Ireland, and has everywhere left memorials of his presence in the traditions of the people. God confirmed the truth of his preaching by innumerable miracles, and he is said to have raised no less than nine dead persons to life. But it was, more than all, his invincible patience and tender charity which won the hearts of his hearers and transformed the most savage natures into models of gentleness and docility. Wherever he went he erected churches and monasteries, and ordained priests and bishops to minister to the wants of his converts. He established his Episcopal See at Armagh, where he had built a monastery and where the Primacy has always remained in honor of Ireland's apostle. It is recorded that he held several councils to regulate the discipline of the Irish Church, and that on two occasions he visited the Tombs of the Apostles. So successful were the labors of this great saint, that he not only converted during his lifetime the whole of the island, rendering it a fruitful garden of saints, but he implanted the seed of faith so deeply in the hearts of his people that no storm of persecution nor artifice of man has ever been able to eradicate it. To St. Patrick is due also the introduction into Ireland and rapid spread of sacred and profane learning, which found an asylum in the monasteries and a congenial soil in the minds of the people. Thus it was that that country, which had hitherto been regarded as a land of infidelity and barbarism, became suddenly transformed into an island of 'Saints and Scholars.'

St. Patrick lived to an advanced age and went to his reward about A.D. 460. He was buried in Down, in Ulster.

It makes a great difference in the force of a sentence whether a man be behind it or no.

Death is the most solemn moment of our existence; it is then that the devil has the last battle with us. It is as if he were playing a game of chess with us and was watching the moment of death to give us checkmate. He who gets the better of him then has won the battle of life.

Reason knows that man becomes dwarfed the moment he loses hold of God, and that the bond between him and God—religion—ceases to be religion if it discards its sovereign attributes. If it declines from doctrinal truth and becomes but literature, philosophy, or art, it can do nothing more for man.

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(Late R. J. B. Yule),

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goodwill of Mr. Yule's practice, would like
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entered into by Mr. Yule for mechanical
work or otherwise, will be carried out by
him without any difference in fee. Any
alterations and so on free of charge.

HOURS OF CONSULTATION—9 a.m.

5.30 p.m., and 7 to 8 p.m.

Hospital patients attended to Tuesday and
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This well-known Hotel is in close proximity
to both Railway Stations, thereby offering
great facility to the travelling public of
being able to leave by the early trains.Guests may depend upon being called in
time, a porter being kept for that purpose.The Bedrooms are well and comfortably
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Choicest and Best Brands. Dunedin XXXX
Beer always on tap.Tables d'Hôte daily from 12 to 2, and Meals
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Proprietor - P. MCCARTHY.

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well furnished throughout and is now one
of the most comfortable Houses in Otago.
Suites of Rooms have been set apart for
Families and every attention has been paid
to the arrangements for carrying on a first-
class trade. Hot, Cold, and Shower Bath.

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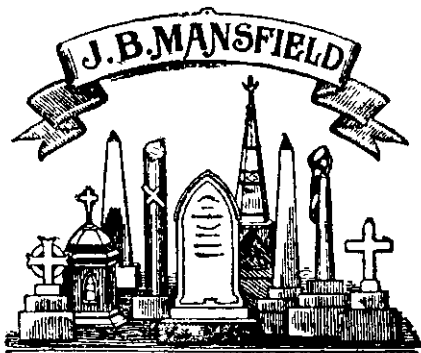
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Late of the Oban Hotel, Dunedin,
Bids to notify that he has taken Donaldson's
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and Princes streets, Dunedin, where he will
be glad to meet his friends.The Hotel is newly built, has excellent
accommodation for families, and all the
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including hot, cold, and shower baths, are
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ORDINARY TEA, AND GOOD READING
FOR NOTHING.GLADSTONE HOTEL,
MACLAGGAN ST., DUNEDINJOHN COLLINS (late of the Al Hotel,
Pelichet Bay), PROPRIETOR.Having leased the above centrally situated
Hotel, the proprietor is now prepared to offer
First-Class Accommodation to the general
public. The building has undergone a
thorough renovation from floor to ceiling.
The bedrooms are neatly furnished and well
ventilated.Tourists, Travellers, and Boarders will find
all the comforts of a home. Suites of rooms
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Hot, Cold, and Shower Baths.

A SPECIAL FEATURE—Is LUNCHEON
from 12 to 2 o'clock.The Very Best of Wines, Ales, and Spirits
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Accommodation for over 100 guests.

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Irish News.

ANTRIM.—The Sisters of Nazareth in Belfast.—Bishop Henry, writing to the Reverend Mother of the Nazareth Convent, Belfast, highly commends the labors of the Sisters of Nazareth among the poor of his diocese, and especially in the matter of making provision for the waifs and strays of the Catholic youth in Belfast who need the refuge and protection of such a home. The Sisters also attend to the needs of 160 old men and women and of 320 orphans. The Sisters undertook to receive and board any Catholic children sent to them by the Board of Guardians in Belfast, but Orange bigotry was too strong to consent to such a proposal, though it would be an immense advantage to the children to be free from workhouse environment, and brought up in a healthy moral atmosphere. It would cost the Guardians no more, and there is precedent for such action, notably in Lancashire.

Mr. T. W. Russell uses Strong Language.—A largely attended and representative meeting of the tenant-farmers of East Antrim was held about the middle of January in the M'Garel Town Hall, Larne, at which Mr. T. W. Russell delivered a very vigorous speech. He declared that he had made up his mind that there could not be peace in Ireland—that there should not be peace in Ireland—so long as this land question was in its present state.

CLARE.—Derelict Farms.—Of the 120 evicted farms in the County of Clare 47 are derelict.

CORK.—The Lord Mayor.—Alderman Fitzgerald was elected Lord Mayor in opposition to Mr. Eugene Crean, M.P., the voting being 28 to 24. Mr. Roche was proposed by the Commercial Party, but withdrew in favor of Alderman Fitzgerald. Alderman Kelleher was proposed by the Labor Party but withdrew in favor of Mr. Crean.

No Criminal Business for the Judge.—At the Quarter Sessions for the East Riding of Cork the Recorder was presented with white gloves, there being no criminal business.

A Missionary College.—The object of the African Missionary Society of Lyons is to educate priests and nuns for the missions belonging to that body in West Africa and the Egyptian delta. A suitable college exists in the beautiful demesne of Wilton, in the immediate vicinity of the city of Cork. Some years ago the present Rev. Superior collected the purchase-money in his travels on the Continent and in the United States, and now the college contains about 40 students, all destined for the arduous missions of Ashanti, Dahomey, Benin, etc. Owing to recent additions, the college is capable of accommodating many more, so that the Superior offers a golden opportunity to Irish and English youths with the desired vocation.

A Hospital Fund.—An influential and representative meeting was held recently in the Municipal Buildings, Cork, in order to establish a 'Hospital Aid Society' for the purpose of organising systematic collections throughout the county in connection with the Cork Hospital Saturday Fund.

DOWN.—The Memorial to Lord Russell of Killowen.—The memorial to Lord Russell of Killowen in Epsom Cemetery will take the form of an elaborately worked dressed granite enclosure wall, to enclose a space of 27ft by 20ft, rising to an average height of about 6ft. Large pillars, each weighing about a ton, will be placed at the corners, centre, and sides of the gateway. The work will be Irish in character, and is being carried out at Newry Granite Works, near to Killowen.

DUBLIN.—The Hibernian Bank.—Mr. John Murphy (of Messrs. Palgrave, Murphy, and Co., 17, Eden Quay, Dublin) has been appointed Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Hibernian Bank, Limited, in succession to the late Right Hon. Joseph Michael Meade.

Stiff Damages.—A somewhat notable case was lately concluded in the Dublin Courts, in which the plaintiff was Mrs. Egan, wife of the Swordbearer of the Dublin Corporation, and the defendants the proprietors of the *Freeman's Journal*. Mrs. Egan was knocked down by a *Freeman* van in O'Connell street, and run over by another van following. She was laid up in hospital for a time, and admittedly suffered injury. This the *Freeman* people admitted, and they doubtless offered what they deemed fair compensation. Mrs. Egan, however, claimed £5000, and with the Lord Chief Justice on the bench and Mr. Healy as her counsel, she got £2000 from a Dublin jury. There was the direst conflict between the medical evidence on both sides. One set of doctors swore that there was reason to apprehend permanent injury. Another set, including some of the most eminent surgeons in Ireland, swore that there was no reasonable ground for such apprehension. As it came out in the evidence that the *Freeman* had referred Mrs. Egan to an insurance company when first she intimated her claim, it looks as if the leading Irish paper may philosophically regard the verdict that Mr. Healy's eloquent advocacy had obtained.

Serious Fire in a Distillery.—On the morning of Thursday, January 17, a serious fire broke out in one of the grain stores of the Phoenix Park Distillery at Chapelizod. On the fire brigade arriving, they found the two buildings of which the distillery is mainly composed well ablaze, and at once they set to work to get a water supply on, which, after some time, they succeeded in doing. The old building was well in the grasp of the fire ere the water began to be effective, while the newer building was steadily being seized upon by tongues of flame. However, there was not much grain stored in this portion of the distillery, as it had only recently been rebuilt. The bulk of the grain was in the other premises, and it was on this that the efforts of the brigade were powerfully

directed. Fortunately the whiskey was stored in the rear portion of the premises, and this minimised the risk which the firemen ran in fighting the flames. All the distillery machinery was destroyed, and of course the large stock of grain was completely consumed also. The damage done is estimated at £10,000.

GALWAY.—Looking after the Poor.—Lady Morris and Mrs. W. Perse did a great deal during Christmas and New Year time to gladden the hearts of inmates of the Galway Workhouse.

KERRY.—Death of a Prominent Killarney Man.—The death is announced of Mr. W. P. McCarthy, at his residence Inch House, Killarney. Deceased was a member of one of the oldest Catholic families in Kerry, and as a solicitor and coroner for some years was widely known and respected.

No Work for the Judge.—There being no criminal business to be considered at the Killarney Quarter Sessions, the usual presentation of white gloves was made to County Court Judge Shaw. His Honor commented on the pleasing fact, which he took to be a good one considering that he was sitting at the beginning of a new century.

KILKENNY.—Election of Mayor.—There was no contest in Kilkenny for the Mayoralty, as Mr. Joseph Purcell was elected unopposed.

LIMERICK.—The City Mayoralty.—There were three candidates for the Limerick Mayoralty—Alderman Daly, the outgoing Mayor, Sir Thomas Cleeve, and Councillor Barry. In the first poll Cleeve received 15 votes, Daly 12, and Barry 11. Mr. Barry then fell out and in the final Mr. Daly secured 20 and Mr. Cleeve 15. The minority included seven Nationalists and three members of the Labor Party. Considerable excitement prevailed during the election.

A Modern Solomon.—Judge Adams has not forgotten his early Bible lessons. While hearing a dog case at Limerick some weeks ago, the genial Judge tried to emulate King Solomon's performance in deciding between the two women who were claiming possession of a child. The Judge produced a toy terrier, amidst the laughter of the court, and placed it before a big St. Bernard, whose character as a peaceable canine had been maligned. The dog took no notice of the toy and the case was immediately dismissed.

Death of a Christian Brother.—The death took place in Limerick recently of Brother J. P. Mulcahy, a respected member of the Christian Brothers' community. Brother Mulcahy was one of the staff in charge of St. Joseph's Industrial School, and was a great favorite with the boys, and the members of the Order. His death, which is greatly regretted, took place after a brief illness.

LOUTH.—White Gloves for the Judge.—At Drogheda Quarter Sessions Mr. J. J. Russell, sub-sheriff, presented his Honor Judge Kiskey with a pair of white gloves, there not being any criminal cases for trial. His Honor expressed his pleasure at finding Drogheda crimeless at the beginning of the century.

The Mayor of Drogheda.—Councillor John Downey has been unanimously elected Mayor of Drogheda.

TIPPERARY.—The Coadjutor to the Archbishop of Cashel.—The Bishops of the Ecclesiastical Province of Munster met in Thurles on Thursday, January 17, at the Palace, in order to confer regarding the appointment of a coadjutor with right of succession to the Archbishop of Cashel. The names of the candidates selected by the Canons and parish priests of the united dioceses of Cashel and Emly at their meeting were submitted for consideration. The conference was of a strictly private character, and the result of the deliberations was transmitted to the Cardinal Prefect of Propaganda, Rome, to be placed before the Holy Father.

Extensive Flour Mills Burned Down.—On the morning of January 20, the Burrow Mills, situated about two miles from Roscrea, and belonging to the monks of Mount St. Joseph Abbey, were discovered to be on fire. The fire was first discovered by one of the workmen, whose dog gave notice by loud barking and piteous howling. On the alarm being given about half-past two a.m., some of the monks and all the people of the district rushed to the scene of the catastrophe, but all efforts to save the plant or grain were unavailing, for the fire by that time had obtained complete mastery, and the flames shot upwards, illuminating the sky and surrounding district. The fire is supposed to have originated in the kiln. Besides a quantity of grain and flour stored in the mills at the time, the machinery, consisting of the newest patent roller pattern, was totally destroyed. The damage is estimated at about £1000. Great sympathy is felt with the good monks, who at great expense endeavored to resuscitate one of the dying industries of the country. The loss to them is great, as the mills were not insured.

TYRONE.—The Omagh Guardians.—A breezy controversy, at a recent meeting of the Omagh Guardians, arose out of an application for outdoor relief made on behalf of an old man named Donnelly, of Fintona. Apparently the Board hesitated to make a grant because some relatives of the applicant expressed their willingness to house and support him. This drew from the Protestant Rector of Fintona, who was a supporter of the application, the statement that the applicant 'was in his early days a Roman Catholic, but abjured that faith long ago.' He feared that the proffered hospitality of his relatives implied an attempt on their part to induce him to return to the 'errors of Rome.' Unfortunately the Board deals with such applications in a purely utilitarian way, and so the grant was not made, the case being continued for further inquiries. A charge made by the Rector of Fintona against Mr. Culgin, one of the Guardians, that he was guilty of religious

favoritism in his dispensing of relief, drew from the gentleman impugned the reply that of the seven applications for outdoor relief supported by him up till the present, five were for Protestants and two for Catholics, an unanswerable rejoinder.

WICKLOW.—A Link With the Past—There died on January 11, in the townland of Ballynultagh, a short distance from Shillelagh, a man named Denis Kealy, who had attained a remarkably advanced age. He was of a robust constitution, and was in his usual state of health almost to his death, which came rather suddenly. By his demise is severed one of the closest ties of the present time with the troubled period of 1798, for he was the son of one of the bravest and most fearless Wicklow pikemen. Poor old Denis gloried in the deeds of his father, and was wont to tell the youths who gathered round his hearthstone the trials and escapes of his sire during the Insurrection in all the battles in which he took part, from Oulart to the end. The interment took place in Kilquiggan cemetery.

GENERAL.

A Contrast.—The recent death of an Irish-American army pensioner, named McKeown, at Stewartstown, is a reminder that there are no less than 400 such pensioners in Ireland drawing sustenance from Uncle Sam's bounty. Their pensions vary from £2 to £9 monthly, according to disability. Even widows and children of Irishmen who have fought and bled on behalf of the United States Government against the Confederates are in receipt of comfortable pensions from across the Atlantic. This state of affairs stands out in bright contrast with the treatment dealt out to those who have suffered amid Crimean snows and on the South African veldt under the Union Jack. One striking instance of the American Government's generosity in this regard may be cited in Dublin, where there at present resides an Irish veteran who lost an arm in one of the fights around Richmond in the Civil War of '61-'65. This man is in receipt of £9 per month from Washington, and every three years is allowed a sum of £10 for the purchase of an artificial arm.

