

long in falling due. But, although the microbe is still king in the hinterlands of medical discovery, that of tuberculosis has been dethroned and has ceased to be a thing of terror. The Nordrach, or open-air, treatment of consumption has proved itself a genuine remedy for the early stages of the disease. We have personally seen, in the 'Nordrach Sanatorium,' near Dunedin, a marvellous improvement wrought even in some patients that had reached a very advanced and apparently hopeless stage of this parasitic malady. And still the reports of new remedies come to us over the wires. A few days ago, for instance, a message was flashed afar over the cable from Berlin, which ran as follows:—M. Schneider, a Berlin chemist, after travelling through Australia, induced some lung specialists to use sanosin, made from eucalyptus oil mixed with sulphur and charcoal, and evaporated over alcohol lamps. The patients inhale the vapor. The remedy has been tried in several hospitals, and 60 out of 100 cases of tuberculosis are reported cured.'

Dr. Fralick, a New York physician, endeavors to get to close quarters with the bacillus of tuberculosis by injecting antiseptic solutions in large quantities into the veins of the sufferers. And it is claimed that his method has succeeded amazingly in clearing the invaded tissue of the depredations of the wretched parasite. His collaborator, Dr. Allen, says of the Fralick physis: 'The Fralick intra-venous infusion method is an extension of the method first used by Baccelli of Italy. Baccelli and his Italian followers used small quantities of such substances as bichloride of mercury, antipyrine, silver nitrate, gelatin, ergot, chloral, quinine, and oxygen, introducing these medicaments directly into the vascular system. Dr. Fralick's method differs from Baccelli's in that he uses large quantities of comparatively non-poisonous antiseptics. He cuts down to the vein, exposing it for a short distance. Then the fluid is introduced by inserting a needle into the vein and allowing it to run by gravity. Treatment has been remarkably successful in the first stages of the disease. We hope,' Dr. Allen concludes, 'that in time it may be found possible to cure the disease in any stage.'

He Made History

The broken-down nags that are ridden by the picadores (pikemen) at Spanish bull-fights, have one ear tightly coiled round and round with twine from tip to head. 'It kills the pain, you know,' the Spaniards explain. It is, in good sooth, a rude form of anaesthesia. It is probably very ancient, too, and, for all we know, some pain-killing device of the time may have been used upon human beings before Paracelsus devised his little opiate balls. Chloroform is now so much a matter of course in modern surgery that it will come as a surprise to many of our readers to learn that the first man who was put under its influence died only a few weeks ago. The new anaesthetic was discovered by Sir J. Y. Simpson, of Edinburgh, in 1847. On November 10 of that year, he administered the new anaesthetic to Mr. T. D. Morrison, a dentist's apprentice, for the extraction of a decayed molar, in the presence of a number of medical and scientific men. Mr. Morrison, previous to the administration of the chloroform, wrote a letter to the discoverer, freeing him from all responsibility in case of accident or death. He was the first patient that went under chloroform and he survived the ordeal six-and-fifty years.

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

The many friends of the Rev. Father McGrath (Port Chalmers) will be glad to learn that he has recovered from his recent sharp attack of pulmonitis and has taken up the active duties of his parochial charge again.

The Very Rev. Father O'Neill (Milton) is to deliver a lecture in Balclutha on May 15, in aid of the building fund of the local Catholic church. We understand that he is likely to give, among other interesting matter, some reminiscences of the visits made by him, when in Ireland last year, to the battlefields of '98 in Wexford County. The lecture should be one of exceptional interest, and will, no doubt, draw a crowded house.

On Monday of last week Bishop Verdon reached Hyde on his visitation of the Palmerston mission, and on the following morning administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to 11 children. In the afternoon he proceeded to Macraes, where, on Wednesday morning, 20 persons were confirmed. The same afternoon the candidates for confirmation (22) at Palmerston were examined, and on the following morning they were confirmed. On Thursday afternoon 20 children were confirmed in Hampden, from which place the Bishop proceeded to Oamaru to take part in the opening of the Oamaru Basilica.

