

New Zealand Gazette

VOL. XII.—No. 50.

DUNEDIN: FRIDAY, APRIL, 3, 1885

PRICE 6D.

Current Topics

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

ENGLAND'S
N A V A L
POSITION

IN view of the existing state of affairs, and of the possibility, or even, at the time when we write, the probability of England's becoming involved in war an article we find in the *Quarterly Review* for January, and which in the main agrees with that lately quoted by us from Sir Spencer Robinson in the *Nineteenth Century*, must also prove of interest, especially since particular reference is made to these Colonies. The writer begins by referring to the naval supremacy of England in past years, which, he says, was maintained under conditions that are now completely altered. As well as the decisive blows of great battles, a system of blockade, was formerly employed by which the fleets were kept for lengthened periods at sea, and it was thus that the British seamen acquired the experience that enabled their ships to ride out with safety gales that obliged the ships of the enemy to return to port to refit. "But those" he adds, "were the days of wooden ships, which depended only on sails for their power of keeping the sea, and had in themselves the means of repairing minor damages. Now all is changed by iron, machinery, and steam, tethering the blockading cruiser to the arsenal and coal depot; and in action placing the disabled ship at the mercy of her undisabled antagonist." The writer then goes on to show, as introductory to his opinions on the nature of the naval war that would probably now be undertaken by a hostile power, how even after the great victories that at the beginning of the century had given the empire of the sea to England, the commerce of India was seriously injured by the attacks of French men-of-war and privateers from Bourbon and the Mauritius—by which he illustrates the need, as he asserts, of a strategic system of defence embracing the whole empire. The fatal effects of invasion, he says, are clear to everyone, as is the necessity of guarding the Channel. "But what," he asks, "if an enemy were to assail us without invasion, by a plan less direct, but equally effective and ruinous? What if, having obtained command of the narrow seas by a superior combination of force, he were to decline that contest behind hedgerows on which we dwell as the last resort of British self-devotion, and adopt the policy of seizing our Colonies, destroying our commerce, and leaving England 'to stew in her own juice'?" "What power of resistance would then be left us," he continues "may be judged by the contrast drawn in the words of Captain Colomb (a writer whose work he largely refers to): 'The power which closed the naval schemes of Napoleon at Trafalgar was the self-sustaining, self-contained, self-reliant eighteen millions of people who lived in the British Islands. However truly the last adjective may be applied to the thirty-two millions who have succeeded their ancestors, the two first can no longer be so. In 1813 the British people lived on the produce of their soil. In 1875, the people required, side by side with every pound's worth of raw cotton for manufacture, one pound's worth of raw corn or flour for their sustenance.'" "Of what a total interception would mean some faint notion may be obtained from the cotton famine of the American war, but no one can fully picture what it would be were the food supply cut off as well. Submission to the conqueror on any terms must be the result. Apart, from the investment of Great Britain, the effect of an enemy's operation on England's lines of communication which ramify over all the globe would be most disastrous. A stab at the heart may put a living organism to death more suddenly, but not more surely than the severing of a remote artery, or the wound of a nerve centre, as Captain Colomb again points out. The lines of commerce, therefore, all over the world must be protected, and, thanks to the fruits of former wars, the means of protecting them are available. "If steam has bridged the Channel, it has also bridged the interval that divides us from our Colonies, the gaps that sever the links in our great imperial chain of defence from one another, and from the centre on which they all depend; but always on the one condition, that we maintain their efficiency and keep them safe in our own hands. Nor let it be forgotten, that any loss would be aggravated tenfold by the gain to the enemy: the lost centre of our defence would at once become . . . the seat and supply of a perpetual scourge to our commerce and resistance to our naval

power; not a break only in the bonds of our empire; but a focus of fire to consume them. Our present Prime Minister comforted us in 1870 with the assurance that 'even the stores of coal used for marine locomotion are principally ours,' and so are the coaling-stations where we can lay them up to be transferred to the bunkers of our men-of-war; but we have now learnt to qualify this source of security by the knowledge that these stations are for the most part at the mercy of any enemy, who might destroy or appropriate them on the sudden breaking out of war." The writer, then, goes on to show the possible importance of the island of St. Helena, in event of war, and adds that the importance of commanding the Ocean highways is proved by the case of the 'Alabama' whose success was more due to the ignorance of ocean strategy in the United States Naval Department, by which, important passages were left unguarded, than to anything else. "The depredations and fate of the 'Alabama,'" he continues, "alike give point to the enquiry, what are our provisions for protecting commerce and supporting naval war in the Eastern Seas and the Pacific Ocean, which promise to be the scene of stirring naval events. Even in 1813 we are told in James's Naval History of the damage done to our whaling trade by the U. S. frigate 'Essex' before she was captured by the 'Phoebe.' Need we recount the growth since that time of our interests in the trade with China and the Imperial possessions of Australasia? . . . It has been estimated that the plunder of Melbourne alone would be worth from 5 to 10 millions to the war chest of the power making the capture. New South Wales possesses coal-fields, of which it has been said, perhaps with some exaggeration, that she who commands them is lord of Australasia; but assuredly in the hands of an enemy they would give the means of attack on all the Australian ports. Now when it is asked, what has been done for the protection of these vast interests, the only hopeful answer is, that the colonists themselves have made a beginning by fortification at Sydney and Melbourne, and of creating the nucleus of a naval force." The writer affirms again that Hong Kong, the most important station on the Pacific coast and the base of all military and naval operations in the further east, is not sufficiently fortified. "Now," he adds, "while Hong Kong is thus imperfectly defended, and Australia almost defenceless and unprovided with an arsenal, Russia and the United States have naval arsenals at Vladivostok and Mare Island which are respectively 8000 and 7000 miles nearer Sydney than Plymouth (13,000 miles distant,) whether a disabled English man-of-war of any size would have to go for extensive refit. The establishment of a dockyard and arsenal of the first magnitude at Sydney is our only means of security in the seas of the further East." The writer then goes on to compare the state of England with the interests and armaments of other nations, as well as to inquire into the naval policy of England's rulers. His conclusion is as follows: "Our commerce can be only retained by altering our naval policy of steady decrease during the last eighteen years, and adopting it to the steady increase in the navies of all the other European nations. The official and most favourable estimate of our naval forces does not say what proportion the proposed increase bears to that of other nations. It is certain we are deficient in first-class iron-clads; we are, according to the late First Lord of the Admiralty, four years behind the French in guns, as we are behind them in torpedo boats and in men. Every effort is required to bring us up to that preponderance over France which we formerly possessed. In the present day, it would be criminal to risk the fate of the country on an engagement in the Channel with equal force. If the French were defeated it would simply be the loss of a fleet; if we were defeated, our national existence would be at stake. The surest guarantee of peace is an English navy, so powerful, that no probable combination of powers would dare to attack it."

OF what the difference may be that has arisen SOUTH AFRICAN AFFAIRS. between Sir Charles Warren and the Governor of the Cape Colony, we have as yet received no particular information. There had, however, already been a good many disputes and much variety of opinion with respect to the Bechuanaland question. Prominent men among the Boers were doubtless mostly agreed that their fellow-colonists had but done what was right and proper in attacking the chief Mosisioa, and obliging him to make a treaty with them by which they became possessors of a good deal of his territory. Indeed, Mr. Joubert, by whom especially the treaty was extorted, in refusing the Presidency

of the new republic which was offered to him, professed to believe that the only party on earth who could object to so reasonable a proceeding were the English Jingoos, by means of whose influence Mr. Gladstone had been induced to send troops to Africa "in order to renew," said Mr. Joubert, "the recently-ended scenes of bloodshed in which our poor quarter of the world has suffered so much, and has to feed the lust of revenge, of domination and avarice." But the principle on which the Boers conduct their dealings with the natives is openly explained by the *Zuid Afrikaan*, one of their organs, as follows:—"We, and many others with us, see nothing unjust, but rather the true right—or course—of nature when a civilised people take advantage of the perversities of barbarians to transform, by means of a treaty, the lands of natives into a European colony." This, as it will be seen, is a most convenient doctrine for a people who desire to possess themselves of the lands of their swarthy neighbours, and it is by no means surprising if those "perversities" which form the necessary condition are not of unfrequent occurrence. Indeed, there is reason to believe that the unfortunate native tribes who live in the neighbourhood of the Boers are in a constant state of perversity, at least if we may judge by the conduct towards them of these highly-civilised Christians. The Premier of the Cape Colony, however, has also defended the Boer raiders and explained that the cause of their renewing the war with Montsioa was that they had been attacked by that chief's people, had had their houses burned, their furniture destroyed, and their families turned out, and there being no one to defend them, that they had taken up their rifles and defended themselves, as many of their race on other occasions had done. The Premier added, referring to Sir Charles Warren's mission, that if a shot were fired in the country alluded to no one could foresee what it might lead to, and the English Press of the Cape Colony have also condemned any arbitrary action. Sir Charles Warren, nevertheless, took up a very decided attitude from the first, and, notwithstanding President Paul Kruger's pleading for the freebooters, whom, in contradiction of the very direct testimony of certain British officials—and of the apparently mischief-making Mr. McKeuzie in particular—he declared to have acted in ignorance of the fact that they were violating a British protectorate, Sir Charles expressed himself as determined to look upon them as a band of robbers and cattle-stealers, to be indulged individually by the consideration of their claims, but as a body to be regarded as acting in direct opposition to Her Majesty's Government, threatening, moreover, to expel them from the country. He further stated that he had reliable information that people had gone up to this Land of Goshen from the Transvaal, the Orange Free State, and the Cape Colony, and that they waited, distributed among the houses of their Boer friends, ready to take part in a mob-war. The President of the South African Republic, like the Premier of the Cape Colony, professed himself most unwilling that war should occur, and for the purpose of preventing it deprecated Sir Charles Warren's being accompanied as he intended by a large force of men. The difference, then, that has arisen between the Governor of the Cape and Her Majesty's Special Commissioner may have been occasioned by a fear on the Governor's part likewise of war arising from arbitrary action. But whether a dispute between high officials will make the difficulties of the situation less, remains to be seen.

ONLY ONE
FAULT.

The "Silver King" Company brought a very successful season to a termination in Dunedin on Wednesday.—The play from which the Company take their name is a drama of a highly sensational

order but with a good moral, and possessing besides many pathetic situations, and some very amusing passages.—A blemish on this drama, nevertheless, in our eyes is the very needless introduction into a representation, which, even without it, is of extreme length, of an exaggerated specimen of the stage Irishman, who is as drunken and and exuberantly idiotic as is usual to the character in question.—He is made, moreover, with an additional instance of bad taste, to proclaim himself a Home Ruler.—This declaration being the more out of place since, in probably the most pathetic scene of the whole play, we find an illustration of one of the evils that has made Home Rule for Ireland a matter of life and death. We allude to the scene in which the ruffianly attempt is made to evict Nelly Denver with her sick child from the hut in which she has found a miserable shelter.—How many poor mothers in Ireland have been treated with a cruelty far worse, because successful and balked by no timely arrival of a saving aid?—How many mothers there have been obliged to take their dying children from their beds and carry them out to receive the death stroke from the snow or rain or biting wind?—The dramatist, indeed, who ridicules Home Rule and yet introduces a pathetic eviction scene into his play sadly mars his work.—Nor is it any compliment in fact to the great British Parliament to represent the Home Ruler as a drunken idiotic fellow.—The assembly to be influenced by such fellows as the British Parliament has been by the Home Rule party must be itself a drunken assembly.—But Parliament and the Empire know the party in question to be very much in their sober senses and what is more, that they are likely to remain so. The only object, then, to be gained by the questionable joke to

which we allude is that one, often dear to the heart of the true-born Britons, of being brutally offensive, when he may be so with impunity.—This, however, is the only blemish on a really fine and beautiful play, which, as represented by the Company we refer to, has all the advantage of capital acting.—The scenery is also remarkably good, and nothing has been left undone to ensure success.—The Company also played "The Librarian" in a manner equally deserving of commendation.

SIR JULIUS VOGEL.
AT DUNEDIN.

Sir Julius Vogel's speech at the Dunedin Garrison Hall on Monday evening, was hardly one to call out much enthusiasm, at least among the more superficial members of his audience.—It was, in plain terms, an exceedingly dry address, and its usefulness was in no instance concealed beneath any attempt at ornamentation.—That the address, however, was useful and in many respects satisfactory, there cannot be much doubt.—The policy of the Government, in fact, so far as it was revealed by Sir Julius is of very fair promise, and, if all things go well for its fulfilment, the progress of the Colony may be expected to be aided by it in no inconsiderable degree.—Let us hope, moreover, that the speaker's confidence as to the result of the menace of war now made may be justified.—He still does not believe that hostilities will really ensue but he expresses his belief that, should such prove to be the case, the Colony is in a very favourable position to defend itself.—As to the comfort he proposes under the improbable circumstances of our suffering any damage, that we should indubitably be avenged, we doubt if there be much efficacy in it.—Vengeance may be sweet, as on high authority we are told it is, but its sweetness is not so apparent as seen before the evil has been inflicted for which it is afterwards to be exacted.—Nor can we fully coincide with Lord Beaconsfield, as quoted by Sir Julius.—There is a smack of the Jingo about pronouncing England wholly unconquerable that is more calculated to excite a frothy enthusiasm than any settled assurance of safety. Convinced as we remain that Russia will not fight without the certainty of strong support, we confess we should regard the actual commencement of hostilities with much apprehension. England may be strong and rich and brave, and we doubt not at all but that she is so, but it would require something of supernatural power on her part were she able, even aided by Turkey and Italy, to overcome a hostile coalition of the three great Empires of Europe.—Whatever may be the event, nevertheless, and waiving the question of our coming vengeance, it will be of interest to many people to learn that Sir Julius Vogel propounds a plan by which those who are engaged in agricultural and pastoral pursuits may obtain money at a reasonable rate of interest.—Sir Julius does not approve of the forced paper currency, of which we have heard so much, and he points to the examples of America and Italy, which indeed must present themselves to every one, as showing how eager are a people on whom such a currency has been imposed to rid themselves from it.—Nor does Sir Julius approve of the other standard proposal, that of State banks, which fully carried out would give the Government extraordinary powers, and in any case may be dispensed with. His proposal is that certain companies should have their debentures guaranteed by the Govt., and issued at about 4 or 5 per cent, on the condition that the money should be lent in small sums for expenditure by actual cultivators of the soil on improvements. Sir Julius further entered into a detailed explanation of his project answering objections that had been made to it, and showing how the Companies in question might reap large profits. Local government also obtained a large share of the speaker's attention and it can no longer be complained that Ministers are not clear upon the subject. As summed up by Sir Julius, and reported by the *Daily Times*, their proposals are as follows, and they would seem to be such as, if successful, may be found to work fairly:—(a) To enable districts to act in unison if they desire, and as far as possible take heed of sub-divisions; (b) to give them an assured finance; (c) to enable them to give the utmost attention to sanitary objects and local improvements; (d) to make it their interest to promote economy; (e) to give to them all the powers they can healthily exercise; (f) without impairing the efficiency of the police force, to extend its usefulness; (g) to enable district railways to be made if really required, but to guard carefully against railways for which districts are not ready to make sacrifices; (h) to introduce real self-government, and reliance on local revenues to the gold-mining counties; (i) to make the whole system of roads and bridges in the country feeders of the railways—in fact, to harmonise with concerted objects the systems of railways, tramways, roads and bridges of the whole country." In conclusion, Sir Julius comforted his hearers by declaring the Colony to be in an exceedingly prosperous condition.—He, indeed, made exception with respect to Canterbury, Otago, and, in a less degree, Southland, where he ascribed the depression to the condition of the grain and wool industries, but he professed a belief that Dunedin showed some marks of a returning prosperity, and that the bad times had passed their lowest stage. Sir Julius, indeed, made a solid, statesmanlike speech, hopeful in tone and cheering in effect when duly pondered. We should not, however, be surprised to hear

that the largest audience of the fair sex ever known to be present at a political meeting in Dunedin, had not found the eloquence of the orator very entertaining, or, perhaps, even very comprehensible—and this we say without the least desire to undervalue woman's intellect, or to infringe in the slightest degree upon her rights, real or imaginary.—In fact, it is probable that many of the males who were also present went away sadder but not wiser men, having endured the heat and crush in listening to what it would take them some time to master in black and white by attentive study—if ever they contrived to do so.

THE mail of a week or two ago brought us the GLORIIFIED! English papers which explained the state of mind caused by the dynamite explosions in London. This week's mail brings us the manifestations made on the occasion of Mrs. Dudley's attempt on O'Donovan Rossa's life. Coming as these manifestations do from a humane and civilised people, the upholders of law, and closely versed in all the proprieties, not to say from the people that stands first of all mankind, and is privileged because of its superior excellence to hold all the rest of the world in contempt, and illtreat some portions of it on the pretence that their regard for law and order is less exact, we might expect a dignified condemnation of any attempt at crime, and that the occasion would be seized upon to give to every one within hearing a high moral lesson. The moral lesson we receive, however, is one by no means high—unless of course it belongs to high morality to teach that what in a native of any other country on the earth, acting on any motive, would be assassination and wholly inexcusable—in a native of England claiming to act on patriotic motives, is heroism if not righteousness itself.—Mrs. Dudley is the heroine of her country, and her statue in its temple of fame stands already aloft in an exalted niche.—O'Donnel, who executed Lynch law on James Carey, for example, was a vile criminal and yet O'Donovan Rossa himself had hardly sunk to Carey's level.—But Mrs. Dudley is a heroine of the type of Charlotte Corday, and the honour of England has been duly vindicated by her. The English Press the other day, again, were full of virtuous disgust at the Parisians who sympathised with Madame Clovis Hugues, a woman who shot a man that had pursued her with calumnies.—All England shudders with horror at the sight of a criminal French woman and, with that superior air it so easily assumes towards all foreign nations, half-pities half-ridicules but wholly condemns the French for the manner in which they dealt with a woman, who, indeed, if she were a criminal, had been most sorely provoked and that on the point on which a woman is most vulnerable and most easily tortured.—With Lucilla Ysault Dudley, nevertheless, England sympathises deeply although in intention she was not one whit less a murderess than was Madame Hugues.—But what would it profit a true-born Briton to belong to the noblest race in all the world if he might not enjoy exceptional privileges? and he does enjoy them very fully. As to O'Donovan Rossa, as the victim of a crime, it might, further, be thought that the most humane, most dignified race in all the world would at least speak of him, even if with aversion, with becoming gravity. We should not expect to find them openly regretting that the wound had not proved mortal, or even ridiculing the wounded wretch. As for example, the *Times* who speaks of him as, unlike Marat killed by a single blow from the knife of the fair Dudley's great prototype, Charlotte Corday, walking to the hospital and taking "comfortably to his bed." The *Times*, moreover, recommends to the fair English avenger of the future the use of the knife rather than of the revolver the "most delusive and most difficult of modern weapons." But James Carey had anticipated the *Times* in making just such a recommendation to the dupes whom he afterwards betrayed to the gallows. The *Times*, moreover, gives us rather a lively description of this killing-scene. The lady, it seems was nervous and she was a lady the *Times* informs us a lady of good family.—"To have the chief of the dynamite faction struggling at her feet was too much for her nerves, and he escaped with one not very serious wound. But according to the latest version of the story—her own—the harmlessness of the last four discharges was intentional. The organizer of wholesale murder lay shrieking for mercy, and she chivalrously granted him the boon, firing off the remaining barrels merely to empty the pistol, lest any one in the crowd should suffer harm." The lady, in fact, owing to her nerves, or her refinement, was contented with half-murdering O'Donovan.—The *Times*, it is true, afterwards informs us that no Englishman can approve of private vengeance taking the place of law, and something more to the same effect but, having approved of just such an action, and glorified very effectually the heroine concerned in it, the professions of the *Times* may here be taken for what they are worth. They, in fact, are worth as much as the professions of those English Statesmen who profess to detest tyranny, and themselves, in what they look upon as England's interests, are guilty of the most scandalous tyranny, who are merciful and humane in word, but cruel and merciless in act. It is worthy of a Press, moreover, that professes a reverence for the truth, and never ceases to distort it, that expresses an admiration for all that is great

and noble, yet constantly insults the weak, and tramples on those in need. It is worthy in short of the greatest hypocrisy that disgraces the modern world. The pretence of English Statesmen, and English journalists to venerate for its own sake everything that is good and exalted, and to detest and reprobate all that is evil. Mrs. Dudley's crime has betrayed England into a true revelation of herself.

