

quotations, so hot has he become. It is painful to him to see donkeydom commit itself to anything more ridiculous than usual, and it is no wonder he should be angry. Then the *Lyttelton Times* says, who spoke to the *Star*, but that he may "talk" to the clergymen as much as he likes. These are two very ill-disposed newspapers, and they don't in the least know what is good for them. We should not be surprised to hear they had so horrified the modest clergy in Christchurch as to deter them from their venture. Meantime we write this note for the express purpose of trying to counteract the evil influences. We consider the Christchurch parsons should persevere in the face of all obstacles, and if the Dunedin parsons do not follow their example they will be winking at the devil while he lays snares for the souls of Press-men. They had better take care, our blood may be required at their hands. Let them begin at once, we await them with impatience, and are most anxious to witness their entry upon the totally new line that is to result in our conversion.

HOWEVER fashion and superficial manners may

FAMILY JOYS. change from generation to generation, human nature continues the same. It is about two hundred years ago now since Molière wrote his play "*Le Médecin Malgré Lui*," exhibiting the consequences that follow on an interference in the quarrels of man and wife. A scene in real life, of which we read a description the other day in an Irish paper recalls this to us, and again admonishes us that family skirmishes are not always to be taken as an index of the true feelings of the parties concerned. The scene alluded to occurred in the town of Athy, and the rioters were a man and his wife who carried on the important employment of travelling tinkers. For some cause or another a row broke out between them which led to the appearance of the wife next morning in the police court, whence the following is reported. "Mrs. Wall, who appeared for defendant, said it was true Johnny 'had a dhrop; but he done or said nothing to any one.'—Constable Clarke: 'You notorious villain, were you not both bleeding like sheep when I went up?'—Mrs. Wall said there might be a little blood from 'Johnny's nose; but it was a falling he had.—His Worship inflicted a fine of 5s. and 1s. 6d. costs." It does, however, seem a hard case that a man cannot let a little of his claret be drawn now and then for the amusement of his wife, and *vice versa*, without having to pay a fee of 6s. 6d. for the pleasure. We can very well fancy that both parties would very gladly have interrupted their marital pastime, in order to have together attacked the constable, had not a fear of what must follow deterred them.

THE *Southland Times* of the 24th ult. says

FREEMASONRY R.W.D.G.M., His Honor Judge Harvey, deserves
AT the thanks of the community at large for remain-
INVERCARGILL, ing at Invercargill to lay the foundation of the
Law Courts, about to be built there, with Masonic ceremonies." We beg leave to differ with our contemporary; we do not think His Honor deserves the thanks of any part of the community at Invercargill or elsewhere for this particular courtesy, and we are convinced there is at least a large minority in the country whose bounden duty it is to be exceedingly indignant at His Honor's conduct. We do not, in fact, see what right a judge has to belong to a secret society, whose rules may occasionally bring him into close sympathy with the worst criminal that stands in the dock to be judged by him. Justice should be absolutely and voluntarily blind, no motive should be admitted that could in the slightest degree incline her to so much as wink an eye behind the bandage that conceals her organs of vision, and yet we have ere now had occasion to record the advantage reaped by the criminal because the bonds of Masonry united him to the occupant of the tribunal before which he had been arraigned. We do not consider, then, that His Honor by any means deserves the thanks of the community at large, and a considerable portion of it he has taken a principal part in offending wantonly; for no Catholic could possibly be present at Masonic ceremonies, without sacrificing his conscience, and incurring the heaviest condemnation of the Church. Masonry was the constant theme of the warnings of Pope Pius, and since his ascension of the Pontifical throne, the clarion voice of the great Pope Leo has not ceased to denounce it and declare it accursed. Our contemporary tells us there never had been so many Masons before gathered together at Invercargill; but, however many were their numbers, from however far and wide throughout New Zealand they were assembled, they were but a handful to those assembled at the Hotel de Ville, they were not one quarter of those met at the Palace of the Archbishop during the reign of the Commaune of '71. Who that should see them with all their paraphernalia and mockeries would not be reminded that the same trappings and ceremonies had been associated with the foulest murders, the most barbaric devastations, the most unspeakable abominations that have disgraced the face of Europe within the whole course of our century. For it is vain to say English Freemasonry has nothing to do with that of France: there were not wanting at Invercargill itself evident tokens of the falsehood of such an assertion; and