Building Societies.—According to the annual return issued recently, the number of building societies existing in Ireland during the year '99 was 81, possessing a total membership of 14,619. Their total receipts during the year amounted to £187,999, giving an average for each society of £7506, while their total liabilities were £882,115, and their total assets (exclusive of prospective interest) £852,603. One finds that the great majority of the societies are confined to the three cities—Belfast, Dublin, and Derry—Belfast having 35, Dublin 23, and Derry 19, Cork being a long way behind with 4 only. While, however, Dublin has to take second place to Belfast in the number of its societies, it is easily first as regards the extent and importance of their transactions. The annual receipts of the Dublin societies amounted during '99 to £312,696, as against £65,696 for those of Belfast, one Dublin society alone—Irish Civil Service Permanent—having a membership of 1143, with annual receipts amounting to £278,353.

Proposed Visit of the King and Queen to Ireland.—People throughout Ireland will feel particularly concerned at the announcement that the King and Queen have, after anxious deliberation, decided to include Dublin in their coming tour in Ireland. The Royal party will arrive in Dublin on April 23, and will visit the Leopardstown races.

The Bank of Ireland Benefits by the War—There is one institution in Ireland at any rate which has reaped some advantage out of the war. At the half-yearly meeting of the Bank of Ireland, the chairman intimated that under the Appropriation Act of 1900 the bank had made advances to the British Government to the extent of a million pounds upon satisfactory terms. Amongst other things made clear by the war this is yet another exemplification of the proverb respecting the 'ill wind.' Bankers, some at least, coal syndicates, and others have had good reason to rejoice exceedingly over the outbreak of hostilities, which has afforded them such an unique chance of pushing business. To do them justice they have availed of the opportunity to the fullest extent. The directors of the Bank of Ireland have declared a dividend of 6 per cent. on the half-year, or 12 per cent. per annum. There has been an increase in circulation during the six months, showing an increase of £117,000 over the corresponding period of 1899, which had recorded the highest point reached for several years. So that altogether this bank appears to have traded exceedingly well throughout the stirring year just ended.

A RICH RETURN.

When a mixture attains so wonderful a success in so short a time as Tussicura has managed to do, it is difficult to speak of the matter in a way that does not appear like exaggeration. Let us look back at the career of this extraordinary medicine from the start. It is only a few months since the proprietor launched it upon the market, and, as it was produced in a comparatively obscure town in Central Otago, it will be seen that the inventor was considerably handicapped. There was no idea of putting forth a cheap mixture—for there are only too many of these before the public at the present time—but the object in view was to use the very best drugs procurable after a careful consideration as to the effect they would have on the systems of persons suffering from particular complaints. People are, not unnaturally, chary of trying a new remedy unless it comes to them heralded by all sorts of bold advertisements, and the proprietor of Tussicura, although he might have expected to have an extremely hard fight in convincing the public of the excellence of his preparation, is naturally gratified at its immediate success. At the same time he recognises that, in order to recoup him for his large expense that he has been put to in preparing the mixture, he must seek a wider field, and the number of testimonials he has received amply justified him in anticipating a success.—*.*

People We Hear About.

When the last mail left Home Dr. Lieber, leader of the Catholic Centre in the German Reichstag, was seriously ill.

There were six Popes in the nineteenth century, Pius VII. from 1800 to 1823; Leo XII. from 1823 to 1829; Pius VIII. from 1829 to 1830; Gregory XVI. from 1831 to 1846; Pius IX. from 1846 to 1878; Leo XIII., the present supreme pontiff, elected February 20, 1878.

Samuel Lewis, the well-known Jewish money-lender, who died in England the other day, left a fortune of between three and four millions, and made bequests to charities amounting to over a million. Under his will the Sisters of Nazareth, Hammersmith come in for £20,000.

Miss Eugenia Washington, a grandniece of George Washington, the first president of the United States, died last November in Washington. A memorial *Requiem* Mass was celebrated for the repose of her soul, December 31, in St. Patrick's Church, Washington. She became a Catholic about 30 years ago.

There was lately buried at the Carlton Catholic Church, England, the venerable Mr. Himsworth, who had reached the patriarchal age of 94. Mr. Himsworth was created a Knight of the Order of St. Gregory, by the Pope, in 1882, for founding a college at Cork, to educate Catholic priests for the African Mission. Ushaw College knew him as a benefactor, and he was one of the principal contributors to the Goole Catholic Church. He gave nearly £50,000 to Catholic institutions.

Colonel Bryan Mahon, the dashing cavalryman who relieved Mafeking, is to be banqueted by his friends of the County Galway, from which he hails. Colonel Mahon, who earned the mess soubriquet of 'The Mahout,' while he was in India, would much rather fight through a heavy battle than attend a banquet in his own honor, but his Galway admirers, proud of the lustre his gallant behaviour has shed upon the old soldier-breeding county, are not to be denied, and he will have to 'face the music.' Colonel Mahon is now 38. He joined the army 17 years ago, so that he has a splendid record for his length of service.

Sir William Butler, who took the chair at the lecture delivered recently by Dr. Todhunter before the London Irish Literary Society, received the cordial welcome of which he has always been secure in any gathering of his fellow-countrymen. Of the many generals with which England has been supplied by the sister country, the *Daily Chronicle* says, Sir William is perhaps the only one who has been sympathetic to national aspirations. There were many Butlers with Farsfield, the Irish General whose patriotism was the topic of the evening. More effective, therefore, was the allusion Sir William made to the illness of the Queen, and to the loyalty which Ireland has shown to her person, and was willing to show again.

Sir Frank Smith, who died early in January in Toronto, was born in County Armagh 79 years ago. When at an early age he went to Canada, he was both penniless and illiterate. He became a clerk in a store, rose to be manager, and afterwards opened a grocery business on his own account in London, Ontario. He went to Toronto in 1867, opened business as a wholesale grocer on a large scale, and retired in 1891 a millionaire. Twenty years before this he was summoned to the Senate by Lord Lisgar, and from 1882 onwards was a member of five successive Conservative Cabinets. In 1894 he was offered the Premiership, but declined in favor of Sir Mackenzie Bowell. He was knighted the same year. Sir Frank was a Catholic.

The death is reported of Mr. Benedict O'Toole, the editor of the *Advertiser*, Birkenhead, England, which took place early in the 31st year of his age. Mr. O'Toole's genial characteristics and his abilities were well known. The position which he had attained at so early an age was a deserved tribute to his journalistic talents. Born in Birkenhead, and educated at St. Francis Xavier's College, Liverpool, Mr. O'Toole was articled to the late Mr. Benjamin Haram, editor and proprietor of the Birkenhead *Advertiser*, in the year 1889, and so highly were his services appreciated that before he had even completed his indentures he became sub-editor and chief of the reporting staff, and since Mr. Haram passed away in 1897 Mr. O'Toole had filled the editorial chair with conspicuous success. He was a typical Irishman, and eminently popular with his colleagues of the press. He was a member of St. Werburgh's congregation, and for years was a bass soloist in the choir, and, a musician of no mean ability, he also held the post of assistant organist. His eldest brother is the Very Rev. Canon O'Toole, D.D., of Oswestry, and his mother, who in her time was noted as a singer, Miss Robson being her name, had just returned from Rome as one of the band of pilgrims under the guidance of the Duke of Norfolk.

Insure your crops by purchasing McCormick machinery. The best in the world. Costliest to build, best to buy, and easiest in the field.—*.*

The McCormick Harvesting Machine Company built and sold 213,629 machines in the season of 1899. This is the greatest sale of harvesting machines ever made by one company.—*.*

Did you ever read *Heaven's Babes*, and do you remember the delightful enthusiasm of little Toddy when he got at the internal workings of somebody's watch and wanted to see 'the wheels go round'? And does it occur to you that wheels occupy a pretty important part in cycles? We have realised this fact, and as an evidence of the attention given the subject, want you to examine the latest Sterling chain, chainless, and free wheels. Built like a watch. New shipment just landed. Morrow, Bassett, and Co.—*.*

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

TABLISHED 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 Wakannui 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.

JONES PLANO LEVER BINDER.

Jones Chain Drive Mowers, Light-Running, Keen cutting. Two sprockets, one chain constitute the mechanism of the Plano Mower. Simplest and Strongest Binder on earth.

Great Binder Competition.—We are pleased to inform you that at a Binder Trial, held under the auspices of the Inverk Society, Kilkenny, Ireland, the following was the result:—

PLANO 1st PRIZE and SPECIAL GOLD MEDAL.

We are also happy to state that we received from the hands of the Royal Cornwall Polytechnic Society Highest Award, First Prize, and Special Gold Medal for our Binders and a Special Medal for our Sickle Grinders. Also Special Gold Medal for our Reapers and Binders at the Paris Exhibition.

TOTHILL, WATSON, AND CO.,

SOLE IMPORTERS,

OTAGO AND SOUTHLAND.

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.

THOMSON, BRIDGER AND CO.,
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, '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 March 13.)

PRODUCE.

London, March 7.—The wheat markets generally are steady, but the Paris and Berlin are weaker. Cargoes are neglected and unchanged. Thirty shillings and ninepence is asked for Victorian, off coast.

Butter: Slow. Choicest colonial, 10s; Danish (dull), unchanged.

London, March 10.—Frozen Meat.—Crossbred wethers and maiden ewes—Dunedin and Southland, 4½d; other sorts, (including River Plate) are unchanged. Lamb: Fair average, 5½d; prime, unchanged. New Zealand beef: 180lb to 220lb fair average quality—ox foies, 3½d; hinds, unchanged.

Napier, March 7.—Nelson Bros. received the following cable from the Colonial Consignment and Distributing Company to-day: 'Frozen meat market continues to decline. North Island mutton has fallen another eighth of a penny per lb. To-day's quotations are: Best Canterbury, 4½d; best Napier and North Island, 4d.'

The Hermione's cargo of New Zealand wheat sold at 29s 4½d. Wellington, March 11.—The Agent-General's cablegram to the Government on March 9 was: 'Butter, 102s; Danish, 108s; dairy supplies in hand; market dull. Cheese, 49s, market lifeless. Hemp market firm and good; fair Wellington, L24; stock on March 1, 1774 tons. Fair current Manila, L23 10s; stock, 13,570 bales. Cocksfoot unchanged.

Messrs. Donald Reid and Co., report as follows:—

OATS—We offered a fair selection of medium to good feed, for which there was little competition. The market is at present without much life, late values being barely maintained. We quote: Prime milling, 1s 6d to 1s 6½d; good to best feed, 1s 4½d to 1s 5½d; medium, 1s 3d to 1s 4½d per bushel (sacks extra).

WHEAT—Prime milling is in fair demand at late values. Medium sorts are not in favor with buyers, but fowls' wheat meets with some demand at late quotations. We quote: Prime milling, 2s 6d to 2s 7d; medium, 2s 3d to 2s 5d; whole fowls' wheat, 2s to 2s 2d; broken, etc., 1s 8d to 1s 11d per bushel (sacks in).

POTATOES—Heavy supplies came forward for sale to-day, and prices obtained show a decline of 15s to 20s on those of last week. Best Derwents sold at L4 to L4 5s—choice to L4 7s 6d; medium, L3 10s to L3 15s; kidneys, L3 5s to L4 per ton (sacks in).

CHAFF—The market is fully supplied, and prices for nearly all classes are a shade weaker. We sold best oaten sheaf at L2 7s 6d to L2 10s—extra heavy to L2 12s 6d; medium to good, L1 15s to L2 5s per ton (sacks extra).

Messrs. Stronach Bros. and Morris report as follows:—

WHEAT—No change in values to report. Prime milling Velvet and Tuscan, 2s 6d to 2s 7d; medium, 2s 3d to 2s 5d; fowl wheat, 2s to 2s 2d; do., broken, 1s 8d to 1s 11d per bushel, sacks in.

OATS—Market unchanged. Milling, 1s 6d to 1s 6½d; good to best feed, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; medium, 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d per bushel, sacks extra.

CHAFF—Market fully supplied. Prime oaten sheaf, L2 7s 6d to L2 12s 6d; medium, L2 to L2 5s per ton; bags extra.

POTATOES—Owing to large quantities coming forward prices have declined 15s to 20s per ton. Best derwents, L4 to L4 7s 6d; kidneys, L3 10 to L4 per ton; bags in.

WOOL, SKINS, TALLOW, ETC.

London, March 6.—At the tallow sales 1175 casks were offered and 141 sold. Mutton: Fine, 29s 3d; medium, 27s. Beef: Fine, 27s 6d; medium, 26s.

London, March 7.—The Antwerp wool sales have opened. Prices for merino are on a par with January rates; crossbred showed a decline of five to 10 centimes. One thousand and eighty-seven bales of Australian were offered and sold at prices equalling those at last London sales.

London, March 10.—At the sheepskin sales there was fair competition. Merino were unchanged, and there was less demand for crossbred, which showed a five per cent. decline.

The Antwerp wool sales are closed. Prices remain unchanged. Only half of the River Plate wools offered were sold.

Messrs. Stronach Bros. and Morris report as follows:—

RABBITSKINS—Market very firm. Winter greys, 16d to 17d; Springs, 8d to 13½d; Summers, 6d to 9d; small, 3d to 5½d per lb.

SHEEPSKINS—Market firm at late quotations.

HIDES—In good demand. Prime heavy ox, 4d to 4½d; medium, 3½d to 3¾d. Cow hides, 3d to 3½d per lb.

TALLOW—Best rendered mutton, 17s to 18s 6d; medium, 14s 6d to 16s; rough, 11s 6d to 13s per cwt.

LIVE STOCK.

ADDINGTON STOCK MARKET.

FAT CATTLE—154 head yarded, including a few really good steers. Bidding was dull and there was no alteration in prices, still ruling at from 17s 6d to 22s 6d. Good steers realised from L8 10s to L12 6s; others, L8 17s 6d to L8; best heifers, L7 10s to L9 5s; others, L5 5s to L6 10s; cows, L5 to L7 17s 6d. Dairy cows were in good demand, best selling at from L7 10s to L9 12s 6d, and others from L3 10s to L6 10s.

STORE CATTLE—There was a good entry and good demand. Two-year-old steers brought L4 12s 6d; three-year-old heifers, L5 5s to L5 10s; two-year-old, mixed, L3 18s 6d; 18-months-old, L1 17s 6d to L2 10s; 15-months-old, L1 11s; yearlings, 29s 6d; calves, 26s; dry cows, L2 5s to L4 5s.

FAT SHEEP—About 3000 yarded, of a rather indifferent quality. There was a fair sale for wethers at from 16s to 19s 3d; Chatham Island wethers, 14s to 14s 1d; best ewes, 15s to 17s 6d; others, 11s to 14s.

FAT LAMBS—The yarding comprised 3400 of fairly good quality. There was an improved demand, and an advance of 6d per head took place for best sorts. Two thousand three hundred were taken for freezing at from 13s to 15s 6d, and up to 16s 8d for extra prime; others, down to 11s. Eight hundred were withdrawn and go the factory on vendors' account.

STORE SHEEP—These numbered 11,260, mostly ewes. With the exception of best sorts the market was easier. Wethers brought from 14s 2d to 16s 7d; good, young ewes, 15s to 18s; medium, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; culls, down to 5s; lambs, 12s to 13s 5d for forward, and down to 9s for backward.

PIGS—About 400 yarded. Fats met with a good demand, but stores were easier. Baconers realised from 35s to 48s, or 3½d per lb; porkers, 22s 6d to 32s 6d, or 4d per lb; stores, 11s to 22s; small, 6s to 9s.

