

A Catholic African Chief

Basutoland is a mountainous district in South Africa, bounded on the north and west by the Orange River Colony, on the east by Natal, and on the south by Cape Colony. It has an area of 10,293 square miles, and its native population numbers 309,000. It is a possession of the British Empire. Basutoland is a black man's country (says the *Sacred Heart Review*). White people must have special permission to settle in it, and the number of whites there now is considerably under 1000. Ecclesiastically it is a Vicariate Apostolic, and its missions are in charge of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate. Originally Basutoland was inhabited by bushmen, savages of a very low type; but now its people are Kafirs, a very intelligent race of Africans, who are governed among themselves by a paramount chief. The present paramount chief, whose name is Morena Griffith, is a Catholic, the first Christian paramount chief of Basutoland. Writing of Chief Griffith in the *Catholic Magazine* for South Africa, the Rev. Norbert Rinderman, O.M.I., says:—

'Any one who knows the conditions of Basutoland, where the chiefs still practice polygamy, will ask himself how this chief came to make the sacrifice required of a Catholic.

'Did Griffith come to turn to Christ through the efforts of a missionary? No. He himself found the way to the true Church of Christ through a dream. In the night he saw one of his ancestors who invited him to save himself. He looked benevolently upon Griffith and showed him two paths, one narrow and steep, the other broad and easy. Pointing to the steep path he said: "My son, you must take this path and you will find it in the Catholic Church."

'After the lapse of a few days, he sought the director of the mission in Bethel and asked for instruction in the Catholic faith. The priest acquiesced in his request and Griffith became a catechumen. Regularly on Sundays Griffith came to Bethel to hear Mass, and occupied himself in studying his catechism just in the same way as the ordinary Basuto. After a course lasting two years he was admitted to Baptism. That was in October, 1912. At the same time 106 others were baptised. Since that time Griffith has been an earnest Christian and gives a truly edifying example to the other Christians.'

A wonderful religion, truly, is this religion of Christ, which appeals to all grades of intelligence and is professed and practised by the Kings of civilisation and the chiefs of savagery! Our Blessed Lord died to save all mankind. He bade His disciples go into the whole world and preach the Gospel to every creature, excluding none because of race or color. True to her divine commission, the great Catholic Church is everywhere busy winning the souls of men, and she finds herself as much at home in Basutoland as in the streets of Rome itself.

Don't Trifle with Rheumatism—Start with Rheumo Now.

Maybe you do not realise the danger of neglecting Rheumatism and Gout in the early stages. Perhaps you only get a twinge now and again and do not trouble over much. Then beware—you are living in a fool's paradise. As time goes on the excess of uric acid in the blood will gradually and surely weaken the system until life becomes a misery. Day and night the excruciating torment of Rheumatism will remind you of the days when you neglected Nature's warning signals—and you will have no one to blame but yourself. If there is the slightest evidence of Rheumatic or Gouty symptoms—if there is stiffness and soreness of the muscles, inflammation of joints, dull aches and pains in the back—then take RHEUMO at once. RHEUMO acts upon the blood instantly, disperses, the uric acid which causes the trouble. RHEUMO tones the system, thus eliminating the cause of the trouble—hundreds testify to its curative properties. Mr. John Sullivan, of Timaru, a one-time victim of Rheumatic Gout, writes:—"I have taken your RHEUMO for Rheumatic Gout and have a great faith in it. I can recommend it as a good medicine in Rheumatic cases."

Try RHEUMO—'twill cure you, too.
Of all chemists. 2/6 and 4/6.

Homes Made Happy

— BY —

Holmes and Sons

130-132 HIGH ST., CHRISTCHURCH,

COMPLETE HOUSE FURNISHERS,

AND

STAFFORD ST., TIMARU.

We carry the largest and best assorted Stock of Iron Bedsteads in the Dominion, and can supply them in any color, mounted in BRASS or NICKEL.

We manufacture all our own Bedding and guarantee it to be made from the best materials procurable.

OUR FURNITURE is made by experienced workmen and we guarantee every article. We hold a large Stock of LINOLEUMS, BLANKETS, HEARTH RUGS, CARPET SQUARES and RUNNERS.

People contemplating furnishing should pay a visit to—

Holmes and Sons' Establishments.

High Street, and Christchurch,
Stafford Street, Timaru.

Call and inspect our . . .

FUMED OAK FURNITURE

Design and Finish Unsurpassed.

Send for our new 1913 Illustrated Catalogue.

Brimful of New Styles, New Designs, New Ideas.

A. & J. WATT

FURNITURE MANUFACTURERS . DUNEDIN.

DR. J. J. GRESHAM

MAIN STREET, GORE. . .

PAINLESS DENTISTRY.