

THE Napier Daily Telegraph, in alluding to the proposed establishment of a Trades and Labour Council, deprecates any association of it with political affairs. "Adopt the political platform," says our contemporary in conclusion, "and the council will simply be the place where frothy windbags will air their eloquence and inflict preposterous theories on the suffering members."—Our contemporary has evidently had some experience of the matter he deals with,—At any rate, as the saying is, he hits the nail on the head.

ON the morning of the 16th April, the large congregation assembled at St. Mary's Church Hokitika, witnessed two very beautiful and touching ceremonies in the Holy Profession of Sister M. Joseph Mandl, and the Reception of Sister M. Ita Cullinan. The former young lady, being from Hokitika, and the first from the town who was professed at St. Columbkille's, was the object of an unusual amount of interest. The young lady who had the happiness of being clothed with the holy habit of the Order of Mercy had only come out from Ireland lately, and was educated by the Sisters at Home. The ceremony of Profession came first in order and during Mass. At the conclusion of the Holy Sacrifice the clothing took place, the Rev. Father Devoy S.M. officiating at both, assisted by Rev. Father Martin. There were also present Rev. Fathers Carew P.P., and Pertuis, Grey-mouth; Rev. Father Walsh, Kumara; and Rev. Father Ahern, Ross. During the ceremonies the choir rendered several beautiful and appropriate pieces of music in their usual happy style.

MR. J. STEVENS, M.H.B., addressing his constituents at Marton, the other night spoke as follows, according to the *Wanganui Herald*, on education.—Let us hope, moreover, that the applause given to him was of some significance:—"There were one-seventh of the population of the Colony who were practically debarred from receiving State aid for the education of their children. There was the Catholic section of the community of this Colony, and he could assure the audience, that from conversations he had held with persons who were capable of giving an opinion on the subject, that Catholic children were not considered to be educated unless educated in the faith to which their parents belonged. He knew that it might be said that they should avail themselves of what is called secular education, but they could not. They must either give up their religious belief, or they must educate their own children. The Colony paid at present £315,000 to £320,000 for education, and if they could reduce this to something like £240,000 he thought that would be sufficient to carry out the education system of the Colony, if the reductions were made in some such way as he had indicated. If they were to do away in a great measure with state nurseries, and not allow parents to send children to school who were not old enough, nor capable of learning something, they would save a great deal. He thought it would be a most disastrous thing if they were to interfere with the present system of secular education. They could lighten the burden for the section of the people he had spoken of, if they were to reduce the necessity for taxing themselves for education. This one-seventh of the people contributed its share for the education of Protestant and other children, and at the same time its members put their hands into their own pockets, and paid for the education of their own children rather than accept an education which they believed to be contrary to the creed they were taught (applause)."

It is hardly to the credit of our contemporary the *Timaru Herald* that he has chosen to play second fiddle to the Press of Melbourne—and to the Press of Melbourne in anything but a praiseworthy character. That Press in attacking the Irish cause has been actuated by some base motive—either by the race-hatred that is strongest in the lowest natures, and that leads it to rage against the Irish people; or by religious bigotry which is a distinctive feature of narrow minds, or by the necessity under which certain editors are placed of ministering to the wants of some of their patrons who desire to recommend themselves to the notice of high society in England, and gain permission to play the flunkey by virtue of having influenced the colonies to oppose the Irish cause. To play second fiddle to a Press so actuated, and be bigot or flunkey at second hand, must be acknowledged to be no very noble occupation—and yet such is the position in which the *Timaru Herald* places himself. No one supposes that the Press of Melbourne is in all sincerity gushingly loyal, for is it not the leading Press of a colony which is now, without contradiction anywhere, declared ready to sever its connection with England, if only the remote cause of injury to it be permitted to arise?—as, for example, in the transportation of French criminals to the South Sea Islands. For a Press like this to cry out against the desire on the part of Ireland to abolish the causes that have long been her ruin is shameful impudence—and it may well be questioned if the loyalty of the *Timaru Herald* is one whit more sincere than that of the Press of Melbourne. The *Timaru Herald*, then, has published two articles that are a re-hash of all the calumny poured out against the Irish cause by the Melbourne Press, and to which is added some further calumny that seems to be peculiarly his own. He has, for example, discovered reasons to hint that the Messrs. Redmond made away in some disreputable manner with the sum of £15,000 collected by them in these colonies—£13,000 of which

