

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Duty. Twelve Conferences to Young Men. By Rev. William Graham. New York, Joseph Wagner. The scope of this work is indicated by the following summary of contents: Meaning and Source of Duty; The Limits of Duty; Conditions of Duty; Law; Outward Rule of Duty, and Its Administrators; Conscience; Inner Rule of Duty; Its Sanction; Our Duty to God; Duties to Parents; Duties to Church; Our Duties to the State; Personal Duties (Soul); Habits of Duty. 'Good conduct,' said Matthew Arnold, 'is nineteen-twentieths of life.' We have heard a good deal about 'rights' in this generation: it is about time a little more prominence was given to the correlative idea—duty. In spite of the dryness and unpopularity of the subject, Father Graham has succeeded in making his 'Conferences'—clear, crisp, and interesting from start to finish. Written in a scholarly style, the work will naturally make its appeal more particularly to the educated and the thoughtful; and it should find a wide sphere of usefulness amongst seminarists, members of Newman Societies, etc. Catholic students who happen to be taking moral science as part of their university course will find Father Graham's volume most helpful as a supplement to their text-book on ethics. Cloth, 75 cents.

Father Damien. An Open Letter to the Rev. Dr. Hyde, of Honolulu, from Robert Louis Stevenson. [With a statement by Mrs. Stevenson.] The Ave Maria Press, Notre Dame, Indiana. The reasons for the re-issue of this famous 'Open Letter'—certainly the finest piece of invective of modern times—and the special features of the edition now under review, are thus explained in the preface to the volume: 'The constant demand for the far-famed "Open Letter" in durable rather than dainty form, but more especially the reiterated assertion that Stevenson regretted this production and would have recalled it had recall been possible, are the *raison d'être* of the present reprint. An American author of some repute has had the hardihood to declare in one of his books that "Stevenson did not really believe what he wrote, neither did he intend to write what he did." Stevenson could not have been honest at heart when he wrote his letter to Dr. Hyde.' It is well, perhaps, for this worthy that the pen of the man whom he thus defames is now powerless. Feeling sure that some day when "in his resting grave" the defender of Father Damien would need to be defended himself, we took care several years ago to secure from Mrs. Stevenson a statement regarding the "Open Letter to the Rev. Dr. Hyde." In answer to our inquiry as to the truth of the assertion, so often repeated, that her husband regretted the letter, and that before his death his opinion of Father Damien had undergone a change, Mrs. Stevenson entered an indignantly emphatic denial, which is presented on another page. This testimony, we think, should forever settle the matter. Mrs. Stevenson's letter is in our possession. It will further enhance the value and interest of the present edition of Stevenson's powerful *apologia* to state that it is an exact reprint of the original issue, now of extreme rarity, which has a few corrections in the writer's own hand. The "Open Letter" was first printed in a small pamphlet of thirty-two pages, at Sydney, N.S.W., on March 27, 1890. Many editions of it had been published before Mr. Stevenson's death, and it is worth recalling that he persistently refused to accept payment from any source for this defence of the Apostle of Molokai. He once wrote to a London publisher: 'The letter to Dr. Hyde is yours, or any man's. I will never touch a penny of remuneration. I do not stick at murder; I draw the line at cannibalism. I could not eat a penny roll that piece of bludgeoning brought me.'

To this explanatory preface we have only to add that the work is brought out in faultless fashion—beautifully printed, and got up in dainty and tasteful, but at the same time most durable, form. There are other editions of the 'Open Letter' at present on the market, but none with the special features enumerated above; and the state-

ment by Mrs. Stevenson of itself renders this easily the most important edition extant. We heartily recommend every reader to become a buyer; and we would impress on purchasers to make sure that they get the Ave Marie Press edition. Beautifully printed, and bound in buckram, 30 cents.