SOUTHLAND PRODUCE MARKET.

Invercargill prices current:—Wholesale: Butter, fresh, 7d, factory, bulk, 10d; pats, 10½d; eggs, 1s per doz; cheese, farm, 3½d; bacon, farm, 7d; do (rolled) farm, 6d; hams 8d; potatoes, L4 per ton; barley, 2s to 2s 6d; fowl wheat, 2s; chaff, L2 10s; flour, L6 10s to L7 5s; oatmeal, L9 10s to L10; pollard, L4; bran, L3 10s, including bags. Retail—Fresh butter, 9d, factory, bulk, 1s; pats, 1s 0½d; eggs, 1s 3d per doz; cheese, 6d; bacon, rolled, 8d, sliced 9d; hams, 10d; potatoes, 5s per cwt; flour, 200lbs, 14s; 50lb, 4s; oatmeal, 50lb, 6s; 25lb, 3s; pollard, 6s 6d per bag; bran, 4s per bag; chaff, L3 per ton; fowls' feed, 2s 9d per bushel.

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

AUCTIONEERS AND STOCK AGENTS,

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

Invercargill, Gore and Bluff.

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).

B O U S K I L L A N D M C N A B

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.

B O U S K I L L A N D M C N A B,
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.

S C O T I A H O T E L

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.

N E W B U T C H E R Y.

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.

G E O R G E D E N N I S,

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.

E. W. DUNNE, BOOKSELLER,

43 GEORGE STREET, DUNEDIN.

JUST REMOVED TO NEW PREMISES.

Special inducements are now offered to Customers and the General Public to kindly inspect our NEW STOCKS in every line.

Just Opened :

THE LATEST IN BOOKS, STATIONERY,
AND ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF GENERAL & FANCY GOODS.

Inspection freely invited.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

D U N E D I N P A W N O F F I C E,

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. A N D W. G R A N T

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.

H U G H G O U R L E Y

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.

S A N I T A R Y P I P E

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.

U N I O N S T E A M S H I P COMPANY OF NEW ZEALAND LIMITED

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

LYTTELTON and WELLINGTON—

Moana*	Thurs., March 14	2.30 p.m. tr'n
Te Anau	Fri., March 15	3 p.m. D'din
Waikare	Tues., March 19	2 p.m. D'din

*Takes no coastal cargo.

NAPIER, GISBORNE and AUCKLAND—

Te Anau	Fri., March 15	3 p.m. D'din
Waikare	Tues., March 19	2 p.m. D'din

SYDNEY, via WELLINGTON—

Moana	Thurs., March 14	2.30 p.m. tr'n
Talune	Thurs., March 21	4 p.m. D'din

SYDNEY via AUCKLAND—

Waikare	Tues., March 19	2 p.m. D'din
Mararoa	Tues., April 2	3 p.m. D'din

MELBOURNE via BLUFF and HOBART—

Monowai	Sun., March 17	1.30 p.m. D'din
Mokoia	Mon., March 25	3.35 p.m. tr'n

WESTPORT via GREYMOUTH. Cargo only

Corinna	Wed., March 13	noon, D'din
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WESTPORT via TIMARU, LYTTELTON

and WELLINGTON. Cargo only.

Upolu	Fri., March 15	3 p.m. D'din
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GREYMOUTH via OAMARU, TIMARU,

LYTTELTON, WELLINGTON and

NAPIER (cargo only).—

Janet Nicoll	Fri., March 15	3 p.m. D'din
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SOUTH SEA ISLAND SERVICE.

For FIJI (From Auckland).

Taviuni	Wed., April 3	
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TONGA, SAMOA, FIJI, and SYDNEY

(From Auckland.)

Hauroto	Wed., March 13	
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RAROTONGA and TAHITI.

(From Auckland.)

Ovalau	Tues., April 9.	
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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.

DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS.

Messrs. Wright, Stephenson and Co. report as follows:—

There was a large entry for this week's sale. The supply included one team of eight carrier's horses from Mr. John Drummond, of West Taieri, a shipment of 20 useful semi-draughts from New South Wales, a consignment of hacks and light harness horses from Timaru, and the usual collection of dealers' horses. Mr. Drummond's team commanded the most attention, the prices realized ranging from L32 to L51 10s. For all other consignments the sale was a dragging one, and although in the long run a fair number of horses changed hands, it was at prices decidedly lower than we have been accustomed to of late. First-class young and staunch horses, whether they be draughts or harness ones, are in strong demand, and find a ready sale at quotations. We have several inquiries for superior heavy draught geldings, four to six years old, and for first-class, well-matched pairs of buggy, wagonette, and carriage horses. We quote:—Superior young draught geldings, L45 to L55; extra good prize horses, L56 to L65; medium draught mares and geldings, L30 to L40; aged do, L20 to L27; upstanding carriage horses, L25 to L30; well-matched carriage pairs, L70 to L100; strong spring-van horses, L28 to L35; milk-cart and butchers' order-cart horses, L14 to L21; tram horses, L10 to L15; light hacks, L8 to L15; extra good hacks, L20 to L30; weedy and aged hacks and harness horses, L2 to L5.

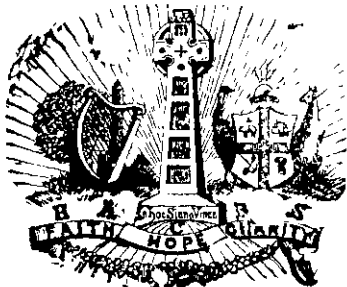
Mr. F. MEENAN, King street, reports:—Wholesale prices only—Oats: Feed, fair to good, 1s 4d to 1s 6d; milling, 1s 6d to 1s 7d. Wheat: milling, 2s 5d to 2s 7d; fowls, 1s 9d to 2s 2d. Potatoes: New, local, L4. Chaff: Good demand for prime up to L2 12s 6d; inferior, hard to sell; medium, L2 5s. Straw: pressed 37s, market fair; loose, 30s. Flour: Sacks, 200lbs, L7; 50lbs, L7 10s; 25lbs, L7 15s. Oatmeal: 25lbs, L9 10s. Butter: Dairy, 6d to 8d; factory, 9d to 10d. Cheese: Dairy, 5d; factory, 5d. Eggs, 1s 4d; Onions: Melbourne, L9; Canterbury, L6 10s.

A beautiful human soul always suggests God, as the shining in the still waters at night makes us instantly aware that a star is above us. We do not need to look at it; we know that it is there.

When a great lord seeks hospitality of a poor countryman, with what eagerness does he not give him the place of honor in his house, taking the lowest place himself! Even so should the body treat the soul.

Like a morning dream, life becomes more and more bright the longer we live, and the reason of everything appears more clear. What has puzzled us before seems less mysterious, and the crooked paths look straighter as we approach the end.

It is said that Savonarola applied to St. Francis de Paul for counsel soon after entering the Dominican Order, and in a letter to a friend St. Francis alluded to this, and predicted that Savonarola would be 'a reformer in the Church, that he would convert many, and die the martyr's death.'



HIBERNIAN-AUSTRALASIAN CATHOLIC BENEFIT SOCIETY,
NEW ZEALAND DISTRICT, No. 3.

The Catholic Community is earnestly requested to support this excellent Organisation, for it inculcates a love of Holy Faith and Patriotism in addition to the unsurpassed benefits and privileges of Membership.

The Entrance Fees are from 5s to £4, according to age and time of Admission.

Sick Benefits: 20s per week for 26 weeks, 15s per week for the next 13 weeks, and 10s a week for the following 13 weeks. In case of a further continuance of his illness a member of Seven Years' Standing previous to the commencement of such illness will be allowed 5s per week as superannuation during incapacity.

Funeral Allowance £20 at the death of a Member, and £10 at the death of a Member's Wife.

In addition to the foregoing provision is made for the admission of Honorary Members, Reduced Benefit Members, and the establishment of Sisters' Branches and Juvenile Contingents. Full information may be obtained from Local Branch Officers or direct from the District Secretary.

The District Officers are anxious to open New Branches, and will give all possible assistance and information to applicants. Branches being established in the various centres throughout the Colonies an invaluable measure of reciprocity obtains.

W. KANE,
District Secretary,
Auckland.

Ashburton Residents

and the public generally are reminded that T. H. UNDRILL & CO., Tancred Street, Furnishing Warehousemen and UNDERTAKERS, deserve your patronage,

OBITUARY.

MR. AND MRS. GROVES, BALLYDWYER, KERRY.

Information has recently been received here of the death of Mr. and Mrs. Groves, of Ballydwyer, Kerry, Ireland, and parents of Messrs. George, John, and William Groves, Southland, and Mrs. Richard Fitzgerald and Miss Annie Groves of Christchurch. Mrs. Groves died last November and Mr. Groves in January of this year. A Requiem Mass was said in the Christchurch Pro-Cathedral on Monday for the repose of the soul of the deceased. To the members of the family in this Colony we offer our sincere sympathy in their bereavement.—R.I.P.

A PUSHING FIRM.

Messrs. DWAN BROS.,
HOTEL BROKERS, VALUERS, AND FINANCIERS,
WILLIS STREET, WELLINGTON.

MESSRS DWAN BROS. are the chief hotel brokers, etc., in New Zealand, holding that position for many reasons. Originally associated with their father, Mr. Thos. Dwan, sen., auctioneer, etc., the brothers, Messrs. T. B. and L. Dwan, founded in 1880 the above-named business, which has grown enormously. Under the able tuition of their father they gained invaluable experience, and the prosperity of the firm is emphatic proof that they have demonstrated more than ordinary ability and study during their career. The offices of Messrs. Dwan Bros. are situated in Willis street, Wellington, and there at one time and another a lot of business connected with New Zealand hotels has been transacted. Each branch of their business dovetails into the other, and the firm do not go beyond it in any particular, neither being agents nor financiers except in relation to the hotel trade. All their time is therefore devoted to their speciality, and in this they have an expert knowledge of it, which is frequently taken advantage of. There is hardly a hotel in Wellington that has not gone through their hands, while they do business in this branch throughout the Colony, having been brokers for hotels from Auckland to Invercargill. Some idea of the size of this branch can be gained when it is stated that they frequently manage a sale of 20 hotels a month, their principal connection being in the Wellington, Hawkes Bay, and Taranaki provincial districts. It is justly said of Messrs. Dwan, Bros. that they never fail to carry through a transaction that they undertake, and that their name never appears as suing for a commission. What with their close relations with the trade and intimate knowledge, to say nothing of the cash at their backs, they are able to bring a sale off where others fail. For instance, should a client wanting to take over an hotel not have sufficient funds for the purpose, Messrs. Dwan Bros. can arrange the matter successfully when others fail, in this regard frequently acting as financiers. They are not only hotel brokers, but are hotel owners, having hotel freeholds as far south as Invercargill, and even on the West Coast one of their main lines is hotel valuing, a department in which they can pose as experts with authority. Thus only a fortnight ago Mr. T. Dwan was engaged by the Government as an expert valuer to sit on a case at Nelson to decide upon the question whether or not the agent of the Public Trust Office had made a mistake and sold a hotel there under its real value. He was associated in the case with Mr. Ponyton, the Public Trustee. The firm are called upon to value hotels in remote places. The success of Messrs. Dwan Bros. has been commensurate with their special knowledge. Besides being decidedly the biggest people in their line in the Colony, they are owners of considerable house property in Wellington, having a large army of tenants of their own in the city. For push, persistency, and expert knowledge they are not to be surpassed.—*New Zealand Times*, December 29, 1900.—*

In our advertising pages Mr. E. O'Connor, of the Catholic Book Depot, Barbadoes street, Christchurch, has a list of recent and seasonable Catholic publications. Among these are 'Offices for the Holy Week,' and catechisms of various kinds, and 'The Catholic's Complete Hymn Book.' In addition he has a large assortment of religious books, and works of fiction by Catholic authors, pictures, etc. As the proprietor of the Catholic Book Depot is a direct importer of books, aids to devotion, pictures, and statues from Home, Continental, and American houses, patrons may rest assured of getting their orders executed at moderate rates.—*

Continued popularity is a great test of the value of any article. The public may be induced for a time to use a certain make of machinery, but if the results do not come up to expectations they discard it. Messrs. Reid and Gray, the well-known makers of agricultural implements, Dunedin, are in the position to claim that their single and double furrow ploughs have given the greatest satisfaction, and that consequently their output in this line alone has been unprecedented—13,000 in all. They have, also, been eminently successful in other directions, for farmers have come to fully recognise the merits of their harrows, chaff-cutters, rollers, seed-sowers, and grain-drills, etc., all of which have been tested by practical agriculturists and found to give the highest satisfaction.—*

Mr. A. R. Barclay, barrister and solicitor, has his offices at 27 Rattray street, Dunedin.—*

The clergy are notified that they can be supplied with baptismal and confirmation registers at the N.Z. TABLET Office.—*

WHITAKER BROS.,

New Zealand Catholic Depot,

WELLINGTON AND GREYMOUTH.

FATHER SHEEHAN'S 'MY NEW CURATE,' 6s; posted, 6s 6d.
(This Book has had an enormous sale, 8 editions in 8 months)

NEW SUPPLIES DIRECT FROM MANUFACTURERS.

ROSARIES, CRUCIFIXES, FONTS, MEDALS,
WAX CANDLES, CHARCOAL, TAPERS,
Etc., Etc., Etc.

SPLENDID INCENSE, 4s 6d lb Tin.

STATUES SACRED HEART, BLESSED VIRGIN, ST. JOSEPH
ST. ANTHONY.
10d, 1s 6d, 2s 6d, 3s 6d, 5s 6d, 12s 6d, 14s 6d, and upwards.

SPECIAL NOTE.

In answer to numerous enquiries, so soon as the proposed New Catechism is finally settled by the coming Synod, we shall advertise same without delay. In the meantime we are authorised to supply the Catechisms approved by the Plenary Council.

JAS. SPEIGHT AND CO
MALTSTERS AND BREWERS,
CITY BREWERY, DUNEDIN.

WANTED, a GARDENER, an elderly man, without
encumbrance.

Salary, £50 per year and kept. Good references required.

Apply CONVENT, Nelson.

GARRISON HALL, DUNEDIN,

FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 1901.

ST. PATRICK'S CONCERT.

Under the patronage of the Most Rev. Dr. Verdon, Clergy of the
Diocese, and his Worship the Mayor of Dunedin.

IRISH SONGS, IRISH MELODIES, IRISH RECITATIONS.

TICKETS, 3s, 2s, 1s.

On Sale Everywhere.

NEW CONVENT, MILTON.

ON SUNDAY, MARCH 17.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

The Foundation Stone of the new Dominican Convent at
Milton will be solemnly laid by his Lordship the Right Rev. Dr.
Verdon, Bishop of Dunedin.

The Sermon at the Mass will be preached by the Very Rev.
Monsignor O'Leary, Lawrence.

AUSTRALIAN GENERAL CATHOLIC DEPOT.
LOUIS GILLE AND CO.,
73 AND 75 LIVERPOOL STREET, SYDNEY.

