

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS

M.O.—We have no doctor of medicine on the staff, but if you object to our recommendation to cure chilblains by boiling them for six hours you might try camphor ice on them. It is said to assassinate microbes. For lumbago tie a hot-water-bottle on your back when going out to work. In wet and snowy weather keep in the sun and you will be all right.

RUGGER.—As far as we remember the All Blacks were beaten by Wales and the All Greens (alias, Springboks) were unbeaten. It is a noteworthy fact that no Canterbury player was picked for the tests in spite of the fact that Canterbury has beaten the Springboks. It is not generally known that Marists beat all Canterbury last year. The English public proved at the Australian test matches that they have lost the spirit of sport as well as other things. Christchurch, the most English city in the Dominion, gave evidence of a similar lack of spirit when the Marists were "stouthing" team after team last year. Of course, Irish Catholics are still "good missile troops."

AMBUSH.—Please do not worry us with queries concerning horses. You know the Council of Churches does not like them. Our personal opinion re the rumor that Coalition is to be sent to compete at Aintree against the Irish "leppers" is that he has as much hope of getting round the Aintree course as the proverbial celluloid cat chased by the asbestos dog would have in Hades.

READER.—Concerning the use and abuse of stops consult approved authors. As a working rule we might say avoid the two extremes that obtain at present: that is, do not throw them on paper with a pepper-castor, and do not begin a sentence without a capital letter. Having that in mind you may make a beginning. The use of the colon, semi-colon, parenthesis, and brackets is best learned by watching with an observant eye the practice of good writers. As a warning we quote the barber's sign, written by an unlettered scribe: "What do you think! I will shave you for nothing and give you a drink." Of course the note of exclamation ought to be after the word "What." Another example may be taken from a recent report of a fashionable gathering: "General and Lady Toney (in eau de Nil silk)."

CORRESPONDENT.—The Author of "Genesis" had no intention of writing a scientific account of the Creation of the World. The Bible is not a manual of science, and there is nothing explicitly taught in the first chapter beyond the fact that God created all, and that He rested on the Sabbath Day. This much is told us in a popular way; and the fact that in the second chapter the Order of creation is reversed matters not at all, as it is not the order of Creation that is important, but the fact. That there is a personal God, that the world did not come about by chance, but that there was a definite series of operations directed and supervised by that personal God, that, as we have said, is all that there is of doctrinal importance. This being so, Dean Stanley's statement with reference to Chapters 1 and 2 of Genesis has no force as an objection to the Inspiration of the Book.

"To establish the credibility and divine origin of Genesis it is necessary not merely to harmonise its theories with science, but to reconcile its statements with each other. The latter is as impossible as the former." (In what cases)?

What "theories" are meant? And where do these conflict with science? Are we so sure of the conclusions of science that anything that seems not to accord with them must necessarily be wrong?

Again we say, the Sacred Writer nowhere aims at scientific exposition. Where his statements appear not to harmonise with "science," which is here spoken of as if it were something sacrosanct and irrefragable,

the statements of both should be examined and the different subject matter and object of both kept in view. The want of harmony, if it still exist, will be found either not to the purpose, or due, not to inaccuracy on the part of the Sacred Writer, but to the imperfect state of our scientific knowledge.

OBITUARY

MRS. MARY MAHONEY, AUCKLAND.

With deep regret (writes our Auckland correspondent) the death is recorded of Mrs. Mary Mahoney, who passed away on Saturday, July 23, at her residence, London Street, Ponsonby, in the 73rd year of her age. The deceased was a daughter of the late James Sullivan, a notable pioneer in the State of Victoria, and in the early Goldfields of New Zealand, and widow of the late William Mahoney, who was widely known in the early days at Westland and Thames, and later in Auckland. She was born in London, but arrived in New Zealand in her youth, and resided with her father at Onehunga for some years. On her marriage she lived at the Thames, and for the last 30 years in Auckland. Her singular charm and beauty of character manifested in her constant charity and courtesy endeared her to all who had the privilege of her acquaintance during her long life. The funeral cortege, the largest seen in Auckland in recent years, and the very many expressions of condolence from all parts of New Zealand, were fitting tributes to her good qualities. Rev. Father Wright, who attended her during her illness, officiated in St. Patrick's Cathedral, and Mr. Harry Hiscocks played the "Dead March" from "Saul." The last prayers were recited at the graveside in the Waikaraka Cemetery by his Lordship Dr. Liston, assisted by Monsignori Hackett and Ormond, Very Rev. Dean Cahill and Chancellor Holbrook, Rev. Fathers Golden, Wright, Carran, Murphy, Forde, O'Malley, Buckley, O'Connor, Eccleton, and Curley. Many of the Marist Brothers were also present. Mrs. Mahoney leaves one son and four daughters—Mr. James Mahoney, Mrs. Daniel Flynn, Miss Nora Mahoney, Mrs. George Tyler, and Mrs. Louis Peterson—to mourn their loss.—R.I.P.

MRS. MARGARET COLLINS, QUEENSTOWN.

With deep regret (writes our travelling correspondent) the death is recorded of Mrs. Margaret Collins, wife of Mr. Timothy Collins, of Queenstown, who peacefully passed away on Friday, August 7, at the age of 85 years. Born in Co. Galway, Ireland, in 1836, the late Mrs. Collins arrived in New Zealand by the ship Edward Thornhill, in 1864, landing at the Bluff. She was married in Queenstown, and was a resident of Maori Point from the early mining days until about two years ago, when she settled in Queenstown. Always a fervent and practical Catholic, her well-spent life was an example to all who had the privilege of her genial friendship. During her brief illness she was attended by Rev. Father Woods, who also officiated at the interment in the Queenstown Cemetery on Sunday, the 7th inst., the funeral being attended by friends from over a wide area. Like her husband (who was among the first subscribers and shareholders in Otago) the deceased was a great advocate of the *N.Z. Tablet*. Her husband and son—Mr. John S. Collins, licensee of the Mountaineer Hotel, Queenstown, who are left to mourn their loss, have the sympathy of the Catholic community of the parish, and of many friends throughout Otago and Southland.—R.I.P.

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