NOT YET
SETTLED

Among the complications of the times is also to be reckoned the indignation expressed in France, Germany, and Austria, at Italy's aggressions on the Coast of the Red Sea.—She is reminded, for example by

the French Press of the words of Count Cavour who said—"The safety of Italy is imperilled by the enmity of France." The most suggestive hint given to her, however, is that published by the *Allgemeine Zeitung* the authoritative German organ, which writes as follows:—"Italy has lost the friendship of Protestant Germany, and has gained England. But what advantage would England be to her if Germany wished to take in hand the Roman question?"—Nor are we to understand that the suggestion made in this passage was of momentary invention, and had its rise in a sudden attack of spleen.—A question of the same kind had been treated of with considerable alarm by the Italian papers a few months before and is thus dealt with by the *Dublin Review* of January. "If there be any foundation for what the *Capitale* asserted on the 16th of October, as quoted by the *Civiltà Cattolica*, the so-called kingdom of Italy has no small ground for apprehension, already being threatened with a new exodus. The *Capitale* has raised a veritable cry of alarm on the subject. It was not a mere *on dit* that had shaken its nerves, but, as it seems, a telegram from Berlin had announced that the *Gazetta della Croce* had formally stated that Italy intended to vacate Rome and remove the Court and seat of government to Florence. Similar reports had previously been current, but Mancini's organs had set them aside as of no importance, but now the case was different, since the *Gazetta della Croce* is reckoned as the authorized organ of the Court of Berlin and of the most influential classes in Prussia. Whether, therefore, its news be true or false, the *Capitale* opines that the matter is serious, very serious. If false, it is at least an index of the German Government. What is sought at Berlin, it says, 'is internal peace, and the Prussian Government would be disposed to sacrifice even the rights (?) of Italy to Rome in order to silence the Centre party, whose opposition is more troublesome than ever: But if on the other hand, it be true, whether founded on the weakness of our Ministry or as entering into the plan of the Conservative league concerted between the three Emperors, it would constitute a grave menace. Who would have believed some time ago, that the *Capitale*, the *Diritto*, and their *compères* would use such language, plainly evincing that they dread an ultimate triumph of the Papacy, and that ever since the terrible despatch from Berlin they are unable to conceal their fears of such a finale. The *Capitale*, indeed, does not scruple to remind its readers that Charles V. caused Rome to be sacked and then a few years later became the champion of Catholicism and the persecutor of Luther and the Reform, 'Besides this,' adds the terrified Radical journal "we must not forget that the Holy Alliance in 1815 had for its chief founders, after Austria, Protestant England and Prussia, and Heterodox Russia." But all this takes an additional significance from the hint now thrown out by the *Allgemeine Zeitung* which, read in connection with these passages, seems to point to the growing conviction in Germany that the Roman question is not finally settled, and that the benefits of the robbery of the Holy Father are by no means so apparent as they have been proclaimed to be. History would repeat itself to some purpose if the Pope were once more restored to independence by Austria, Protestant Germany, and heterodox Russia, and if England were this time left out of the act of restoration, that at least would be some compensation for the misfortunes they must otherwise have suffered to many of her people. Among the sentences again, quoted from the *Capitale* by the *Dublin Review* that strikes us as particularly significant which ascribes, in effect, to the conservative measures agreed upon by the three Emperors the restoration of the Temporal Power. This revolutionary organ recognises as a matter of course, the necessity of reestablishing the Pope's authority as the first step to be taken in any measures designed against the advance of anarchy. If the three Emperors, moreover, really determined upon such a step, which seems by no means impossible, while Italy has been received in alliance by England, we see another reason why we may suspect that Russia in her present attitude is assured of the support of Germany and Austria. The situation is decidedly interesting and affords grounds for almost unbounded speculation, but we spare our readers for the present.

THE ACCUSER
GONE MAD.

THE very acme of the anti-dynamite fury has been reached, however, in the accusation brought against the Pope of being an accomplice in the plots of the dynamitards. For nothing less is implied in the concluding portion of the article published by the *Times* on Mrs.

SAN FRANCISCO MAIL SERVICE FOR 1885.

Leave Hoki-tika.	Leave Grey-mouth.	Leave West-port.	Leave Picton.	Leave Nelson.	Leave Inver-cargill.	Leave Dunedin
Jan 2	Jan 1	Jan 1	Jan 1	Jan 3	Jan 2	Jan 3
Jan 30	Jan 29	Jan 29	Jan 29	Jan 31	Jan 31	Jan 31
Feb 27	Feb 26	Feb 26	Feb 26	Feb 28	Feb 27	Feb 28
Mar 27	Mar 26	Mar 26	Mar 26	Mar 28	Mar 27	Mar 28
April 24	April 23	April 23	April 23	April 25	April 24	April 25
May 22	May 21	May 21	May 21	May 23	May 22	May 23
June 19	June 18	June 18	June 18	June 20	June 19	June 20
July 17	July 16	July 16	July 16	July 18	July 17	July 18
Aug 14	Aug 13	Aug 13	Aug 13	Aug 15	Aug 14	Aug 15
Sept 11	Sept 10	Sept 10	Sept 10	Sept 12	Sept 11	Sept 12
Oct 9	Oct 8	Oct 8	Oct 8	Oct 10	Oct 9	Oct 10
Nov 6	Nov 5	Nov 5	Nov 5	Nov 7	Nov 6	Nov 7

Leave Lyttel-ton.	Leave Well-ing-ton.	Leave New Ply-mouth.	Leave Napier.	Leave Thames.	Leave Auck-land.	Arrive London.
Jan 3	Jan 4	Jan 5	Jan 3	Jan 5	Jan 6	Feb 13
Jan 31	Feb 1	Feb 2	Jan 31	Feb 2	Feb 3	Mar 13
Feb 28	Mar 1	Mar 2	Feb 28	Mar 2	Mar 3	April 10
Mar 28	Mar 29	Mar 30	Mar 28	Mar 30	Mar 31	May 8
April 26	April 26	April 27	April 26	April 27	April 28	June 5
May 23	May 24	May 25	May 23	May 25	May 26	July 3
June 20	June 21	June 22	June 20	June 22	June 23	July 31
July 18	July 19	July 20	July 18	July 20	July 21	Aug 28
Aug 15	Aug 16	Aug 17	Aug 15	Aug 17	Aug 18	Sept 25
Sept 12	Sept 13	Sept 14	Sept 12	Sept 14	Sept 15	Oct 23
Oct 10	Oct 11	Oct 12	Oct 10	Oct 12	Oct 13	Nov 20
Nov 7	Nov 8	Nov 9	Nov 7	Nov 9	Nov 10	Nov 18

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

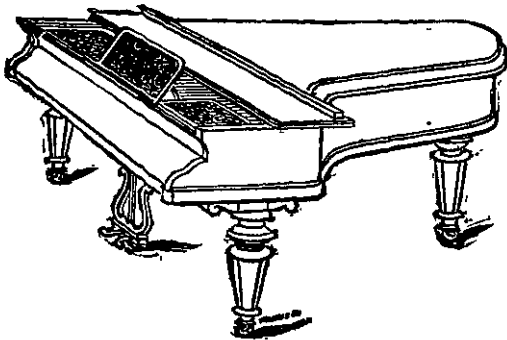


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Dudley. "The truth is," says the *Times*, "that the Vatican give nothing for nothing. Like the most worldly of Powers, the Pope says, disguising the phrase in decent circumlocution, *do ut des*. 'Make Mr. Errington's mission a formal one, recognise my sovereignty, and I will perhaps do something for you with your Catholic subjects.' And this is said apropos of a letter from the Roman correspondent of the *Times* in which the attitude of the *Moniteur de Rome*, the organ of the Vatican, towards the Irish National party is described and deplored. "The changed tone of the Pope's organ, the *Moniteur de Rome*, with reference to the Irish National party merits special notice and has peculiar significance," says the correspondent. "This journal has become the warm apologist of Mr. Parnell and his party. It approves his acts and speeches; it says that the miscreants who attempted to blow up the Houses of Parliament and the Tower were Fenians, who have nothing whatever in common with the Irish patriots endeavouring, by legal and Parliamentary means, to secure the political and social amelioration of Ireland; and it asserts that it would be a cruel injustice to confound the Fenianism of the dynamitards with the National Irish movement, or to render the appeals of the one party responsible for the abominable attempts of the other. Printing, a few days ago, portions of that speech of Mr. Parnell in which he said (I quote from the *Moniteur's* translation) that it was not in the power of any man to arrest the march of a nation, and that no one had the right to say to Ireland 'Thus far shalt thou go, and no farther,' the *Moniteur* remarks that it would be seen that Mr. Parnell was using every effort to keep the Irish movement on legal and constitutional grounds. This approval of his utterances in open advocacy of the disruption of the British Union and Kingdom was printed on the same page on which another column was filled with telegrams reporting the attempts to blow up the House of Commons and the Tower. The *Moniteur* certainly says that the explosions would excite a feeling of horror and indignation throughout the civilised world. It also says that Catholic Ireland will remain faithful to the voice of her priests and her bishops and repudiate all connivance with the party of dynamite and assassination. Exactly so; but the priests and bishops do not remain faithful to the voice of the Pope, or at any rate to the voice that spoke on the 11th of May, 1883, in the circular addressed by the Holy See to the Irish bishops. Apparently, judging from the *Moniteur de Rome*, it is the Pontiff and not the Irish Episcopate that has submitted. The bishops were summoned to Rome to confer with the Pope and the Propaganda on Irish matters, and to receive the Pope's commands. Their coming was postponed until last autumn, then until Christmas, and then again until next Easter. But shortly before they were to have left for Rome last autumn a meeting of the hierarchy was held in Dublin, at which, on the proposal of Dr. Croke, Archbishop of Cashel, a resolution was carried unanimously intrusting the question of Catholic education to the Irish Parliamentary party led by Mr. Parnell. That was one of the chief questions to be discussed and decided in Rome. The deciding it in Ireland was an act of defiance to the Holy See. It was equivalent to saying, and, no doubt, was intended to say, before coming to Rome, 'That, Holy Father, is our programme; we accept no other.' And it would seem that the Pope has yielded—perhaps I ought to say has been convinced." We need hardly warn our readers as to the manner in which they are to receive the interpretation placed by this correspondent on the attitude of the Irish bishops and its effect upon the Pope. But it is required for our purpose to quote the whole passage, so that our readers may learn what the effect of true information has been at Rome, and how readily in the surroundings the Vatican the real state of the Irish question has been understood and acknowledged. The correspondent then, goes on to explain, according to his lights, which in this instance, we need not say, are darkness itself and darkness visible, what it was that had led to the change he professes to discern in the mind of the Pope. His explanation is that which the *Times* comments upon, in accusing the Pope of a virtual complicity in the outrages until he should obtain the price of their suppression in the official recognition of Mr. Errington as the British envoy at his Court. We shall not, of course, presume to defend the Holy Father from such a charge. Its very grossness is its immediate refutation, and we should as soon think of replying to the howlings of the veriest Orange rowdy as of taking any serious notice of it—so far, that is as the Pope is concerned. No far, on the other hand, as concerns the *Times*, it is worthy enough of serious notice, showing, as it does, the lengths to which bigotry or panic, or both combined, may lead even the most pretentious journalist. It is, however, a good deal to learn, even from an enemy, and even in a manner requiring the careful sifting of truth from falsehood, how clearly the cause of Ireland is understood at the Vatican, and how friendly the disposition there is towards it. As to charges of complicity with the dynamitards, meantime, they have surely reached their climax, and no man henceforward need be troubled at such an accusation's being brought against him. Accused in company with Leo XIII. he is highly honoured.

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THE WICKED WOODS OF TOBEREEVIL.

BY ROSA MULHOLLAND.

AUTHOR OF "THE WILD BIRDS OF KILLEEVY," ETC.

CHAPTER I.

HOW THEY WERE PLANTED.

SIMON FINISTON was owner of Tobereevil, including Monasterlea; and the Wicked Woods were part of the patrimony of his race. On one side of his mansion lay long stretches of unploughed fields, and pathless bog and moor. Behind him rose undulating mountains, clothed with the rich hues of gorse and broom. The thick woods wrapped him round about, would scarce let the sun shine down upon his roof, and crowded in brilliant masses towards the horizon on the east. The Golden Mountain, which did not belong to Simon, lowered against the southern sky, so that the lower hills beside it looked like the ridges of a wave upon the sea.

The lands of Tobereevil lie in a remote part of the west of Ireland. They had beauty at the worst of times; but, now that the curse has passed away, they are lovely and peaceful as a vision of Arcadia. At the time of the beginning of this story, they were sadder and drearier than it is needful to describe. The curse was upon them then. Old Simon, the miser, was lord of many mountains and moors, of many waste places that ought to have been fields, many fields that might have been gardens, many hovels that might have been comfortable homes, and some spirit-broken serfs who might have been grateful and light-hearted friends. Yet Simon of Tobereevil was rather pitied than blamed; for was he not working out the doom, and suffering the punishment of a race accursed?

A strange story is told of this curse of the Finistons of Tobereevil. One Paul Finiston had come into the district when, as the legend saith, the country was prosperous, the people well housed and clad. He was a man who came no one knew whence, and had amassed money no one knew how. Some said he had made a fortune by usury. He had, however, the desire to make himself a gentleman; and had bought the estate of a decayed old family, which, after the usual long struggle, had dropped into the abyss of acknowledged poverty.

Yet he had no idea of stepping into other folks' shoes, of being only the successor of mightier people. He would not live under their roof, nor walk in their paths, nor even look upon the same scenes which they had looked upon. He would pull down their houses, plough up their gardens, and plant trees in the spaces which they had cleared. He would sweep away their fences, and make landmarks of his own. He built a new house to his own taste, stately and handsome, and furnished it in a style of splendour which would have made his predecessors stare. The magnificence of his pictures, the costliness of his carvings and gildings, his hangings and carpetings, made a nine days' wonder in the country. His servants were a small army, his horses were said to be fine enough and numerous enough to furnish mounts for half a cavalry regiment. His wines were fit for the table of an emperor. His carriages were built luxuriously upon a design of his own. He seemed preparing to lead the life of a prince, when suddenly there fell a blight upon his work.

Had he been content, says the story, with the alterations above enumerated, he had lived his life of enjoyment, and his race had not been cursed; but, in his passion for changing the face of the country, he had conceived the idea of planting great woods over the land. In pursuit of this idea, he must sweep away the people with their farms. He did not want tenants; he wanted trees; and he wanted to see his trees grow tall before he died. So he rooted out the tenants, as he might have rooted out weeds from his garden.

In one week a hundred poor families stood houseless on the snow; and their cabins and cottages were levelled with the ground. Their master, Paul Finiston, knew the way to the great world; but to these ignorant peasants the mountain-side was their world and they knew of no other. They looked on in amazement while the work of destruction was in progress, and clung to each other with cries when the pitiless wind came down. Storm and sleet beat about them, and they could find no shelter for their heads.

Their cruel persecutor took no notice of their plight. He had toiled for his gold, and now should he be balked of his pleasure for a few beggars? Let them go out in the world and work. For him, he would have his trees. And some of these houseless creatures did set out to seek their way across the moors, to carry the tale of their distress to some city where it could hardly be believed. The aged, and the women and children, must, of course, be left behind to seek shelter in the hollows of the mountains, and watch in vain for the arrival of relief.

The story goes on to say that, after many days of hungry wandering, a wretched band mustered on the hills, and came towards the dwelling of their landlord, intending to appeal to him for food and protection. A terrible snow-storm overtook them on the outskirts of the wood, at a spot where there is a deep well sunk in the earth. There their strength quite gave way, and they lay down to die. It was not till the next day, when he came by accident to the place, and saw the corpses lying around him, that this wicked landlord felt some pang of remorse for his sin; but it was too late then—too late to rescue those who had perished—too late to save his race from the curse which had been miraculously pronounced.

The legend is told in Irish verse and at great length. A translation of even half of it would weary the reader. It was an infant who uttered the curse:

"There was a babe swathed up in snow-flakes,
Three dreadful days since first it saw the light;
It lay upon its mother's broken heart;
And she was dead and cold since the morning's dawn."

"Then up and sat that awful babe of death,
And ope'd its frozen mouth, and spoke aloud;
And all the people stared to hear it speak,
Even the dying raised their heads to hear."

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NOTICE.

CORRESPONDENTS and contributors are requested to post their manuscripts so that they may reach us at latest on Wednesday morning. We cannot guarantee the immediate publication of anything received by on Thursday, when we go to press.

This woeful babe cursed the race of Finiston. Their riches should yield them no pleasure. They should perish with cold, and be gnawed by hunger. Their lands should be waste, and their house decay. Their daughters should never live past childhood; and even those of their sons who had gentle hearts should become hardened by possession of the gold of the Finistons. The curse should lurk for them in the corner-stone of the wall, in the beam under the roof-tree, in the log upon the hearthstone, in the meat upon the dish:

"In every bud and blade of grass that grows,
In every leaf upon their mighty trees,
In every kindly face that smiles on them,
In every pleasant word that neighbours speak."

In conclusion, there was a prophecy. Never should the family be freed from the curse till one of them should be murdered by a kinsman of his own:

"Then closed his eyes this dreary babe of woe,
And rolled away from off his mother's heart;
Her arms were stiff and cold beneath the snow,
And he lies buried in the evil well."

After such a dire event a baneful spirit was, of course, said to haunt the well; and from this the name of the property took its rise. The old name was forgotten; and the estate was known as Tobereevil, "The Banshee's Well."

The curse seemed to set to work at once upon the master of Tobereevil. He was seized with a panic; and not even his far-spreading, quickly-growing plantations could give him comfort. He could not forget that it had been predicted that his race should perish with cold, and be gnawed with hunger. He began immediately to retrench his expenses. Gradually he dismissed his numerous servants, sending away first one and then another upon some idle pretence. Now and then a carriage was sent back to the maker's to be repainted, or to get new springs, and never returned to Tobereevil. The horses also disappeared. One was too spirited, another too sulky. A fresh stud was to be procured; but time slipped away, and the stable remained empty. Gardeners and workmen who had been brought from a distance returned whence they came, gardens began to lie waste, and the place took a neglected look. The master, hungry-looking now and ill-dressed, toiled at his farm, assisted by a small staff of labourers. His wife, who had come there as a sort of queen, faded away into a melancholy-looking spectre. His two sons grew up wild and half-educated. They were instructed in little besides the history of the curse, and the means to be taken to avert its fulfilment. These means were the saving of money, the stinting themselves and their dependants of the necessities of life, so that treasure might be hoarded, making it impossible that they should ever come to want. The elder was to inherit everything; the younger was to go abroad and work for his living. This was to prevent all risk of the family property being scattered. The elder, however, a gentle, sickly lad, did not long stand in the way of his brother. The weight of the responsibility broke his heart, and he sought refuge from the curse in another world.

The younger son succeeded to the property at his father's death, and became the first genuine miser of Tobereevil. And so it went on from generation to generation. The curse and gold were handed from father to son, and from uncle to nephew. It was a singular fact that no daughter of the family ever lived to reach womanhood. Meanwhile the accursed plantations had grown up; and the magnificent Woods of Tobereevil spread for miles over the country, and grew thicker and darker, and grander and more mysterious, as the years rolled along, and the curse tightened its hold around the lean throats of the Finistons. The wicked trees grew proudly out of the hearth-places of the vanished homes, no wholesome roots and simples were to be gathered among their shades, but strange and poisonous herbs grew hidden in their depths, nourished by the evil atmosphere of the place. If an old woman were seen rooting in the dark places of Tobereevil Woods, her character was gone, and she was looked upon as unholy and a person to be shunned. There were stories from old times of people who had been poisoned, and people who had been made mad, by the noisome weeds that had been plucked in the heart of the Wicked Woods.

