

INTERCOLONIAL

The Convent of Mercy, Orange, recently celebrated the 25th anniversary of its establishment.

The Right Rev. Mgr. O'Hea, of Coburg, archdiocese of Melbourne, passed away last week at the venerable age of 89 years.

The Very Rev. Dean Phelan, Administrator of the Melbourne Cathedral, is now convalescent, and was able to assist at the celebration of the Papal Coronation on Sunday, August 23.

The Rev. Thomas Hayden (Deniliquin, diocese of Wilcannia) will shortly leave for San Francisco, where he will join the mission. Father Hayden has been some seven years on the Wilcannia mission.

The Very Rev. F. Keogh, S.J., has been transferred from St. Patrick's College, East Melbourne, to St. Ignatius', Richmond. Father Keogh is succeeded in the college by the Very Rev. T. Kenny, S.J., of Riverview College, Sydney, N.S.W.

Mr. E. J. Sydes, M.A., LL.B. (Brisbane, Queensland), passed through Melbourne recently on his way to Ireland to begin his studies in preparation for entering the ranks of the Jesuit Fathers. Mr. Sydes is a graduate of the Melbourne University.

On Wednesday 19, the Rev. M. Rohan, who was for a number of years in charge of the Moss Vale district, and was recently appointed as P.P. to Balmain, was presented by his former parishioners with a gold watch and a handsomely-illuminated and framed address. The presentation was made in the Centennial Hall, Moss Vale, with the Rev. J. Carroll, Father Rohan's successor, and formerly Administrator of St. Benedict's parish, in the chair.

The Catholic church at Kalgoorlie, now nearing completion (says the 'W.A. Record'), will be a splendid building when finished, and will enable the district to boast of having lived up to the traditions of the old faith. It occupies a commanding site in the centre of the town, and will prove an architectural feature of Kalgoorlie as soon as the roof is on. It is intended to present his Lordship Bishop Gibney with some valuable souvenir, typical in a way of the goldfields, on the occasion of the dedication ceremony, which, it is confidently expected, will soon take place.

At a meeting held recently at the palace, Melbourne, his Grace the Archbishop presiding, the lowest tender (£6000) for the completion of the new Cathedral Hall was accepted. The work is already commenced, and it is expected that the hall will be completed by next St. Patrick's Day (March 17, 1904). The finance committee discussed the means of raising money to meet the large liability, and it was decided to hold a grand entertainment, sports, concert, etc., in the Exhibition Building on November 9 (the King's Birthday).

The Rev. Father Gleeson, of Newcastle, who recently underwent a painful operation, will not on his recovery again take up his duties in the parish. Father Gleeson has long cherished a desire to try his vocation with the Redemptorist Fathers, and with that purpose he will leave for Ireland as soon as his strength will permit. In Newcastle a movement is on foot to raise funds to mark the rev. gentleman's departure by a suitable presentation, and already a considerable sum of money has been collected.

The Melbourne 'Advocate' states that the Rev. Brother O'Shea, principal of the Christian Brothers' High School, St. Kilda East, has been appointed consultant, which includes the responsible position of visitor to the houses of the Order in Australia. The rev. gentleman's headquarters will be at the novitiate, Lewisham, Sydney. The Rev. Brother O'Shea spent 18 years in Victoria, half of which period he taught at the Christian Brothers' College, West Melbourne, and St. Francis' School, and during the past nine years he was Principal of the Christian Brothers' School, St. Kilda East. The success of the latter was due in a large measure to the labors of Bro. O'Shea, who did all in his power to promote the spiritual and temporal welfare of the boys, many of whom now adorn the liberal professions of this State. The rev. gentleman is succeeded at St. Kilda by Rev. Bro. Carroll, who, before leaving St. Patrick's College, Ballarat, was presented with a token of the student's affection and esteem.

