

far he is right we will not venture to say, for we are able to speak for only one of the public and that one does not like repetition by any means. But, when we ponder on the relations between supply and demand it dawns on us that there may be people who differ from us; for surely many of the writers who repeat themselves to weariness, and many of the preachers whose secondly winds back upon their firstly, and whose thirdly, fourthly, and fifthly are as like the firstly as taps of a hammer on the same nail are like one another have reason to believe that there are some whom they are not wearying. Whatever the fact may be, we have no manner of doubt ourselves that the bane of much writing of our time is endless repetition and padding, and we speak ex cathedra as to our conviction that we have not heard in all our life a round dozen of sermons that could not have been preached with better effect in one third of the time their delivery took. Once we saw in an Irish paper a humorous suggestion that offenders ought to be condemned to hear a certain long-winded parish priest preach once, twice, or thrice, according to the enormity of their offence: much as if we suggested that there ought to be a Dantean circle in the Inferno where the united society of New Zealand day-liars ought to be compelled to listen for eternity to the editor of the *Otago Daily Times* reading selections from his thousand and one leading articles on Ireland.

Old Remedies and Nostrums

People no longer take cowslip wine for sleeplessness, add saffron to their tea as a remedy against low spirits, and put goose-grass in their porridge in spring as a preventive of scurvy. We do not hear of conserve of marigold for "passion of the heart," or of trefoil, primrose leaves, and pounded yarrow for toothache. Snails, now merely a table delicacy for those who know, once were recognised as a cure for consumption, while a spider enclosed in a goose-quill and hung round the neck was infallible for the ague. The following passage from Herbert's *Country Parson* is like a picture of ye ancient days of the simple life:

"In the knowledge of simples, wherein the manifold wisdom of God is plainly seen, one thing would be carefully observed; which is to know that herbs may be used instead of drugs of the same nature, and to make the garden the shop: for home-bred medicines are both more easy for the parson's purse and more familiar for men's bodies. So, where the apothecary useth for loosening Rhubarb, or for binding Bolearmena, the parson useth damask or white roses for the one, and plantaine, shepherd's purse, knot-grass for the other, and that with better successe. As for spices, he doth not only prefer home-bred things before them, but condemns them for vanities, and so shuts them out of his family, esteeming there is no spice comparable, for herbs, to rosemary, thyme, savoury, mints; and for seeds, to fennell and carroway seeds. Accordingly, for salves, his wife seeks not the city, but prefers her garden and finds before all outlandish gums. And surely hyssope, and mercury, adders, tongue, yarrow, melilot, and Saint John's wort made into a salve; and elder, camomill, nallowes, comphrey and smallage made into a poultic have done great and rare cures."

Considering how common was the idea among our ancestors that home-made medicines were the best it is a wonder that the human race is not extinct. Once we were given a home-made medicine and told to take it before going to bed. We did, and nearly burst. Later it was explained to us that a spoonful, not a tumblerful should have been taken. The explanation was too late; but the lesson was timely for many a subsequent attempt to practise homicide on us.

GREY LYNN CONVENT REBUILDING FUND

Ed. Wagner, £5; M. F. S., Auckland, £5; A. P. Sharkey, 10s; "Taranaki Priest," £1.

SELF-DETERMINATION FUND

H. F. M. A., £1; John J. Carroll, £2 2s.

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

The Otago Diocesan Council of the Catholic Federation will hold its annual meeting on Thursday, August 11, in Dunedin.

In the report last week of the entertainment given by the pupils of St. Dominic's College in honor of his Lordship the Bishop, the name of Miss Craighead, who sang "Harbor Night Song," was by inadvertence omitted.

His Lordship the Bishop left yesterday (Wednesday) for Oamaru on an episcopal visitation of that parish. His Lordship will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation at Windsor Park on the 6th inst., at Oamaru on Sunday next (7th inst.), and at Kurow on the 8th. He will also bless and open the new church at Richmond on Sunday next.

The president (Very Rev. Father Coffey, Adm.) presided at a meeting of St. Joseph's Cathedral Parish Committee of the Catholic Federation after devotions on last Sunday evening. Among those present were Messrs. Byrne and Gallien, representing the North-east Valley section of the Federation. It was decided to have members of the committee in attendance at the Cathedral on next Sunday, when, besides distributing envelopes as one of the means adopted to expedite enrolment, names and contributions will be received for renewal of membership in the Federation. The committee is to meet again on next Sunday evening to report progress and generally to discuss matters in the interests of the Federation.

The "500" and euchre card tournament, held in St. Joseph's Hall last week under the auspices of St. Joseph's Ladies' Club, and in aid of the funds of the St. Vincent de Paul Orphanage, South Dunedin, proved most successful. There was a crowded attendance and the entertainment provided was much enjoyed. The tournament attracted a large number of participants and created keen interest. Appreciation is expressed of the valued assistance given by Mrs. Sandys, Misses Duff, Finnerty, Campbell, and Rae in the rendering of the musical and elocutionary programme presented. His Lordship Bishop Whyte honored the gathering with his presence for a while and presented the prizes won in the tournament: his Lordship's kindly interest in the proceedings being very pleasing to the promoters and patrons alike.

Another of the series of socials in aid of the fund for providing a piano for the Sacred Heart School, North-east Valley, will be held on next Monday evening in the school-room.

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHEDRAL, DUNEDIN.

The impressive ceremony of ordination took place at the 9 o'clock Mass at St. Joseph's Cathedral on last Sunday, in the presence of a crowded congregation. His Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Whyte, Bishop of the diocese, was ordaining prelate, and was assisted by the Rev. Father Morkane (Rector) and Rev. Father Andersen, of Holy Cross College, Mosgiel, the *ordinandi* being students of that college. A large number of Mosgiel residents (the home town of the young candidate to the priesthood) were present at the ceremony. Rev. Hugh John O'Neill (Dunedin) was ordained to the priesthood; Rev. James Fenton (Dunedin), Rev. John Butler (Wellington), and Rev. Peter O'Meehan (Christchurch) were raised to the diaconate, and Rev. Joseph Martin (Dunedin) to the sub-diaconate. During the ceremony the "Veni Creator" was sung by the Dominican Nuns' choir. In the evening Rev. Father O'Neill officiated at Vespers and at Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, being attended in the latter ceremony by Rev. James Fenton and Rev. Joseph Martin as deacon and subdeacon respectively. Rev. Father Morkane gave a particularly fine discourse at Vespers on "The Power and Dignity of the Sacred Priesthood," when there was again a very large congregation.

Rev. Father Hugh O'Neill celebrated his first Mass in the chapel of the Sisters of Mercy, South Dunedin, assisted by Rev. Father Andersen.

HOLY CROSS COLLEGE, MOSGIEL.

The professors and students of Holy Cross College, Mosgiel, tendered an official welcome to his Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Whyte, Bishop of the diocese, on last Monday evening in the college library. Very Rev. Father

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