

Essays

According to Doctor Johnson an essay is (1) an attempt, an endeavor; (2) a loose sally of the mind, irregular, indigested piece; (3) a trial, an experiment; (4) a taste of anything. The essay is an old and honorable form of literature for which there is less welcome nowadays than in the leisurely days of long ago. But those who love good literature and delight in the charm of perfect style will find both in the essays of the old writers. If you read Lamb, or Addison, or Steele, or Goldsmith carefully you will get a clearer and better notion of how to build a right English sentence than you can get from reading all the works of Dickens—not to speak of Hall Caine or any other of our moderns: and you will moreover enrich your mind with clean, beautiful thoughts that are positively refreshing. It used to be taken for granted that a volume of essays was included in the course of English studies prescribed in secondary and higher schools where in Mr. Hanan's establishments we find a digest of a Hunnish story with anti-Catholic tendencies, such as *Hereward the Wake*:—and with sound reason, for style is the essential of a good essay. The writing of essays is almost, but not quite a lost art. We have still in the person of Mr. Birrell one who can hold his own with the best: Hilaire Belloc and G. K. Chesterton have also strong claims to first rank: and we suppose there are some people still who retain the old reverence for Macaulay.

Intimidation in Greymouth

As an instance of how bigotry can affect a man we ask our readers to peruse the following facts, for which we thank our Greymouth correspondent: That illustrious historian and cultured Christian gentleman, Howard Elliott, accused the Catholics of Greymouth of intimidating a jury and securing a miscarriage of justice. Needless to say the charge was made with the cowardly vagueness which characterises this biped's onslaughts. What did happen was this. A clerk of the Borough Council was charged with stealing £800. The Council decided that if the money were paid in they would not prosecute. It was refunded, but the Government Audit Department took action. The Grand Jury, composed of the leading business men of the town, were with one exception Protestants. In returning "No Bill" they kept the compact which the Council had made, being influenced too by the fact that the young man's father was then at the door of death. This is the awful history of "intimidation" which has given occasion to the recent nightmares of Elliott. We are informed that while this splendid specimen of Christian chivalry was launching his attack the young man in question was lying wounded in France. Will not the Government strike a special medal to distinguish people like Elliott from ordinary human beings?

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

The annual meeting of the Roxburgh branch of the Catholic Federation was held on Sunday week, the acting parish priest, Rev. Father D. O'Neill, presiding. The following committee was elected:—Messrs. Mc Mullin, Laloli, T. Waigh, R. Woodhouse, J. Morrin, H. Brady, T. Whelan, Anderson, J. Murphy, and J. H. Waigh (secretary).

St. Joseph's Harriers ran on last Saturday as the guests of Mrs. Stone, Mornington. The pack went down the Kaikorai Valley, up the opposite hill, past the Reservoir, skirting the hills, and returning via the Mornington School and Elgin road. The members were afterwards entertained to tea by Mrs. Stone. Mr. F. P. Mullin on behalf of the harriers thanked the hostess most sincerely for the generous manner in which she had entertained them.

At the examinations conducted by the National Business College, Sydney, the following pupils of the commercial class, St. Dominic's College, were successful:—Junior Bookkeeping—Nora Flannery, 91; Meta

Coles, 89; Cecilia McLoughlin, 88; Cissie Dunne, 87; Stella McCleary, 87. Junior Shorthand—Cissie Dunne, 93; Cecilia McLoughlin, 92; Helen Ritchie, 79. Junior Typewriting—Kathleen Greenslade, 92; Cecilia McLoughlin, 90; Cissie Dunne, 89; Stella McCleary, 87; Helen Ritchie, 79.

Since last report the only match played by the Christian Brothers' pupils was against Technical School on last Wednesday. The Greens, as on the two previous occasions, were victorious. The result was 5 goals to nil. The scorers were: F. Dawson (2), G. Donnelly, T. O'Brien, and F. Sadler. On next Saturday the final match for the A grade takes place, when the Greens will meet Normal School, and a very even game is expected. The Greens are very keen on keeping up their fine record, and hope to secure the cup again by defeating Normal.

The congregation of St. Patrick's Church, Arrowtown, extended a welcome to the newly appointed pastor, the Rev. Father Corcoran, on Wednesday evening, July 18. There was a large assemblage in the schoolroom and a programme of music, elocution, and games was much enjoyed. Mr. E. Fitzgibbon, on behalf of the parishioners, presented Father Corcoran with an appropriately worded address of welcome, and at the same time wished him every success and happiness in his ministry among them. Father Corcoran expressed his sincere thanks to all for their very warm welcome and address, which, he said, would encourage him very much in his work.

There was a record attendance of members of St. Joseph's Guild at the guild room (St. Joseph's Hall) on Wednesday afternoon, July 2, the result being the completion of a large parcel of pyjamas and shirts for the Red Cross. Three hundred and sixty-three service bags were finished for the Patriotic Association. The president reported having visited the branch guild at St. Patrick's, South Dunedin, where a group of ladies was busily engaged on Red Cross work. The guild tenders its thanks to all those who so generously responded to "Bag Day" appeal, 91 bags and gifts being received; also to the splendid efforts of the ladies who assisted in the sale of the tickets.

The half-yearly meeting of SS. Peter and Paul branch of the H.A.C.B. Society was held on Thursday, July 12, in the Catholic schoolroom (writes a Gore correspondent. Bro. P. Kelly presided, and there was a very large attendance of members. The officers for the ensuing term are as follows: President, Bro. Very Rev. Father O'Donnell; vice-president, Bro. F. Hutton; secretary, Bro. M. O'Neill (re-elected); assistant secretary, Bro. Jas. Quirk; treasurer, Bro. R. Ferris; warden, Bro. C. Carmody; guardian, Bro. A. Smith; sick visitors, Bros. A. P. Hoffman and Thos. McGoldrick; auditors, Bros. M. Francis and Jas. Quirk; delegates to parish committee Catholic Federation, Bros. A. Smith and R. Ferris. Bro. P. Kelly as installing officer thanked all Bros. for the assistance given during his term as president. Bro. Very Rev. Father O'Donnell, in accepting the position of president, thanked the members for the honor they had conferred on him, and urged upon members the necessity of co-operating with the officers of the branch, and thus to assist them in the discharge of their duties and obligations.

REPRESENTATIVES' MOVEMENTS

MR. RYAN—Hastings.
MR. DEERE—Hamilton.
MR. HANRAHAN—Oamaru and Frankton.

DUNEDIN BOYS' HOSTEL

Under the Management of Miss STAUNTON.
A Hostel for Boys wishing to attend the Christian Brothers' School is now established.
— For full information apply to —
CHRISTIAN BROTHERS' SCHOOL : DUNEDIN.

J. BENNETT, Watchmaker and Jeweller
DEVON STREET .. NEW PLYMOUTH

HAS A VARIED ASSORTMENT OF PRESENTS
AT REASONABLE PRICES.