Six generations had passed away, and Simon Finiston was master of Tobereevil. In his youth he had been gentle and almost generous; and a hope had been entertained that the curse was worn out, and that the reign of misery was at an end in the country. The tenants on the estate trembled with delight at the prospect of having a merciful and sympathising landlord, of seeing the wild places brought to order at last, the decaying mansion restored, the plough furrowing the idle acres, and employment and plenty going hand in hand along the valleys and over the hills; but these hopes proved an empty dream. As soon as he became master of the property, Simon's character underwent a gradual and miserable change. His gentleness degenerated into nervous weakness, his firmness into a dogged obstinacy. The friends who had hoped better things of him then dropped away one by one, and left him to his fate. The unhappy tenants fell back into despair, and the air was thick with their complaints.

And so, at the time of the opening of this story, the curse was still dragging out its evil existence. The heir to the estate of the Finistons was said to be a young lad named Paul Finiston, nephew of Simon, the actual owner, who had always kept him at a distance. The miser was a timid man, and it was said that he had a horror of the prophecy being fulfilled in his own person. He dreaded being murdered by a kinsman of his own. However this may be, young Paul Finiston had never been seen at Tobereevil. His father and mother had paid a visit there once; but they had hurried away speedily, and had never come back.

At this time, when Simon was growing old, the mansion of Tobereevil looked grim and dilapidated. It stood in a slight hollow of the land, with the sombre masses of the woods at its back, and a strong force of loftier trees mustering about it like a guard. The sullen gray walls were bleached and blackened, and rain-soiled and moss-eaten. There were broken panes everywhere, and shutters

closed over them to keep out the wind weeds, and wild plants grew on the pathways and in the crevices of the steps at the entrance. A solitary cow grazed in the wild field that had once been a velvet-like lawn, and a few starveling hens pecked among the pebbles in the long, rank grass; and in this dreary abode dwelt the man who was lord of Tobereevil, including Monasterlea.

(To be continued.)

THE PRIESTS' STATEMENT OF THE ORANGE OUTRAGES AT BAY ROBERTS.

EDITOR OF THE PILOT:—The following statement of the cowardly and outrageous attack on the New York Redemptorist Fathers, by the Orangemen of Bay Roberts, Conception Bay, was made to your correspondent to-day, at the office of the United States Consul:—

"St. John's, N.F., January 10.

"About two months ago, we, the undersigned Redemptorist Fathers, arrived from Boston, Mass., to hold Missions in Conception Bay, Newfoundland; we reached a locality in that Bay named Bay Roberts on the 17th of November; we had not long taken up our residence there before we were subjected to the grossest abuse, persecution and intimidation by a crowd of Orangemen assembled daily and nightly on the streets. The most vile, scurrilous and nameless language was used, and threats menacing our lives were hourly uttered. We were told that if we did not leave Bay Roberts immediately the house we occupied would be pulled down about our heads. One savage ruffian drew a large knife, and made a plunge at Father Delargey. At another time a gang of more than usually truculent Orangemen threatened to hurl the Fathers over a neighbouring embankment. During the night heavy stones were flung at the house and the windows were smashed. Barrels partially filled with stones were rolled up and down under our windows; in fact every species of terrorism was resorted to in the vain attempt to force us to an immediate retreat. Recognising at last that our lives were seriously imperilled we requested Father E. T. Welsh, pastor of Bay Roberts, to make application to the local authorities for protection. He went to Captain Dane, one of the resident magistrates of the place, but received no satisfaction. This worthy guardian of the law even told him he did not believe his statements. We were, therefore, obliged to suspend our Mission, and we left Bay Roberts amid the demoniac yells, hootings and execrations of the assembled Orange mob.

"Subsequently, after having closed a series of Missions in other parts of Conception Bay, we were requested by Right Rev. Dr. M'Donald, Bishop of Harbour Grace, to resume and complete our Mission at Bay Roberts. We cheerfully promised to comply with this request, if protection for our lives and liberty were guaranteed by the Government of Newfoundland. Accordingly Bishop M'Donald sent the Right Rev. Father Walsh to the Premier Sir William Whitney, and also to His Excellency Governor Glover, to ask for the necessary protection to enable us to complete our Mission.

"On that same day about 20 policemen were sent to Bay Roberts, and placed under the control of Captain Dane and Mr. Taylor, the magistrates of the place. About 50 persons were summoned by the Justices of the Peace, "in the Queen's name," to act as special constables, but only six individuals responded to the summons.

"Under such guarantees we proceeded to Bay Roberts on Sunday, January 4. As we approached the settlement, we were surprised to find a crowd of Orangemen—numbering between 1,200 and 2,000 persons—obstructing the highway or main road, as far ahead as we could see; and also an Orange arch erected across the road and confronting us, merely for the purpose of exposing us to the opprobrium and indignity of walking under Orange banners. We at once declined to proceed, and firmly declared that the "Stars and Stripes" would not, in our persons, be subjected to such a lawless outrage.

"Seeing that the Newfoundland Government had apparently neither law nor power to remove the standing insult set up against our faces, we appealed to the Consul of the United States for protection from open insult and threatened violence. At the demand of United States Consul Molloy, His Excellency Governor Glover sent over an additional police force, and also ordered the British warship *Tenedos* to the scene of the disturbance.

"However, it was only after repeated consultations with the Government at St. John's, that the obnoxious flags were removed on Tuesday, January 6, at 11 o'clock a.m. We then proceeded to complete our Mission under protection of the land force and under cover of the guns of the *Tenedos*.

"We now declare our solemn conviction that had it not been for the authority of the United States, speaking through the Consul at St. John's, we could not have exercised our inviolable rights as priests of the Catholic Church in Newfoundland.

"(Signed) REV. PATRICK M'GIVERN, C.S.S.R.
"REV. FRANK DELARGEY, C.S.S.R."

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The *London Tablet* is authority for the Statement that the ordinary expenses of the Holy See amount to 5,000,000*lrs.* annually.

"Where are the Stars and Stripes?" asks the *New York Herald*, showing that out of 1,120 steam vessels which sailed from New York to Europe during 1884, carrying 42,961,799 bushels of grain, there was not a single one over which floated the American flag. Of the 101 sailing vessels, carrying 2,431,988 bushels, just precisely two of the bottoms were American. And even of these ships it is said that they can only technically claim to be American. England, thanks to the Alabama and the consequences of her depredations, has driven our shipping from the seas of the world. The Democratic party of "sailors' rights" will have a chance to restore the Stars and Stripes to their old-time supremacy.—*Pilot*.

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Agents and Canvassers Wanted for Town, Suburbs, and Country.

THE "SIRIUS" and "ORION"

OPEN and CLOSE FIRE COOKING RANGES.

For burning Wood or Coal, fitted with high or low pressure boiler.

Iron Fretwork and General Castings.

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SOUTHEND FOUNDRY, CRAWFORD STREET,
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DENTISTRY.

H. ROBINSON (J)
SURGEON DENTIST,
No charge for advice.

Painless extraction by the aid of nitrous oxide gas.

Address—
Dodd's Buildings,

Corner of GEORGE ST. & MORAY PLACE.

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MRS. DICK'S Registry Offices, Moray Place, next Criterion Hotel, are the oldest and most select offices in Dunedin. Governesses, Housekeepers, all classes of respectable servants supplied. Letters and telegrams receive prompt attention.

PAUL FREDRIC,

FASHIONABLE AND ANATOMICAL BOOTMAKER,
CORNER ALBANY AND LEITH STREETS,
DUNEDIN.

Requests the attention of his Friends and the Public to his large and Superior Stock of Imported and Colonial Boots Shoes, etc., also to the fact that the is making comfortable, durable, neat, and well-fitting, sewn, pegged, or rivetted work. Sewn work a speciality.

N.B.—Lowest remunerative prices. Repairs neatly done.

R. A. LAWSON, Architect, has
Removed to more Central Offices, No. 98

Princes street, opposite Bank of New Zealand.

FINDLAY & CO. (LIMITED),

TIMBER MERCHANTS,
DOOR AND SASH MANUFACTURERS,
AND
GENERAL IRONMONGERS,
Cumberland, Stuart, and Castle Streets,
DUNEDIN.

KILGOUR AND CO.,

AERATED WATER MANUFACTURERS,
KING STREET,
DUNEDIN.

KILGOUR & Co., having purchased the entire plant of Messrs. Carew and Co.'s Aerated Water business, are prepared to execute all orders, either town or country, with despatch.

☞ Cordials and Liqueurs of the finest quality.

PEACOCK HOTEL

PRINCES STREET SOUTH,
DUNEDIN.

ALEXANDER DUNCAN, late of Wai-kaka (near Gore), has taken the above-named Hotel.

Trains pass the doors every few minutes for the Ocean Beach and Gardens.

Wines Beers, and Spirits of the best quality.

ALEXANDER DUNCAN, Proprietor.

CROWN HOTEL

RATTRAY STREET,
DUNEDIN.

This Hotel is situated in a most central position, and affords splendid Accommodation to the public.

Single and Double Bedrooms. Suites of Rooms for families.

Hot, Cold, and Shower Baths. Passengers called for early trains.

One of Alcock's Prize Billiard Tables. Terms liberal.

P. KELIGNER, Proprietor.

STOVES, STOVES, STOVES.

JUST LANDED,

from New York, a Large Assortment of
AMERICAN COOKING STOVES,

which we are selling at Wholesale Prices:

Also,

A FEW SLIGHTLY DAMAGED,
Cheap.

WILKINSON AND KEDDIE,
Ironmongers and Importers,
Dunedin.

KINCAID, McQUEEN & CO

VULCAN FOUNDRY,
Great King Street, Dunedin.

Engineers, Boilermakers, Iron and Brass Founders, Millwrights, Iron Shipbuilders, &c.

High Pressure and Compound Steam Engines, Turbine and other Water Wheels, Quartz Crushing and every description of Pumping, Winding, Mining, Stone-breaking, Woolwashing, Drying, Flour Mill, and Dredging Machinery made and repaired.

Cast and Wrought Iron Ripples and sluice Plates.

Repairs to all kinds of Reaping, Threshing, Horse-power Machines, &c., executed with Despatch. Flax-Dressing Machines of improved make.

CLUB HOTEL,

GORE.

EDWARD LEEN has much pleasure in informing his numerous Friends and the Public generally that he has taken the above Commodious Establishment, which he will conduct on the most approved style.

This Hostelry offers first-class accommodation for Travellers, Visitors, and the General Public, whose comfort and convenience will be studied with care and attention.

Passengers going by early trains can rely upon be called in time.

First-Class Billiard Table. All Liquors of the Best Quality.

Good Stabling attached.

EDWARD LEEN

Proprietor.

HARP OF ERIN HOTEL

QUEENSTOWN.

Mrs. M'BRIDE ... Proprietress.

The above commodious and comfortable Hotel offers first-class accommodation to Tourists and others visiting the Lake scenery

DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP.

HUGH GOURLEY desires to inform the public he still continues the Undertaking Business as formerly at the Establishment, corner Clark and Macleagan streets, Dunedin. Funerals attended in Town or Country with promptness and economy

CRAIG AND GILLIES

FURNITURE, BEDDING,
FLOORCLOTH, CARPET, AND RUG
WAREHOUSE,

GENERAL UNDERTAKERS,

Beg to inform the Public that they have added to their Funeral Department a nest Hearse of modern design, built by Messrs. Robin and Co., and are now prepared to conduct funerals, plainly or fully furnished, required, either in Town or Country.

Charges in all cases will be strictly moderate. Orders by letter or telegram will be attended to at once.

CRAIG AND GILLIES,
No. 18 GEORGE STREET (near Octagon).

JAMES SELBY
(Late J. Baker),
PRACTICAL WATCH AND CLOCK
MAKER,
128 GEORGE STREET, DUNEDIN

The Lowest possible Charge made for repairing. Best workmanship guaranteed.
N.B.—Work done for the trade at regular prices.—Note the address:

J. SELBY

(Late J. Baker),

Watchmaker and Jeweller, 128 George street

W. H. TERRY,
ARCHITECT,
Hislop's Exchange Court,
PRINCES STREET, DUNEDIN.

END OF THE EARTH.

Most of the planets, says Prof. Cookley, have probably cooled down by radiation to a solid undercrust like the earth. The sun, owing to his greater mass, is still a fiery globe not yet cooled down so as to have a solid crust. But our moon being a body of small mass, only about one eightieth of the earth's mass, is supposed to have had time to cool down to a solid globe all the way from its surface to its centre. Its internal heat is supposed to have been all radiated away into the surrounding cold space. Now the hot interior mass of the earth can, of course, contain no water, and little or none of the free gases that constitute an atmosphere. They would be boiled off, expanded and driven to the surface where are found now the great bulk of our oceans and our atmosphere. But when the earth shall have parted with all its internal heat, having thrown it into the surrounding cold space as the moon has done, when the cold, solid but porous mass within its present crust, which is now incapable of absorbing water or air, on account of the present high temperature will begin to drink up the water and air just as the parched soil after a summer's drought drinks up the rain, and the ground is dry in a few minutes after the shower. But you may well ask, could the solid porous mass within the present crust of the earth thus drink up the whole waters of the Atlantic and Pacific oceans and cause all the waters of the earth to disappear? Let us examine this more closely.

While the interior of the earth remains as hot as it is at present, it is more possible for the water and air of our globe to penetrate to those fiery regions than it is for a drop of water to remain on a hot stone. But the earth is losing its heat day by day and year by year, radiating it out into the surrounding cold space. I know it has been computed that the earth receives from the sun annually just as much heat as it loses in a year by radiation into the surrounding space. Grant that it be so for the present and for many thousands of years to come. But the trouble is that the sun himself is cooling off, and therefore will not be always able to send us as much heat as he does at present. The time will therefore surely come when we shall lose more heat by radiation into space than the sun will be able to return to us. Then it will be only a question of time for the earth gradually to cool down, as the moon has already done, from surface to centre. When that time comes will not the dry but solid and porous core of our globe drink up the oceans and atmosphere, causing them to disappear, not into the large cavernous pockets, but into the minute pores of its substance?

The proposition appears to be established by strict calculation that the interior of the earth when cold will be able to absorb more than four times, possibly more than thirty times, the amount of water now on its surface. Now, it seems certain that in the manner first explained the earth will continue to lose both its superficial water and its atmosphere. The earth, the other planets, and even the sun himself, are regarded as doomed at some future day to the same fate. Melancholy fate some will say. But why complain of the general law of nature? Everything in nature has its morning of life, its high meridian of glory and strength, its midnight of blackness and death.—*Exchange.*

A COMMUNISTIC ENGLISH MINISTER.

MR. HENRY GEORGE seems to have good grounds for his claim of having converted Minister Chamberlain to his views on the land question, judging by the latter's remarks at the Ipswich Reform Club, of which he is President, on the 14th inst.

The Minister said he was opposed to State-aided emigration, believing there was employment enough for all at home. He did not consider that protection would improve the condition of the English farmers, who were never so poor as when corn was dearest. Ownership of the land by its tillers and fixity of tenure, he said, were the only remedies for the existing distress.

Apparently waxing stronger in his language as he went on, he denounced the present land system as "based on robbery," and said that the community was entitled to restitution and redress.

Mr. Chamberlain in a later address defined his position more fully, saying that he was in favor of free education, free municipal libraries, better dwellings for artisans, allotments of land for laborers, taxation of personal property, revision of the income tax, free trade in land, the creation of a peasant proprietary, and perhaps the application of the Irish Land Act to England and Scotland, and full approval of the bill for restoring to the public all commons land illegally inclosed in the last 50 years.

Such language from a Cabinet Minister in conservative England is very significant. Ten years ago it would have been pronounced treasonable, but the Irish agitators have not worked for Ireland alone. They have demonstrated a great truth, and truth is not circumscribed by geographical boundaries. Agitating for justice to the Irish peasantry, they have awakened the English people to their own wrongs under a land system only less monstrous than that under which Ireland has so long groaned.

Scotland has already revolted against the tyranny of landlord rule. Wales followed suit recently, and at length the English hind has waked up to the knowledge of his wretchedness and its cause.

Mr. George may take undue credit to himself, in mistaking the nature of Minister Chamberlain's views. We have only the cable summary of what Mr. Chamberlain said, but there is no mistaking its general purport. Whether the right cure be Henry Georgeism, peasant proprietorship, or something else, the first thing essential is a diagnosis of the disease, and that Mr. Chamberlain, following in the steps of Davitt and Parnell, has made. The cure will be found, now that the disease is understood.—*Pilot.*

Hop Bitters gives good digestion, active liver, good circulation and buoyant spirits. Get the only genuine American Co.'s. Read

News of the Week.

FRIDAY.

THE *Gazette* notifies that hares may be taken or killed within the Otago district from the 1st of April to the 31st July; also, that native game, excepting bittern and tuia, may be taken or killed within the said district from the 1st of April to the 31st of June.

At the meeting of the Waitaki County Council on Wednesday (says the *North Otago Times*), in reply to a question by a member, the clerk stated that 130,000 small birds' eggs had been purchased during the past year. Mr. J. Williams asked if the money devoted to the purchase of the eggs of small birds could not be taken from the general fund. In some ridings no steps were taken for the destruction of small birds, and other ridings had to pay for doing work that should be general. It was pointed out that only in Waitareka, Kakani, and Waitaki had any action been taken in the suppression of the nuisance. Mr. Findlay remarked that in his opinion the buying of eggs was a bad plan. The birds were simply kept laying eggs for the benefit of small boys, for it was well known that when the nests were robbed they immediately built again. Poisoning by strychnine was also too expensive. If phosphorus were used it would be cheaper, and the birds would take it more readily. The subject then dropped.

Intelligence is to hand from Saskatchewan, a province of Canada, that 600 half-breeds, commanded by a half-breed named Bell, have succeeded in seizing Fort Saskatchewan.

The number of men in the Indian reserve force which is about to be mobilised will be 20,000, not 40,000 as previously reported. Great urgency is being displayed in fitting out 11 warships at the Devonport dockyards. Each vessel will carry six months' supplies. The Mahomedan notables in India have asked the Duke of Connaught to urge the Sultan of Turkey to ally with England against Russia.

SATURDAY.

The *fête* for relief of sufferers from earthquakes in Spain, which was held at Christchurch yesterday, was considerably marred by almost continuous rain, which fell throughout the day. Notwithstanding this the attendance of the public at the carnival held at Lancaster Park and the concert in the Theatre Royal in the evening was fairly good, and the total receipts amounted to considerably over £100. The Governor sent a telegram to Mr. Arenas, the Spanish consul, regretting his inability to be present.

The Government have received reassuring telegrams respecting the Maori craze in the North. A large number of Natives are still assembled there, and have announced their intention of waiting the millennium.

Information from Fiji by the *Arawata* states that public opinion there is strengthening in favour of annexation to New Zealand.

The Imperial Government have as yet received no answer to the communication addressed by Earl Granville to the Russian Foreign Office on March 16 on the subject of the Afghan frontier dispute. Frequent interviews have taken place during the last few days between Earl Granville and Musurus Pasha, Turkish Ambassador, and Hassan Fehmy Pasha, the Turkish Envoy. The fact has given rise to rumours that arrangements are being concluded for an Anglo-Turkish alliance in the event of an outbreak of hostilities between England and Russia. A message from the Queen was read to Parliament on Thursday. It announced that, in view of the grave emergency which has arisen in foreign affairs, it has decided to call out the Militia and the Reserves. The latter force will be embodied for permanent service. It is announced that General Sir Frederick Roberts, with the force of 25,000 men now being mobilised, will proceed without delay to occupy the Bolan Pass. Troops to the number of 15,000 will be drafted from England to India in order to supply the place of the force dispatched to the southern Afghan frontier. In consequence of war being considered imminent, the officials who have been absent on furlough are now hastening their return to India. Russia is bidding for an alliance with Turkey.