BOOKS AND MUSIC FOR LENT AND HOLY WEEK.

	s.	d.
Meditations for the Holy season of Lent	1	2
Clock of the Passion, by St. Liguori	0	8
Lenten Meditations, Passion, Death of Our Lord (Fieu)	1	9
Devotion of the Three Hours' Agony (cloth), Fr. Maas, S.J.	1	9
(leather)	3	3
Meditation on Seven Words on the Cross (Perraud)	2	9
Lenten Exercises. Archbishop Vaughan (usual price 3s 10d)	0	10
A Day in the Temple. Rev. A. J. Maas, S.J. (usual price 3s 10d)	2	10
Gleanings, Saints and Sinners. Father Cavanagh, O.P.	0	9
Passion Flowers Verses by F. Hill, C.P. (usual price 5s 4d)	4	1
Mystery Crown of Thorns by a Passionist (usual price 4s 5d)	3	5
The Hours of the Passion, by Ludolph the Saxon	6	6
The Foot of the Cross or Sorrows of Mary Faber	6	7
Office of Holy Week: Masses and Offices (red edges)	1	3
" " " " " (smaller, cloth, limp)	0	8
Officium Majoris Hebdomadae Sanctae (Ratisbonne)	6	0
Benediction Service, Easter, etc. (Lambillotte)	2	9
Cantus Ecclesiasticus Passionis (Ratisbonne)	19	6
Passion (St. Matthew) Bach (Oratorio)	2	3
Haec Dies (Cellini). Duet and chorus	1	7
Haec Dies (Feltz). Solo, soprano, and chorus	1	1

N.B.—All above prices include postage.

GARRISON HALL,

FRIDAY, 15TH MARCH, 1901.

ST. PATRICK'S CONCERT.

Under the Patronage of the Most Rev. Dr. Verdon, Clergy of the
Diocese, and his Worship the Mayor of Dunedin.

IRISH SONGS,

IRISH MELODIES,

IRISH RECITATIONS.

PROGRAMME.

PART I.

1. Selection - 'The Gaiety' - Sydney Jones
2. Song - 'The Minstrel Boy' - Moore
3. Song - 'Avourneen' - Hill
4. Recitation - 'Shamus O'Brien' - Miss CONSTANCE PEARSON.
5. Song - 'Believe Me if All' - Nairn
6. Song - 'Rory Darling' - Hope Temple
7. Violin Solo - 'Yankee Doodle' - Vientemps
8. Song - 'Oh! Erin, the Tear and the Smile' - Carolan
9. Dance - 'Irish Jig' - Miss WINNIE MCCORMACK.

Interval of Five Minutes.

PART II.

10. Pianoforte Duet - 'Tarantelle' - Raff
11. Song - 'Eily Mavourneen' - Benedict
12. Cornet Solo - 'Tancredi' - Contest Solo
13. Song - 'Oh Erin, My Country' - Old Irish
14. Song - 'Killarney' - Balfe
15. Euphonium Solo - 'Komm Zurück nach Erin' - Th. Hach
16. Song - 'Irish Emigrant' - Barker
17. Song - 'Selected (humorous)' - MR. JAMES JAGO.

Accompanists:
MRS. J. WOODS AND A. VALLIS.

Owing to the length of the programme, patrons are respectfully
requested to refrain from demanding encores.

TICKETS: 3s, 2s, and 1s. Sold everywhere.

A. R. B. A. R. C. L. A. Y,

BARRISTER AND SOLICITOR,

NO. 27 RATTRAY STREET,

DUNEDIN.

THE FAMOUS "VICTORY" SEWING
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MACHINE. EASY TO WORK, EASY TO LEARN EASY
TO PURCHASE on our Special Terms. Write
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TO THE CLERGY.

WE can supply Baptismal and Confirmation Register Books on application.

Apply TABLET Office.

THOSE who have disposed of tickets in the HAWERA ART UNION are requested to return Blocks to REV FATHER POWER before 16th March. The drawing will take place on the 18th.

Winning Numbers in our issue of the 28th.

ST. PATRICK'S SPORTS ASSOCIATION,
TIMARU.

ANNUAL SPORTS GATHERING,
MONDAY, 18th MARCH, 1901.

Running - Cycling - Jumping - etc.

A GRAND NATIONAL CONCERT

will be held in the evening at the Assembly Rooms.

N.B.—Competitors for Cycling and Running events are reminded that entries close on Friday, 8th March, at 10 p.m., addressed to the Secretary, Box 123, Timaru.

M. F. DENNEHY, Secretary.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

READER.—We know of no such institute in or near Napier. There is one in Wellington and another in Nelson. For particulars, address Superior, Convent of Mercy, Wellington, or Convent of Our Lady of Missions, Nelson.

'INQUIRER'—Write to the publishers, Messrs. Angus and Robertson, Sydney.

DEATH.

GROVES.—At Ballydwyer, County Kerry, Ireland, November, 1900, Mrs. William Groves, and January, 1901, Mr. William Groves, parents of George, John, and William Groves, of Southland, Mrs. Richard Fitzgerald, and Miss Annie Groves, of Christchurch, N.Z.—R.I.P.



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

LEO XIII to the N.Z. TABLET.

THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 1901.

THE RUSH TO CITIES.



DR. JOHNSON regarded 'the sweet, shady side of Pall Mall' as the nearest approach to an earthly paradise since the days of the vanished Eden. 'The happiness of London,' he once declared, 'is not to be conceived but by those who have been in it.' The brusque old lexicon-writer found country life duller than 'the fat weed that rots itself in ease on Lethe wharf.' 'No wise man,' said he, 'will go live in the country unless he has something to do which can be better done in the country.' And yet—with that sweet inconsistency which, somehow, became the rugged character of the man—he 'pinked' the epidermis of the English nobility of his time with the caustic remark that the decay of their old-time military spirit was due to the fact that it had 'gone

into the city to look for a fortune.' From the Restoration to the Revolution the immense majority of the English nobility lived quietly for the greater part of each year in mansions upon their estates. Then the rush to the city gradually set in—for the English nobility followed the fashion of the French court in this as in the lesser matter of the shape of their bob-wigs and the cut of their gowns and frills and ruffles. In the gilded days of LOUIS XIV. the old French nobles, and the *anobles* who had raked and scraped together sufficient capital to support patents of nobility, and the *bourgeoisie* who would purchase fat employments, swarmed in their ponderous and lumbering coaches into the glare or shadow of the gayest court in Europe; and a courtier could say to the King: 'Whenever your Majesty creates an office, God creates a fool to buy it.'

The modern movement city-wards began at one end of the social scale. It seized upon the other after the spinning-jenny and the water-frame and the 'mule' and the power loom had opened up the era of the great industrial revolution in England. This was in the latter half of the eighteenth century. The steam-engine and allied inventions brought the movement in England onwards with a rush at a time when Continental nations were too eagerly hacking each others' eyes out to see the start in the race for commercial supremacy which they were giving to their former insular enemy or ally. But they set to work as soon as the butchering was done and the knife was wiped clean and placed within its sheath and they had taken a breathing spell. Then they got the industrial fever and gradually swarmed into and widened out the old cities, and upon the green fields raised up new centres of busy population. America, too, caught the infection of industrialism. And one result of all the wheel-whirling and brick-piling was this: that the nineteenth century was, of all others, the age of great and rapidly-built cities, bulged out to extreme corpulence with overcrowded populations. Nothing like it had ever been witnessed in the world before. Athens long held the supremacy of the old world-art. But, according to Dr. BELOCH, in its palmiest days its population did not exceed 150,000. Alexandria was a world-mart—a sort of Eastern London—in its prime. But it gave shelter to not over 500,000 souls—or about the population of Melbourne. Of the other famous trade centres of the olden time, Tyre—the New York of those far-off days—could (according to the estimate of Dr. BELOCH) count only 40,000 souls within its circling walls—less than the population of Christchurch. Thebes could claim some 10,000 more—or about as many people as are gathered in Dunedin. And all the world wondered at Rome, whose massive ring of brick-enclosed some 900,000 persons at the time of the death of AUGUSTUS, fourteen years before the birth of CHRIST. This is about the population of Brooklyn, the fourth city in the United States. But it was none the less a massive head for an empire which, although it scrambled over portions of the surface of three continents, had (according to BODIO) a population (chiefly non-industrial and largely semi-barbarian) not exceeding 54,000,000. Imperial Rome presented the nearest approach to the urban conditions which, at the close of the nineteenth century, saw in Berlin in 1895, a population of 1,677,304 souls; in Paris, in 1896, 3,536,834; in New York, at the census of last year, 3,437,202; and in Greater London, as far back as 1891, a great Babel of 5,633,332 inhabitants.

But the industrial revolution has altered the old order. It has hung agriculture where SHAKESPEARE would throw physic—to the dogs. 'All the mechanical and chemical skill,' says the author of *Merrie England*, 'and all the capital and energy of man, have been thrown into the struggle for trade profits and manufacturing pre-eminence.' Primary producers have in tens of thousands abandoned their work and congregated around the factory boilers and made cities where the ox had grazed and the wheat-crop had been garnered in the days when HARGREAVES and ARKWRIGHT were 'mewling and puking in their nurses' arms.' A recent address by Mr. WALTON to the Statistical Society—as reported in the *Saturday Review*—shows that the population of England and Wales increased from 8,892,536 in 1801 to nearly 32,000,000 in the year of grace 1900. But the lecturer pointed out that almost 400 per cent. of

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INVERCARGILL. Funerals conducted to or from any part of Southland.

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this remarkable increase were huddled in towns, leaving the country districts almost as sparsely populated as they were in the days when Frank and Briton were hacking and hewing at each other in the Peninsula. In his *National Progress* (p. 5) MULHALL arrives at a like conclusion for the period 1841—1894, during which, he says, 'urban population moved four times as fast as rural.' According to the *Statesman's Year Book* the pace was even more rapid between 1881 and 1891—the rural population of England and Wales showing an increase of only 3·4 per cent. in that period as against 15·3 per cent. among the dwellers in towns. At the census of 1891 the rural population was only 28·3 per cent. and the urban as high as 71·7 per cent., of the inhabitants of England and Wales. And no country on the surface of our planet has so vast a proportion of its population resident in towns.

The loadstone that attracts population to towns is also at work, though with less striking results, in France, Germany, Austria, Sweden, Norway, Finland, and in practically every Continental country in Europe. For brevity's sake we will merely summarise the main facts in point. At the beginning of the nineteenth century the face of Europe was estimated to be dotted over with a population of 175,000,000. In 1870 it had risen to 300,000,000. At present it stands at about 370,000,000. This is, in all reason, a rapid increase. But the increase in the number of cities of over 100,000 inhabitants shows it a clean pair of heels. In 1821 there were in Europe only 21 such cities, counting among them an aggregate of 4,500,000 souls. In 1850 the number had risen to 75; in 1870 to 90, with a total population of about 20,000,000; and in 1896 to 121, which sheltered as many as 37,000,000 living inhabitants. In 1801 France had only three cities of over 100,000 population. England and Germany had only two each. But time and industrialism altered all that, and in 1896 England had 30 such cities, Germany 28, France 10. Dr. JOHNSON'S views of city life seem to have a long, strong grip also upon the mind of young America. According to MULHALL, the ratio of urban to total population in the United States in 1800 was only 6·4 per cent. Sixty years later it had climbed as high as 13·5 per cent. In 1880 (according to the *Statesman's Year Book*) it had reached 22·57 per cent.; and at the census of 1890, twenty-nine people in every hundred in the United States were living in 286 towns of over 8000 inhabitants. In his valuable statistical work, *The Seven Colonies of Australasia, 1899-1900*, Mr. COGHLAN says that the growth of the chief cities of Australasia 'has no parallel among the cities of the old world. Even in America,' he adds, 'the rise of the great cities has been accompanied by a corresponding increase in the rural population, but in these colonies, perhaps for the first time in history, was presented the spectacle of magnificent cities growing with marvellous rapidity, and embracing within their limits one third of the population of the States of which they are the seat of government. The abnormal aggregation of the population in their capital cities is a most unfortunate element in the progress in the colonies, and one which until recently seemed to become every year more marked.' Melbourne and Adelaide are the worst sinners in this respect. Sydney is also conspicuous. Wellington—New Zealand's capital—is a happy exception. And our four largest cities—Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, and Dunedin—taken together contain only 25·54 per cent. of the whole population of the Colony.'

This rush of population to cities has, especially in Great Britain, seriously disturbed the equilibrium of things, and in the not distant future promises to provide the Governments of various countries with some of the knottiest problems that have ever exercised a statesman's brains. We will here briefly refer to three only of the difficulties created by this menacing movement of population. (1) The first is the question of degeneration. Some years ago a prominent London surgeon expressed the opinion that the London-bred unit tends to die out after the third generation. Dr. ANDREW WILSON neither accepts nor denies this opinion. But he maintains that the conditions of ordinary town life produce deterioration. (2) The neglect or partial abandonment of agriculture raises the great food question. It is a mere accident that the pressure of this aching difficulty is felt most in Great Britain. A vast percentage of

the nation's food-supply comes from Russia, India, and the United States. And in possible—though, it is hoped, not even remotely probable—circumstances, a war with France or Russia might result in Great Britain being starved into prompt and hopeless surrender. We sorely need to have as much attention and talent devoted to agriculture as to the weaving and dyeing of cheap cotton prints. And our legislators would do well to paste in their hats the saying of RICHARD JEFFERIES: 'All ends in the same: iron mines, coal mines, factories, furnaces, the counter, the desk. No one can live on iron or coal or cotton—the object is really sacks of wheat.' (3) Yet another possible menace lurks in the vast masses that are crowded together in our great cities. It is the danger that lies in the sudden changes to which the course of invention or of legislation has time and again subjected industrial populations and forced their patience and endurance to a strain which they may not be always able to endure. It is no longer as in the days when DICK WHITTINGTON set his face towards London. The HODGE and HANS of to-day, lurching along citywards with slung bundles, may be preparing sleepless nights and anxious days for the BROUGHAMS and the BISMARCKS of the twentieth century.

While sundry quack-heads have been prescribing remedies for the crying evil of rural depopulation, local cures have been in operation here and there with varying measures of success. The Victorian village settlement scheme of a few years ago was mottled over with many a failure. A singularly well-managed agricultural school in Minnesota is credited with having settled 95 out of every 100 of its pupils on the land. Some societies of dames in Holland are said to have wrought wonders in the matter of removing the poor from the cities and rooting them on poultry and dairy farms. But the most luminously successful effort at enticing the surplus population of the cities back into the green and open country stands to the credit of Denmark. It is the joint result of private enterprise and State aid applied to waste land reclaimed for the purpose. The scheme is described in a pamphlet published some five months ago by the Howard Association—*Back to the Land: Denmark's Example*. The little kingdom has an evil-tempered climate and a sullen sky. But its rulers have taken the lead in agricultural reform, with the happy result that, although it counts no very rich people among its population, Denmark has in a short period become—according to MULHALL'S figures for 1896—the third country in Europe, and the fifth in the world, for average wealth. Our legislators might, with benefit to the Colony, turn the key in the front door of the Parliament Buildings for a session, and spend the talking-period among the green, flat farms and the trim-kept villages of Denmark.

Notes.

The *Bruce Herald* (Milton) has the following paragraph on one of the thousand little blisters that irritate the epidermis of the journalist nowadays: 'Country journalism is filled with life's little ironies. Here is one of them. For some time we have given the local Athenæum free copies of the *Bruce Herald*, and the other day a well-to-do but frugal-minded settler, who knows this, came in and coolly stopped his paper, "because," said he, "I can read it for nothing at the Milton Athenæum."'

Some Canterbury journalists have their brains on the rack in a vain endeavor to solve the following riddle: 'What should be done with a bottle of whisky found on a man against whom the Kaiapoi Bench had made a prohibition order? This was a question raised by the police at the local court a few days ago. The Bench, had no advice, however, to offer beyond the remark that if the police gave it back to him within twelve months they would be liable to a penalty for supplying him with drink. It is presumed the man's property will be retained till his prohibition has expired and he is ready to make a fresh start, by which time the whisky should be mellow.'

