

MARRIAGE

SILVER WEDDING.

FOLEY—HAWKESWOOD.—On September 8, 1886, at St. Patrick's Church, Palmerston North, by Rev. Father J. F. Patterson, Michael Foley, of Tralee, Kerry, now of Puniwhaka, Taranaki, to Mary Anne, eldest daughter of the late Richard S. Hawkeswood, of 57th Regiment, Auckland.

INFORMATION WANTED of a Family named EVANS, who emigrated to New Zealand about eighteen years ago from Deptford, Kent.—*Tablet Co.*

[A CARD.]

WOODLEY A PROWSE
DENTAL SURGEON
VICTORIA AVENUE,
(OPP. PAUL & C's.),
WANGANUI.

TELEPHONES—Surgeries 192, Private Residence 109.
Box 231.

[A Card.]

J. H. EGAN

SURGEON DENTIST.

Over Robbin's, Chemist; opp. City Market,
330 QUEEN STREET, AUCKLAND.

The New Zealand Catholic Prayer Book

By the Australian Catholic Truth Society.

This Book is identical with the Australian Catholic Prayer Book, published at the request of the Third Australian Plenary Council, which is so highly recommended.
Price 6d., post free, from the N.Z. Tablet Co.

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

Pergant Directores et Scriptores New Zealand Tablet, Apostolica Benedictione confortati, Religionis et Justitiæ 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, SEPTEMBER 7, 1911.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS IN INDIA

SWEET are the uses of advertisement,' says the up-to-date aphorism; and presumably they are not the less sweet if, by any chance, the advertisement is obtained at the other fellow's expense. And this occasionally happens. It has always been a source of wonder to us how it is that our friends of the ultra-Protestant school never seem to realise that in bringing false testimony and railing accusations against the Catholic Church they are adopting a course which not only defeats its own object but which is almost certain, sooner or later, to bring into still clearer relief the merits and excellences of the very organisation which it is intended to decry. An unfounded charge or an exaggerated statement is put forward against the Church; or an alleged quotation from some widely respected authority

is made. Fairminded men to whom the true facts in relation to the specific charge are known, are revolted; and are moved not only to refute the calumny, but to put on record a positive tribute to the slandered Church. Or the alleged quotation is referred to the original authority; when it transpires that the citation is a distortion, both of the writer's words and of his sentiments, and that instead of blame he has words of praise and appreciation for the Church.

*

An excellent, and doubtless much appreciated advertisement of this sort has just been enjoyed by the Catholic educational institutions in India. It appears that, chagrined at the remarkable success and progress of Catholic educational work among the European and Eurasian population, and at the way in which it has completely outstripped all Protestant effort, a number of bigoted individuals have inaugurated what has been called an All-India Protestant Education movement—the object of which is, first, to discredit, and ultimately to destroy, the Catholic schools and colleges, which are to be superseded by highly-equipped up-to-date Protestant institutions. In furtherance of these objects numerous letters and articles have appeared in the papers of Bengal and Northern India; and—as giving tone and weight and standing to the movement—a lengthy article on the subject, by a Mr. H. P. Skipton, was published in the *Nineteenth Century* for May last. In the course of the article the writer made the following alleged quotation, and the following charges against the Catholic schools: 'The Roman Church in India is distinctly an alien Church, manned and directed by French, Belgian, Italian, and German clergy, with a sprinkling of Irish Roman Catholics, none of whom—and the last named unfortunately least of all—can be reckoned as our friends politically or otherwise. "The condition of things," writes Sir Andrew Fraser (late Lieutenant-Governor of India) in reference to this fact, "is only to be stated to show how serious it is. The children are not trained to represent Great Britain in its religion and special characteristics before the peoples of India." The part that the population thus trained will take in the day of trouble will depend on the direction they get from their spiritual pastors and masters, upon whom the fate of India might thus come to depend.'

*

The charges implied in the Skipton paragraph and in the alleged statement of Sir Andrew Fraser—which were at once refuted, effectively and in detail, by the *Catholic Herald of India*—elicited some emphatic protests and some interesting tributes to the Catholic Church from the Indian secular press. Thus the paper *Capital*, in its column 'Current Coin,' gives utterance to the following pungent criticism of the *Nineteenth Century* strictures, and of the All-India Protestant Education proposal. 'We can understand,' it says, 'the proposition that Roman Catholic schools in India are not the best places to train Protestant children whom their parents wish to grow up strong in the old hard belief that the Church of Rome is the Scarlet Woman and an abomination in the sight of the Lord. But what about the children of Roman Catholics, especially Irish Roman Catholics who, we presume, are Europeans and representatives of the British race. Would Sir Andrew have these youths forced into Protestant schools to acquire the characteristics of the Covenanters and the Puritans? We are inclined to think that our late Lieutenant-Governor is not a clear thinker nor a consistent upholder of fairplay. When he was in Bengal he had nothing but praise for the Roman Catholic schools, which he declared were training upright and useful citizens, and Domiciled youths can hardly be that without possessing some of the qualities of which the ordinary Englishman or Englishwoman is proud. The evangel of Sir Andrew Fraser and Mr. Arden Wood and others is to collect funds to supplement Sir Robert Laidlaw's gift of £50,000 to make the Protestant schools in India as efficient and morally good as the Roman Catholic schools. The latter will not benefit under Sir Robert Laidlaw's benefaction or the public subscriptions supplementing it; but we did not think that these sinews of war were to be used to crush the