Advices to hand from General Negrier, commanding a portion of the French force in Tonquin, state that he has sustained several repulses at the hands of the enemy, and has been obliged to retire on Donga with a loss of 200 men.

The Committee of the French Chambers appointed in connection with the recidiviste question have settled upon French Guiana and New Caledonia as the places to which the convicts are to be transported. In the Chamber of Deputies M. Waldeck Rousseau stated that the worst type of recidivistes would be sent to Cayenne. Zebehr Pasha and his son, and the other three prisoners arrested on suspicion of having been in illegal communication with the Mahdi, are being conveyed from Alexandria to Gibraltar by H.M.S. Iris.

The Iberia, with the New South Wales contingent for the Soudan, arrived at Aden at noon on Thursday, and left again in the evening for Souakim, all well.

Hostile Arabs made an attack on Thursday on a convoy which was proceeding to the zarsba which has been formed on the road to Tamai. The attack was repulsed by the British troops, the enemy losing 100 men. The only casualties on the English side were three wounded. The general advance of the whole force is expected to take place during the next three days. The Arabs keep up an incessant attack on the convoys in the neighbourhood of Souakim. Their losses are heavy, and include a number of women. Lieutenant Marchant, of the Royal Marines, has been wounded in the leg, but not severely, in one of these attacks.

It is rumoured that Prince Bismarck and M. Ferry have joint designs on Luxemburg and the neutral territory belonging to the King of the Netherlands.

MONDAY.

Colonel Bader on Friday telegraphed to the Mayor of Auckland as follows:—"I am instructed by the Hon. the Defence Minister to say that Major Cautley has been requested to mount six heavy guns in Auckland with the least possible delay."

GREAT LAND SALE.

FITZHERBERT DISTRICT.

THE WELLINGTON AND MANWATU RAILWAY COMPANY (LIMITED.)

Will sell, about
JANUARY NEXT,
Several Blocks of Land in Fitzherbert and adjoining districts, on
VERY FAVOURABLE TERMS.

The Blocks have been divided into suitable sections, varying in size from 70 to 300 acres.

All the sections have frontages to well-graded roads, which are now being cleared, so that intending purchasers can examine the land the day before the sale.

Early in December plans showing area and locality, with description, classifying the character and quality of the sections, will be issued.

It is almost unnecessary to refer to the excellence of the Fitzherbert country. That portion of it which has been sold by the Government is occupied by a large and industrious body of settlers, who are unanimous in speaking of the great productive power of the land, the geniality of the climate, and the advantages attending the settlement in the district. The whole of the land to be offered by the Company will bear the most favourable comparison with the land already sold by the Government, both as to soil and general adaptability for successful farming operations.

Future advertisements will give full details of terms, time of sale, and means how to obtain accurate and complete information of the land for sale.

JAS. WALLACE, Secretary.

Wellington, 14th November, 1884.

CONVENT OF THE SACRED HEART, TIMARU

Conducted by the Religious of the Sacred Heart.

Under the patronage of his Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. REDWOOD Lord Bishop of Wellington.

The Convent is a fine spacious building, most favourably located in one of the pleasantest parts of the city. The site is elevated healthy and beautiful, commanding a splendid view of the ocean and distant snowy mountains. The Grounds are extensive, allowing a great range for out-door exercise and amusements; and the buildings are provided with every recent improvement conducive to health and comfort.

Payments to be made, at least, quarterly, *in advance*.

For further particulars apply to the

REV. MOTHER SUPERIOR.

SACRED HEART HIGH and SELECT SCHOOLS FOR YOUNG LADIES.

Conducted by the

RELIGIOUS OF "NOTRE DAME DES MISSIONS,"

BARBADOES STREET, CHRISTCHURCH.

Re-opened on Thursday, 24th of January, at 9.30 a.m.

Application for boarders and day pupils to be made, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.

For further particulars apply to the Rev. Mother Prioress.

MARIST BROTHERS' SCHOOL, WELLINGTON.

A FEW VACANCIES FOR BOARDERS.

The Terms are:

Board and Tuition	£36 per Annum.
Bedding and Washing	3 do.

Fees payable quarterly in advance.

Boarders are charged nothing extra for French and Drawing Piano, two guineas per quarter.

Boys prepared for Civil Service Examinations.

For Further particulars apply to

REV. BROTHER DIRECTOR,

WELLINGTON.

CALLAN AND GALLAGHER,

SOLICITORS,

JETTY STREET, DUNEDIN,

Have Sections for Sale in South Dunedin on Easy Terms, and money to lend to build thereon.

ROSS & McNEILL,

IRONMONGERS.

PRINCES STREET,

DUNEDIN.

HAVE IN STOCK:—

Harvest Tools, Guns, Powder, and all kinds of

SPORTING AMMUNITION,

Cheese Presses, Curd Mills, Chaff-Cutters,

Fencing Wire, Wire Netting, Barb Wire, and all kinds of

FURNISHING & GENERAL IRONMONGERY.

BROWN,

E W I N G

& C^o

Have the pleasure to notify that they have succeeded in effecting the purchase from the Directors

OAMARU WOLLEN FACTORY
at a discount of One-third off Manufactured Cost,
ENTIRE STOCK of LADIES' DRESS
TWEEDS. The Stock consists of about 5800 Y
of perfectly New Goods, all splendid Colours, Shades, and Designs, and are confidently recommended as a really serviceable material.

BROWN EWING AND CO.

respectfully suggest an early inspection of these decided Bargains. The quality is such that it cannot fail to secure a very rapid sale.

1694 YARDS LADIES' DRESS TWEED, 1s. 6d.

173 YARDS LADIES' DRESS TWEED, 1s.

2016 YARDS LADIES' DRESS TWEED, 1s. 11d.

N.B.—These Goods are honestly worth Three Shillings and Six pence per yard.

PATTERNS FREE BY POST UPON APPLICATION.

PRINCES STREET, DUNEDIN.

OCCIDENTAL HOTEL

(Late Swan),

[ESTABLISHED 1865]

WHARF AND REVELL STREETS, HOKITIKA.

This Magnificent Hotel, having been enlarged to nearly double its former size, thoroughly repaired, painted, decorated, re-furnished, and improved in every respect, is now by far the Largest Commercial Hotel in Westland. It commands a splendid view of the harbour, shipping and roadstead. The house contains public and private bars, dining room to seat 60 persons, and GRAND BILLIARD ROOM with one of Alcock's Prize Tables.

The SAMPLE and SHOW ROOMS are admitted to be the best in New Zealand, and are kept for the use of Commercial Travellers, free of charge.

There are likewise six Parlors, including two large, well-furnished, Commercial Rooms, suites of rooms for private parties and families, bath-room, and 33 comfortable bed-rooms, under the careful superintendence of the landlady.

The Proprietor, in returning thanks to the public for their patronage for the last 16 years, begs to announce that while the Comforts are Largely increased the Tariff is Greatly Reduced.

Wines, Ales, and Spirits only of the First Brands will be kept in Stock.

Table d'hote at 6 p.m.

Coaches for Kumara and Ross leave the Hotel daily, and for Christchurch on Tuesdays and Fridays. Passengers certain to be called in time for all coaches and steamers.

D. LYNCH, Proprietor.

THE MOSGIEL TWEEDS

ARE MANUFACTURED BY THE

NEW ZEALAND CLOTHING FACTORY

Into every variety of Garments for MEN'S, BOYS', and

YOUTHS' WEAR, and can be purchased by the Public

at all their 23 BRANCHES, FROM INVERCARGILL to AUCKLAND at FACTORY PRICES.

BLANKETS,

MERCERY,

HATS, AND

HO

At Wholesale Prices.

DUNEDIN BRANCH—

CORNER OF OCTAGON, PRINCES STREET

We (*Dunstan Times*) learn that the reef in White's Reef Company's claim on the O.d Man is improving as the work of driving progresses. The reef is now about 30 inches wide, very solid, and carries good gold. The prospects of the Company are evidently improving.

The Government have decided to use White-head torpedoes in protecting the principal ports of New Zealand, and Mr. Smythe, instructor on torpedoes, is engaged making the necessary arrangements.

Gaoler Garvey has been appointed gaoler over both prisons in Wellington.

One hundred applications from the unemployed have been received at the Public Works Office, Christchurch, in three days.

The gross receipts of the Spanish relief *fête* and concert at Christchurch amount to £184, which is satisfactory considering the wretched weather.

A fatal accident (says the *Tuapaha Times*) happened on Tuesday to a miner named Isaac Meyer, who was working near the Waikaiti bush. While boiling his billy for dinner against a bank, a fall of earth took place and buried him. He was promptly rescued by his mates, but his injuries were so serious that he died before medical assistance could be procured. His remains were brought on to Roxburgh on Wednesday, and an inquest was held before Mr. Jabez Burton (Acting Coroner.) No blame was attached to anyone, and the jury returned a verdict of death by accident.

The sculling match between William Beach and Edward Hanlan for £500 a side and the championship of the world took place on Saturday over the usual course on the Parramatta River. The morning was dull, with light rain falling, but towards noon the weather cleared, and at the starting time was fine, and the water was smooth. Every point of vantage was thronged with eager spectators, the steamers were loaded to their utmost capacity, and the greatest interest was manifested by the immense assemblage. Both men were in splendid condition. The two men got well away, and for the first mile the pace was terrific, both being well together. Then Beach gradually but surely drew ahead, until he was half a boat's length in front of Hanlan. From that out the New South Welshman increased his lead, and at Putney had nine lengths to the good, the Canadian then being in difficulties. Beach was still fresh, and pulling strong. Passing Gladeville it was patent to all that the race was virtually over. Beach won as he liked, and came in six lengths ahead of his opponent, amidst a perfect storm of shouts and most intense excitement. The time was 23 min. 45 sec.

Telegrams are to hand announcing the arrival of General Wolsley and staff at Dongola, where the British headquarters will rest pending the projected advance to Khartoum in the autumn.

In the House of Commons on Thursday night the convention recently concluded between the Great Powers and England for the settlement of Egyptian financial questions on the basis of the proposals of the French Government as subsequently modified by the British Cabinet, was under discussion. Sir Henry Bruce moved the motion of which he had given notice, censuring the action of the Government in the matter. A lengthy debate followed, with the result that the amendment was rejected, and a resolution passed by a majority of 48, expressing approval of the Egyptian evacuation.

In the House of Lords on Friday, Earl Granville, Secretary for Foreign Affairs, stated that he had an interview (on Thursday) with M. de Staal, the Russian Ambassador, on the subject of the communication recently made by the British Government to Russia respecting the state of affairs on the Afghan frontier. M. de Staal stated that his Government had still under consideration the reply to be made to the communication in question.

General Stewart, commander-in-chief in India, will at once take the field with 50,000 troops. General Hardinge and Lieutenant-general Sir F. Roberts will command the divisions, and H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught the reserves, who number 10,000. The English Government are arming the steamers Arizona, America, Oregon, and Alaska, which will be used in the event of hostilities breaking out with Russia. Several other vessels are also to be armed, so as to be ready in case of emergency. Her Majesty's war-vessels Roquefort and Black Prince will probably be added to the strength of the Australian squadron.

The *Times* publishes a telegram that Russia is massing 50,000 troops at Baku, a fortified town on the western shore of the Caspian Sea. Recently the Russians have attempted to purchase several swift steamers in England, but they have been frustrated.

The English Government have arranged for 30 transports, which are now being prepared for carrying reinforcements to India. The orders given by the Imperial authorities for canned beef from Chicago have entirely exhausted the market in that country.

Intelligence has been received of the arrival of the Viceroy of India at Rawe Pindi. The telegrams report that great enthusiasm is being displayed throughout the Punjab in connection with his Excellency's visit and the expected arrival of the Ameer of Afghanistan in the district. At the formal reception of the Viceroy at Rawe Pindi a number of prominent native chiefs were present, and the proceedings were attended with much splendour and *eclat*. Earl Dufferin made a speech on the occasion, which dwelt upon the loyalty shown by the various native princes in offering military assistance to Great Britain at the present juncture. These offers, his Lordship added, proved that the princes fully recognised the firm respect entertained by England for the rights of the Indian native States.

The Melbourne *Evening Herald* states that the Victorian Government have received a telegram indicating that war between England and Russia is imminent, and that orders have consequently been issued by the Government for a warship to be in readiness to go to Port Philip Heads. The Melbourne *World* announces that H.M.S. Nelson has been ordered to Sydney to be in readiness for emergencies. The same paper states that inquiries made confirm the belief that unusual activity is now manifest in the naval and military departments. A proclamation was published in the Gazette on Saturday prohibiting foreign oversea vessels from

entering Port Philip Heads between sunset and sunrise. Inter-colonial and other vessels are prohibited from navigating the channels in the bay unless accompanied by a qualified pilot. The Victorian gunboat Albert proceeded to enforce the proclamation, and the Victoria follows shortly. Great activity is being shown in various branches of the Defence Department. It is announced that the Nelson has received orders to be in readiness on Tuesday next to cruise along the coast.

TUESDAY.

The Hon. the Defence Minister does not consider there is a probability of war breaking out. The firm stand taken by the English Government will, he thinks, deter the Russians from crossing the frontier. The Government are, however, taking all measures in their power to have a proper defence; and it is probable that, should war be declared, the first-class militia will be called out. Surveys are now being made of the sites selected by Major Cautley as the best for erection of fortifications for the protection of Auckland, Wellington, Lyttelton, and Dunedin Harbours. As soon as the surveys are completed the Government will take land under the Public Works Act, and commence to make the roads necessary as a means of approach. No time is to be lost in commencing the erection of the necessary works, the designs and specifications for which are in a forward state. The construction of the works will, however, occupy several months.

A numerous and influential meeting of those interested in the present means of defence of the Colony and port, convened by the Mayor, was held at Christchurch yesterday. It was unanimously resolved that the Mayor, Chairman of the Canterbury Chamber of Commerce, Chairman of the Harbour Board, with Mr. Harman, be a committee to confer with the Government as to the steps which can be taken by the public in this part of the Colony in support of the Government scheme of defence. A number of those present put down their names as willing to form a reserve defence corps, who should contribute £5 each towards the purchase of rifles, accoutrements, and ammunition.

Telegrams received by the Native Minister respecting the Native craze in the North, state that the Natives are now quietly dispersing to their homes, and that by Thursday next the whole of the alien tribes will have left.

The Hon. the Native Minister has received from Tamahana, a Kingite chief, and son of the well-known Thompson, a telegram offering to send 200 Kingites to the Sudan.

The imminence of war has caused the Auckland insurance companies to consider the advisability of charging war risks. Mr. R. M. Clark, chairman of the Auckland Underwriters' Association, has written to Mr. G. P. Pierce, of the New Zealand Underwriters' Association, suggesting that steps should be taken to obtain a daily telegram from London quoting the rates of insurance, the New Zealand rates to be based on the ruling English rates. The suggestion will probably be adopted.

Advices received from Tonquin state that the French were greatly outnumbered in the recent engagement with the Chinese, and have been compelled to evacuate Lang-son, which place they recently occupied. General Negrier, who has charge of the operations, has been severely wounded. General Briere de Lisle, commander-in-chief, has applied to the Government for further reinforcements.

Canningham and Burton, the men arrested on the charge of being concerned in the recent dynamite outages in the House of Commons and Tower, and who are supposed to be connected with the explosions on the London railways some time ago, have been committed for trial.

The Channel fleet have returned suddenly to Sheerness. The French Parliament have increased the duties on imported cattle.

Serious fighting is imminent between the Central American Republics.

A detachment of police sent from Manitoba have succeeded in ousting the rebels from Fort Saskatchewan with a loss of 10 men. The rebels lost 80 men.

In view of the present emergency in foreign affairs, the Imperial Government are chartering vessels belonging to the principal steamship lines to act as armed cruisers if occasion should require. In ignoring Earl Granville's dispatch of March 16 on the Afghan frontier question, the Russian Government makes counter proposals. The *Novoe Vremya* considers that Australia will form an important sphere for Russian cruisers. The same paper advocates the establishment of Russian colonies in the Pacific. Nine ironclads, 24 gunboats, and 36 torpedo-boats are being equipped in the English dockyards. They are intended for service in the Baltic.

Measures for the defence of the Melbourne harbour are being vigorously carried on. Torpedoes have been placed in west and south channels, and several bulks purchased by the Government with the view of their being sunk if necessary to obstruct navigation. These precautions are due to the fact that intelligence has been received of the presence of Russian cruisers at Singapore and the Cape. Queenscliff fort has been manned by a detachment of the Permanent Artillery. Other preparations for defence are being rapidly proceeded with. Torpedoes are being submerged in various positions in the bay. The pilots' certificates of the captains of coasting vessels are suspended for the time, and additional pilots have been appointed in consequence.

The transport Iberia arrived at Souakim on Monday with the main portion of the Australian contingent. The general advance on Tamai has been postponed until Wednesday next, in order to permit of the Colonial troops joining the movement. The men appeared in good health and spirits, and as they marched to camp were cheered enthusiastically by all the troops they passed *en route*. On the road to the camp they were met by General Graham, who received the contingent, and afterwards congratulated them on their appearance, expressing admiration at the spirit which induced them to come to the assistance of the Mother Country. Sir Gerald Graham concluded by saying he was proud to have such forces under his command.

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Billiards, Skittles, Bowling, and Rifle
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The correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* praises the physique and appearance of the Colonial troops. It is announced that Lord Wolseley will shortly leave Dongola for Cairo, and it is currently reported he will proceed hence to Souakim.

WEDNESDAY.

The following telegram was received by the Mayor of Christchurch from the Premier, in answer to the telegram sent to the Government after the meeting held to consider the defence question on Monday: "Wellington, March 31.—Government are having plans prepared for temporary works. When ready, Major Cautley leaves here for Christchurch. Government will send officer of Armed Constabulary, with 25 artillerymen, to Christchurch to form nucleus of artillery defence. We have communicated with the Imperial Government as to naval defences. With regard to accepting reserve corps I will communicate with Minister of Defence. Our colonists must recognise, however, that even temporary defence works will be very costly, and that our funds are not unlimited. We thank you and Christchurch Committee for offers of assistance. Will be glad to receive your aid and advice. ROBERT STOUR." One hundred citizens have signified their willingness to join the reserve corps. The Defence Minister has since thanked the Mayor, and accepted the services of the reserve corps on condition of each member contributing £5 towards arms and accoutrements.

Yesterday afternoon the Government cabled to the Agent-general asking him to endeavour to arrange for a cruiser of the Admiralty class, and suitable for coastal defence, being sent out to New Zealand. The Government have offered to bear the whole expense, and pay interest on the cost. The Government are arranging for the services of Captain Bodham, of Tasmania, in connection with the erection of batteries, etc. Captain Bodham is an officer of the Royal Artillery, and experienced in such works. In connection with defence work, the *Wellington Post* suggests that: "Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, and Dunedin should organise a series of defence 'bees,' to aid in the construction of roads and earthworks required. Those able to give manual labour might do it. And those unable to work themselves might well pay others to work for them for three or four days." The Government have in store 85 rounds of shot and shell for each of the 23 big guns, and they have recently received one million rounds of Snider cartridges. A large supply of gun-cotton was ordered from Home upwards of two months ago for torpedo use, and is now probably on its way out. Government are also having constructed a number of dynamite torpedoes or mines for harbour defence.

Mr. Bryce is now in Auckland to give evidence before the Commission which has been appointed to take evidence in the libel case *Bryce versus Rusden*. Mr. F. D. Fenton and the Hon. Mr. Toke have been appointed commissioners to act on behalf of Mr. Rusden, and Mr. Bryce has appointed Messrs. James Russell and Mr. A. E. Whitaker.