St. Joseph's Ladies' Social Club inaugurated the winter session by the production of the operetta 'A Dress Rehearsal,' in St. Joseph's Hall on Wednesday evening of last week. The hall was crowded, and the audience showed their appreciation of the performance by hearty and frequent applause. This was only what was justly due, as it was the best entertainment of its kind ever given in St. Joseph's Hall. The principal character was taken by Miss Ivy Poppelwell, who displayed dramatic talent far above the average of the amateur, her enunciation being particularly good, whilst her singing with Miss Treston of the duet, 'O, you shall be belle of the ball,' was admirable, the audience insisting on a double recall. Miss Staunton made a decided success of the character of Miss Jones, the principal of a young ladies' academy, filling the role with the dignity becoming such a responsible position, and singing with considerable success the solo, 'Your parents are invited.' Both Miss Staunton and Miss Poppelwell were the recipients of floral tributes during the evening. The other parts were ably filled by Misses Coxton, Clancy, M. Hanrahan (2) O'Neill, Treston, Brady, Hannigan, Johnson, Davis, all of whom were letter perfect and acted with good dramatic effect. At the conclusion of the first act Misses Brennan (2) and Knox danced a very graceful gavotte. Mr. T. Anthony, who acted as musical director and stage manager, is to be highly complimented for the finished manner in which the operetta was produced and the undoubted ability displayed by all who took part in it. The accompaniments during the evening were played by Mrs. Dalton with her accustomed ability. During the evening the Rev. Father Murphy, Adm., St. Joseph's Cathedral, thanked the ladies of the club for their successful entertainment, and hoped that they would be equally successful in their future undertakings. In response to a generally expressed wish the operetta was repeated last evening, when it was, perhaps, even more successful than on the first occasion.

NEW ZEALAND: GENERAL

Mr. W. T. L. Travers, father of the New Zealand Bar, died at the Hutt, near Wellington, on Monday morning from the injuries sustained at the Lower Hutt railway station on Saturday night. Deceased went to the station to see a friend off, and remained in the carriage till the train began to move. In alighting on to the station platform he knocked against a guard who was keeping back bystanders, and fell between the platform and the train, sustaining injuries which resulted fatally. Mr. Travers was born at Castleview, Newcastle West, County Limerick, his father being Captain Boyle Travers, of the Rifle Brigade. The late Mr. Travers was educated in France, served as lieutenant in the Second Lancers, fought in Spain under the Duke de Victoria, and after leaving the army was admitted to the Bar in London. He arrived in New Zealand in 1849, and some years later was appointed District Judge in Nelson. For many years he took an active part in public affairs. Of late years he devoted his attention mainly to the practice of his profession in Wellington. He was a man of varied scientific attainments, and was noted for his unvarying integrity and uprightness.

A presentation was made on the 17th inst. to the Rev. Father Maples, of Petone, by members of the Lower Hutt choir. Mr. E. D. Dunne referred to the untiring zeal and courtesy of the recipient during the years the choir was under his charge, and the sorrow felt by all classes of the community at his departure from amongst them. He asked Mr. McGuirk to make the presentation, which consisted of an address and gentleman's companion case inscribed as follows: To Rev. F. Maples, from the members of the Lower Hutt choir, Easter 1903. Father Maples feelingly replied, and thanked the donors for their gift. The following is the address:—'Dear Rev. Father,—We, the members of the Lower Hutt choir, cannot allow the occasion of your departure from amongst us to pass without expressing to you the sorrow we feel at parting with you. You have been so untiring in your efforts to educate and assist us, that you have actuated our conductor to leave us and follow in your footsteps, and we feel we cannot thank you sufficiently for all you have done for us. We trust you will live long to continue the good work you are engaged in, and we ask you to accept this small present which we trust will remind you of the little choir you have done so much for.'

A meeting of the Catholic men of Newtown (writes a Wellington correspondent) was held on Sunday afternoon, April 19, in the Convent High School, Green street, for the purpose of considering a proposal to establish a branch of the Hibernian Society in the parish. The Rev. Father Ainsworth occupied the chair, and in his opening address he impressed upon those present the necessity of belonging to such a grand Catholic society, not only on account of the benefits, which were equal to those given by any other friendly society, but more especially for the purpose of keeping Catholic young men together and to create a closer union amongst them. He assured the meeting that it would give him the greatest pleasure to have the branch formed, and the movement would have his heartiest cooperation. Bro. J. W. Callaghan, P.P., of the Wellington branch, was present, and at the request of the rev. chairman explained the constitution of the Society and the benefits to be derived by its members. He also dealt with