

Notes

A Correction

Referring last week to the kind of criticism to which the Prime Minister was exposing himself by the multiplicity and inconsistency of his statements on the referendum question, and quoting from memory, we wrongly credited the *N.Z. Times* with dismissing Mr. Massey as 'a political acrobat.' Our quotation was from the *Christchurch Star*, which employed the expression in the course of the following comments:— 'When Mr. Massey first negotiated his way into the Prime Ministership it was proclaimed of him that he was a dauntless man so enamored of principle that nothing could turn him from the stern path of duty. It is abundantly evident that that confidence was misplaced. A gentleman who on the 9th of August is staunch for secular education as the result of twenty years' contemplation, and who on the 1st of September is in favor of religious teaching in schools as the result of twenty-one days' serious heart-searching, cannot be seriously regarded as a statesman, or even as a politician. He is an acrobat.' The *N.Z. Times*, though not employing the actual expression which we had attributed to it, gave utterance to similarly severe criticism of the Premier's attitude.

The Irish and the Jews

The *Hebrew Standard* reprints the following interesting communication which was recently contributed to the *London Daily News* by Mr. J. G. Swift MacNeill, M.P. 'I desire,' wrote the Nationalist M.P., 'to remove from the public mind the impression that the Irish people are prejudiced against the Jews, and disposed to treat men and women of the Jewish race with lack of fairness and liberality. The best refutation of this calumny is furnished by a remark of the late Rev. Dr. Adler, the Chief Rabbi, who visited Ireland in the eighties of the last century. In reply to an address presented to him on that occasion, he said that he had long desired to see Ireland, since Ireland was the only land in Europe which was free from the reproach of having persecuted the Jews. When Sir Moses Montefiore celebrated the centenary of his birth, he sent a special message full of affection to the Irish people, who had always been the friends and protectors of his race. In no Irish city is there a trace to be found of a Ghetto, and nowhere in that country has there been any disposition to place Jews in a position of inequality, or to refuse them the fullest rights of citizenship.'

*

'O'Connell, the emancipator of Catholic Ireland, never lost an opportunity, in season or out of season, of urging the imperative necessity for the removal of all Jewish disabilities, and in this attitude he was supported by the Irish people. Mr. Butt, who was subsequently the leader of the Irish Parliamentary Party, in a speech made in the House of Commons on December 10, 1857, on the Jewish Disabilities Bill, which he supported, said: "So long as we followed the principles of Christianity in our conduct towards our fellow-men, we should better uphold our national character and set a better example to other nations than by the retention of a useless phrase (the 'true faith of a Christian' in the Parliamentary Oath) which a man who had no Christianity would use, but from the adoption of which a man of a sensitive conscience might shrink." At a later period in his career, Mr. Butt compared the Irish race, which maintained its own distinctive character in every portion of the globe, "to God's chosen people of old, who remained separate and distinct among the nations." It is but just to state that feelings of kindness to the Jews are shared by all Irishmen, whether they be Nationalists or Unionists. To give an illustration. Before the abolition of the Tests Acts in reference to university degrees

at Oxford and Cambridge, a gentleman of the Jewish race won the high distinction of the Senior Wranglership at Cambridge. That University was unable to confer on him its degree, but the University of Dublin instantly did itself the honor of giving him a degree *honoris causa*. The Irish and the Jewish races should not be severed by the stirring up of racial and religious animosities for political purposes which never existed between them at the time when persecution of the Jews was the policy of every Christian country, with the glorious exception of Ireland.'

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN.

The annual meeting of the Christian Brothers' Cricket Club will be held this evening.

The members of the Christian Brothers' Football Club will approach the Holy Table at St. Joseph's Cathedral at the nine o'clock Mass on Sunday.

The many friends of the Right Rev. Mgr. Mackay, V.G., Oamaru, will be pleased to hear that he is making rapid recovery from his recent serious illness.

The Children of Mary will give an entertainment in St. Joseph's Hall on Monday evening in aid of the fund for furnishing their stall at the Christian Brothers' School bazaar.

Referring at St. Joseph's Cathedral on Sunday to the forthcoming bazaar, Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., requested those who had received books of tickets for the art union to return the blocks of sold tickets, accompanied by remittances, as soon as possible.

A very successful euchre tournament, in aid of the furnishing of the North-east Valley stall at the forthcoming bazaar, was held in the Sacred Heart School on Friday evening. The lady's prize was won by Miss Treahy and the gentleman's by Mr. Wall.

A retreat for the Children of Mary will open in the chapel of the Convent of Mercy, South Dunedin, on Sunday evening, 21st inst. The retreat will be preached by Very Rev. Father Roche, C.S.S.R., Superior of the Redemptorist Fathers in New Zealand.

There was a very large congregation in St. Joseph's Cathedral on Sunday afternoon, when his Lordship Bishop Verdon administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to 190 candidates, among whom were a number of adults. His Lordship was assisted by the Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., and Rev. Fathers Corcoran and Kavanagh. Mr. N. Smith was sponsor for the boys and Miss Ritchie for the girls. After the ceremony his Lordship addressed those just confirmed, and then administered the total abstinence pledge of the League of the Cross to the children. The ceremony was brought to a close with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

St. Joseph's Men's Club held the final meeting of the season in St. Joseph's Hall on Monday evening. Rev. Father Buckley (president) occupied the chair, and there was a large attendance. A varied programme of musical and other items was submitted, and greatly enjoyed. During the evening a prize (donated by Mr. Gallagher) was presented to Mr. Simpson for introducing most new members during the season. Messrs. Clements and Yule tied for the prize given to the junior member who had made most progress, whilst that for the senior went to Mr. J. Atwill. At the close of the meeting Rev. Father Buckley briefly addressed the members, and took the opportunity of thanking those who had shown their interest in the club during the season by their regular attendance.

The members of the Christian Brothers' Old Boys' Association held a smoke concert in the Victoria Hall on Wednesday evening of last week. There was a good attendance of the members, and a most enjoyable time was spent. Songs were contributed during the evening by Messrs. E. Mee, H. Poppelwell, and H. Miles; the Christian Brothers' Choir quartet party



J. T. COOPER

DENTAL SURGEON,
Corner MANSE AND PRINCES STREETS, DUNEDIN.

Advice Free. No charge for Extraction when Teeth Supplied.