Mr. Napier, counsel for Sheehan, accused of the Castletown Roche murders, does not intend to move the Supreme Court by writ of *habeas corpus*, but has instructed a leading solicitor to defend the prisoners at Cork assizes. Detective Walker and Sergeant Dunnay, with the prisoner expect to catch the Ruapehu.

The Agent-general cables that the state of affairs between England and Russia is not so ominous.

In the House of Commons on Monday Lord Edmund Fitzmaurice, Under-secretary for Foreign Affairs, replying to a question, stated that the reply of the Russian Government to Earl Granville's dispatch of the 16th inst. was now on the way to London. The Government were unaware of the exact nature of its contents, but understood, however, that it indicated the probability of an early meeting for the settlement of the Afghan frontier delimitation. Lord Fitzmaurice expressed a hope that the tone of the reply would be such as to allay the excitement now prevalent.

It has transpired that the Victorian Government recently received an unofficial warning from Singapore to the effect that several Russian cruisers had left there and proceeded in a northerly direction; and that they were again warned on Friday that the Russian ironclad General Admiral, of 16 guns and 4600 tons, was at the Cape. In consequence of the news the Premier (Mr. Service) communicated with the Premiers of the various Colonies in cypher, and this course has given rise to unusual activity in matters of defence.

In the French Chamber of Deputies on Monday a division took place on the motion for further credit for military operations in Tonquin, with the result that the Government were defeated. The Premier, M. Jules Ferry, accordingly placed the resignation of himself and his colleagues in the hands of the President. The population of Paris is considerably excited over the present crisis in political affairs. The general tone of public opinion is in favour of a vigorous prosecution of military operations in Tonquin. President Grévy has summoned M. de Freycinet, and entrusted him with the task of forming a new Ministry. The French generally are much incensed at the action taken by M. Ferry. In the Chamber of Deputies M. Clemenceau characterised his action as reasonable, and a motion to that effect was tabled, but was rejected. The war grant is collapsing. The loss in Tonquin is estimated at 1500. Large crowds of Chinese are menacing the position held by the French.

In the House of Lords the Marquis of Hartington, Secretary of State for the War Department, stated that the reply of the Russian Government to the communication recently made by England to Russia respecting affairs on the Afghan frontier is of a conciliatory nature.

The remainder of the New South Wales contingent and the transport Australasian arrived at Souakim on Monday afternoon. The troops upon landing were greeted with enthusiastic cheering. It has been decided that the Colonial troops shall be brigaded with the Guards. A spy who has returned from Tamai reports that Osman Digma's troops are deserting in large numbers.

Her Majesty the Queen left London on Monday for Aix-les-Bains, in Savoy, to which place she has been recommended to go by her medical advisers.

THURSDAY.

The shipment of hops from Australia by steamer *Liguria* has arrived in excellent condition.

It is announced that 8000 French troops will embark at once for Tonquin, in order to reinforce General Briere de Lisle. The Chamber of Deputies has voted 50,000,000fr. as an instalment towards the Tonquin credit.

Abdur Rahman Khan, Ameer of Afghanistan, arrived on Monday at Rawe Pindi, where he was formally received by Earl Dufferin. The reception ceremony was of a very imposing nature, and was numerously attended by British and Indian dignitaries.

News from the Soudan states that the rebellion against the Mahdi's pretensions is gaining ground rapidly, and the malcontents now hold El Obeid against him. The *Daily News'* war correspondent in Egypt states that Osman Digma has sent a flag of truce to Sir Gerald Graham asking for conditions of peace. The construction of the line of railway from this place to Handoub is being vigorously proceeded with.

In the House of Commons on Tuesday the Marquis of Hartington, Secretary for State and War, announced that it would be impossible to make any statement to the House as to the progress of negotiations with Russia before the Easter recess. He added that the military operations which were being carried out by Britain were not intended in any way as a menace to Russia.

Poet's Corner.

TO THE CROSS.

(From the *Celtic Magazine*.)

Emblem of the world's redemption,
Symbol of a ransomed race,
In thy presence let me tremble,
Let me meekly bow my face.
To thy cross-tree, straight from heaven—
From the fountain hand of God—
Flow the currents of His mercy,
As the lightning seeks the rod.

Monument of Christ's compassion,
Token of a Saviour's love;
O'er each blood-stain streams a glory,
On each cross beam rests a dove.
In the sepulchre your foot rests
And your top in God's own breast,
While your arms extend appealing
To the nations to be blest.

Ladder straight that leads to heaven,
Ladder that the soul must climb,
Buoyant, bright with acts of goodness—
Soiled nor weighted down with crime!
May my heart's most sacred tendrils
Twine around thee, year by year,
Upward growing—nurtured, cherished
Still in virtue's atmosphere.

Cross of Calvary! Sign and token,
Palpable to human eyes,
Of the truth of what is spoken
Of the Saviour's sacrifice,
Should we spurn thee? Should we hate thee?
No; let flowers eternal bloom
Round thy rough and blood-stained edges,
Shooting from the sacred tomb!

Emblem of a world's salvation,
Richest source of heavenly grace,
Let me clasp thee to my bosom,
To thy rough wood press my face.
Guide my soul's sublimest yearning,
Point the way that leads from loss;
Well I know the way to heaven
Is alone to climb the Cross.

PATRICK SANSFIELD CASSIDY.

The *Morning Post* announces that Sir Philip and Lady Ross with their family have been received into the Catholic Church at Brompton Oratory. Sir Philip Ross's father was created a baronet by the late Lord Beaconsfield, and the present baronet is member of a firm of eminent solicitors in London, Barton, Ross, and Co., who have always championed the Conservative cause in England.

A large meeting of Irishmen was held in Manchester on Sunday, February 8, to hear an address by Mr. John O'Leary. Cheers were given for several prominent Irishmen and for O'Donovan Rossa. Mr. J. O'Leary said it was with a certain sense of shame that he felt called upon to stand up in an assembly of Irishmen to denounce the hideous folly and awful criminality of the dynamitards. (Loud cries of "No, no," and "It's good for work," and "An eye for an eye.") The use of dynamite was a matter of pressing and present danger, and of possible future ruin and destruction to Ireland. Irish Nationalists in Scotland and England had a full sense of the folly and criminality of these aimless outrages. He had heard more than enough of Rossa and Patrick Ford. The former began as an honest enthusiast, but he was now a somewhat unscrupulous half madman. Ford he believed to be an ignorant, wholly unscrupulous, wholly ill-conditioned fanatic. He was convinced that so far from assisting Ireland to freedom, dynamite would still further enslave it.

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M R S. D R E A V E R is selling Crinoline and Crinolette
combined, 5s 6d; Crinolettes, 3s 6d; Improvers, 1s 11d. 50
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M R S. D R E A V E R is selling Fur Capes, 16 inch deep,
10s 6d—worth 19s. See window.

M R S. D R E A V E R is selling Feather Trimmings, 4½ in.
wide, 1s 11d; 6in. wide, 2s 6d, 50 George street.

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these views to any part of Otago, or Southland, and written orders
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P R E L I M I N A R Y N O T I C E.

At the Christmas Examination of the pupils attending the
Christian Brothers' Schools in this city, His Lordship Bishop Moran
spoke of the necessity for enlarging the building so as to supply
accommodation required by the additional applications made for
admittance to the schools.

The Dunedin Catholic Literary Society, composed principally
of ex-pupils of the Brothers', anxious to show their appreciation of
the efforts which gave them a Catholic education and of the able
stand which their Bishop is making to sustain Catholic Schools in
the diocese, has undertaken to raise the amount required for the
addition—about two hundred pounds.

Aware of the sacrifices which the Catholics of the city and
suburbs are making towards the erection of the Cathedral Building,
the Literary Society do not desire to tax the congregation by attempt-
ing a collection for the purpose, but has decided to hold an Entertainment
shortly after Easter, whereby they hope to obtain the greater portion
of the sum.

To make this successful, and avoid anything in the shape of a
heavy call, the Society has determined to secure, if obtainable, the
Garrison Hall, and to make the charge for admittance to all parts of
the building,

O N E S H I L L I N G,

and children under fourteen Sixpence. The Society do this with the
view of gathering together a sufficient number to comfortably fill
the hall, and are confident if the whole of the congregation take
advantage of their endeavours that there will be ample room for all,
while each and everyone present will be equally contributing for the
object desired.

Every effort will be made to provide a varied and interesting
programme, an outline of which will be given as early as possible.
It will be under the patronage of His Lordship the Bishop and
clergy, the Hibernian Australasian Catholic Benefit Society, and we
now ask the same from every Catholic in the district.

The whole will be under the management of a committee con-
sisting of Messrs. J. B. Callan, J. T. Harris, P. Carolin, J. P. Hayes,
and R. A. Dunne, appointed to carry out all arrangements.

Dunedin, March 11, 1885.

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A P P E A L.

TO THE VENERABLE ARCHDEACON COLEMAN.

"Dunedin, 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.

† 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 knew 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.

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" John Bourke	0	2	6	" J. Dealy	0	2	6
Mrs. Claffy	0	1	0	" John Dwyer	0	2	6
Mr. Dan. Murphy	0	2	6	" E. Egan	0	5	0
A Friend	0	2	6	" J. Kenny	0	5	0
Mr. D. Heffernan	0	2	6	" P. McLaughlin	0	2	6
" Lyons	0	2	0	" T. O'Toole	0	5	0
" Thos. Conway	0	2	6	" G. Hastie	0	2	0
" Simon Conway	0	10	0	" J. Lynch	0	2	6
" M. Keenan	0	2	6	" P. Bree	0	2	6
Mrs. Bernech	0	4	6	" R. F. Willis	0	2	6

CATHEDRAL FUND.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of the following subscriptions towards the Cathedral Fund:—

	£	s.	d.
(An extra offering for completion of Towers).	55	10	0
Mrs Gilmore	1	0	0

WEEKLY SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Per Rev. P. Lynch	7	0	0	Per Mr Hamilton	0	10	0
" Mr Dillon	1	0	0	" " Brennan	1	16	0
" " W. Hall	3	0	6	" " T. B. Conway	1	2	0
" Mrs Bell	1	1	0				

† P. MORAN.

N O T I C E.

MR. WM. CUNNINGHAM is now travelling in the interests of the TABLET in the North Island. Our friends will oblige us by any assistance they will kindly extend to him.

N O T I C E.

MR. JOHN MURRAY, late of Keast and M'Carthy's Brewery Company, has been appointed as CANVASSER and COLLECTOR to the NEW ZEALAND TABLET Company.

The New Zealand Tablet.

FIAT JUSTITIA.

FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 1885.

PROGRESS AND JUSTICE IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

THE Catholics of New Zealand provide, at their own sole expense, an excellent education for their own children. Yet such is the sense of justice and policy in the New Zealand Legislature that it compels these Catholics, after having manfully provided for their own children, to contribute largely towards the free and godless education of other people's children!!! This is tyranny, oppression, and plunder.

A WARM RECEPTION.



HOSE members of the Dunedin Chamber of Commerce and the City Council, who waited on Sir Julius Vogel the other day for the purpose of bringing before him what they supposed to be the defenceless state of the city, must have been a good deal surprised at the reception accorded to them. Sir JULIUS, to say the least of it, was discourteous in his language, and, to say the most of it, was exceedingly rude.

Had our Treasurer, in fact, been panic-stricken and found his nerves all unstrung, we could understand his outburst of indignation at the claim of his visitors that their city lay defencelessly exposed to a hostile attack.

There would then have been some meaning in his warning that by such imprudent publication they were inviting the attention of the enemy, but convinced, as Sir JULIUS repeated himself to be, that no war was probable, there seems to have been a slight inconsistency in his manner of speech that it is difficult to account for.

"Our defenceless position, our defenceless position," so did Sir JULIUS mimic his highly respectable visitors, while he assured them that Russian agents in the colony were listening to every word they said. And, indeed, if there be now any likelihood of war, or, if of late there has existed in the minds of Russian Statesmen the project of a war in the no distant future, we may well believe that our Colony is not free from spies engaged in acquiring knowledge for the benefit of Russia. The Russian Government has always made a large use of spies, and, during the Crimean war it was well known that they were abroad in the very strongholds of the enemy. But, supposing Russian spies to be in New Zealand at all, what is more probable than that one or two of them should be in Dunedin? It is surely among the centres of population that they are to be found, and, if such be the case, the most exaggerated prudence on the part of every one of us would hardly be sufficient to keep the defenceless state of our city, if it were defenceless, from their knowledge, or to persuade them that we were bristling with canon and torpedoes, and all the panoply of war, if such were not the case. If Russian agents are in the Colony, they are here for the express purpose of gaining accurate information concerning all these matters. Meantime, what must be Sir JULIUS VOGEL's indignation at the writers, and writers of the highest authority, who have been so openly discussing in the English Press the shortcomings in the fleet, and the improvements needed in the army? Things which, indeed, might be looked upon justly as requiring to be discussed in private, and to have made whose public discussion necessary may well be imputed as a grave fault to the Ministry.

But Sir JULIUS VOGEL's attitude towards the probability of war, as shown in this interview to which we allude, seems most contradictory. He professes a belief that Russian spies are now in the Colony, and what brings them here if war be improbable? He declares that by imprudent publication of our defencelessness we are inviting an attack upon the city, and yet he says he does not believe there will be any war. It seems clear then, that in some way or another, since his nerves are not unstrung by fear, his mind must be unusually and unpleasantly affected by the present situation.

A reason, however, for Sir Julius Vogel's otherwise inexplicable perturbation presents itself to us.—It may be that, our defencelessness, if it exists, troubles him in reality but little, but that the necessity he sees for putting the Colony immediately into a state of defence—a needless state of defence, if according to his statement there is no probability of war, is that which makes him testy and scarcely polite when spoken to on the subject.—He quoted among the rest in his reply, or rather his lecture, to the deputation a very suggestive sentence from Mr. Sroux, who, in speaking on the question of defence and describing its details said—

This all means taxation, and probably heavy taxation. Our colonists must remember that we have no millions to spend, and that our funds for defence even are limited. You have little idea what even our temporary works will cost, I am alarmed at the amount.

The Colonial Treasurer, then, may be excused if he loses his temper when the unwelcome subject of a very heavy expense which he believes to be unnecessary, at least for the present, is brought under his notice.

The question of expense, nevertheless, is one which, however it may affect the Treasurer, or influence his manners in an unpleasant way, will, in the present instance, be but a trifling consideration to the great body of our colonists. We know what their motto is when they have adopted any project, whim, or principle, on carrying out which they are fully determined. Money, then, becomes a matter of perfect indifference to them, and their motto is, in fact, that rather vulgar one, "D—the expense." Such at least has been the experience we have gained by watching the education question, in connection with which we have found the majority unbendingly resolved on obtaining an inferior article at a vastly increased expenditure. Let us hope, however, that the fortifications on which such an enormous outlay is to be made, may be better value for the money than is the learning to be obtained in the godless schools. If not, defencelessness must be the rule.

A CASTIGATION.

THE Treasurer's castigation of those who complain that this Colony is defenceless at present is simply ludicrous. No matter what may be said to the contrary, this Colony is at the present moment without the means of repelling the incursion of a single cruiser. What it may be in a month or six weeks hence is no answer to the statement that at this moment our chief cities and ports are destitute of defence. And this is the fault of our Government. The present Government may, indeed, be excused on the plea that they have only lately assumed the reins of power. But it is quite true that our present position is due to the neglect of Government. The cry has been want of sufficient funds: and we perceive that Sir JULIUS VOGEL even now advances this plea. In the opinion of sensible men this is an insufficient excuse. The funds of this country, had they been properly managed, would have more than sufficed for defence and all legitimate purposes of government. But our public men preferred to squander millions on endeavouring to give a free godless education to the rising generation rather than provide for the security of the country in the event of war. It is to be hoped that better counsels will now prevail. But we have our doubts. War with Russia may not come just yet, and it is probable this may be so. Will the Government nevertheless, proceed with the work of defence? We doubt it. The Treasurer's wail as to the want of money will again touch the hearts of our legislators; and we fear the works now at length inaugurated will be allowed to languish, and be permitted before long to cease altogether. Anyone who has watched the course of events must know that when Parliament meets the Treasurer will be compelled to acknowledge a deficit of over £800,000 on the operations of the year. How is he to meet this, and at the same time provide for the expense of defence? He is a man of great resources, but this appears to us to be beyond his power. Meantime, nearly three quarters of a million sterling will be devoted next year to giving a free and godless education to the children of people who in most instances have ample means of paying for the education of their children. The country cannot prosper so long as this absurd system prevails. It is quite right and politic to provide education for those whose parents are too poor to pay for their schooling, but beyond this the Government should not go. It might as well provide free board and lodging for all children. For many years the question of the defence of the Colony has been put in abeyance simply because the money

that should have been expended for the purpose has been diverted into an illegitimate channel, to the great injury of the country generally, and of the rising generation in particular.

His Lordship the Bishop returned to Dunedin from Auckland on Wednesday.

TIME certainly continues to bring his revenges. What, for example, would the author of "Lothaire" say, could he know that one of the executors of his will—Sir Philip Rose, has, with his wife, been received into the Catholic Church?

THE affirmation continually made by Catholic authorities that Freemasonry is at the bottom of all the revolutionary and atheistic movements of the day—especially of secular education—is frequently ridiculed and contradicted.—The following passage, nevertheless, from the *Monde maçonnique* confirms their statements:—"Spread abroad everywhere, and the masters of opinion in most political centres, the masons have a considerable part in public opinion that the profane world suspects, but whose extent it cannot measure. Almost all the reforms in the order of the day have been presented, discussed, and formulated in the lodges, before breaking out in the Press or mounting on the platform." This is a very direct testimony which it would be well to keep in mind.

THE London *Spectator* reflects rather sadly upon the cares and loneliness of the declining years of Her Majesty the Queen, referring especially to her anxiety at hearing the "rushing feet of the Democracy coming nearer and nearer to the throne."—Other sovereigns, however, are also listening to those rushing feet, and, if the common belief be well founded, are determined on putting a stop to their rush on the earliest opportunity. We shall, perhaps, see them move in the matter ere long.

AT the yearly meeting of the Boatman's Branch of the Irish National League, held on Feb. 8, the following gentlemen were elected as officers for the ensuing year.—President, Mr. Francis Rooney; Vice-President, Mr. John Moynihan; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Thomas Slattery; Hon. Secretary, Mr. John Kennedy. A committee of twelve was also appointed.

THE *World* makes a few remarks that should prove of interest to the friends of the Irish national cause. In referring to the necessity that exists for the payment of members, it calculates that of the seventy or eighty followers whom Mr. Parnell will bring into Parliament next year not more than twenty will have sufficient private means, and to provide for the support during two years of the others a very large sum, probably amounting to £100,000, will be required. This shows the necessity that exists for the friends of the cause to exert themselves.

THE ceremonies of Holy week have so far been carried out as usual in St. Joseph's Church, Dunedin. To-day, Good Friday, the Mass of the Resanctified will be celebrated at 11 a.m., and on Sunday, the Feast of Easter, Pontifical High Mass will commence at the same hour.

TESTIMONY as to what secularism promotes, or at least does not prevent, begins to be as marked in connection with Australia as with America. Here, for example, is a recent paragraph from the *Melbourne Leader*:—"Can nothing be done to put a stop to the disgraceful scenes of larrikinism which occur in the city and suburbs from time to time? The other night a number of assaults were committed in the city, and, including cases of drunkenness, upwards of seventy arrests were made. An astonishing state of things is reported from Collingwood. On the same evening a crowd of young roughs assembled near the corner of Wellington and Dorrit streets, and held complete possession of the town for a long time, as though they had been a foreign army at war with all peaceful citizens.