The Gisborne School Committee intend to 'teach the young idea how to shoot'—out of air guns. A dozen of these deadly weapons are to be purchased for the use of the pupils attending the local school. One shot out of an air gun at the end of the week for 'never absent never late' cards does not, however, seem a great

inducement to Tommy and Dick and Gus. The owner of an 'Aunt Sally,' at an English fair, gives 'three shots a penny' and a cash prize into the bargain for breaking the pipe. But the military spirit, which has been so much in evidence lately, will probably make the Gisborne boys set a higher value on a shot out of the larger popgun, especially if they can get the teacher's hat—or cat—for a target.

What's in a name? Mr. Hogg, M.H.R., was called upon to propose the toast of 'The Pig Industry' at the Bacon Company's dinner at Woodville the other day. Mr. Hogg is a bit of a humorist, and consequently he took advantage of the family resemblance between his cognomen and the subject of the toast to make some happy remarks which created much amusement. 'This is,' he said, 'the first bacon factory I have ever visited, and it has pleased me greatly to observe the uncomplaining and philosophical manner in which a large and important section of our population is laying down its life for the benefit of humanity. Hundreds of our young men have recently gone in for a pig-hunting expedition. They have left New Zealand for the purpose of killing a few Boers at the other end of the world. Their sacrifice is entirely voluntary, and here, too, we have a large number of true martyrs prepared to sacrifice their lives in a voluntary way for the sake of the settlers around them. And, too, have we no tribute on an occasion of this kind for Captain Cook and the good work that he did? He has done more to Christianise New Zealand, and to improve the Maoris, and to change their habits than all the missionaries that ever were sent here. What was the effect of this man's philanthropic work? Was it not to give the natives of this Colony new tastes, new desires, and new ambitions? Was it not to civilise their palates, so that they learned to prefer roast pork to baked missionary, and has not the effect of that been to save a large number of valuable human lives? You may say what you like about it, but the pig industry has been the salvation of numbers of our settlers, who would have starved many a time but for that. . . . I went to a show some years ago, and I found there a young man in charge of a boiler working a cream separator. He showed me its points, and explained how it would not only work the separator, but how it would boil up food products for stock as well. He said to me: "See, now, mister, if you was goin' in fer rearin' hogs—!" "My boy," I replied, "I have been doing that for years past." And, do you know, I could not get away from him for about half an hour, he was so anxious for me to buy one of his machines—he was so anxious to show me how I could feed my pigs and scald them through the instrumentality of that neat little invention of his.'

The *Thames Star* of March 2, in the course of a thoughtful leading article on the education question, uses the flail to some purpose on those of the Protestant clergy of the Colony who are so painfully anxious to abdicate one of the principal duties of the Christian Church and fling the burden of the proper religious training of youth upon the shoulders of the State. 'It is very easy to say,' says our northern contemporary, 'as the gentlemen of the cloth are fond of declaring, there need be no difficulty in selecting passages of scripture which all religious sects would approve. It might be possible to do so, but few believe it, but even were the task accomplished, the passages chosen would necessarily be so colorless of doctrine as to be useless in teaching great moral lessons. The Lord's Prayer and the Commandments might be chosen, and even taught in our schools without any possible objection, yet so fearful are those who would support such an alteration, that it would be but the commencement of trouble, that they would oppose the introduction for that reason alone. The clergy must know that if they are to wait till the State gives religious instruction it will never be given, and yet they continue to be satisfied with their annual protest, which soothes their consciences for another year, and in the meantime the children are neglected. How long are congregations and churches to submit to this neglect of duty on the part of the clergy whom they support that religion and morality may be taught the people. All churches are alike in this neglect of duty, save the Roman Catholic. That church perceiving that the State could not, even if it tried, teach religion in accordance with its views, manfully undertakes the task itself, and its adherents find the means.' It denounces in strong terms the neglect and indifference of the Protestant clergy in the matter of the religious instruction of children attending the State schools. After quoting the interview with the Archbishop of Melbourne which appeared a few weeks ago in the N.Z. TABLET on the impossibility of providing any workable scheme of Bible instruction for the State schools, the *Star* says: 'The Archbishop sums up the position in a few words, and his reflections will be endorsed by the majority of people. If we accept his opinion it is evident there is little use in waiting for a solution of the difficulty by the State, and it remains for those who desire their children taught religion, and all men do, to see that the clergy undertake the task.'

THAT PETTICOAT CAMPAIGN.

AN esteemed correspondent from Canterbury writes to us protesting as a Catholic Englishman against the comments that appeared in our last issue on the statement made in the British House of Commons by Mr. W. St. John Brodrick (Secretary of State for War) to the effect that the Boer women detained in British camps, whose husbands were in commando, were on reduced rations, but that the other women were on full rations. He asks us to state (1) in what 'reduced rations' consist; (2) our authority for interpreting Mr. St. John Brodrick's statement by such unmeasured terms as "systematic, deliberate, and unnecessary starvation." (3) The writer of our 'Topic' 'also insinuates,' says our correspondent, 'that the soldiers seduce the Boer women: this is perhaps a more odious charge than the accusation of starvation, but I think the majority of your readers will prefer to believe Lord Roberts's public statement that his soldiers have at all times conducted themselves as chivalrous gentlemen towards the wives and daughters of the enemy. Only a few days ago I read in the *Christchurch Press* a letter from a Boer woman which contained a most emphatic denial of the charge of disrespect towards the unprotected women of the country. The writer even went out of her way to pay a tribute to the kindness and chivalry of the soldiers.'

To our esteemed correspondent's remarks we make the following general reply: The whole question at issue is partly a matter of fact, partly a matter of inference. Admitting the truth of the facts as stated by Mr. Brodrick, the remainder of our remarks on the subject were matters of legitimate inference. But the truth of the facts has not been questioned, nor has any flaw in the deductions from them been pointed out by our Canterbury friend. And now for a more detailed reply:—

1. 'Reduced rations' is an elastic term. It may mean anything from such a 'docking' of provisions as would cause only moderate discomfort down to a pittance that would scarcely sustain the life of a medium-sized rat.

2. London papers some time ago stated that the Boer women detained in British camps, whose husbands were on commando, were subjected to serious privations in the matter of food, and that the object of this treatment was to compel the fighting burghers to surrender with a view to ending the distress of their women-folk. Mr. Brodrick's cabled statement in the House of Commons was an admission of the gravamen of this charge. (a) It shows that Boer women whose husbands are in the field are, of express purpose, discriminated against, and that, too, by way of military penalty. (b) Short rations as a military punishment is no trifling penalty, even when it is inflicted upon friends. It may be made a very terrible thing when, as in the case before us, it is inflicted for the purpose of punishing or breaking the spirit of a foe. Long-drawn wars between people of different race and religion have never been favorable to humane methods. And common-sense forbids the supposition that officers who, on so wholesale a scale, compelled Boer women whose relatives were *not* on commando to witness the burning of their homes and the plunder or destruction of their property, are likely to be more squeamish in the infliction of a further penalty on Boer women whose husbands are in the fighting line. At its best, the punishment of short rations is intended, and is sure, to cause some degree of distress. Otherwise it would defeat its own purpose. And, according to definitions given in the sixth volume of the *Encyclopædic Dictionary*, 'to distress with hunger' is to inflict 'starvation.' If our Canterbury friend maintains that the punishment of short rations was not intended to cause any kind of distress to the Boer women, and as a matter of fact did not cause any such distress, the burden of proof rests upon him. And if he has any fact to advance in point we shall be glad to give it due publication.

We described the starvation inflicted on the Boer women as 'systematic, deliberate, and unnecessary.' (a) By Mr. Brodrick's admission it is systematic—that is, 'proceeding or working according to a system or method.' (b) In view of the same high official's public statement, nobody will, we think, maintain that the infliction of this hunger-penalty on the Boer women was an indeliberate act—one of mere forgetfulness or of irresponsible terror or blind impulse. (c) The Boer women in British camps, whose relatives are on commando, are treated with less consideration than is usually extended to fighting-men held as prisoners of war. Unless under temporary and special difficulties affecting the commissariat, these, according to the recognised practice, are nowadays accorded full rations. In other words, the Boer women referred to are treated with more harshness than it is usual to extend to male enemies taken prisoners of war. But Leon Levi, in his *International Law* (seconded, p. 280), says that 'in actual practice' 'women and children, the old and the sick, physicians and surgeons, who do not take arms, are not enemies.' We have followed this wretched South African campaign pretty closely, but we are not acquainted with any circumstance connected with it which could make it really 'necessary' that British military chiefs, with sufficient stores at hand, should single out the captive wives and daughters of the enemy—and them alone—for a process of starvation. Hence we have referred to the cruel policy as not being alone 'systematic' and 'deliberate,' but also 'unnecessary.' If our correspondent is aware of any grounds of fact that would make such a harsh measure really necessary in South Africa, we shall be willing to give it publication.

(3). In our 'Topic' of March 7, we said: 'Briefly and in plain terms, those hapless Boer females (in British camps) whose husbands, brothers, or sons are out on commando are practically placed between the alternatives of slow starvation or selling themselves to degradation and infamy.' This is, on the face of it, quite a different

statement from that which is attributed to us by our correspondent. If the hunger-policy is carried out—and we are entitled to assume that it is—the officials charged with its administration could not provide any open and decent alternative to the dreadful one to which we have alluded above. To do so would be to defeat both the penalty and its object. The British army may be the most virtuous on earth. True, Mulhall's *Dictionary of Statistics* (last edition, p. 204) does not quite bear this out as regards the regular army. But that is 'neither here nor there.' Every person who is acquainted with the atmosphere and circumstances of military camps—British or foreign and whether in peace or in war—does not need to be reminded of the utter cruelty of reducing helpless females by systematic hunger in such surroundings. So long as the hunger-penalty is really enforced, the alternatives we have mentioned are, as we have said, 'practically' the only ones before them. The remarks of Lord Roberts and of the problematical Boer lady—who was evidently not one of those whose houses were burned or whose husbands were on commando—simply do not touch the particular question discussed here nor the phase of military life to which we have made reference. It is the part of a Catholic paper to stand for humanity and for peace—though not for 'peace at any price.' And we should have failed in a public duty if we had omitted, either through fear or favor, from entering our solemn protest against the barbarities that have disgraced the campaigns of supposedly civilised troops in South Africa, China, and the Philippine Islands.

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN.

A retreat for the students of Holy Cross College is being conducted this week by the Very Rev. Father Boyle, C.M.

The foundation stone of the new Dominican Convent, at Milton, will be solemnly laid on Sunday (St. Patrick's Day) by the Right Rev. Dr. Verdon.

Miss Margaret Brennan, a pupil of the Dominican Convent, Queenstown, has been successful in obtaining an 'E' certificate at the recent teachers' examinations.

His Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Verdon arrived in Queenstown on Friday week, and administered the Sacrament of Confirmation on the following Sunday in the Church of St. Mary of the Lake, in Arrowtown on Tuesday of last week, and in Cardrona on Thursday.

The following are the results of the practical examinations in music held at St. Dominick's College by the examiner of Trinity College, London:—Senior Grade: Honors, Eileen Ward, 94 marks (recommended by the examiner for the higher examinations A.T.C.L.); Minnie Paton, honors, 87; Alice A. M. Moon, honors, 85 (also recommended by the examiner for the higher examinations A.T.C.L.); Katie Hannon, pass, 75. Intermediate Grade: Norah Joyce, honors, 80. Junior Grade: Freda Clarke, pass, 78; C. McLeod, pass, 67. Preparatory Grade: Myrtle Morrison, pass, 74.

It is many years since the committee responsible for the national concert in connection with the festival of Ireland's patron saint have had the good fortune of securing the services of so many leading vocalists as they have on the present occasion, and consequently everything points to a first-class entertainment in the Garrison Hall on to-morrow evening. The programme is all that the most exacting admirer of Irish music could desire, and, taking into account the reputation of the performers, as it will be interpreted in a manner which will leave little to be desired, the attendance should be a record one. The object for which the concert is to be given is two-fold—to celebrate the great Irish national festival in a befitting manner, and to assist the funds of St. Joseph's Hall, a building which has, since its opening, proved an incalculable boon to the Catholics of Dunedin. Among the performers will be Misses Rose Blaney, Constance Pearson, Winnie McCornack, Mrs. J. Woods, Messrs. Jago, E. Bush, T. J. Hussey, P. Carolin, W. Shephard, R. Phillips, E. Lagar, J. A. O'Brien, T. Anthony, A. Vallis, and Herr Zimmermann.

NEW ZEALAND: GENERAL.

THE Government have re-appointed Messrs. J. R. Blair and F. de C. Malet as directors of the Bank of New Zealand.

THE proprietor of the *Triad* is to be warmly congratulated on the very fine illustrations in the current issue. These are principally scenes from Samoa, and are capital productions.

THE Government have decided that Monday, March 18, be observed as St. Patrick's Day by the civil service throughout the Colony.

MR. PERCY CECIL HJORRING was on Friday admitted by his Honor Mr. Justice Williams, at Dunedin, as a solicitor of the Supreme Court of New Zealand.

ALL the men dismissed from the Waihi mine since the presentation of the union's demands have been reinstated. This acknowledges the principle that officials of unions are not to be singled out for presenting a claim.

THE Fortification Coal Company (reports the *Bruce Herald*) expect to have their mine thoroughly opened up and the railway in full swing within three months, carrying coal from the pit to the Milton railway station.

Two escapees from Burnham Industrial School were found on Saturday on a farm close to the institution. They had killed a sheep and were boiling the legs in a bucket, when a farmer came upon them, and after a smart chase caught them and took them back to Burnham.

THE following item of news received by cable last week will no doubt fire the ambition of candidates for the Mayoral chairs in

various parts of this Colony:—Power has been granted to the Duke of York to confer the honor of knighthood during his tour of the colonies.

THE London *Gazette* of 4th January notifies the appointment of Lieutenant Robert Walter Gordon Collins, who is a son of Lieutenant-Colonel Collins, Wellington, to the Oxfordshire Light Infantry Regiment, the appointment to date from the 19th May, 1900. Lieutenant Collins is an ex-student of St. Patrick's College.

THE Government are disposed to hold no Easter encampments this year, as it has been decided that when the Duke and Duchess of York are in the Colony the whole of the troops in the North Island, Nelson, and Marlborough, numbering about 8,000, will be concentrated in Wellington, and those of the rest of the South Island in Christchurch, where two big reviews will be held, and the training usual in camp will then take place.

IT looks as if the Government were preparing to engage in the coal trade. The Premier told a deputation of Wellington trades unionists on Friday night that he hoped in a few months to say that the Government were coal dealers. It was his intention to ask Parliament next session for authority to open a State coal mine. He maintained that the combinations existing in the Colony and the manner in which they were being worked were to the detriment of the people, especially the poor, and demanded immediate attention.

ON Sunday, March 3 (writes a correspondent), the Catholic Church, Greytown, was well filled when the Rev. Father Kimbell preached on the evils of intemperance. The rev. preacher showed that Solomon and St. Paul raised their voices against this vice, and in our own day distinguished ecclesiastics such as the late Cardinal Manning, and Archbishop Ireland deplored the results of the evil. The Irish Bishops gathered in Synod had said that 'drink kills more homes, made more widows and orphans, broke more hearts than all the famines.'

THE Press agent in London has been very hard up for news when he has to cable out what the Duchess of York is to wear on the occasion of the opening of the Commonwealth Parliament. When news was so scarce it is pretty evident that he made the most of the incident in which some of the Irish members figured in the House of Commons. As experience has taught us to take this gentleman's reports of Irish affairs with more than the proverbial grain of salt, we shall await with some curiosity our Home exchanges containing an account of the matter.

