

livered by Dr Weir Mitchell before the Physicians' Club of Chicago some time ago, and republished in a recent issue of *The Journal of the American Medical Association*. It bears brief but striking testimony to the superlative value of the Catholic Sisterhoods in war time. 'Very soon,' said this distinguished physician, 'the question of women nurses arose. There were women like the Schuylers, the Lowells, and Miss Wormly, of whom I think with grateful remembrance. When we were in the neighborhood of great towns we had many volunteer women nurses. Some were terribly in earnest, utterly ignorant, and quite incapable of discipline. Others, if more efficient, were not punctual, and came and went as they pleased. A large proportion were early credited in the papers for patriotic services, and were seeking that notoriety which is the motive force of so many of the aspirations: and shall I say of the exasperations?—of our own unrestful days. Our best women nurses were the too limited number of Roman Catholic Sisters.'

Some Irish 'Highlanders'

One of the circumstances which makes it difficult to get a full and accurate return of the exact number of Irishmen in the ranks of the British Army is the well-known fact that many Irishmen are enrolled in regiments with anything but Irish names. An Irish man writing from Scotland to an Irish paper gives some striking examples, which are of especial interest in connection with the current discussion on Irish recruiting. 'A few nights ago,' he says, 'I dropped into a recruiting meeting in Dixon Hall, Glasgow. The chairman introduced three of the soldiers who were wounded at the Battle of Mons. He described them as "Scots Fusiliers," and then gave their names William O'Brien, William McLaughlin, and Bernard Callaghan. I interviewed them afterwards, and found the three were Irish Nationalists. Just last week the *Dunfermline Free Press* stated it was untrue that recruiting was slow in Dunfermline, and printed seventeen photos of "local" men who had joined the Scottish Highlanders. Four of the "Highlanders" are Private William McMahon, Private T. Smith, and two young men of the name of William Tracey. The four are Irish Nationalists. There are many such "Highlanders" in Scottish regiments. When the returns are completed from every Irish centre in Scotland and verified, any one anxious to deny their accuracy can, by paying for the cost of printing the names and the places in Scotland where the men resided, obtain the list. Perusing the lists already received has been an eye-opener. Murphys and Gallaghers we have had back from the seat of war. In hospitals here there are many such "Highlanders." In the hospitals

I find on the list an O'Malley and Boyle, A Murphy, a Kelly, a Riley, and Doyle, A Casey, a Carney, a Rourke, and McCann, All strapping Highlanders, every man.'

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

The collection in St. Joseph's Cathedral parish on behalf of the distressed Belgians amounted to £123 6s 6d.

On Sunday there was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Patrick's Basilica, South Dunedin, from the last Mass until after Vespers, when the usual procession, followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, took place.

A concert in aid of the funds for furnishing the stalls at the forthcoming bazaar in South Dunedin will be given in the Town Hall, South Dunedin, on Wednesday evening, February 24.

The arrangements for the St. Patrick's Day concert are well advanced, and the committee has drawn up a programme of exceptional merit, to which some of the leading vocalists in Dunedin have promised to

contribute. The concert takes place on the evening of March 17, in the Garrison Hall.

On Saturday a Solemn Requiem Mass, *Coram Pontifice*, was celebrated in St. Joseph's Cathedral for the repose of the soul of Sister Mary Aloysius Coffey, who died at the Presentation Convent, Clonmel, on February 9. Rev. Father Liston (Holy Cross College) was celebrant, Rev. Father Foley (Gore) deacon, Rev. Father Morkane (Holy Cross College) subdeacon, and Rev. Father Buckley master of ceremonies. The following priests were also present in the sanctuary:—Very Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., Rev. Fathers Delany, Corcoran, Kavanagh, Tobin, and Falconer. His Lordship the Bishop gave the absolution at the catafalque. The solemn music was sung by the Dominican nuns.

LENTEN REGULATIONS

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN.

Whilst the law of the Lenten fast remains in full vigor, the following regulations are made in virtue of powers received from the Apostolic See, and by special indult granted to all the Bishops of New Zealand in March, 1908, for ten years:

1. Flesh meat is allowed at dinner on all days in Lent except Wednesdays and Fridays and the Monday in Holy Week.
2. On fasting days a refection is allowed in the morning and a collation in the evening, at which (except on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday) butter, cheese, and milk in moderation may be used.
3. Eggs may be used at dinner on all days except Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
4. Lard and dripping may be used as a condiment instead of butter on all days except Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
5. Fish and flesh meat cannot be used at the same meal during Lent.
6. Persons who are not bound to fast may take flesh meat at all meals on those days on which flesh meat is allowed at the chief meal.
7. There is neither fast nor abstinence on Sundays in Lent.
8. There is neither fast nor abstinence on St. Patrick's Day (March 17).
9. We hereby authorise priests having care of souls and confessors to grant to the faithful such further dispensations as may be deemed necessary according to the circumstances of each case.
10. Persons under 21 years of age or over 60 and all persons who are unable to fast on account of sickness or hard labor, etc., are exempted from the general obligation of fasting.

All persons who have arrived at the years of discretion are bound to receive Holy Communion within Easter time, which in this diocese commences on Ash Wednesday and ends on the octave of the Feast of SS. Peter and Paul.

A collection for the Seminary Fund shall be made on the second Sunday in Lent in every church where a priest officiates, and in all other churches on some Sunday during Lent. The faithful are earnestly solicited to contribute generously to this fund.

The collection for the Pope shall be made in each church on some Sunday before the end of September next, and for the Aborigines on some Sunday before the end of November.

✱MICHAEL VERDON,

Bishop of Dunedin.

Dunedin, January 23, 1915.

Mrs. Alice Bennett, a resident of Brooklyn, Long Island, U.S.A., celebrated her 103rd birthday anniversary on December 24. Mrs. Bennett has lived in the same house since she arrived from her native place, Dublin, fifty years ago.