EVEN the London *Tablet* perceives that the worthy Father Angus has gone too far in his denunciations. The truth has been brought home to the *Tablet* by a letter to the *Times* from the notorious Mr. Agar Ellis, who hails with delight the fact that Father Angus has grossly attacked the Irish bishops and their clergy. "Every word of his letter," he writes, "is an indictment against the Roman Catholic priesthood in that country, from the senior bishop to the youngest coadjutor." Father Angus, however, is by no means abashed, but writes a second letter, to the *Tablet* itself, in which he virtually extends his accusation to all those Irish Catholics in America who have subscribed towards the support of the Irish national cause, that is, to the whole body of a people recognised even by the Pope himself as appointed by God as Catholic missionaries. Father Angus adds that a certain distinguished Irish priest had expressed to him his conviction that another proof had been afforded to the divine character of the Catholic Church, since no human institution could have survived the scandals occasioned by Catholics of the Irish national party. We can fancy, nevertheless, that an Orangeman standing by might take advantage of these good ecclesiastics' denunciations and interpretations to retort, "The devil protects his own." Father Angus and his unique Irish ecclesiastical friend accuse the Irish hierarchy, clergy, and people with quite as much justice as the *Times* accuses the Pope himself. The theological propositions, moreover,

which they base upon their interpretations are of doubtful edification.

WAS that all his own which Prince Albert Victor that was, and Prince Edward that seems to ~~he~~ spoke to the boys at the Whittington Club which he opened in London the other day? If it was we fear the happy prognostications made of the "sweet comparative" young prince's future are destined to disappointment. He certainly must die young. Out of a fairy tale in fact no young prince ever spoke so beautifully, and out of a goody book no young man ever so delivered himself before. But as to the prince's references to the colonies, they seem to have been all sweetness and comparison. They certainly had little else that any one could understand about them. We can understand his telling the boys that they would have more room out here but what on earth did he mean, or did he mean anything more than to repeat his lesson prettily, when he assured them that they would find here "ample air with larger aims"—? In any case to find a youth of the prince's years and experience go about talking like this is ominous, and we can only wonder, supposing he escapes the early doom evidently destined for him, as to what power of endurance may be required on the part of those who shall listen to him when he speaks in the times of his maturity.

A GERMAN White-book which has just been issued deals with the matter of German interests in the South Seas from 1880 to the end of January 1885.—Its point of greatest interest to New Zealand is that wherein the determination is expressed of ratifying the agreement made between the German Consul-general and the King of Samoa last November, with the expectation of the Imperial Government that its efforts to establish order in the islands alluded to will not be crossed from any other quarter. The petitions of the King and chiefs of Samoa to the Queen and the New Zealand Government for annexation are also condemned as written by English subjects and signed under the influence of false representations, and it is added that the Imperial Government confidently expects that the British Government will cause an end to be put to the agitation for annexation in New Zealand.—Under the circumstances, therefore, it is plain that a continued attempt on the part of New Zealand to urge the matter, as we said before, must result in failure, or even in something much worse than that.

As the Catholic congregation of Dunedin have expressed themselves unanimously in favour of the immediate completion of the two flanking towers of the Cathedral a special collection, at their desire, will be made, besides that already carried on. An acknowledgment by his Lordship the Bishop of the sum of £55 10s contributed to this special fund will be found elsewhere.

YESTERDAY being Maundy Thursday the blessing of the oils commenced in St. Joseph's Church, Dunedin, at 7 a.m. Pontifical High Mass was celebrated by his Lordship the Bishop, with the Rev. Fathers Burke and O'Neill as deacon and sub-deacon, respectively. The Ven. Archdeacon Coleman acted as Master of Ceremonies and the Rev. Father Walsh as Assistant Priest.—The Rev. Fathers Newport and Lynch were also present in the Sanctuary. The Choir of the Dominican Nuns sang the music of the Mass in a very effective manner.—The selections being Mazzinghi's, 'Kyrie,' "Gloria," and "Agnus Dei," with Battman's "Credo."

We have to announce that Mr. John Murray, long and favourably known in connection with the New Zealand TABLET Company has resumed his connection with the Company, and will enter upon his duties in their Office on Monday next the 6th inst.

We learn that a benefit is to be given to Miss Amy Nelson, at the Princess Theatre, Dunedin, on the 10th and 11th inst. by the members of the St. Patrick's Brass Band. The object is one that deserves the encouragement of our readers—and as all the entertainments given by the band have resulted in the hearty satisfaction of their audiences, there is no doubt, but that the performances in themselves will be worth witnessing.—Some amusing plays have been selected for the occasion.

As it was foretold the want of a speedy and brilliant success in the Chinese war has proved fatal to M. Jules Ferry and his Cabinet. It remains to be seen whether further results will prove equally disastrous to the Republic itself, of which there is some possibility.

THE Dunedin Catholic Literary Society held the usual fortnightly meeting on Friday, the 20th. Mr. Callan occupied the chair. Mr. Eagar, jun., read a paper on "Egotism." Though the paper was a very short one, it proved very interesting, the subject being handled in a very creditable manner. Mr. Fitzpatrick recited the "Charge of the Light Brigade" in a manner which drew very flattering remarks from the critics. Mr. Sullivan recited "Bingen on the Rhine" in a style which displayed much pathos. Mr. Carolin recited a selection from Shakspeare. All the contributors were awarded a hearty vote of thanks. Owing to the Society's usual meeting falling on Good Friday it was postponed to the following Friday, when the competition will take place for the two prizes offered by the Rev. Father Burke and Mr. Callan to the best reciters. The following gentlemen notified their intention to compete: Messrs. Harvis, Dunne, Hayes, Gunning, Hall, Fitzpatrick, J. E. Dunne, Eagar, Dalton, Pearson, Treston, Cantwell, Dundon, Power, Sullivan, Eagar, jun.,

and Carolin. This promises to be a very interesting contest. All who take any interest in the affair are invited to attend.

CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own Correspondent.)

March 31, 1885.

IF I were to tell you that the city has been in a fever of warlike expectation, I should be only telling you what you probably are able to guess for yourself, by reflecting that a Scotchman is not so different from an Englishman as not to feel excited at the prospect of war. Late last night I saw one of our "able editors," and heard him answering one of his numerous questioners. "Anything through the wires to-day, Mr. Editor?" "Only a hundred thousand telephone voices asking if we have declared war, yet." These are times in which, if the public is eager for news, the able journalist is for once unable to answer when called upon for information, that is to say he is non-plussed. A prominent insurance agent tells me that he has just received news from London:—A war rate is being charged on the Colonial trade; 3s. 8d. per cent on sailing vessels and 5s. on steamers. It does not look very alarming. Yesterday the public interest in the defence question was brought to a climax by a public meeting, called by the Mayor. His Worship, not knowing the extent of our patriotism, invited us (the public) to meet him at the Council Chamber. Now, as the Council Chamber is nothing more than a respectable shanty (think of that ye strangers who cast the eye of envy at what they are pleased to call the wealthy City of the Plains), and as patriotism is a great power among us, the enthusiasm boiled over into the street. All that got out there did not hear the speaking, which was very good in its way. The veterans were to the fore, of course—military, naval, and civil—and, as a matter of course, the civilians proved themselves very much greater fire-eaters than the others, which is only natural, seeing that the gentlemen who have served know what sort of a thing the business of fire-eating is. Our dear old Colonel Brett announced his readiness to serve in any capacity, from a private upwards. A most splendid specimen of the naval service, who told a story of the year 1, when the wooden walls of old England were really made of wood and her sailors really sailed, made a great impression, and many grizzly fellows with beards, and medals, and straight, up-standing, spare iron figures were to be seen. They reminded me of that story of Hannibal listening to the rhetorician talking of the art of war. But they did not do anything else—except one man, a Crimean and an ex-grenadier, I should think, who said that though he never got anything more out of his country than a wretched pittance of 10d. a day (it is a wretched pittance after 14 years' hard service, and isn't it incredible when you read all the fine patriotic things that are written about the army?) he was ready to face the enemies of his country on the field of honour at any moment. Those civilians who did not talk like fire-eaters (I am bound to say no fire-eating talk was done in public that was done by the people in private confab) said some useful things. For instance, one gentleman told us that a local engineering firm, Messrs. Scott Bros., had told him they could, if called upon, turn out a battery of Armstrong guns, with everything complete, in a fortnight. Another suggested that the local manufacture of ammunition should be started immediately, but the most sensible thing was the resolution passed. The meeting appointed a committee to communicate to the Government that the public of this city is ready to co-operate in the work of defence, and to ask in what way its offer can be utilised. This is the best thing to do, for there is no danger of clashing with any of the arrangements of the Government. The speakers, by the way, all recognised the responsibility of the Government, and refrained from going into particulars on the ground that the Government is bound, for obvious reasons, to be reticent. At the close of the meeting, many present put their names to an offer of service. It was an idea of the Mayor's. He pointed out that many were too old to be liable for service with the militia, and too much engaged to place themselves under the Volunteer regulations. He suggested the formation of a corps for their benefit. Every man would subscribe £5 towards the rifles, appointments, and ammunition (500 rounds per man) of the corps, and attend drill and parade under special regulations to be made for them. It would, his Worship said, be an excellent example to the younger men. The signers were from 60 years downwards, say to 35, Colonel Brett among the number.

I observe you have not failed to notice Sir Julius Vogel's remarks on education. Now, if anyone were to describe Sir Julius as one given to preaching the shutting of stable doors after all the horses have gone, and with them all chance of getting any others, he might be offended, but the description would be correct. His answer shows the power which this subject exercises over the strongest minds. "I know that education without religion is the most appalling thing that can happen. You having elected me to uphold education without religion; therefore I am not in favour of giving a share of their own money to those who while giving their children an excellent education, combined, as I am convinced for the highest reasons of the supernatural order it ought to be, with religion." This is virtually what he said, but of course put into these words it looks very much worse than when it was clothed in those carefully prepared phrases that were reported. It is not a pleasant position for a reasonable being to place himself in. This is not all. Sir Julius shifted the ground ingeniously.—Asked if he thought it right that a minority who paid for the education of their own children should not receive their own money back instead of our now being compelled to pay for the education of other people's children, he replied that it was not right for a minority to resist taxation on any pretence. Now, nobody talked of resisting taxation. The Catholics pay their taxes as cheerfully as anybody else. If the petition of Catholics for grants in aid to their schools is a resisting of taxation, then any community which asks Parliament for a road or a bridge is a resister of taxation. To purposely confuse a constitutionally preferred request for a share of funds tyrannically withheld, with a movement to resist taxation, is to adopt a most unworthy method of dealing with a great question.

St. Patrick's Day was celebrated by Irishmen generally in Christchurch by a banquet. It was a successful social gathering, the dinner was well served, the speeches were cordial, in good taste, fluent, and all or nearly all characteristic, and the music was very good. Mr. Fox, one of our best tenors, every inch an Irishman, sang some of the melodies with great effect. If anyone were to ask me what was the feature of the evening, I should say it was the fact that Catholics and Orangemen sat down comfortably to dinner together on St. Patrick's Day, celebrated cordially together the great day of their common country, and listened peaceably together to a long speech on the life and times of St. Patrick, on the abiding effect of his teachings on the nation, and at the enduring nature of his memory in the Irish heart. The speech was from Mr. R. A. Loughnan, who was described by the papers the next day as having exhibited great research and used eloquent language. Some of the gentlemen present have assured me that the papers were right, and some have assured me that they were wrong.

CARDINAL M'CABE.

(Dublin Freeman, February 14.)

THE Irish Church is thrown into deep and general mourning. The Cardinal Archbishop died on Tuesday night. Only a few brief hours of suffering for the distinguished patient preceded the fatal issue. On Monday morning there was nothing in the Cardinal's condition to excite either anxiety or apprehension. The previous day his Eminence was in fairly robust health, and on Saturday he presided at the Solemn Office and High Mass in the Cathedral for the late Lord O'Hagan. His Eminence was then in his usual health, never, it is true, very strong, and considerably weakened by a previous prolonged illness, but sufficiently hale to promise many years of fruitful administration in the Cardinalate. On Tuesday his Eminence became suddenly prostrated from an internal complication. The medical skill which was in immediate attendance was baffled at the outset by a chronic weakness in the action of the heart. Towards night acute peritonitis supervened, and the patient gradually sank, until shortly after midnight, fortified by all the rites of the Church, he passed calmly into the final sleep. We give sincere expression to the feelings of regret for the death of the high dignitary whose loss the Church to-day universally deplures. Cardinal M'Cabe was above all things else a priest. Never interested in social affairs beyond what affected his own clerical ambit, and with little concern for politics, he silently worked among the flock with whose spiritual welfare he was charged, bringing to that field all the spirit and zeal of a more than ordinarily energetic nature. This was the broad and chief characteristic of his years of laborious industry as a curate and parish priest in the city, as parish priest of Kingstown, and not less so as coadjutor Bishop to his eminent predecessor in the purple.

CANTERBURY CATHOLIC LITERARY SOCIETY.

Christchurch, March 28.

At the usual weekly meeting of the above Society, two candidates were balloted for and duly elected, and three nominated for election at next meeting. It is very gratifying to have to report the foregoing, as it shows that there is a decidedly healthy interest taken in the workings of an institution which deserves so well of all Catholics— young and old, rich and poor—to whose support it was so earnestly recommended on Sunday evening last by the Rev. Father Ginaty. It is to be hoped that each week will bring similar numbers, so that it will be what it ought to be, a thoroughly representative Catholic society.

The programme for the evening consisted of extemporaneous addresses on various subjects, suggested by the members and drawn somewhat after the manner of an art union. Very few speakers—even practised orators—would care about speaking on a matter on a moment's notice, still it is pleasing to say that not only did the older but the younger members deliver them freely and well. Among the latter may be mentioned Messrs. Courtney, Nelson, McGill, Barrett, etc.

Mr. Paul Fredric, of Albany and Leith streets, Dunedin, offers a large and excellent selection of boots and shoes at extremely moderate prices.

Mr. Edward Carroll has purchased the butchery lately carried on at Mornington by Mr. Thomas Carroll. Mr. Carroll's high personal character, so well known in Dunedin and its suburbs, forms a full guarantee for the excellent manner in which his business will be conducted. He is also in all other respects fully competent to manage such an establishment.

The Lord Lieutenant held his levee in Dublin Castle on Tuesday. The Lord Mayor did not attend it. This is the first time, it is said, when the chief magistrate of the Irish metropolis deliberately stayed away from a levee. If this statement is correct, we congratulate Alderman O'Connor on leading the way in such a desirable reform. Until the rights of our country are restored to her the less touch there is between the Mansion House and the Castle the better for the National movement.—*Nation*, February 7.

The *Newcastle Chronicle* admirably hits off the situation in the Sudan by saying that the policy of the Government to "rescue and retire" has been abandoned in favor of a policy to "kill and keep."

It was not to be expected that the gossip-mongers of the English Press would fail to invest Mr. Michael Davitt's visit to Rome with a political character. Hence we are not surprised to be told that Mr. Davitt has journeyed to the Eternal City for the purpose of justifying to the Holy See the conduct of Irish Nationalists, and that he intends to present an address to the Pope on the subject. Mr. Davitt has no such an intention as the one here attributed to him, but, then, the news agencies must do something if they desire to become paying concerns. Doubtless if Mr. Davitt visits Hindostan in the course of his travels we shall be told that his intention is to stir up another Indian mutiny.—*Nation*.

Commercial.

MR. DONALD STRONACH (on behalf of the New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Company, Limited) reports for the week ended April 1, as follows:—

Fat Cattle.—357 head were yarded at Burnside to-day, representing all qualities. This number was far in excess of requirements, and in consequence a reduction of 2s 6d per 100 on last week's quotations had to be submitted to, besides a good many pens having to be turned out unsold. Best bullocks brought £7 10s to £9; others £4, 10s to £6 10s; cows in proportion. We quote drims beef at 17s 6d; ordinary, 15s per 100lb.

Fat Calves.—There were four penned, which sold at up to 25s. **Fat Sheep.**—3,684 were penned; 1,128 of these were merinos the balance cross-bred, comprising low, medium, good, to prime quality. Competition was slack, especially for ordinary quality, which ruled 2s to 2s 6d below last week's rates; while prime suffered but little decline from prices obtained then. Best cross-bred wethers brought 14s 6d to 16s; do do ewes, 12s 6d to 14s; mixed to medium do, 7s to 12s 6d. We sold on account of the Glenedi Estate Company, the N. Z. Agricultural Company, Messrs. H. and T. Little, Ngapara; C. and J. M. Todd, Enfield; Brugh Bros, and others—in all 955, as follows:—Mixed cross-breds, 7s 3d to 12s; cross-bred ewes at 12s 6d to 13s; merino wethers at 7s; and quote mutton 1½d to 2d per lb.

Fat Lambs.—There was only a small supply penned to-day—viz., 214. For these competition was active; one pen of superior quality and large size brought up to 13s 3d; others realised from 9s 3d to 13s.

Fat Pigs.—Eighty-four were penned. Forkers realised from 25s to 43s; bacon pigs, up to 68s; suckers, 12s to 17s.

Store Cattle.—We have inquiries for these, but have no sales to report.

Store Sheep.—There is a fair demand for suitable lots of four to six-tooth cross-bred ewes for breeding, and sound-mouthed cross-bred wethers for winter feeding, but transactions are not numerous. During the week we disposed of 1,500 full-mouthed merino wethers.

Station Flock.—Since our last, on account of Mr. J. C. Buckland, we disposed of 15,000 cross-bred and merino sheep (mixed sexes) on the Barewood station at current rates.

Sheepskins.—We held our usual weekly sale on Tuesday, Monday being a holiday, when we offered a very good catalogue, comprising various descriptions, to a large number of buyers, who competed spiritedly. Green pelts were in particularly good request, and an advance of 3d over last week's obtained. Dry cross-breds, low to medium, brought 1s 5d to 2s 9d; full-wool, 3s to 4s; do merino, low to medium, 1s 7d to 3s 1d; full-wool, 3s 3d to 4s 4d; dry and inferior pelts, 3d to 11d; green do, merino, 15d to 20d; do do, cross-bred, 1s 6d to 2s; lamb skins, 1s 6d to 2s.

Rabbit-skins.—We disposed of several lots of mixed and medium skins on Tuesday under very good competition at from 7½d to 1s 0½ per lb.

Hides.—We have no alteration to note in these; all lots coming to hand are in good demand at late rates.

Tallow.—The position of the market is much about the same as last week. Local manufacturers are the principal buyers, and as more than sufficient for their requirements come forward prices are in no way firmer. We quote inferior and mixed, 18s to 20s; medium, 21s to 23s; good to prime, 24s to 25s. Lough fat, 1½s to 16s per cwt.

Grain.—Wheat: The new crop is beginning to arrive, but as yet only in small quantities, and transactions have been on a limited scale at about last week's prices. We quote choice milling velvet and Tuscan, 3s 2d to 3s 3d; red straw, 2s 9d to 3s; inferior and medium, 2s to 2s 6d.—Oats: During the week the arrivals have been small. There has been some inquiry for feed oats for shipment, and a few sales have been made at late rates at which all parcels coming to hand are readily placed. We quote prime milling 1s 10d to 1s 11d; best bright feed, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; inferior, 1s 3d to 1s 6d.—Barley: Several samples of fair to good are offered, for which from 3s to 3s 6d is obtainable, but except for really prime, of which very little is forward, there is no demand.

Grass Seed.—There is no demand of any consequence.

DUNEDIN PRODUCE MARKET, APRIL 2.