'OREPUKITE' writes:—'I notice in last week's issue of the TABLET in 'Southland Notes' a paragraph re the importation of 300 girls from Scotland to work in the Orepuki Shale Works. As such a statement may be misleading to the public I wish to say—as an Orepukite—and one who knows the truth of it that the Company has not the least intention of bringing out those Scotch lassies, and there is no foundation whatever for such a statement. I believe it is the Company's intention in due time, if everything works satisfactorily, to start a match factory, but even then, I think, no girl importation will take place. The works at present in all its branches will not employ 200 men.'

THE *Belfast Examiner* has a long account in a recent issue of the travels of the Very Rev. Dr. Watters, and Dr. and Mrs. Mackin in the Holy Land. On Christmas Eve they visited Bethlehem in order to take part in the devotions on the great festival. The party received every hospitality from the Franciscan Fathers. Dr. Watters had the privilege of saying Mass in the Grotto at two o'clock on Christmas morning. There were priests and Catholic laity present in Bethlehem on the Feast of the Nativity from all parts of the world. Dr. Watters, and Dr. and Mrs. Mackin reached Malta on the return journey to England on January 8, and were expected in Liverpool ten days later. It was their intention to spend a fortnight at their birth places, Dundalk and Dunavil, near Kilkeel, before returning to London.

A NUMBER of the residents of Little River (writes a correspondent) entertained Mr. Maloney last week on the occasion of his departure from the district for Taupo Road, near Napier, where he is to resume his former duties as Native school teacher. Mr. Maloney had by his quiet and unassuming manner made a large circle of friends during his long residence in the district. And although being foremost in all cases where presentations or banquets to others were concerned, he was strongly adverse to all outward displays as regards himself, hence his sudden departure was only known at the last moment by a few friends. However, when it became more widely known that he had left the district universal regret was expressed, and as a token of the high estimation in which he was held by all classes a movement is on foot with a view of forwarding to him a purse of sovereigns on behalf of the inhabitants of Little River. Mr. Maloney took a keen interest in all Church matters, and the present choir owes its existence to his family.

It was just as we anticipated in our last issue. The Canadian protest has effected something. In yesterday's daily papers appeared the following cable message: 'Mr Balfour has consented to the appointment of a committee to inquire concerning the Coronation Oath.'

Messrs. Louis Gille and Company, Liverpool street, Sydney, call the attention of our readers to their new stock of books and music for Lent and Holy Week, many of which are offered at greatly reduced prices.—*.

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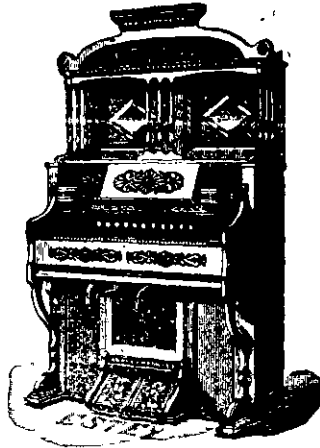
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The Storyteller.

HER GUARDIAN ANGEL.

It is very pleasant to see England again after ten years' residence in the East; but I know pleasanter places in England than London on a sultry day in July," soliloquized Dr. Neilson, a bronzed, middle-aged man, with remarkably keen grey eyes, and a certain expression of alert vitality that drew attention to him even in a crowd. He had landed in England some three days previous to the morning our story opens; and, having no family or near relatives alive, he felt rather solitary in the great city, and was now standing at the window of a West End hotel, gazing ruefully on the passing throng.

Suddenly a tap at the door and the announcement, "A gentleman wishes to see you, sir," disturbed his musings. He took the card off the salver which the waiter presented.

"Colonel Mathom! Show him in at once," he exclaimed.

A minute later he was shaking hands with a bluff, soldierly man, some 20 years his senior, but wiry and active.

"You were never more welcome, Mathom. I had not a soul to speak to. How did you find me out?"

Happened to see your arrival in the paper and hurried up to town to secure you. Now, have you any business to keep you here?"

"No, I have not even unpacked my trunks."

"So much the better. I ordered dinner in half an hour. Meantime go and put up your things and we'll catch the nine o'clock express."

Dr. Neilson laughed.

"You are not a bit changed, Mathom. Just the same old "hurry up," as the Eighth nicknamed you. Where are we going by the express?"

"Where!" To my place, of course—the "Moat." My widowed sister, Mrs. Sinnell, lives with me. But she is now on a visit to her daughter in Wales; so we shall be alone, fortunately; for I want your help."

And the Colonel's face looked anxious as his friend glanced at him in surprise.

"All right, Colonel! I am at your service. Take a cigar while I tell my man to pack up a few necessities. By the way, shall I bring him? He is an Afghan, but a splendid fellow. Saved my life twice."

"Yee, bring a dozen if you like. My big barracks of a house would hold a regiment; and, by the irony of fate, it has fallen to an old bachelor and a practically childless widow; for my nephews and nieces are in homes of their own. We'll have it livelier by the 12th. There's good shooting."

"Then Hamet will be useful—he is a first-rate shot," said the Doctor. "I'll be back in 10 minutes."

Not until they were seated in a reserved first-class carriage and had left London some miles behind did the Colonel explain his trouble to his old friend Neilson. The latter, accustomed to his ways, asked no questions and awaited his pleasure.

"Neilson," began Mathom, as they whirled through the summer night, "do you remember Lloyd Featherstone?"

"Of the 3rd Buffs?"

The other nodded.

"I remember him well. He was a gallant fellow and a brave officer."

"Poor fellow! he and his young wife were carried off by cholera in Ceylon about 20 years ago, leaving an infant daughter two months old. I was with him. He had barely time to tell me that he had made a will when the epidemic broke out, and, in case of his death, had appointed me joint guardian, with his wife, to his infant child. The wife, poor thing, died a few hours after her husband, so that the little Alys lost both parents at once. I took her and confided her to the care of a kind, motherly woman, wife of Sergeant-Major Douglas, who kept her until she was six years old. I then brought her to England and placed her at school in the Benedictine Convent of Princethorpe, where she was educated with my nieces, Maud and Lilian Sinnell, who were her seniors by two or three years. When Lilian married two years ago I brought Alys, then a blooming girl of 18, to the Moat, intending to keep her with me until she came of age. She inherited Featherstone Hall and £40,000 a year from her father; and this, owing to the accumulations of the long minority, makes her one of the richest heiresses in England."

"No light charge, Colonel," ejaculated his bearer. "The Featherstones were a handsome race; so I suppose your heiress to have many charms besides her golden ones."

Mathom nodded emphatically.

"She is, or rather was, a lovely girl; for of late ill-health has dimmed the radiance of her beauty. But of that later on. Let me not digress. The only relatives Alys possesses are her uncle's widow, Lady Zara Featherstone, and her son Harold. Lloyd Featherstone's younger brother, Harold, entered the diplomatic service, and received knighthood for some cause or other while British Consul abroad. He married a Greek lady, and left her a widow with one son when the latter was 20. He is 26 now, and has already squandered the moderate fortune Sir Harold left him. He and his mother live on her jointure of a thousand a year at Featherstone Manor, which she rents from Alys. It is the dower house of the Featherstones; and, acting as Alys' guardian, I let it to her for a nominal rent when she returned from a long residence abroad just as her niece's school days ended. When she asked Alys on a visit to the Manor, and then proposed to present her at the next *levée* at St. James' and bring her into society, I could not refuse; although I have no love for Lady Zara."

"Is she a pure Greek?"

"I don't know. She is a handsome woman, about 45—or perhaps more; well preserved and accomplished. She speaks several languages fluently—English remarkably so; and, on the whole, adapts herself wonderfully to our ways. Her home in London was one of the most fashionable, and she is liked in society."

"And her son?"

"He is like her. However, he has the Featherstones' tall stature and blue eyes. Honestly, I must acknowledge that he is an exceedingly good-looking young reprobate."

"Educated abroad, eh?"

"No. Sir Harold took care of that. He was educated at Oscott, and, it was whispered, narrowly escaped expulsion. When his father died he was called off to Trieste, where they lived; he then went on a tour to the East, and had not returned when Alys went with his mother to London for the season."

"Does the young girl like her aunt?"

"They agree pretty well, but there is no affection between them. When young Harold returned to England he at once placed himself at her feet as an ardent suitor. Alys laughed at him at first; but, finding he was troublesome, she threatened to leave her aunt's house if he continued his importunities. That settled the matter. Lady Featherstone, though greatly disappointed, refrained from all interference and sent her son on a trip to Greece. He reappeared at the manor three months ago, and has carefully refrained from all lover-like advances. But since his reappearance on the scene Alys' health, which had always been excellent, has suddenly and unaccountably failed."

The Colonel ceased speaking, and the Doctor stared at him in some perplexity. Was this half-Greek youth about to develop into a mediæval poisoner or a melodramatic sorcerer, whose unholy spells were sucking away the life-blood from his cruel enchantress?

"Well, Colonel, what is he doing to her?" he half-laughingly asked.

"I wish I knew," was the unexpected rejoinder. "Some foul play is going on, Harry; and I want you to find out what it is. Don't look at me like that, boy!" continued the veteran, testily. "I'm not a lunatic and I know what I'm saying. Harold Featherstone is his cousin's heir if she dies intestate. And before her twenty-first birthday she can make no will; so that her death before the 8th of next December means for her scampish cousin the inheritance of Featherstone Hall, £40,000 a year, and accumulations amounting to over £300,000."

"But, Colonel, why don't you bring Miss Featherstone to the Moat?"

"Because my sister has recently been very ill; and, with one invalid already in the house, I could not force Alys to leave her aunt. The latter, with her usual suavity, begged of me to let her dear niece remain with her until after a *bal costume* which is to take place at Hasley Towers on the 10th of September, to celebrate the coming of age of the young Viscount Netterville; and then she will, if I like, yield me her darling, from whom she is so loath to separate. My sister is better, and has gone to Wales till the end of this week."

"Of what does Miss Featherstone complain?" asked the Doctor, gravely.

"Of nothing. She looks wretchedly pale, has black circles under her eyes, no appetite and no energy. Now, four months ago Alys was a thoroughly happy, healthy, lively girl; the first in every amusement and always as busy as a bee."

"Have you consulted a physician?"

"Not one alone but several eminent in the profession. All agree there is no disease, only a want of vitality for which they can find no cause. Her parents were perfectly healthy young people when carried off by cholera, and there is no taint of hereditary disease."

"Beyond the mere fact of being his cousin's heir, have you any reason for suspecting young Featherstone?"

"No tangible reason, I must admit. However, one little incident aroused my suspicions, and they have never slept since. Wilcox, my own man, came to me one morning early and told me that, having gone over to the manor on a message the day before, the groom had asked him to look at a young horse Harold was getting trained for Miss Featherstone to ride. Wilcox, an old cavalryman, who is a crack rider and a first-rate judge of horses, told the man it was a showy but vicious brute and utterly unfit for a lady's use. The groom agreed, but said that Mr. Featherstone got into a fury when he told him so, and insisted it was to be tried by Miss Featherstone next day. "Then saddle my horse at once, and follow me with the mare for Miss Featherstone," was my reply."

"We arrived in the nick of time. Alys stood waiting on the steps while the groom and Harold forced a prancing black horse to approach her. Having finally succeeded, Harold was so busy persuading her there was no danger, and that the Khan's pranks proceeded from mere frolicsomeness, that he did not perceive my approach. Alys did, and, looking greatly relieved, came to meet me. I had never forgot the furious look of baffled malice that Harold bestowed on her. Quickly resuming his mask, he said coolly:

"Good morning, Colonel. I am persuading Alys to take a morning ride, but she is becoming quite nervous of late."

"Without noticing him, I turned to the head groom and said sternly: "What is the meaning of this, Simson? How can you think of mounting Miss Featherstone on that vicious brute?" The Khan was just then making frantic efforts to stand upright, which it took all the man's strength to prevent. "I told Mr. Featherstone, sir, the horse was unfit for anyone to ride; but he cursed me for an officious coward, and saddled him with the young mistress's saddle himself," said the man, sullenly. "Very good. Know for the future, Simson, that you take no orders, except from your young mistress and from me. You are engaged for her service alone, and she is neither to ride nor drive any horses except those I choose."

Take that horse away and put the saddle on the one Wilcox is leading for Miss Featherstone.

Harold, livid with passion, was still standing beside his cousin. "Allow me, I said with biting emphasis, "to spare you the trouble of providing for your cousin's safety. Another such *mistake* on your part, and I will at once remove her from the manor." His mother both heard and saw all that passed. As I was riding up I perceived her half hidden by the curtains of the open window beside the porch. But it suited her to feign ignorance of the whole transaction. Harold went to London next day and has not come back since."

"What do you want me to do in the matter, Colonel?"

"I want you to drop your title of doctor for the nonce. I shall introduce you as my old friend, Harry Neilson, and you will be able, unsuspected, to find out what ails my ward."

Neilson nodded good-humoredly.

"All right, my lord! I pledge myself to be wily as the proverbial serpent; and between us we'll defeat even Greek subtlety. Cheer up now, and look like your jovial self."

THE DOCTOR'S DIARY.

July 20.—Made the acquaintance of Lady and Miss Featherstone to-day. The latter is a very charming girl, but her health is certainly undermined. She has a curiously pallid look, more what one sees in a London girl than in one accustomed to this splendid air. We shall stay at the Manor to-night, and to-morrow morning we shall return to the Moat. The Colonel says his ward must accompany him and remain a few days. He has need of her on business matters, as he has soon to give up the accounts of his guardianship.

Lady Featherstone has an odd trick of squeezing the corner of her mouth when vexed; otherwise her control of feature is perfect. She is handsome, and is well into the fifties, but carefully preserved. Her manner is most gracious; she never objects to any proposals of the Colonel's, but contrives to throw various obstacles in the way whenever they don't suit her. She reminds me somehow of a big white Persian cat I once possessed. He used to sit on my writing-table very stately and grim, to all appearance half asleep; in reality nothing escaped him, and a lightning flash was not quicker than the motion of his deft white paw when it suited him to move from his statue-like pose. I was very fond of Hafiz and up to all his little tricks. I don't think I shall ever be fond of Lady Featherstone, but I mean to learn her little tricks. Alys is an open book; a charming, frank young English girl. I brought Hamet with me and took him into my confidence; he is silent as the grave and always useful. He knew Alys' father and liked him.

July 21.—As we expected, there were obstacles, apparently insurmountable, to Alys' departure. But the Colonel can be doggedly determined at times, and we carried her off triumphantly, promising to bring her home on the 27th of August without fail. I must win her confidence, now that we have her all to ourselves. Mrs. Sinner came home on the 19th; but she is still very delicate, and leaves us pretty much to our own devices.

July 26.—More than ever puzzled at Alys' symptoms. She is decidedly better here, yet the Manor has greater hygienic advantages. It stands on an eminence, is a modern, well-ventilated dwelling, and Lady Zara has introduced many improvements. As she had no suspicion of my profession, she was not on her guard with me. In the course of the evening she made a curious admission. Turning over the pages of a monthly magazine, I happened to say that the arrival of some serial numbers at a hill station in India had once proved such a boon that I should always feel grateful to that publication. Lady Featherstone looked interested and mentioned a journal which frequently gave scientific articles, and had lately published some very fine ones on chemistry. "That is not a favorite subject with ladies," I said, half-banteringly. "Well, it is a favorite pursuit of mine," confessed her Ladyship. "Just fancy, Mr. Neilson," observed Alys, with a little grimace, "Aunt Zara's dressing-room opens into a small room which she has had fitted up as a laboratory, and she haunts it at unearthly hours. My bedroom is adjacent, and I have sometimes been tempted to try spirit-rapping on the intervening wall."