had been acknowledged as received at home from them before ever they left the country. He has also pretended to discover that they founded a secret society here to control affairs, and which would render the federation of the colonies exceedingly dangerous. And various other bits of information of somewhat a similar kind he puts forward. But, as an instance of the fairness, consistency, and wisdom with which our contemporary argues, let us compare a passage in his article of the 12th inst. with another that occurs in his article of the 14th. In the first he condemns Mr. Redmond for declaring that Irishmen are determined to give no political support to those of their countrymen who deserted their cause, and made their own terms with the bigoted anti-Irish majority during the visit of the delegates to the colonies. In the second article he quotes with approbation the decision of the *Australasian* that not a "single man who identified himself" with the mission in question should be returned at the next election—though why Irishmen may not exercise their freewill as well as anti-Irish men, our contemporary would, perhaps, find it difficult to say. We have no intention, however, of following these foolish and bigoted articles in detail. We happen to know that the *Timaru Herald* is conducted by a gentleman who is possessed of some brains and considerable experience, and, therefore we see plainly that all this foolery is insincere. It would be a vain task on our part were we to undertake to point out to our contemporary the false conclusions and absurd statements with which the articles are fully crammed, for we can honestly entertain no other conviction than that he himself is quite as well aware of their nature as we or anyone else can be. It only remains for us, then, to express surprise that any motive could lead our contemporary to emulate the Melbourne Press in its hatred, bigotry, or flunkeyism—and our surprise is the greater to find that a gentleman of whom both Irishmen and Catholics have ere now deserved well should endeavour to stir up anti-Catholic—anti-Irish—rage against them. The motive, however base must be a strong one, and we shall await with curiosity further developments.

A P P E A L.

TO THE VENERABLE ARCHDEACON COLEMAN.

"Du edin, April 30, 1884.

MY DEAR ARCHDEACON,—The walls of the Cathedral will be soon completed. I hope that the weekly subscriptions, in addition to the sum in hand, will enable us to see the completion of these walls without the incurring of debt. But this completion will see our funds exhausted; and yet it is absolutely necessary that no time should be lost in putting on the roof. Under these circumstances I have resolved to appeal to the entire diocese for funds to meet the expense necessary to bring our great work to a conclusion; and I have made up my mind to entrust to you the duty of collecting the much-required funds. I know I could not entrust the work to better or more efficient hands, I think I may promise you a hearty co-operation and a generous reception on the part of both the priests and laity of this diocese, who have ever shown great zeal for this and all other good works. You will not fail to remind all to whom you may apply that the erection of a Cathedral is emphatically a diocesan work, and that the merit of helping in such erection is very great.

I am, My dear Archdeacon,

Yours faithfully,
P. MORAN.

From the above it can be seen that I am called upon to visit all the districts in the diocese to collect for the Cathedral, and, from my own knowledge of the people of Otago and Southland, I feel confident that a generous response will be made to the special call now made by his Lordship; for I know the faith and goodness and devotion to our holy religion of the residents of every parish in the diocese.—The Catholics of this diocese are always ready to make great sacrifices in co-operating for the love of our Lord with the Bishop whom the Holy See has given them to guide them in all things spiritual.

W. COLEMAN

Messrs. A. and T. Inglis, George street, Dunedin, are now selling off at a great reduction the assigned stock of Messrs Menzies and Co., Oamaru.

Ladies who have found a difficulty in having dresses made to their satisfaction will do well to visit the establishment of Mrs. Carter, George street, Dunedin.

In order to suit the convenience of the public, the Dunedin Co-operative Society have made arrangements for keeping their office in the Octagon open until 9 p.m. on Saturday, so that applications for shares may be received there.

Mr O'Connell, Manchester street South, Christchurch, having purchased the excellent stock of boots and shoes of the firm of Walsh and O'Connell, is now holding a clearing sale, where the best goods may be obtained at the lowest prices.

We (*Nation*) take the following paragraph from the *Chicago Times* of the 9th inst.:—"Mr. Alexander Sullivan, president of the Irish National League of America, returned to the city, yesterday from a Western trip. During his absence he addressed large meetings in Omaha (Neb.), and Lincoln (Neb.) Council Bluffs, (Iowa.) At the Lincoln meeting Governor Dawes and a number of other leading citizens of the State were present and made brief speeches. At Mr. Sullivan's Council Bluffs meeting speeches were made by the Episcopalian and Baptist ministers and the Catholic Priest. The sympathy of the people of all parties and creeds seem to be universally with the League, and the people of all other nationalities appear to hold Mr. Paenell in as high esteem as the Irish themselves.