MR. J. H. KILGOUR, Grain and Produce Broker, reports under above date, as follows:—Wheat: Samples of the new crop are offering rather more freely, but so far sales have been made only to a very limited extent. I quote prime milling at 3s 2d to 3s 4d, and my sales have been at 3s 3d; fowl feed, 2s to 2s 6d.—Oats: There has been some enquiry for shipment, but prices in the other markets do not warrant high prices being given, and bright short feed only commands from 1s 8d to 1s 9d; milling, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; old feed for local purposes, 1s 9d to 1s 10d.—Barley: Samples of the new crop are now beginning to come forward, and sales have been made of malting quality at 3s 6d. Prices remain at quotations of last week, best quality being worth at L3 per ton.—Potatoes: My sales of Derwents since date of last report have been at £3 per ton, but arrivals this week have been rather more plentiful and prices are inclined to recede.—Grass seed: There have been some enquiries for cocksfoot, but in the absence of sales I cannot give quotations.—Butter: There is some demand for shipment, but not more than 7½d is offered for prime salted in kegs.—Eggs: 1s 4d per dozen.

MR. F. MEENAN, King street, reports: —Wholesale prices, including bags: Oats, old, 1s 8d to 1s 10d, new 1s 6d to 1s 10d; wheat, milling 3s to 3s 4d, fowls' feed, 1s 6d to 2s 3d; barley, milling 3s 6d to 4s, milling 2s 6d to 3s 6d, feeding 2s; oatmeal hay, £3 5s to £3 10s; ryegrass, £3; chaff, £2 10s to £3; straw, £1 15s to £2; bran, £3; pollard, £4; flour, £3 to £3 10s; oatmeal, 12s; fresh butter, medium to prime, 6d to 9d; eggs, 1s 4d; salt butter, 7d; cheese, 4d to 5d; bacon, 8d in rolls, hams, 10d; potatoes, new, £2 10s to £3.

RECEPTION OF FIVE POSTULANTS INTO THE ORDER OF MERCY, ST. COLUMBKILLE'S CONVENT, HOKITIKA.

We need not go outside of New Zealand to recognise the hand of Providence in a succession of events and circumstances which shows how fruitless are the efforts of secularists and infidels to efface the name of God from His own creation. Convents, monasteries, cathedrals, colleges and schools increase in direct ratio to the attempts made to despise and uproot them. His army of devoted men and women consecrated to Him increase every day, whose conduct in asking nothing for their services on this earth, but food, raiment, and shelter seems unaccountable to the sensual and luxurious. But even infidels must admit that the act of denying oneself of all the pleasures of life for the sake of assisting others must be considered heroic. Men are expected to be valiant, but the Bible says that valiant women are more precious than pearls and diamonds, and other praise it goes on to bestow on them. Hokitika last Tuesday was blessed and edified by the sight of five of these valiant heroines, and what a sight! Five young maidens—a band of virgins—willingly giving themselves up to self-sacrifice, charity, work, and prayer, and the cultivation of the same virtues in others, among the children of the rich and the poor, who will realise on the Day of Judgment all the good they derived from them. But sooner than that when these children shall have arrived at the maturity of woman's age, and kept the faith, and fidelity to His Holy Church, and persevered in Christian modesty, they will have tasted the sweetest consolations in this life of sorrows.

Long before the time appointed for the ceremony, crowds assembled on the foot paths outside the church and convent, waiting for the procession, which started punctually at six o'clock and entered the church in the following order:—Cross-bearer; postulants, two and two; novices; professed religious; Mother-Assistant, postulant, Mother-Superior.

At the entrance of the porch the religious lighted their tapers, and the choir, consisting of some Sisters and Misses Behan and Fitzsimmons, sang the beautiful hymn "*O Gloriosa Virginum*," after which the blessing of the candle and its reception by each postulant was gone through. The names of the postulants were Miss Ellen O'Brien (Victoria)—in religion, Sister Stanislaus; Miss Susanna O'Brien (Greymouth)—in religion, Sister Berchmans; Miss Kate Prendergast (Ballyloohy, County Tipperary)—in religion, Sister Joseph; Miss Ellen Cass (Ross)—in religion, Sister Agnes; and Miss Wallace (Singleton, N. S. W.)—in religion, Sister Alacoque.

The following is but a very faint *resumé* of the sermon which was preached by the Rev. Father Carew, Greymouth. There were also present at the ceremony the Rev. Father Ahern, Boss, Fathers Walsh and Brown, Kumara, Father O'Donnell, Ahaura, and the celebrant, Father Martin.

The five young ladies kneeling before us request to be admitted as novices into the Order of the Sisters of Mercy. They intend by-and-by "if found worthy after a proper trial to consecrate themselves to Jesus Christ in the practice of the Evangelical Counsels and it would be well that they should know beforehand the nature of the obligations and holiness of that mode of life which they are going to embrace and also the great eternal rewards that God has offered to those who choose to embrace that holy yoke which is indeed sweet, whose burthens are light. Accordingly I beg to say a few words to you this evening in explanation of the same. Of all the works that the Almighty God has set before man to perform there is certainly none so important as to make sure of Salvation. This is the one thing spoken to by Jesus Christ, and all who are truly wise necessarily make it the chief aim of their existence. And as the sublime and noble aim of every immortal soul should be nothing less than eternal happiness with God in heaven, the option of means most conducive to that exalted end must be deemed by all to be a most natural and prudent step. I am going to point out what the means are from the teaching of Our Lord and His Apostles, and she who may choose to adopt them cannot but be glad to have chosen the better part. Well, of all things on earth that our Blessed Lord has set his heart upon, there is nothing that He is so desirous to be possessed of as the human soul. The deeds of His whole life and the sacrifice of that life upon the cross give ample proofs of this. When our Divine Master wished to convince the Jews that he was the Messiah, He said to them if you do not believe my words, at least believe my works. But both His words and His works betray His most ardent desire for the salvation of souls. We may appeal to his works, as a man's actions are the best test of his appreciation of things. And when we see a person do most difficult actions, and finally lay down his life to gain his desired end, we may be sure, that (that for which he undergoes those most arduous labours must be truly dear to him. The Scriptures tell us that God so loved the world as to give up for our redemption His only beloved Son, and that Son humbled Himself to death, even unto the death of the cross to accomplish the same. We now keep the holy season of Lent, and the price of our redemption should be the subject of our meditations. Let us consider the enormous price that God has paid for us. His sacred body was torn with stripes, His head crowned with thorns, His mouth drenched with vinegar and gall, His hands and feet fastened with terrible nails to the rough wood of the cross, and with drooping head He was raised up between two thieves, to die broken-hearted and abandoned with the anger of God and the insults of man poured out upon Him. This and far more than I could say is the price of our redemption. In His sight we are worth all this. His only object in coming on earth was the salvation of the world. However, He pointed out as clear as the noonday sun what each should do to obtain heaven. When the vast multitudes who thronged to see Him were convinced by the astounding miracles wrought under their very eyes, that He was the promised Messiah and Saviour of the world, they all cried out with one accord, What shall we do to be saved? His universal answer was, to keep the Commandments; so that it is most clearly evident from the teaching of our Divine Master that the keeping of the commandments are the ordinary and necessary means to obtain eternal bliss, but then as there are various choirs of heavenly

spirits, one excelling the other, though all infinitely happy in the enjoyment of the torrents of the delights in paradise, so in the Church militant there are various grades of virtue and goodness to be practised by the faithful, which, in the justice of God, will earn their corresponding rewards in the many mansions of His Father's house. As the faithful of earth are to fill up the various seats vacated by the rebel angels, and as some of these fell from the various choirs of heaven's children, so of those future occupants some must excel others in virtue, must necessarily be more courageous, more self-sacrificing, do more heroic deeds in the service of their Divine Master and be in closer observance to His every wish than others, if they are desirous of obtaining a place of eternal bliss among the most resplendent of heaven's inmates. Here whilst our Divine Lord lays down the observance of the Commandments as necessary to salvation, He points out other obligations supplementary to the Commandments as necessary to enter on the paths of perfection for those who wish to secure the highest seats. These extra obligations are the three Evangelical Counsels of poverty, charity, and obedience, and those who choose to adopt, to embrace the adoption of these Counsels, must necessarily lead a life more pleasing to God, and a life of greater sacrifice than those who choose to enter heaven by merely keeping the Commandments. They are called the Evangelical Counsels because to embrace them is not necessary for salvation. However, our Lord does not command, but merely counsels, their adoption—"Qui vult capiat," said He. Our Lord Himself paints the profession of poverty as a requisite to perfection, as is easily seen in the Sacred Scriptures, and has promised some of the greatest rewards of the Kingdom of Heaven to those who embrace it. A certain young man came to our Divine Master and inquired what he should do to obtain the Kingdom of Heaven. Our Lord's invariable answer to all such questions was to keep the Commandments. "This have I done from my youth," said the young man "and what is still wanting in me?" Our Lord made answer, if thou wilt be perfect, sell what thou hast and give to the poor and thou shalt have a treasure in heaven, and come and follow Me." Here our Lord draws most clearly what is necessary for salvation and what is necessary for perfection. The mere observance of the Commandments would win the crown of eternal life, but not the higher thrones of the more perfect in heaven, and the greatest rewards that God bestows on His elect are granted by him to those who prefer poverty. St. Peter, speaking for himself and the others, said, "Behold we have left all and followed Thee, and what reward shall we receive for so doing?" "You shall sit on twelve thrones to judge the twelve tribes of Israel, when the Son of Man shall sit on His seat of Majesty, and every one that had left all things for My sake shall receive one hundred fold and shall possess life everlasting." Since God then commends holy poverty so highly, is the possession of wealth then a bad thing? By no means. God never created anything intrinsically bad. On the contrary, when a good use is made of it, it greatly helps to salvation; and if there are such men in hell there are also poor men in hell, and if there are poor in heaven there are also rich in heaven. But it must be admitted that wealth is a very great obstacle to the salvation of many. For although man is a free agent, he is indeed a creature of circumstances. "With the perfect thou wilt be perfect, but with the perverse thou wilt be perverted," says the Sacred Scripture. He is the slave of habit and very helpless in the face of associates and surroundings. He is more inclined to vice than virtue. Hence, whilst we see man degraded by violent outbursts of vice, we never see him attacked by fits of virtue. Fits of anger are common enough, but no one is tempted to fits of meekness, and so of other defects. Besides, the human being is filled with many vile, fierce and almost insurmountable passions that are constantly boiling up within him, that are constantly clamorous for gratification, and let a man but go voluntary into occasions when these violent propensities to evil are aroused within him, so violent do they become that it becomes morally impossible to resist them. Hence God has said "He that loveth the danger will perish in it." Now mark the possession of wealth places a man at once in the position of gratifying every bad passion, and the wealthy man that is not guided by the spirit of God lives in a sea of wickedness. Wealth is justly styled *Fons et origo malorum*. The Lord has canonised poverty and stricken wealth with this malediction. "Woe to the rich. It is harder for a rich man to get to heaven than for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle." What wonder is it then that those who deem to make sure of salvation should voluntary lay aside, by the profession of poverty, what the Almighty has shown to be so dangerous to salvation. After dwelling on the virtue of holy purity and obedience, and the rewards promised to the virgins in heaven, the reverend Father concluded a most eloquent, instructive discourse.

The success that has attended St. Columbkille's Convent since its foundation has been most remarkable. It has made a bound from infancy and childhood into virgity, and I believe the transitions were effected without any or very little of those annoyances peculiar to communities, as well as to individuals, namely, "growing pains." It has prospered in every manner. The community now number 20, besides nine at the branch establishment at Greymouth, which has a school open for boarders since Christmas. The buildings and grounds have been considerably extended and beautified, and it must be a source of much satisfaction to the zealous pastor the Rev. Father Martin who contributed no less a sum than £1500 to establish the Order of Mercy in his parish, to see his efforts so richly blessed, and also to the good Sisters themselves who subscribed £1000 out of their own savings to make St. Columbkille's Convent what it is—one of the finest of its kind, in New Zealand. It has a select school of 50 pupils and a parish school with over 120 on the roll. Both schools are furnished in the most ample manner with every requisite and appliance for the proper education of youth, and the manners, attention and discipline exhibited by the pupils in the class-rooms show with what assiduity and earnestness they are by the good Sisters, everyone of whom seems so calm, so cheerful, so energetic, and possessing an equanimity of temper almost supernatural. Worldlings pity nuns, but your correspondent never sees much happiness until he visits a convent.

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CHAPTER XII.

(Continued.)

No 45. OSTEO-MYELITIS OF TIBIA, NECROSIS, ETC. (Vol. xiv., p. 152).—Marie Martin, of Blairville, had "suffered for several years from a white swelling of the knee. The disease increased from day to day and was complicated with osteo-myelitis of the tibia,"—that is, inflammation of the large bone of the leg. This seems to have terminated in the usual way by the death of a portion of the bone, as it is stated that suppuration took place soon, and a year afterwards the surgeon who attended her removed from the leg a splinter of bone, measuring 10 to 12 centime tres in length, and one in diameter. There was also a sore in the knee from which purulent matter flowed continually, and sometimes blood, and when the suppuration stopped she found herself worse." It was then that she thought of going to Lourdes.

At Lourdes, before going into the piscina, a physician, who had before him the certificate of the patient's condition, wished to ascertain on his own account the condition of the sore on the knee, and found it as is described above.

Plunged into the miraculous water, Marie felt such great pain in the diseased limb that she could not prevent herself from uttering a cry. But having come out of the bath, her sores were found cicatrized, and her stick and crutch proved useless.

Since her return she asserts that she has felt no pain in the knee, and though always limping, she walks with ease, using her bad limb as she wishes, and ascends and descends easily.

Before her departure from Lourdes she had only asked one favour from the Blessed Virgin, and that was to leave her crutch so as to walk a little more easily. She says that the physicians at Lourdes had, before and after her bath, measured her leg, and ascertained that there was a lengthening of five centimetres.

Remarks.—The instantaneous healing of the sore on the knee was, of course, supernatural.

No. 46. CARIES OF LEG-BONES (Vol. xiv., p. 190).—Mlle. Marie Jourdan, of 10 Rue Fongate Marseilles, aged 21 years, had been suffering from caries (ulceration of a very severe and generally incurable kind) of the bones of the leg, consequent on a fall. She was obliged to rest constantly in an arm-chair, and suffered most severe pain. All kinds of treatment had been tried without producing any amendments. The doctors had ended by declaring an amputation necessary. Her mother would not consent to it, and having no more hope from man, she promised the Blessed Virgin to take her daughter to Lourdes.

They arrived with the Marseilles pilgrimage.

A first bath in the piscina eased the pains for a time; they soon re-appeared. After a second bath Marie ceased to limp. But the pains continued. The patient prayed and communicated. After her communion of the 12th, she heard a thanksgiving Mass before the Grotto; she suffered more than usual, and at the moment of the Consecration she fainted. When she revived she was taken to the piscina, took a third bath, experienced nothing in particular, was entirely cured.

Three Jews of Marseilles, who knew Mlle. Marie Jourdan, had promised to become Christians if Notre Dame de Lourdes cured her.

Remarks.—A case of carious bone, condemned to amputation could not be cured by three cold baths. The cure is unquestionably supernatural.

No. 47. DISEASE OF ANKLE (Vol. I. p. 109).—Mlle. Anna Castex, of Muret, aged 16, was confided to the care of the religious of Notre Dame de Charité of the Refuge at Toulouse, three years and a-half ago. The chaplain of the Refuge describes her disease thus:—

"One day while walking, Anna sprained her right foot. During fifteen months she was carefully attended to by several physicians, and the good Mothers. Nothing could completely get rid of the sprain. Moreover, the lymphatic temperament of this young girl added grave complications to the primary illness. The joint of the foot became much swollen and œdematous; the slightest movement caused acute pain; she could not walk or step, or put down the foot; the pain was such that it deprived the poor patient of sleep, and they were obliged to give up rubbing the foot. Seeing the inefficaciousness of all the remedies and all the care that was taken the worst was to be feared, and it seemed as if the only possible issue was either anchylosis of the joint or an amputation which should prevent the caries of the bone from attacking the whole leg.

"Before trying the sulphur baths, it was determined to send her to Lourdes. She arrived there on Saturday, August 19, 1882, with the pilgrimage from Toulouse, and was dipped in the piscina about nine o'clock—no improvement. About four she was at the Grotto, standing up resting on her crutches, when suddenly a sharp pain attacks the diseased leg, and seems to tear the foot. A clucking is produced, and instinctively she fell on her knees. She was cured;—no pain, no swelling; she could walk, kneel, and run."

The physician who had attended Anna, writes on the 6th of September: "The swelling and œdema have disappeared. The general state of this young girl became more and more satisfactory." The Lady Superior of the religious writes: "Anna Castex has no more pain either in the leg or foot. It seems to her that the limb which has been cured has more strength than that which has never been diseased."

Remarks.—The positive evidence as to disease of the bone is very clear, though a fuller description from the doctor would have been interesting from the medical point of view. No natural cure could have taken place in the way narrated. No known method of treatment could have produced such a cure in less than several weeks, or perhaps months.

No. 48. CARIES OF HEEL (Vol. xv. p. 114).—Mlle. Marie Depooter, No 18 Rue Compans, Paris, aged 14 years. The medical certificate states that she had been suffering for two years from "caries of the calcaneum (bone of the heel) of the right foot, and of the femur (thigh bone), and of the left tibia (larger bone of the leg), and that for a long time it has been impossible for her to work." Tired of trying uselessly all kinds of remedies, her mother removed her from the care of the doctors, who had told her, "Madame, you will be obliged to bring back your daughter in three months to have her foot cut off."

The patient started for Lourdes on two crutches with the sores "in full suppuration." During the journey she seemed to feel an improvement. After one bath in the piscina, the discharge and pain had completely disappeared. She struck forcibly on the ground with the foot which, an hour before, she could not even lightly touch. Of her terrible disease there remained only a slight lameness or limp (claudication).

Her mother wrote on the 11th September: "I cannot express to you the admiration with which the doctor saw my daughter's foot. The discharge has stopped, and my daughter walks always without crutches."

Remarks.—This, of course, is a supernatural cure. The slight lameness or limping would probably disappear as the muscles, which had not been exercised for two years, came into use.

These cases of caries are peculiarly interesting and decisive as to the miraculous powers of the spring. Caries is such an exceedingly obstinate and intractable form of ulceration in bone, that it never in any case yields quickly to treatment of any kind. For the most part, and in all severe cases, a surgical operation is required; the diseased parts have to be sawn or gouged out, and even then the operation has frequently to be repeated.

Caries never occurs except in persons of an unhealthy constitution.

No. 49. FUNGUS INFLAMMATION OF BOTH KNEE JOINTS (Vol. xvi. p. 200).—Mlle. Marie Pourel (Sister Adrienne) of the Sisters Hospitalliers at Mirecourt (Vosges), aged 24 years. (National pilgrimage, August 1882.) The medical certificate states that she had been suffering from "fungus arthritis of both knees for two years, a disease against which the most energetic treatment has been practised without appreciable result."

After three immersions in the piscina, each one followed by a great amendment, she found herself cured. Several physicians examined her after her third bath, and found no trace of the disease; there remained only a small point a little painful on pressure. Her Superior wrote on the 10th of September: "I am happy to tell you that our Sister Adrienne is completely cured. The pain which she still was feeling when she left Lourdes, has quite disappeared. œdematous swelling (œdema) of the knees no longer exists. Doctor Massou is very surprised at this unexpected improvement, and in a short time, if Sister Adrienne continues to walk without fatigue or pain, he will willingly give a certificate of complete cure."

Remarks.—Assuming the doctor's first certificate to have been correct, the disappearance of all pain and swelling, and the ability to walk without fatigue or pain, did constitute a complete cure of fungus arthritis—a disease of the joint which hardly ever, I may say never, is cured spontaneously, and which, in this case, had resisted energetic treatment for two years. The case was certainly supernatural.

No. 50. DISEASE OF HUMERUS AND FEMUR (Vol. xvi., p. 201).—Mlle. Rosalie Bèche, of St. George's (Moselle), aged 23 years. (National pilgrimage, Aug. 21-24, 1882.)

The certificate of her physician declares that she had "two fistulae communicating with the bones, the one in the left arm and the other in the right thigh." Learning her intention of going to Lourdes, the doctor said, "What are you going to do there? Do you think you can be cured?"