We all laughed; but, glancing at Lady Featherstone, it struck me that she was not very pleased. "We all have our hobbies," she remarked, lightly; "but I thought you promised us some music, Alys." This changed the conversation. I must have a look at Lady Zara's laboratory. Alys has promised to show me some neighboring ruins to-morrow, and in the course of our ride I shall tell her I am a medical man and ask her to let me examine her lungs and heart.

August 5.—I have made some very important discoveries since my last entry in this diary, but I shall note them down later. On the 27th Miss Featherstone and I rode, as arranged, to view the abbey ruins; and, having duly examined them, sat down in the former cloisters to rest and lunch. I drew the conversation round to Alys' father, and we grew very friendly; then I told her frankly that I was a physician, and had come to the Moat principally to help my old friend, Colonel Mathom, who was very anxious about her health. She was a little startled, but was easily persuaded that it was better "not to frighten Aunt Zara." I grinned at the notion, though I said nothing to disturb her belief in that astute relative. At this point we were interrupted, but I shall continue the subject to-morrow.

(To be concluded in our next issue.)

The Grand Prix was the highest award obtainable at the Paris Exhibition, and the McCormick Harvesting Machine Company, of Chicago, secured this coveted honor, and not only this but they obtained more special prizes than all other competitors. Such a tribute to the worth of the McCormick machines is proof positive of their excellence. Messrs. Morrow, Bassett and Co., Christchurch, Ashburton, and Dunedin, are the agents for the Company's manufactures in New Zealand.—*.

The Catholic World.

BELGIUM.—Helping Poor Churches.—During the past 50 years the Associates of the Antwerp branch of the Association of the Perpetual Adoration and the Work for Poor Churches subscribed upwards of \$45,000, of which sum \$35,000 have been applied to the needs of poor churches, and £10,000 in aid of foreign missions.

CANADA.—Death of the Oldest Priest in the Dominion.—The Rev. Dominic du Ranquet, S.J., who died in December on Manitoulin Island, was the oldest priest in Canada, and was aged nearly 89. He and four of his brothers became priests and Jesuits, and their father also joined the Society. For nearly half a century Father Dominic had given himself to work among the Indians in the far Northwest.

ENGLAND.—Death of a Catholic Officer in South Africa.—Second-Lieutenant A. J. L. Cary, Second Devons, succumbed on the 2nd of January to an attack of enteric at Standerton, South Africa. He was son and heir to Colonel Cary, Lord of the Manor of St. Marychurch, a well-known Catholic, and had the largest leasehold interest in Torquay.

Plain Speaking at the Brompton Oratory.—Preaching at Brompton Oratory on Sunday morning, January 13, Rev. Kenelm Digby Best delivered a remarkable discourse on the lost Papal possessions, in the course of which he said:—History repeats itself, and with striking coincidences. Rome is now a city where two kings are to be found—one the rightful owner and the other one whose predecessor was a thief and a robber, who entered not 'by the door' but by a breach in the city's walls. When our pilgrims arrive, they seek only the presence of the Pontiff-King, and address him in words which are as true as the Gospel, behold, the world of the usurper is filled with dismay and anger, and is disturbed, as was the whole city in which Herod held his court. False and malignant statements are dispatched in every direction, and an extraordinary hostility is evoked against the noble spokesman of our pilgrims; yet all that was said was but a repetition of what all the children of the Church have been saying in meetings, in writings, in pulpits ever since the sinister events of 1870.

A Priest's Estate.—The will of the Rev. Dr. James Lennon, late Rector of the Church of Our Lady Star of the Sea, St. Anne's (and formerly president of Ushaw College, Durham), who died on November 16 last, has been proved by the sole executrix, his sister, Mrs. Catherine Warburton, of Greenheys, Manchester, and the whole of the testator's estate has been valued at £50.

Annual Dinner of the Catholic Association.—The annual dinner of the Catholic Association, held in the Holborn Restaurant on January 17, under the presidency of the Right Hon. the Earl of Denbigh, was, from the London Press point of view, very much like the play of 'Hamlet' with the part of the noble Dane omitted. The Duke of Norfolk was expected to be present and to make an important pronouncement reaffirming the views expressed by him at Rome on behalf of the English Catholic pilgrims with regard to the restoration of the temporal power of the Pope. Much, however, to the regret of all present, especially the representatives of the great English organs which have already made so much capital out of the Duke's expression of faith, his grace was prevented through illness from attending. In spite of the Duke's absence, however, as well as that of their Lordships the Bishops of Emmanus and Hermopolis, the function was one of the most brilliant and representative that has ever been held under the auspices of the Association. The speakers included the Very Rev. J. O. Bannin, P.S.M., chairman of committee and Rector of the Italian Church, Hatton Garden; Very Rev. Dean Vere, Rector of St. Patrick's, Soho; Mr. D. M. Delaney, Mr. C. Sneed Cox, Mr. S. F. Chivers, Mr. Valentine Dunford, K.S.G., secretary of the association, Rev. Dr. Gastaldi, Colonel Dunne, C.B., Mr. C. Cary Elvies, etc. The Earl of Denbigh, proposing the toast of the Catholic Association, said they regarded the recent violent attacks upon the Duke of Norfolk with feelings of indignation. Sensation-mongering pressmen had been responsible for the uproar, and to interpret the words complained of in an address to the Pope as an attack on Italian unity was ludicrous in the extreme.

The Temporal Power of the Pope.—Delivering the address at the annual meeting of the Guild of Ransom, a Society for the Conversion of England, at the Westminster Town Hall, Monsignor John Vaughan (brother of the Cardinal) referred to the question of the temporal power. The words uttered by the Duke of Norfolk were, he said, only the echo of the natural feeling of Catholics, not only in England, but all over the world. They desired that the Pope should be independent. The Pope was the spiritual head of over 250 million souls, and exercised a world-wide dominion. It was imperative, therefore, that he should have perfect liberty in the government of the Universal Church, and free access to his children—and they to him—without being subject to any Power or Government that might hinder him or put real or imaginary obstacles in his way. The particular conditions which might or might not be necessary to secure and safeguard the exercise of this jurisdiction constituted a question which allowed a greater laxity. The Holy Father was himself the best judge of the conditions necessary, and every loyal Catholic would accept his often-repeated expressions of opinion on the point.

A Present for the Pope.—His Holiness has been presented by Dr. Hicks, of London, with a complete collection of meteorological instruments, which were on view at the Paris Exhibition.

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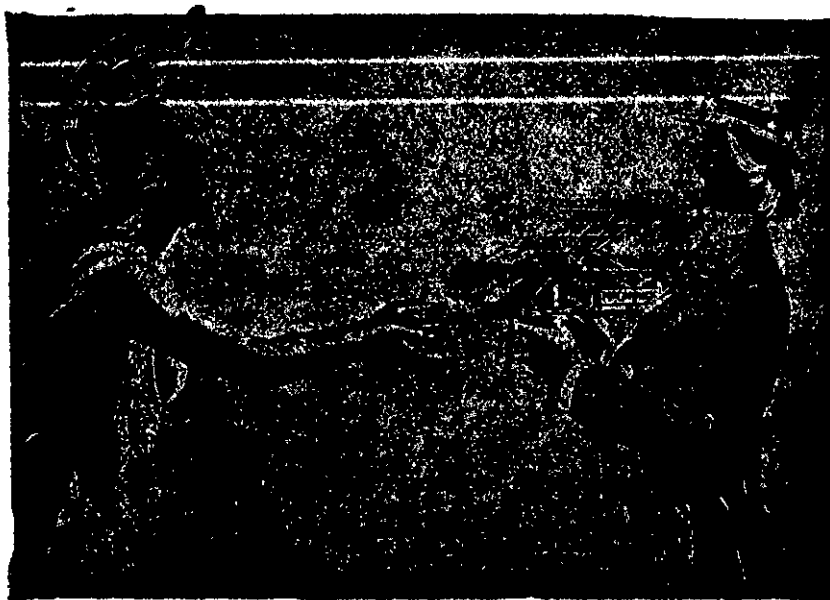
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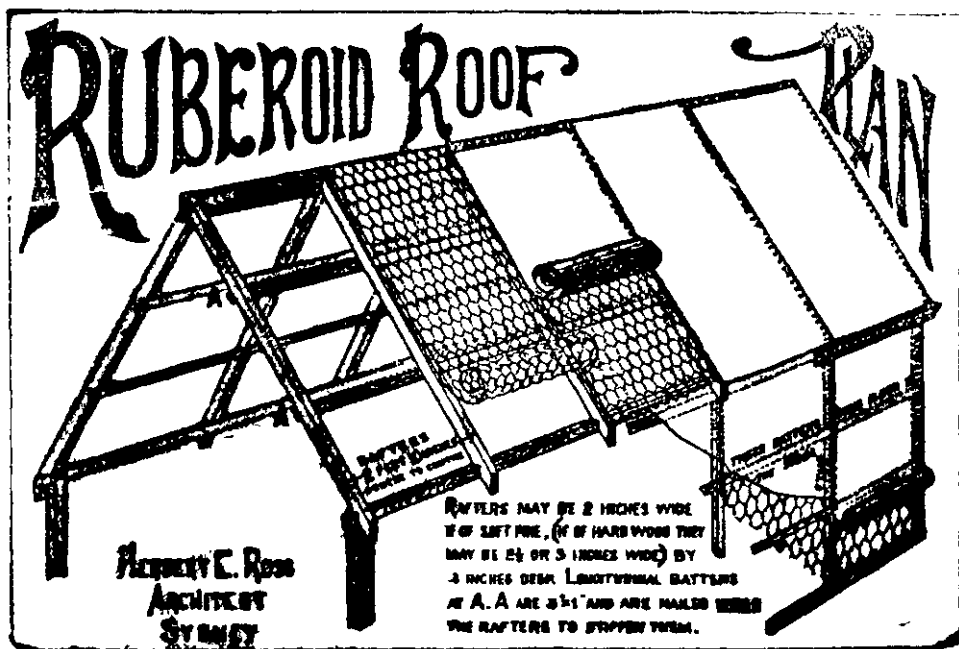
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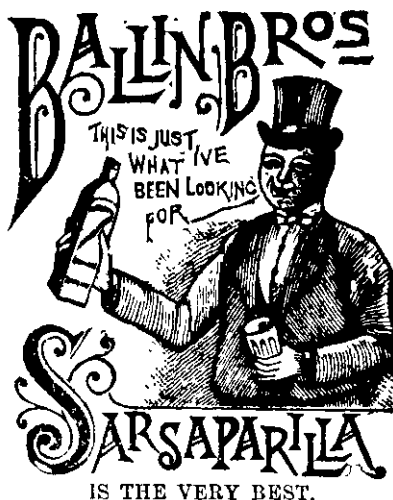
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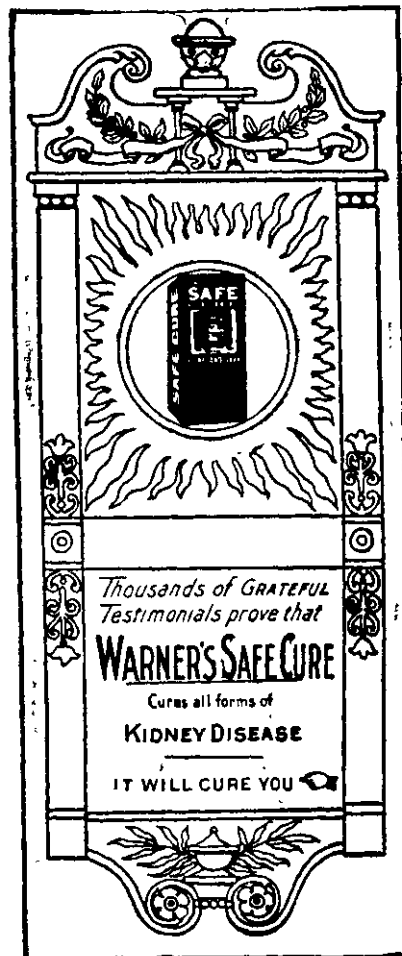


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Aid for the Chinese Missions—The special appeal for the missions in China made in response to Cardinal Vaughan's appeal in the churches of the Archdiocese of Westminster, has resulted in the sum of over £400 being collected. This very handsome amount has been contributed by practically all the churches in the Archdiocese. Among the largest individual collections we notice The Oratory, £35 5s; Spanish Place, £28; Pro-Cathedral, £20 11s; Haverstock Hill, £15 15s 6d; and Farm street, £15 4s 9d.

A New Catholic Cathedral for Leeds—The Plans of a new Catholic Cathedral for Leeds have been deposited with the city authorities. It is estimated that about two years will be required for its completion. The cost of the cathedral and presbytery is estimated at £33,000.

Fashionable Wedding—At St. James' Spanish Place, on January 19, Captain H. H. P. Deasy, late 16th Lancers, led to the altar Miss Dolores Hickie, daughter of Colonel Hickie, of Sievoyre, Tipperary. Captain Deasy is the only surviving son of the late Lord Justice Deasy, of Carysfort, County Dublin. The nuptial ceremony was performed by Very Rev. Canon Gildea, D.D., rector of the mission.

Opening of a Dominican Church—A new Dominican church was opened at Pendleton, Manchester, on Sunday, January 20, before a large number of the members of the Dominican Order, and the clergy of the diocese. The Right Rev. Dr. O'Callaghan, Bishop of Cork, consecrated and opened the church. The preachers on the occasion were the Right Rev. Dr. Allen, Bishop of Shrewsbury, and the Right Rev. Abbot Gasquet, O.S.B.

HOLLAND—Progress of the Church.—In 1855 Pope Pius IX. re-established the Hierarchy in Holland. Since then 400 churches have been built and consecrated. In the diocese of Haarlem no less than 48 new churches have been built within the last 12 years; and at the Hague five new churches have been opened within the same period.

FRANCE—Death of the Superior-General of the Brothers of the Christian Schools.—A Paris correspondent records the death of the Very Rev. Frere Joseph, Superior-General of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, which took place recently at Montebourg, at the age of 61. Frere Joseph was a man of unusual ability, and will be a serious loss to his Order.

ROME—The Irish College.—Mgr. Kelly, of the Irish College, Rome (writes a correspondent), signalled the advent of the new century by a pleasing innovation—a dinner in honor of his Eminence Cardinal Logue, Archbishop of Armagh, which was followed by a reception in the Kirby Memorial Hall of the College. The guests at the dinner included Cardinals Vianello, Vannutelli, and Satolli, the Bishops of Clogher, Rochester, and Geraldton, the Vice-Rector, and several Professors of Maynooth. Count Moore and other Irish visitors, and the members of the Irish Colony. The reception followed immediately upon the dinner. The painting in oils of the Cardinal, which had been uncovered during the recent Irish pilgrimage, hung on the walls of the Memorial Hall, opposite to the bust of his Holiness, which was also unveiled then. Among the very many who were present at the reception were the Duke of Norfolk and the Hon. A. Wilmot, K.S.G.

Proposed Enlargement of the Vatican—Future pilgrims to Rome will be interested to learn that alterations for their benefit are in prospect. Up to the present the Vatican enjoys the distinction of being the largest palace on earth. It contains 11,000 rooms. Before very long, however, it will receive another addition to its bulk, which will bring up the number of rooms to 12,000. The Pope has decided to erect three new buildings. One, containing 800 rooms, will be used to house the pilgrims coming to Rome; while the other two, which will be much smaller, will be added to the Vatican Museum. In the last-mentioned building will be placed all the artistic offerings which Leo XIII. has received during his Pontificate. They amount to more than 3000 objects, and will shortly be added to the artistic treasures of the Vatican.

