

**CORONATION CARNIVAL, BLUFF**

In Aid of Dominican Convent School Building Fund,  
Will open

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, and CLOSE on MAY 15.

Special Entertainment each evening. Late train to Invercargill each night, stopping at Ocean Beach and Clyde Street Stations.

All kind friends who are disposing of tickets in connection with Carnival will oblige by returning blocks without delay.

WANTED HOUSEKEEPER for Country Priest. Easy place. Apply **TABLET OFFICE.**

**NEW ZEALAND RAILWAYS**

JUBILEE OF GABRIEL'S GULLY AND PIONEER MINERS OF THE EARLY GOLDFIELDS.

CELEBRATIONS AT LAWRENCE, 20th to 26th MAY, 1911

HOLIDAY EXCURSION TICKETS to Lawrence will be issued from any station on the South Island Main Line and Branches from Friday, 19th May, to Thursday, 25th May inclusive, available for return up to and including Saturday, 3rd June, 1911.

The return fares will be:—First Class, 2d per mile; Second Class, 1d per mile, the minimum being 4s and 2s respectively.

BY ORDER.

**B. MORIARTY**

Building Superintendent at present engaged in the erection of the new Catholic Church, Timaru, is prepared to enter into similar engagements from October next in any part of the Dominion.

Plans and Estimates supplied if desired.

Communications to be addressed—

"HAKATERE," TIMARU.

**MARRIAGES**

**FRAHER—POUND.**—On April 24, at St. Joseph's Cathedral, by the Rev. J. Coffey, Adm., Richard, son of the late Michael Fraher, of Greymouth, to May, youngest daughter of John Pound, Dunedin.

**LEADER—DEVOY.**—On May 1, 1911, at St. Anne's Church, Wellington South, by the Ven. Archdeacon Devoy (uncle of the bride), assisted by Rev. Father Walsh, Lower Hutt, Albert, eldest son of Mr. John Leader, Christchurch, to Kate Agnes Devoy, eldest daughter of Mr. John Devoy, Stradbally, Ireland.

**O'NEILL—KERR.**—At the Basilica, Invercargill, on May 2, by the Very Rev. Dean Burke, Annie Jane, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James O'Neill, of Tisbury, to John Patrick, eldest son of the late Arthur Kerr, of Morton Mains.

**DEATHS**

**NASH.**—Of your charity pray for the repose of the soul of Mrs. Susan Nash, who died at Kalgoorlie, Western Australia, January, 1911.—R.I.P.

**ANSWER TO CORRESPONDENT**

T.C.—As you surmise, the articles are not written from the standpoint of a loyal son of the Church. The author is a suspended priest, whom we last read of as lecturing in defiance of ecclesiastical authority, in the south of Scotland. We will be glad if you will send us a copy of the paper, and we will obtain further particulars as to the writer's exact standing at the present time.

**EDITOR'S NOTICES.**

Send news **WHILE IT IS FRESH.** Stale reports will not be inserted.

Communications should reach this Office **BY TUESDAY MORNING.** Only the briefest paragraphs have a chance of insertion if received by Tuesday night's mails.

**ADDRESS** matter intended for publication 'Editor, **TABLET** Dunedin,' and not by name to any member of the Staff.

**ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATIONS** are thrown into the waste-paper basket.

Write legibly. **ESPECIALLY NAMES** of persons and places. Reports of **MARRIAGES** and **DEATHS** are not selected or compiled at this Office. To secure insertion they must be verified by our local agent or correspondent, or by the clergyman of the district, or by some subscriber whose handwriting is well known at this Office. Such reports must in every case be accompanied by the customary death or marriage announcement, for which a charge of 2s. 6d is made.

**MESSAGE OF POPE LEO XIII. TO THE N.Z. TABLET.**

*Pergant Directores et Scriptores New Zealand Tablet, Apostolica Benedictione confortati, Religionis et Justitiae 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.



THURSDAY, MAY 11, 1911.

**THE BIBLE AND THE HIGHER CRITICS**

I touched very briefly last week on the relation of what is known as the Higher Criticism to the integrity and authority of the Protestant Bible; and before the echoes of the tercentenary celebrations have quite died away it may be desirable that we should make somewhat fuller reference to the subject. Several of the leading dailies have devoted considerable space to the question; and one or two prominent ministers—such as Professor Dickie and the Rev. Dr. Gibb—have had something to say on the matter. These latter, indeed, have handled the subject carefully and gingerly, as men who realised that they were walking on very thin ice; but they have agreed in at least endorsing and blessing the principle of the Higher Criticism, as making the Bible—in Professor Dickie's words—'a more truly human book to all intelligent readers.' In any desirable sense of the word 'human,' we deny that the simple, vivid, and dramatically interesting narratives of the Sacred Scriptures stood in the least need of the critics' efforts; and we affirm that they have made the Bible more human only in the sense that they have made it less divine. They have robbed it of the historic base on which revelation rests, and of doctrines which right down the centuries have been considered essential to Christianity. If, as they claim—and we by no means admit the claim—they have made the Bible a more humanly interesting document, it is certain that what it has gained in interest it has lost in authority.

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A few samples of the actual teaching of some of the more eminent critics will suffice to show the destructive temper in which the Scriptures are being handled, and the sort of Bible which will be left in the hands of the Protestant laity after their erudite professors and divines have completed their work of disintegration. The *Encyclopaedia Biblica* is a publication designed and edited by Canon Cheyne, a Professor of Divinity at Oxford University, and the most distinguished representative in England of the Higher Criticism school. Its contributors are amongst the most learned professors in England and Germany, and its claim, therefore, to be able to give us the 'latest results' attained by the most 'eminent critics' can hardly be questioned. We proceed to quote a few of these results. In common with the great body of the higher critics, the writers in the *Encyclopaedia* play havoc with the Old Testament, and there are very few of the personages mentioned in the early books of the Bible whose historical existence they are willing to allow. 'It would be unfair,' they say, 'to criticise the character of Laban as if he were a historical individual.' Moses may have existed, but his historical character 'has been rather postulated than proved by recent critics'; and in the opinion of Canon Cheyne, Moses was a clan rather than an individual. There were no 'plagues' of Egypt; they are only an addition made to the narrative of the Exodus 'to enhance the greatness of Yahwe,' and according to the