

## IN MEMORIAM

STAFFORD.—In loving memory of Daniel Stafford, who died at Ophir on April 7, 1908.—R.I.P.  
—Inserted by his wife and family.

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## "NEW ZEALAND TABLET"

## COMMENDATION OF THE HIERARCHY

WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THE *New Zealand Tablet* AS A PAPER WHICH SHOULD BE IN EVERY CATHOLIC HOME IN THIS DOMINION; WE DESIRE TO EXPRESS OUR WARM SATISFACTION AT THE VIRILE, SCHOLARLY, AND ABLE MANNER IN WHICH THAT ORGAN OF CATHOLIC OPINION IS BEING CONDUCTED, AND WE PROMISE TO DO WHAT LIES IN OUR POWER TO EXTEND ITS CIRCULATION.—Extract from recommendations adopted at the annual Conference of the Hierarchy held at Wellington, June 13, 1911.

## 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, APRIL 11, 1912.

## 'MASS' IN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES



LITTLE over a year ago we drew attention to a somewhat serious charge which was then being made against Presbyterianism in Canada, and in parts of the United States, in connection with the operations of the Presbyterian Home Missions Society. The facts, as we then remarked, were so surprising as to be at first blush almost incredible, but they are now practically beyond dispute. The charge was that with the connivance of the Home Missions Board, and under their direction, 'missionaries' had been feigning the Mass and the Sacraments of the Catholic Church, with the view of proselytising Ruthenian Catholics. There are many Ruthenians in Western Canada, and a number also in Newark, Pittsburg, and New York, and other cities of the United States; and the Home Missions Society, so the allegation ran, either employed its own missionaries—where any could be found who spoke the language—or hired bogus priests to say bogus Masses and to administer bogus Sacraments. The form of Mass which was the basis of their imitation is the Greek Liturgy, which is used both by the Greek Catholics and the Greek Orthodox, and which is, of course, unfamiliar to the ordinary Catholic of the Latin rite, or the deception would have been discovered long ago.

It appears to have been first detected by the Most Rev. Andrew Sheptytski, Archbishop of Lemberg, Austria, and Primate of the Galicians, when on a visit to his countrymen and co-religionists in Western Canada. His Excellency had this to say of the fraud which was being perpetrated upon his people: 'I did not understand this sort of Protestantism. I find their mission societies paying anybody that can speak their language to celebrate a bogus Mass, hear confessions, administer the sacraments, and, strangest of all, openly and publicly, so that the deception might be more complete, pray fervently for our Holy Father the Pope. It is a great shame. Good, honest Protestants are more consistent than to do it. It may destroy religion in our people where they have not their own priests and rite, but it will make them unbelievers in the end and ruin them as citizens.' Subsequently, Mr. Andrew Shipman, a very reliable writer and in this case—from his special knowledge of the Greek rite—a particularly well qualified investigator, made a personal examination of the facts in connection with the Presbyterian services for Ruthenians held in the city of New York and also in the city of Newark; and he gave in the pages of *America* a detailed account of what he saw and heard. He found in both churches Presbyterian pastors, vested in alb, stole, and golden chasuble, celebrating 'High Mass' with all pomp and ceremony, incensing the altar and the congregation, 'elevating the Host,' and waited on by an altar-server ringing the bell at the 'Sanctus.'