CHRISTIAN BROS.' OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION, DUNEDIN

The members of the Christian Brothers' Old Boys' Association assembled in strong force in the Victoria Hall on Wednesday night of last week at a smoke concert. Mr. J. B. Callan, jun. (vice-president), in the absence of the president (Mr. Sullivan), presided over the gathering. Apologies were read from Fathers Tobin (Gore) and Delany (South Dunedin), and Messrs. Sullivan, Harnett, and L. Pavletich.

Mr. Callan in opening the proceedings said the committee of management was pleased to see so many present, notwithstanding the unfavorable nature of the weather, and also to acknowledge the increase in the numbers on the roll. He urged those who had joined the association to come to their social evenings so as to get the benefit and pleasure of renewing their acquaintance with their old school-fellows. If such reunions were not brought about much of the usefulness of their being banded together would be lost. He had much pleasure in calling attention to the progress made by those formerly connected with Christian Brothers' schools in other parts. In Queensland Mr. F. McDonald, M.L.A., had secured a State scholarship for pupils in Catholic schools in that State, and he (Mr. Callan) hoped to see similar inducements held out to their scholars in the Dominion. He might further mention that since their last meeting the Christian Brothers had had the honor of providing two Rhodes Scholars, one in Newfoundland and the other in Perth. That was a great honor to be achieved in so short a time. He thought they might congratulate themselves on the fact that the first-year seniors in the Association football field were at present second on the list, and he saw no reason why they should not occupy the first position later on. He also drew their attention to the fact that in a very short time they would have the pleasure of assisting in welcoming the Irish delegates to Dunedin, and urged upon the members—though he believed they required no suggestions in this direction—to do all in their power to help those gentlemen in their mission. He thought that members should not forget to congratulate Cr. Sullivan, their president (who greatly regretted his inability to be amongst them), on the prominent position in which he had been placed at the recent municipal elections, although it was not altogether a new thing to see old Christian Brothers' boys taking prominent positions in public life. The committee of management during the year, finding itself in a better financial position, had been able to do something practical in the way of helping the Christian Brothers by putting aside £5 for their use. This, though not a large sum, was a beginning, and he hoped would be followed by further donations.

Mr. D. L. Poppelwell, a visitor from Gore, on being called on to address the members, referred in highly appreciative terms to the training he had received in the Christian Brothers' School in Dunedin under Bro. Bodkin, 32 years ago, and said he, as well as others, believed there was no better system of teaching to be found in any public school than that provided by the Christian Brothers.

Addresses were also given by Father Coffey and Bro. Brady, both of whom pointed out the value of the association and the wide sphere of usefulness that lay before it.

The gathering was made specially attractive by songs contributed by Messrs. Hussey, F. Woods, M. Coughlan, H. Poppelwell, and a quartet by the Fogarty brothers. Mr. J. Blair played a pianoforte solo, and accompanied the singers. The pleasant gathering closed with the singing of the National Anthem.

TROPHIES AND MEDALS THAT ARE TREASURED!

When you are buying Medals or Trophies consider the feelings of the men, boys, and youths to whom they are to be given. In the years to come they will show their well-earned honours to friends with a feeling of pride if you

MAKE YOUR SELECTIONS AT CAIRNEY'S.

Every time they look at a Cairney product they will fight their battles over again and conjure up thoughts of how they won the games they were so enthused over.

Special Designs to Order. All Trophies and Medals manufactured on the premises.

J. CAIRNEY, - GREYMOUTH

F. MEENAN & CO
WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS,
Wholesale and Retail
PRODUCE & PROVISION MERCHANTS,
GREAT KING ST., DUNEDIN
(Opposite Hospital).
Buyers of Oats, Butter, and Potatoes.

For GOOD PRINTING at CHEAP
RATES, try

N.Z. TABLET CO., Ltd.

EUROPEAN HOTEL
GEORGE STREET, DUNEDIN.

Good Accommodation for Travelling Public
Best Brands of Wines and Spirits kept.
J. MORRISON - Proprietor.
(Late Ranfurly, Central Otago).