

siderations, they had no legal right, since the case had passed into the hands of the Government. But—as M. Barres proves from documents—the department of 'Fine Arts' had been urgently warned of what the mayor was doing by the petitioners, and must therefore be accounted as accessory to the outrage. While the drain was being dug out, the workmen came upon some human remains. Decency demanded that these should be transferred with respect to the cemetery. Instead, they were thrown anyhow into some hole. But a further depth of infamy had to be sounded. Being in need of a stone flag for covering a drain-trap, a workman actually robbed a poor woman's grave of its humble tombstone to serve the ignoble purpose. M. Barres gives the exact inscription on this stone from personal investigation. To crown all, the new latrines were solemnly opened by the mayor on Good Friday! The old adage, 'The better the day,' etc., has its exceptions. What manner of men were these who would conceive, execute and authorise such loathsome

profanities? M. Barres tells us, and then we cease to wonder.

Happily, Vendome can boast of one councillor at least who had the courage to protest against such shameless iniquities. 'When St. Martin came to Vendome in the fourteenth century,' exclaimed M. Royan, 'he found only savages. Were he to visit the Town Hall to-day, he would find things very much the same.' And M. Royan was promptly ejected from the Council for his words, in the name of liberty.

The gift of the priests of the archdiocese of Hobart to the Venerable Archdeacon Beechinor, of Latrobe, on the occasion of the celebration of his sacerdotal golden jubilee recently was a handsome gold chalice.

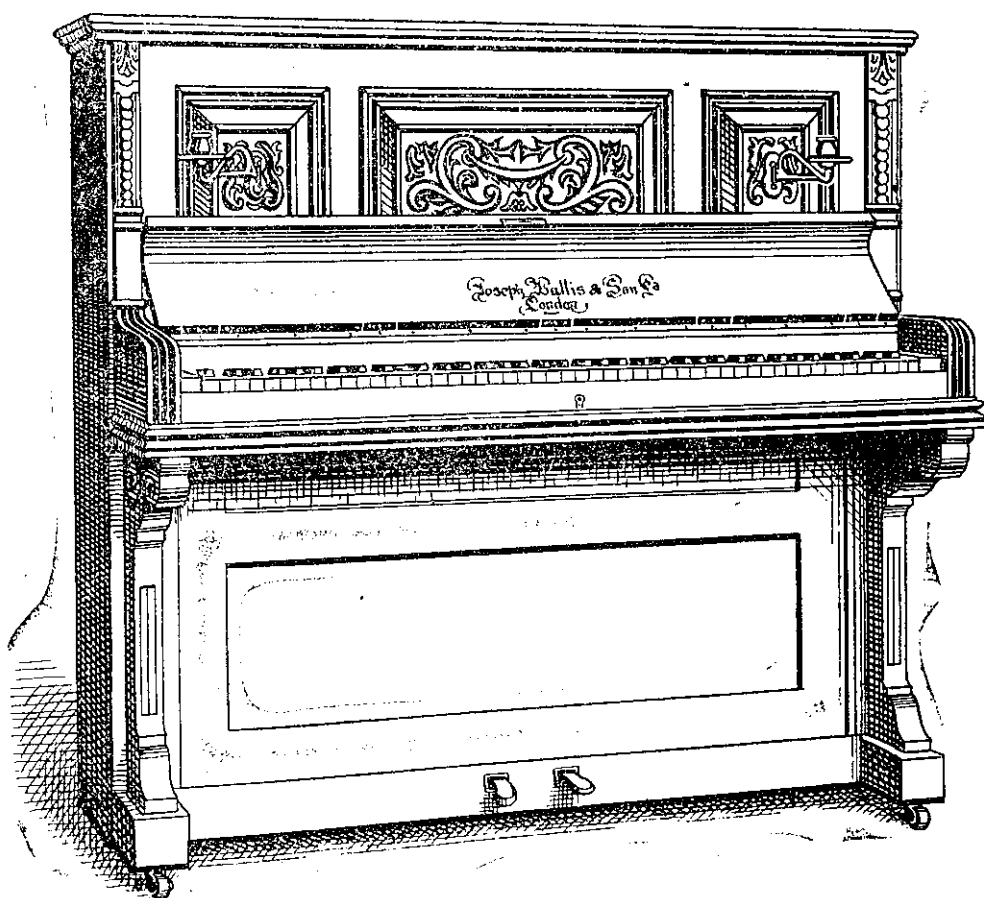
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