its falsehood was, moreover, once for all fully established when English Masons who had kept silence in sight of the enormities of the Commaune thought it necessary to protest against the action of the Grand Orient of Paris when they made an open profession of Atheism. Atheism, the word having for respectable English ears a shocking sound, although the deeds that were the fruits of such a principle might be passed over with a very moderate shudder. We say it was a grievous insult to every Catholic colonist in New Zealand to have any public ceremony in which all colonists are alike interested performed with Masonic honours. Why should Catholics be repelled from witnessing or taking part in such a ceremony; why should the enjoyment of such an occasion be withheld from them on pain of seriously compromising conscience, of incurring the heavy displeasure of the Church, of seeing with the mind's eye the bleeding spectres of their martyrs warning them back from the forbidden scene? Again we ask, are the volunteer ranks of the colony to be closed to Catholics? If it be included amongst their duties to honour such ceremonies as that at Invercargill where they were strongly mustered it must be so. No Catholic can in any capacity take part in anything connected with Freemasonry, and the service that is prostituted to make demonstrations in union with it is no service for Catholics. It is with such considerations as these we now associate R.W.D.G.M., His Honour Judge Harvey, and we by no means thank him for the invidious office he has performed.

WE are delighted to find that Jenny Geddes has

JENNY GEDDES still a representative. We were afraid her influence
AT NAPIER. had passed away for ever, and that never again
should the world have witnessed a spirit of piety like hers. But we were mistaken, and we are glad of it. There is, in fact, a funny old gentleman up in Napier on whom the good dame's mantle has fallen. We know he is funny because we have read a letter of his in our contemporary the *Weekly Mercury* of the 25th ult., and we know he is old because he tells us he is the oldest member of the Church of England in those quarters where he resides, and all the community in question cannot, of course, be young and blooming; some elders there must necessarily be amongst them. Besides, his letter contains all the marks of extreme senility, and one passage in particular we note as being on the very verge, at least, of dotage. It is the following:—"In the Name of the Father," &c. An ecclesiastical expression which should ever be most delicately handled and sparingly used;—as such always prefaced the stern, bigoted, and deadly announcements of Holy Inquisitors and Priests,—not of our God, but of Baal." Now, the Bible is the only book with which we are acquainted that affords us much information about Baal, and we have searched it through and through without finding that the Christian invocation alluded to was ever once used by the ministers of the false god. But perhaps this learned elder has something inscribed on a brick in cuneiform that throws some light on the subject; and if so, he ought to publish it for the benefit of his neighbours. Indeed, we are convinced it must be so, for surely nowhere else has he found authority for saying that "Holy Inquisitors and Priests" have issued "stern, bigoted, and deadly announcements," prefaced or unprefaced by the words in question, or any others. We know so reverend a signor would never set to and talk rank nonsense; depend upon it, he has it all in "good old hearty, and plain Saxon English" set down in cuneiform characters on a brick. But to return to Jenny Geddes. Our funny elder is her lineal descendant, and just such another as she was. He is only longing to find himself in any church of his sect where the unwary minister may commence his sermon with the invocation alluded to. He will "go" for him on the spot. Well, like the narrator of John Gilpin's celebrated adventure, we are inclined to add,

"May we be there to see."

A Quebec telegram to the *Montreal Witness* says:—"The remains of the pioneer missionaries of Canada, which were discovered during the demolition of the Jesuits barrack, together with other curious relics, and were placed for safe-keeping in the regimental magazine, near the site of the excavation, pending their delivery for permanent disposal to Rev. Pere Bache, superior of the Jesuit Order in Quebec, have been stolen therefrom by some person or persons at present unknown."

On the first of June, Dennis Collins started from San Francisco for New York on foot, the distance being 3,500 miles and the wager that he would accomplish it in 100 days being 1,500 dols. He reached Sing Sing on Tuesday the 2nd inst., being then 7 days ahead of time, and since then he has made his way by easy stages arriving in New York in advance of the time required. He has travelled all the way on the railroad tracks, and has kept in a little book the autograph and the stamp of every station agent he has passed, the stamp of course having the date on which he passed the place and furnishing him a practical diary of time and distances. He met with a few adventures, but none of them were noteworthy.

The Manchester *Guardian* reports that the farmers who sailed from Liverpool, Aug. 28, in the steamer *Helvetia*, for New York, are from Northern Yorkshire and Durham. They are of various classes, ranging from the small tenant-farmer upward. Several of them can command a capital of from £500 to £600, while some others have entered into partnership, one group having raised a capital of £1,200,