A little wonder is the Broadcast Patent Seed-sower, sold by Morrow, Bassett, and Co. For sowing turnip, rape, grass, and clover seed it has no equal, while for oats, wheat, and barley you have only to see it to know its value. A boy can work it. Sow four acres per hour, and any quantity up to six bushels per acre. Price only 20s.—***

Friends at Court

GLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

- September 13, Sunday.—Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost.
 „ 14, Monday.—Exaltation of the Holy Cross.
 „ 15, Tuesday.—Octave of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
 „ 16, Wednesday.—Ember day. Saints Cornelius and Cyprian, Bishops and Martyrs.
 „ 17, Thursday.—Impression of the Stigmata of St. Francis.
 „ 18, Friday.—Ember day. St Joseph of Cupertino, Confessor.
 „ 19, Saturday.—Ember day. St. Januarius and Companions, Martyrs.

Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

St. Helena, having gone to Jerusalem, ordered the destruction of the temple of Venus, built over the tomb of Christ. Then, upon excavating to a great depth, the holy Sepulchre, and near it the three crosses, also the nails which had pierced our Saviour's body, and the title which had been affixed to His cross, were found. The true Cross was recognised by the miracles which it wrought. St. Helena sent a part of the Cross to Constantinople and left the other part at Jerusalem, where it was encased in a silver box and preserved in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, which had been erected on the spot of the discovery. The Church has consecrated this event by the institution of the feast of the 'Finding of the Holy Cross,' which is celebrated on May 3. Chosroes II., King of Persia, having taken Jerusalem, carried off the relic, which was recaptured 14 years later, under Siroes, his son and successor, by the Emperor Heraclius. Both the Greek and Latin Churches still celebrate this victory, on September 14, by the feast of the 'Exaltation of the Cross.'

Saints Cornelius and Cyprian, Bishops and Martyrs.

These two saints were contemporaries and friends. St. Cornelius was elected to succeed Pope Fabian in 251. During his Pontificate the Church had to contend not only with the persecution of the Emperor Decius, but also with the internal disturbances excited by the heretic Novatian. In 252 St. Cornelius was banished to Civita Vecchia. Brought back to Rome in the same year he there gained the crown of martyrdom.

St Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage, was born in the beginning of the third century, of a wealthy senatorial family, and had been an esteemed and successful rhetorician at Carthage, his native city. His high station, as well as his abilities, made him the pride of his pagan fellow-citizens. He was converted to Christianity about the year 246, by Caecilius, a presbyter at Carthage, whose name he added henceforth to his own; soon after he was raised to the priesthood, and, on the death of Bishop Donatus in 248, he was chosen to succeed that prelate. During the persecution under Decius in 250, Cyprian concealed himself, maintaining, however, from his place of concealment, a constant correspondence with his flock. After the fanatical frenzy had abated, he returned to Carthage, where, between the years 251 and 256, he held several councils to determine the validity of baptism administered by heretics and the manner to be observed in readmitting the schismatics and those who had apostatised in the time of persecution. Cyprian ended his noble episcopate by martyrdom under Valerian in 258. We have his 'Life,' written by Pontius, his deacon. St. Cyprian has left 81 letters and 13 other works on various subjects. His letters exhibit an interesting picture of his time, and contain much valuable information regarding the usages, institutions, and doctrines of the early Church. Very important is his admirable treatise 'On the Unity of the Church,' in which he gives a clear statement of the Church's organic unity, which he proves is founded on the Primacy of Peter.

Stigmata of St. Francis.

Stigmata are marks or brands upon the body. After the vision of St. Francis of Assisi, the hands and feet of the saint were found to be marked as with nails, and there was a wound in his side. The wounds were seen by many persons, among whom was Pope Alexander IV., during the lifetime of the saint.

The 'Excelsior' plough is 'Champion of the World.' On hillside, lea, swamp, tussock, or stubble, it is equally at home.—Morrow, Bassett, and Co., sole agents in New Zealand.—***

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