

Yankee's bows in naval fashion as an intimation that she was to stop, but the Catalpa took no notice, and kept on her course. When the Georgette got within hailing distance, the following colloquy took place:— 'Ship ahoy! Heave to or I'll sink you.' The officer on deck replied sarcastically: 'What with—that old dung barge?' 'You have Fenian prisoners aboard; I can see them looking over the bulwarks.' 'You have a mighty keen vision.' 'Where is the captain?' 'I guess he is in Rockingham.' 'Can I come aboard; I am sure that I recognise some of the prisoners laughing at us?' 'I guess you'd better not try.' 'Well, if you don't give up these men I will fire on you, and sink you.' The mate (Mr. Francis) walked towards the mizzen mast, and to the flag halyards was bent

The Stars and Stripes,

which were quickly hauled to the truck. 'Do you see that flag up there?' 'Yes.' 'Well I am on the high seas, and that flag protects me. Fire if you dare!' The incident was closed by outside painted ports of the Catalpa being opened, when a nice set of 'teeth' were displayed—which, had they been used, the writer and the rest of his comrades would have been sent to the bottom of the sea. Thus ended a most daring escape, which practically took place under the nose of the authorities. The authorities revenged themselves by the imprisonment of Shine and Power. The press of the colony railed at the Government over this. They said it was like 'locking the stable door when the steed was stolen.' The result was that after about a month's confinement they were given their freedom.

I was well acquainted with all the actors in this drama, and reported the whole of the incidents as I saw them, being then a youth of 18 years of age, engaged on the staff of the *Perth Inquirer and Commercial News*. My childhood's days were spent in a house near the penal establishment, and to my boyish ears, the clank of the irons on the chain gang on their way to work in North Fremantle left an impression that the years cannot efface.

By way of supplement to this personal recollection, we add the following comments from the *Fremantle Herald* of April 22, 1876: 'On the jetty was assembled an excited crowd eager for the news. The general feeling was clearly one of pleasure that the pursuit had so far been unsuccessful. This arose chiefly out of the popular impression that the Fenian convicts are political prisoners, convicted and punished for offences against a government, not against society, and from the sympathy that the public everywhere displays towards the weak in a contest against the strong. . . . As nothing more could be done, the Georgette returned to Fremantle, where the news that the Fenians had at last escaped was received with marks of satisfaction.'

Catholic Young Men's Society

Apropos of the opening of the forty-second annual conference of the representatives of the Catholic Young Men's Society in Liverpool in the early part of May, the *London Universe* gives the following account of the founding and rise of the society:—The C.Y.M.S. was founded 64 years ago by Dean O'Brien in a humble cottage in an insignificant street in Limerick, with a membership of 24. On May 19, 1849, when the society sprang into being with two dozen members—men brimful of zeal and enthusiasm, captained by the devoted and earnest Dean O'Brien—no one could have foretold that in twelve months afterwards the membership would have increased to over 2000. But so it was. In 1852 the founder established a branch in Cork, and there the membership soon reached 1000. Gradually the movement continued to spread and the membership to increase, and the first conference of the organisation was held in the city of its birth on its tenth anniversary. In 1860, 1861, and 1862 Cork, Drogheda, and Kilkenny were the places of conference, and, then for some reason, a retrograde spirit crept in, and the membership in Ireland commenced to decrease. But in

England the movement acquired vitality and vigor from the time when, five years after he had founded the society in Limerick, Dean O'Brien established branches in connection with the missions of St. Marie and St. Vincent in Sheffield. The second branch in England was founded in St. Augustine's parish, Granby row, Manchester, and St. Mary's, Liverpool, was the third branch established by the Dean. The missions of St. Mary's, Newcastle, and Gateshead then combined to form a branch. In 1855 the first society was established in Scotland at Paisley, and in the same year a society was founded at Kilmarnock. In May, 1855, Dowlais and Merthyr combined to establish the first society in Wales. Steadily, yet surely, the interest in the work proceeded, and branches were formed in various points of the kingdom. In 1857 the membership in Liverpool alone was 2000, of sufficient strength to justify the establishment of a district council, which commenced operations in May of that year. In the same year Dean O'Brien delivered an address at Waterford, in which he stated that the membership of the society throughout the kingdom was 45,000. In 1859 the first conference in England was held in Sheffield, when the total membership was 100,000. A proposition to hold the gathering once only in every four years seemed to have the effect of weakening the organisation, for neither in 1874 nor in 1878, when conferences were due, did they take place. In Liverpool the vitality of the work was never permitted to lessen, but in many other centres there was a marked decrease in zeal and membership, until in 1880 the conference in Birmingham aroused widespread enthusiasm. The membership was then reported as 4680 for 40 branches. In 1890 there were 60 branches, with a membership of 7960, and towards the close of 1899 the membership totalled 12,366. Steadily the branches and membership showed an upward tendency, and at the close of last year there were 184 branches, with a membership of 21,000, Liverpool occupying a distinguished position, with 41 branches and between 7000 and 8000 members.

Comfortable Footwear.

Splendid

Value in

Fine

Footwear.



OUR BIG STOCK OF FOOTWEAR SHOULD INTEREST YOU VERY MUCH—WHETHER YOU ARE LOOKING FOR GOOD, STYLISH SHOES FOR YOUR OWN WEAR, OR ACCEPTABLE GIFTS FOR ANYBODY. ALL OUR SHOES ARE EXCELLENT EXAMPLES OF THEIR KIND, AND THEY ARE PRICED UNUSUALLY LOW FOR FOOTWEAR OF SUCH DEPENDABLE QUALITY. PLEASE COME AND SEE WHAT WE HAVE. YOU NEED NOT PURCHASE.

J. McDiarmid

(NEARLY OPPOSITE POST OFFICE)

Oamaru.

Leslie McMinn

MONUMENTAL SCULPTOR, 70 RANGITIKEI STREET (Opp. Holbein & Kirks).
PALMERSTON NORTH. Cemetery work executed any part of District.