THE IRISH LAND QUESTION.

A CABLE message received here recently, stated that Mr. J. E. Redmond, Chairman of the Irish Parliamentary Party, had moved an amendment in the House of Commons to the Address-in-Reply asking for the Imperial credit for the compulsory and wholesale purchase of land. Mr. T. W. Russell, in a violent speech, seconded the amendment, urging that a timely concession be made lest bloodshed ensue. The landowners were mere rent chargers.

Mr. Balfour said that compulsion would be not only wild and ruinous, but would ruin the laborers it sought to benefit. The Irish Lands Purchase Acts had successfully created 60,000 peasant proprietors.

Mr. Wyndham said that it would be impossible to risk 120 millions, and plunge Ireland into litigation. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman supported the amendment, which was rejected by 235 to 140.

It will be in the memory of our readers that prior to the General Election, Mr. T. W. Russell, who then held office in the Salisbury Government, made some strong speeches in the constituency which he now represents, in the course of which he said many hard but well-deserved things against the Irish landlords. He spoke deliberately knowing full well that his remarks would cost him his position. Mr. Russell's speeches fell like a bombshell among the landlords, with the result that Lord Salisbury, no doubt acting at their instigation, relieved the well-known Liberal-Unionist of the secretaryship of the Local Government Board. Addressing a meeting of North of Ireland tenant farmers some few weeks ago Mr. Russell again dealt with the land question, and in view of the fact that he seconded Mr. Redmond's amendment his remarks are well worth quoting. Mr. Russell, who by the way is not an Irishman as might be supposed but a Scotchman, said: 'English politicians begin to feel that the Irish question is coming up again—most of them know

MORE OF CHINA THAN OF IRELAND.

and they have a dim idea that Unionist Ulster is going to take a hand in the game this time. With every newspaper writing, before a word is said on such, we know that the battle has been fairly begun. We go into this battle with a just cause, with a platform upon which we can stand. And let me say this to the Irish landlords and their Press organs—we shall not allow the Unionist party nor the Unionist cause to be bound up with their selfish ends and aims. If the Union is to exist for the sake of Irish landlords, then the Union is in evil plight, and I for one would cease to defend it. The Union is essential for the prosperity of the whole people, and we shall not allow a class—even if they have the ear of the Prime Minister, and have a powerful Press at their command—to push themselves forward as if they alone were the Irish Unionist party. I repeat here that the present land system is doomed. It cannot stand. Mr. Justice Meredith and his colleagues have destroyed the last chance it had. It must go. It is draining the country of its wealth. It is destroying every interest that is worth preserving. It is poisoning the national life. Since Strongbow landed in Ireland nineteen-twentieths of the disturbance and disorder which have prevailed have been due to land. It has been the cause of anguish, pain, sorrow, and utter ruin to tens of thousands. And here to-night, on this historic ground, with all its recollections of glorious fights, with all its memories of heroes and martyrs in this struggle, we pledge ourselves to do our share in making an end of the trouble—to do our part in bringing about a state of things in which the man who plants the corn shall eat, and praise the Lord'—to labor for the hastening of that time when the land shall no longer be deemed forsaken or called desolate.

THE ENGLISH AND IRISH LAND SYSTEMS.

People talk of landlords and the land system in Ireland and in England as if they were one and the same thing. There is absolutely no analogy between the two things. Take the English system and examine it. The landlord is the sole and only owner of land, buildings, and everything in and upon the soil. He lets the

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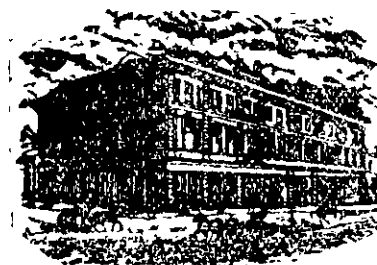
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Having LEASED my HOTEL to Messrs. J. J. CONNOR and J. T. HARRIS, I have to THANK the PATRONS of the 'City' for their LIBERAL PATRONAGE; and in bespeaking a Continuance of the same for my successors I feel quite satisfied that the reputation the Hotel has enjoyed will be fully maintained under their Management.
 J. F. NIXON

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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We have great pleasure in announcing that we have purchased the above well-known house from MR. JAMES LISTON, so long and favourably known in connection with its management. We need hardly assure our Friends and the General Public that we will make the CRITERION a really comfortable home for COMMERCIAL MEN and TRAVELLERS.

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.

JAMES LISTON.

farm at a given rent as a going concern. He erects and maintains the home and farm buildings. He drains and fences the land—in fact the owner acts as owner, and as a matter of fact he gives back to the land much of what he gets as rent. In many cases the rent simply represents 3 per cent. on the expenditure in maintaining the farm as a going concern. Compare this with the Irish system. The Irish landlord owns nothing but the bare soil—he has erected no farm buildings, he has neither drained nor fenced the land, he has made no farm roads. All this has been done not by the man who is called owner, but by the occupier. The naked truth is that the Irish landlord takes, but does not give back. He draws what is in fact if not in law a rent-charge. That is all. Not a sixpence does he spend on the land, and much of what he draws is spent out of the country. Could two systems be more unlike? The Irish system may be summed up thus—First, there is a landlord whose one object is to secure his rent, and he performs no duty to the property he owns; second, there is the occupier, afraid to improve the land because in due time the Land Commission will arrive, and in spite of Acts of Parliament will rent him to some extent upon whatever improvements he may have made; third, there is the laborer, ground to powder between the two parties—crowding into the towns or crossing the Atlantic, until there is hardly a man capable of doing a day's work left in some parts of the country. Could there be a worse system? And add to all this the miseries of a gigantic law suit going on constantly in every parish—cases dragged from court to court, with an array of lawyers and judges revelling in the spoils. No country could stand it. Ireland least of all. And it must end, for mending is impossible.

Free trade has done more than anything else to make England what England is to-day. It has done this because England is to so large an extent an industrial country. Ireland occupies a totally different position. Ireland is not industrial in the same sense as England. Ireland is agricultural. Nobody contends that free trade has benefited the agricultural districts of England as it has done in the great centres of industry. Nothing of the kind. And what helped to make England helped to unmake the greater part of poor Ireland. I am not arguing the right and the wrong of free trade. I am showing its effect upon Ireland. Along with the advent of this policy Ireland was scourged by a desolating famine—a famine which absolutely prostrated the country. But four years after these two untoward events England imposed additional taxation upon Ireland amounting to £2,000,000 per annum.

THE DUKE OF NORFOLK AND HIS CRITICS.

HIS Grace the Duke of Norfolk has addressed a letter to the Press in reply to the criticisms passed upon the recent address presented by him on behalf of the Catholic Union of Great Britain to the Holy Father. Many of these strictures were founded on false information or on reports from the so-called 'Liberal' journals of Italy, whilst others were based on a misapprehension of the position which the Holy Father occupies with regard to the Italian Government. The allegation, which was made by some newspapers in this Colony, that the Duke of Norfolk was guilty of a breach of the laws of hospitality against the Italian Government in presenting such an address, whilst on Italian soil, was founded on the mistaken notion that Leo XIII. is a subject of the King of Italy. The Vatican is beyond the jurisdiction of the Government, and is in reality a kingdom in itself, therefore the charge that the laws of hospitality were broken need not be considered.

After explaining that he was prevented through illness from replying sooner to his critics HIS Grace goes on to say:—

The following statements are absolute fabrications: That papers publishing our address had been seized; that our hotels were guarded; that the pilgrims met with hostile demonstrations in the streets; and that a British flag hoisted over one of our hotels had been lowered by us upon the birthday of the Queen of Italy as a mark of disrespect. That statements in the Press that these things had taken place should have excited no hostility towards us tends to show how artificial was the paper agitation raised. Not one of our pilgrims had to encounter the smallest sign of disapprobation or ill will. Indeed, to our English minds, it is humbling to have to contrast the calm dignity and personal friendliness of the Roman people with the distressing hysteria of so many of our friends at home.

Would it be easy to bear stronger testimony to the impossible position of the Pope and of his spiritual children than to assert, as is now asserted, that we Catholics may not go before the Head of the Church, and in his own palace of the Vatican speak to him as we spoke? 'We pray and we trust that this new century may witness the restoration of the Roman Pontiff to that position of temporal independence which your Holiness has declared necessary for the effective fulfilment of the duties of his world-wide charge.'

Does anyone believe that there is any statesman in the world who, if he is favorable to the cause of United Italy, does not, in his heart, echo our prayer? Is there anyone who gives any candid consideration to this great subject who does not know that the principal cause which makes for disunion in Italy arises from the present position of the Holy See; that it is a perpetual source of weakness, and that it is tending to take from the Italian nation the health and strength which only religion can bestow?

PROMISES WHICH WERE NOT KEPT.

When in 1860 the late King Victor Emmanuel, in time of peace, invaded Umbria and the Marshes with an army of 50,000 men, he issued a proclamation, in which he states: 'I intend to respect the right of the Chief of the Church, to whom I am willing to give, together with the allied and friendly Powers, all the guarantees of independence and security.' That promise was not kept. The seat of the Chief of the Church was not in the event respected. International guarantees of independence and security were not given to the Pope.

In 1864, in the Italian Parliament Signor Crispi said: 'The Roman Pontiff cannot be the citizen of a great State, descending from the throne on which the Catholic world pays him homage. He must be Prince and Master in his own domain, second to no one.'

It is to my purpose to quote these still unfulfilled pledges made by those who have had so great a share in the unification of Italy, because it appears to be supposed in some quarters that a demand for Papal independence means a desire for the disruption of the Italian Kingdom. This is a delusion. I am convinced that the Pope is a true lover of Italy. I do not believe he desires its disruption. No such thought is suggested by our address. For myself, I have not the remotest desire for such a catastrophe. But I share the aspiration of those who believe that the true policy for the unity of the Italian Kingdom would be for the rulers to emancipate themselves from their subjection to anti-Christian sects, and to come to terms with the Pope. For Papal independence is a claim which no Catholic throughout the world can afford to let go. In the House of Lords, in 1849, Lord Lansdowne, confirming a dispatch of Lord Palmerston's spoke to the following effect:— 'There was no country with Catholic subjects and Catholic possessions which had not a deep interest in the Pope being so placed as to be able to exercise his authority unfettered and unshackled by any temporal influence which might affect his spiritual authority.'

MISSING THE POINT.

It is we, the Catholics of England and of the world, who are struck at by such statements as have appeared during the last 10 days. Writers on these subjects too frequently appear to regard the Church as a merely clerical institution, in which the laity are reluctantly yielding to the commands and beguilements of clerical influence. They appear to forget that the vast majority of the Church is composed of laymen, of men who glory in their faith, who know what their religion means to them, and who would deplore any signs of weakness on the part of the clergy in upholding the dignity of their sacred office, in safeguarding the integrity of the Truth, or in carrying out the duties of their trust. It is the failure to appreciate this on the part of non-Catholic writers about the Church, it is this perpetual 'missing the point,' which makes so much of what they write and say appear so inept to Catholic readers.

And this bears upon the question of the temporal position of the Pope. The interests of every Catholic are affected profoundly by all that concerns the central government of the Church. It is not for us to say what arrangement with the Italian Government would be satisfactory to the Pope. It is a question which he alone can determine, to accept the Italian law of guarantee would be impossible. They guarantee nothing, and would reduce the head of the Church to the position of a stipendiary of the Italian Government. If we glance backward into history we see that the autonomy of the Pope has been accepted as a first principle of politics by the greatest statesmen of every nation, and we look forward with the certainty that time will justify the principle which we assert.

OUR DUTY.

We know that the interests of the Church are safe in the hands of the Pope, and that we can look to him with the words of Newman in our hearts: 'Our duty is not, indeed, to mix up Christ's Vicar with this or that party of men, because he in his high station is above all parties, but to look at his formal deeds, and to follow him whither he goeth, and never to desert him, however we may be tried, but to defend him at all hazards, and against all comers, as a son would a father, and as a wife a husband, knowing that his cause is the cause of God.'

To those who take a loftier and wider view than is permitted to minds cramped by sectarian animosities, or harassed by traditional prejudices, it must be a matter of deep concern that the Papacy, which is so great a force for order and stability throughout the world, should be made a cause of strife in questions round which are centred the deepest interests of mankind. If the impossible position of the Pope has been again brought back more clearly to men's minds by the outburst which has taken place, we may well rejoice at the incident, and trust it will not fade from the public mind. We may be very thankful if it is our pilgrimage which has brought about this fresh awakening, and I most warmly thank my fellow-pilgrims for having allowed me to be the spokesman before the Holy Father of their hope and prayer.

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

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

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One bottle makes 8 gallons. 1/2 lb. Extract of Herbs.
Sample Bottle Free 5 Stamps & for 13 Stamps.
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GENTLEMEN,—Another Wool Season being at hand, we beg to again tender our best services to growers for the disposal of their clip here, or for shipment of same to London or other markets.

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The First Sale will be held on Thursday, 20th December, 1900.
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The Third Sale " " Thursday, 31st January, 1901.
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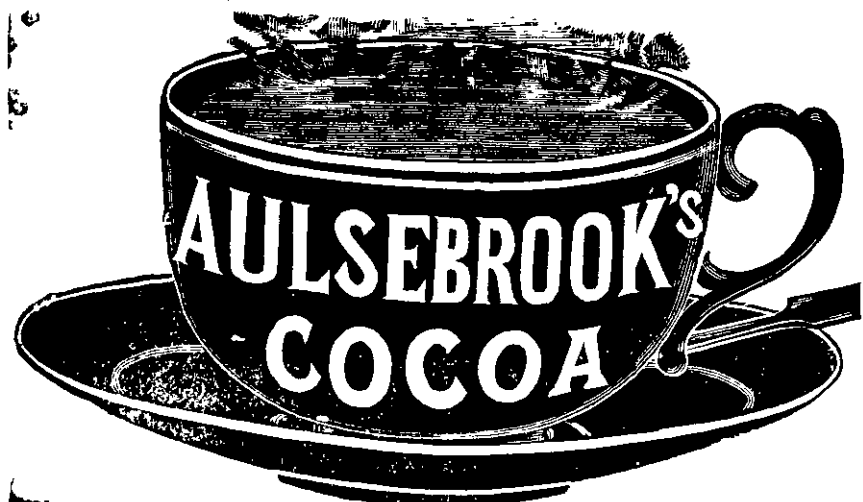
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Returning our best thanks for the liberal support we have hitherto received, and assuring you that no effort will be wanting to merit a continuance of your confidence, We remain, yours faithfully,

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TERMINUS HOTEL, DUNEDIN.

This Hotel is situated just opposite the Triangle Gardens, Railway Station, and Wharves. It is one of the most beautiful positions in Dunedin. There is no pleasanter place at which to live. The Hotel is quite new, and the rooms are large and lofty. The Baths and Lavatories are all that could be desired

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MOLESWORTH AND MURPHY STREETS
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Requires no setting, and will burn any Coal.
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(Opposite Knox Church).

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THE old proverb says: A stitch in time
saves nine; or, to put another con-
struction on the words: A shilling in time
saves pounds. The words are indeed true,
and yet what a number of people do we find
letting pounds and pounds worth of music
and books go to wreck and ruin when the
expenditure of a few shillings in binding
would prevent this sad waste and give them
volumes handsome to look upon and a
pleasure to handle in place of a lot of
tattered and torn leaves. Be warned in time
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