When she arrived on Tuesday, the 21st, the fistulae were running, and were very painful. After two immersions in the bath, it was discovered that the fistula of the arm was completely closed, and that the cicatrization of the thigh, though incomplete, was very advanced. She writes on September 12th: "I am completely cured. The second fistula has entirely closed. I went to see the doctor who had given me before my departure the certificate which I have had the honour to deliver to you. Learning my cure, he refused to examine me. But I have no need of the doctor to tell me that I am cured, and that I am so by Mary Immaculate."

Remarks.—Fistulae, or sinuses, are openings in the flesh communicating with dead or ulcerated bone, and only finally close when the diseased or dead bone has been removed by operation or by a slow process of healing. In this case a longer period is required before the case can be pronounced a cure, although it is extremely improbable that three weeks would elapse without some discharge, if a permanent cure had not been effected.

The doctor's conduct in refusing to examine the patient, shows what prejudice is felt by the medical profession in France against the cures at Lourdes, and is a valuable proof that, if false, the accounts of such as are published would soon be contradicted.

No. 51. DEFORMITY AND CONTRACTION OF LEG (Vol. xii., p. 101).—Charles Lamothe (of the pilgrimage of Cete, July 24, 1879) was an orphan of the establishment of St. Vincent de Paul, aged 12 years. In January, 1879, he had an inflammation of the chest, which reduced him to such an extremity that he received the last Sacraments.

He did not die, however, but he remained crippled. The right leg had become much shorter than the other; it was quite bent, and so drawn up that it formed sores in the thigh. The doctor wished to cut a tendon. The foot was also twisted.

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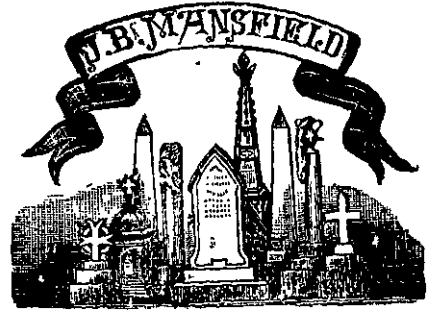
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The 24th of July the grandparents of Charles took him to Lourdes; when they got out at the station they went direct to the Grotto, carrying the boy in a basket. They plunged him immediately in the piscina. The water seemed to boil round the diseased limb. The child cried out, "I am cured," and in effect the leg and foot were straightened. Although still weak, Charles could walk.

The editor of the "Annales" adds, "We learn that the cure is perfect."

No. 52. LAMENESS AFTER FRACTURE (Vol. xii., p. 255).—The following certificate, given by M. Laurent, D.M., of the Hospice of Langres, describes the case:—

"Elesippe B—, of Rosay, unmarried, aged 39 years, had the left leg fractured by the kick of an ox on May 1, 1872. The fracture took a long time to consolidate, and union took place with a shortening of three centimètres (about 1½ inches). This leg has undergone a little atrophy [wasting], for if the middle of the calf be measured a difference of one and a half centimètres (about half an inch) between it and the other leg is found. This man limps, and will always limp, and from the atrophy of the muscles there will always be a little weakness on this side."

Elesippe went with the pilgrimage of Dijon and of Langres on September 26, 1879, and was so much improved that he was able to dispense with a stick which he had always previously used in walking. He could walk easily up hill without using a stick. He had three immersions. The first produced no effect; the second made an improvement, and by the third he felt himself cured.

Remarks.—It is to be regretted that a doctor's certificate after his return from Lourdes is not given. Assuming the truth of the statement, a lameness which resulted from a badly-united fracture, and which had existed for seven years, was cured by three immersions in a cold bath. I know of no natural explanation of such a cure.

No. 53. LAMENESS AND DEFORMITY (Vol. xii., p. 43).—The following cure is narrated in the correspondence of a religious paper called *La Semaine Religieuse du Diocèse de Rennes*. As the name, etc., is not given, it can only be considered as an interesting narrative which requires confirmation:—

A poor girl of Ifendie had been bedridden for nine years, with one leg stiffened and without movement; the other not only without movement, but cruelly deformed. The knee was twisted, and the foot turned outwards, almost to a right angle. Her health was extremely bad, with great weakness.

The correspondent states that he saw her before and after her going into the bath, and that she came out perfectly cured—could walk, run, etc., up the steps, etc.

Remarks.—If this case is correctly reported, it could not be considered as otherwise than a supernatural cure, as a case of deformity like the one described, existing for nine years, could not be cured by a single bath.

No. 54. DISLOCATION OF FEMUR; permanent retraction of the muscle of the right leg; large ulcer on leg (Vol. xi., p. 223).—The following case is abridged from a very full description which occupies nearly nine closely-printed pages of the "Annales":—

Joachime Dehant, of Wanfercée-Baulet, arrondissement of Charleroi, canton of Gusselies, Belgium, aged 29 years. At the age of 17 she had an attack of cholera, after that of typhus fever, from which she had an exceedingly tedious recovery. After the typhus she suffered severely from pains in the right leg. In April, 1868, she had a heavy fall on the right knee, followed by the appearance of reddish spots on the ankle, swelling of the foot, and difficulty in walking. The leg became covered with an ulcer, from which there was a horribly foetid discharge. This sore became so deep that on one occasion the patient introduced a thimble into one of the numerous openings which had formed in it, and could only extract the thimble by the help of scissors. The disease increased, and the swelling of the limb reached the hip. The general health suffered. Tar water, iodide of iron,* cod liver oil, quinine wine, solution of arsenic, had no effect.

In 1869 she became worse. Then came on gradually a contraction of the knee, which it was impossible to straighten out. Blisters and hypodermic injections of sulphate of atropine failed to ease the pain. Internally everything that could be thought of was tried ineffectually.

Matters remained in this state until 1872. Then the disease took an extraordinary form. The lips swelled; deep sores were formed in them, with foetid suppuration [had mercury been given?]; there were attacks of extraordinary agitation—in one of these violent commotions the hip was put out of joint, and soon afterwards there supervened a general paralysis which lasted eleven days. Nevertheless, in June the general state improved.

Headaches, which had been frequent, became constant from the 15th of November, 1873. The painful attacks and ulceration of the leg persisted always, and the sore was so tender that she could not bear the slightest touch. The foot became more out of shape, turned inwards, and the leg was bent up on the thigh. So far Dr. Rosart. He died, and the case was taken up by Dr. Delvigne, of Malonne. He tried all that he could do, without success. The limb wasted away for want of exercise, and the foot was quite deformed.

In this miserable condition she was enabled by the kindness of Mme. la Comtesse de Limminghe to undertake a pilgrimage to Lourdes. Previous to her departure she was examined by the desire of the Comtesse by Dr. Froidbise, of Ohey, whose certificate, dated the 6th of September, 1878, is as follows:—

"I, the undersigned, Gustave Froidbise, doctor of medicine, etc., of Ohey, province of Namur, Belgium, declare that I have examined Mdlle. Joachime Dehant, aged 29 years, born at Wanfercée-Baulet, residing at Gesves, and have verified as follows:

"1. A luxation [dislocation] of the coxo-femoral articulation of the right side [that is a dislocation of the head of the thigh bone].

"2. Permanent retraction of the lateral tibial muscles of the right leg, to such a degree as to produce an accidental varus, or club foot.

"3. An ulcer covering the two-thirds of the outer side of the right leg.

* This part of the account is taken from the notes of the doctor who attended her.

"In faith of which I have delivered the present declaration.

"September 6, 1877 Dr. G. FROIDBISE."

The highly technical parasology of this certificate requires a little explanation. The phrase "accidental" club-foot, or varus, means that it was not, like so many such cases—deformity existing since birth, but had been produced accidentally—in the course of another disease.

On the 10th of September, four days after the date of this certificate, she started for Lourdes. The incidents of this journey across France are fully narrated. I can only give two; one was that the odour of the sore was so disgusting that nothing could destroy it, and it appears that her companions could not stop with her. The priest who accompanied the pilgrims thought seriously of leaving her at a hotel in Paris, but she persisted in going on, and triumphed at last. On the evening of the 12th (Thursday) she arrived at Lourdes. The next day at 4 a.m. she plunged the first time into the piscina, and was quite astonished to find that she was not cured. She dipped in again, and while her companion was pressing out the water from the linen bandages which covered the sore she felt no pain from the touch. The bather pressed more strongly; no more pain. She took off the bandages; the wound was completely healed there was nothing but a redness which marked the place of the ulcer. She took two more baths that day (to cure the dislocation and club foot.)

On Saturday morning after two more immersions she started for Betharram, a neighbouring shrine of the Blessed Virgin. The day was hot, and she perspired freely, and returned to Montant with two large blisters under her arms produced by the crutches.

"She returned to Lourdes and went directly to the Grotto, for it was Saturday, the day of our Lady, the day on which she was to be cured."

With much difficulty she got access to the bath and plunged in for the ninth time. "Hardly had she entered than she felt her stomach open like a book. A frightful fit (*orise*) occurred; the violence of the pain drew from her inarticulate cries, it seemed as if her foot were being dragged away from her. At the same time she and her companion saw this deformed foot straighten itself with the regularity of the hand of a clock which is being pushed forward. The leg, which was bent double, extended itself, the muscles lengthened themselves, and the knee replaced, took again its ordinary form. At the same time the hip made a movement accompanied by an unheard of, unspeakable pain; it was too much, she dropped fainting into the water, and remained deprived of feeling so long as to frighten the assistant. But she opened her eyes, all pain had ceased, the limbs had resumed their place, she arose straight and agile, the work of the Blessed Virgin was complete, her step regular and equal." So far the inverted commas show an extract which I have translated literally* and without abridgment. I must pass over the account of the extraordinary agitation caused by the miracle; suffice it to say that she walked without the slightest difficulty, assisted at processions, ceremonies, and ascended the mountains, etc.

On the 19th of September she was again examined by Dr. Froidbise who gave the following certificate:

"I, the undersigned, doctor of medicine, etc., of Oney, Province of Namur, Belgium, declare that I have examined Mlle. Joachime Dehant, aged 29 years, born at Wanfercée-Baulet, and re-iding at Gesves; and have ascertained positively that the lesions mentioned in the certificate joined hereto [the one given above] have completely disappeared. A simple redness marks the place of the ulcer.

"Dr. G. FROIDBISE.

"Gesves, 19th September, 1878."

Dr. Delvigne saw her only on the 18th of October, and he declared that the general state was very satisfactory, that all the movements of the foot, of the knee, and of the hip are accomplished without the least difficulty, and that the volume of the limb is like that of the other. There remains no trace of the old sufferings.

Remarks.—There is not much need for remarks in this case. The copious medical details show that the patient was one of those persons with wretched constitutions, who are benefited by no kind of treatment. The treatment appears to have been skilful and judicious, but the patient's constitution prevented it from doing any good. Of course, there can be no question as to the supernatural character of the cure.

The case is extremely well reported, and so backed up by medical certificates that even the most incredulous surgeon must admit that there was "something" in it.

It must be remembered that there were three distinct diseases cured:—1. The dislocation of the head of the thigh bone; 2. Club foot produced by retraction of muscles of the leg; and 3. a high ulcer covering two-thirds of the outer side of the leg. All these Dr. Froidbise declares have "completely disappeared."

No. 55. FRACTURE OF NECK OF FEMUR (Vol. ix., p. 98).—Madeleine Lancereau, aged 61 years, of Poitiers. Nineteen years ago she fell into a cellar, and broke the bone of the left hip (*sic*). Probably the neck of the thigh bone, as appears from the sequel.)

She was attended by several surgeons—Drs. de Morineau, de Becillon, and Gaillard, who all recognised the serious character of the injury and the inefficacy of their efforts to cure. Dr. Gaillard, who attended her at the Hotel Dieu, told her that she would never be free" (*libre*). The broken bone could never be replaced; there was a hollow where there ought to have been the bony protuberance of the hip; the leg was shortened by ten centimètres (nearly 4 inches), the foot was turned inwards, and in the movement of walking, the knee of the injured limb rubbed against the right knee. Moreover, the patient could not stretch out the leg, which was thus half ankylosed. For several years Madeleine could only walk with crutches. Later on she replaced the crutch of the right side by a stick, but the left crutch was always requisite, even to enable her to stand up at her work. She was a washerwoman.

She determined to make the pilgrimage to Lourdes, and managed to save enough for the journey. She arrived on the 3rd July, 1876, on a Monday. She managed to drag herself painfully, helped by her

* Except by changing the present tense into the past.

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CITY HOTEL, DUNEDIN
November 22, 1883.

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crutch and stick, to the church, where she communicated. She remained all the rest of the day in prayers before the Grotto.

On the following day she took a bath, and was cured instantly. She felt an extraordinary trembling in the whole limb from the hip downward to the end of the foot. She felt that she was cured, and the persons present united with her in reciting, as an act of thanksgiving, two Mysteries of the Rosary.

The Bishop of Poitiers who was preparing to say Mass was informed of the cure, and recognising the miracle said, "I have seen her using crutches for more than 15 years."

After Mass she was taken into a room and examined by a physician, who certified to the perfect cure of the hip, the straightening of the foot, and the normal length of the leg. She walked with ease, without any lameness or pain, and did so the whole of the day.

Remarks.—This case is taken from the *Univiers of Poitiers*, and republished in the "Annales." It is, therefore, reproduced here on the authority of the rev. editor of the "Annales."

Taking the facts as narrated, it is clear that the injury received by Madeleine Lanceran was a fracture of the femur (thigh-bone). The shortening of the leg, the inversion of the foot, and the consequent lameness all point to this, supposing that it was a fracture and not a dislocation—and that it was a fracture there seems to have been no doubt. It is hardly to be supposed that the surgeons who saw her after the accident should have made a mistake in diagnosis. The phrase "fracture of the hip-bone" is frequently applied by laymen to this fracture of the neck of the femur.

Such a fracture not successfully treated at first is always followed by permanent deformity and lameness. Proper union of the fractured portion does not take place, and there is consequently inability to use the limb, and shortening. Such cases are incurable, and no surgical measures after a lapse of years, can have any good effect. The cure in this case, therefore, admitting the facts to be as narrated, can only have been miraculous.

No. 56. ANCHYLOSIS OF KNEE, partial cure (Vol. x., p. 102).—Mlle. Marie Eugénie Bilon, of Bertrémoutier, in the Vosges, aged 34 years. Fourteen years ago, falling on a stone, her knee was seriously wounded, swollen, and painful. It ended by becoming ankylosed. Mlle. Bilon could only walk with crutches. She suffered much during the long journey.

Plunged into the piscina the 20th of August (1877), she was able to walk without crutches to the house of the Missionaries; her knee, without being entirely cured, began to bend, and all pain has disappeared.

Remarks.—This case is so imperfectly reported as not to be of much value. A case of lameness lasting for fourteen years, originating in a severe accident, and requiring the use of crutches, could only have been the result of ankylosis. The cure, as far as it went, was not the result of the cold bath only.

No. 57. HYDARTHROSIS OF KNEE (Vol. x., p. 101).—The Rev. Mother Marie des Anges, Superioress of the Convent of the Third Order of St. Dominic at Boulogne sur Mer, aged 43 years—a religious since the age of 15. More than three years ago a sprain of the knee produced an effusion of synovia ["joint oil," in common parlance] and an enormous swelling, which made her suffer much. She came to Lourdes, without desiring it, on the express order of the Superioress-General; she suffered cruelly during the journey. Two religious, her companions, plunged her twice into the piscina, without her experiencing any relief. Plunged a third time, she felt herself cured; the pain and swelling had totally disappeared.

Remarks.—The above is a literal translation of all the particulars given of this most interesting and unquestionably supernatural case. It is much to be regretted that such cases as these should not be supported by formal testimonials. For Catholics the particulars given are sufficient, for we know that the name of the religious and of her Community is a sufficient guarantee of the correctness of the statements. For others, it may be pointed out that the name of the Community, and of the particular house, being given, it would be easy to ascertain the facts, and that to publish such a case in a sceptical country like France would inevitably incur exposure, if any deception were practised.

ANNEXATION OF INDIA.

BY "BLACKTHORN,"

(Concluded.)

In addition to the revenues of the country, the immense sums which Hastings had acquired by robbing the Great Mogul, and by selling and enslaving the Rohillas, were not sufficient to meet the expenses, consequent on the obstacles that stood in the way of the complete Annexation of India.

But before we follow Hastings further in his ingenious methods of raising money, let us view for a moment the greatest—indeed it nearly proved a fatal—obstacle to England's progress in the East. I refer to Hyder Ali, a man whose early history in many respects closely resembles that of Mahommed. Hyder Ali was so humbly born, and in his youth he was so neglected as not to have been taught even the alphabet. But he was endowed with those qualities that make men masters amongst their fellow-men. As a soldier he distinguished himself in the wars of Southern India. He was thrown upon the scene in a time peculiarly favourable to his genius. The sleek hand of the European, treachery, and its consequent disorders, were turning order into chaos. In this confusion many old States had gone to pieces. Hyder Ali once at the head of troops proved himself to be the soldier and statesman who could again restore order out of chaos. From the general wreck of shattered States he formed for himself a great, compact and vigorous empire, which he ruled with ability and vigilance, though, it must be admitted, with severity. He was indeed an oppressor, though he pretty well protected his people from outside oppression. Thus arose the Mahomedan Kingdom of Mysore.

The English officials, habituated to an overbearing manner to the war's native princes, provoked the hostility of Hyder Ali. This monarch showed his sense of the insult by sending ninety thousand soldiers to wreak vengeance on the Company's settlements. This immense army, with its hundred pieces of cannon, came pouring through the dark mountain passes that led from the high lands of Mysore to the plains of the Carnatic. It was everywhere victorious. Distinguished English Commanders were defeated. Their troops were either destroyed, or had taken refuge in flight. So rapid were the movements of this conqueror that in three weeks from the commencement of the war, the British Empire in Southern India had been brought to the brink of ruin.

The masterly policy of Hastings came to the rescue of his helpless countrymen. Hyder Ali's progress was eventually checked and he was defeated. But there remained the enormous expenses which that policy entailed. The plunder of the Mogul, and the price of the Rohillas had disappeared in big salaries to civil servants, and remittances to London. There was nothing left for war expenses; the financial embarrassment was again extreme. But it could be only for the moment, for there yet remained princes and people in India, who had wealth; and there yet flew at the mast-head of the British Constitution commanded by Hastings the pirate flag with its motto, "Thou shalt want ere I want."

Cheyte Sing, Rajah of Benares, was this time the victim. In truth, this poor ruler had long been bound; and awaiting the convenient moment for the slaughter. In an unfortunate moment of quarrel with another prince, he claimed the protection of the English; and, as we say, ceded all his rights to the Company. As if evil fate would have it, the Lord of Benares was on friendly terms with two Englishmen of the Council, who were opposed to the Governor's general policy. For courting their favour, Hastings used to punish Cheyete Sing in this way: In 1778, on the break out of the war with France, he was called upon to pay, in addition to his yearly tribute, the modest little contribution of fifty thousand pounds. In the following year another little sum of the same dimensions was enacted. In 1780, the demand was modestly renewed by the representative of the liberty-loving people who are for ever singing the praises of Magna Charta. These extra contributions to the amount of a hundred thousand pounds made the reserve fund of Cheyete Sing "grow" less. He hesitated before paying the third call, and bethought of testing the Governor-general's virtue by the strength of a twenty thousand pound tribe. Hastings' virtue could not bear the weight of twenty thousand pounds, so it fell into his pocket. He took the money and concealed for a time the transaction. His enemies say, "Fear of detection made him give it up to the Company." What inspired him I don't know, but it is not on record that he ever gave any satisfactory reason for the concealment. He renewed the demand for the fifty thousand, and added another ten thousand pounds as a fine for delay. The money was paid: so the third transaction was in itself worth eighty thousand pounds. But this was not enough. The cost of the war with Hyder Ali was not yet paid off. A fresh pretext was sought for raising more money. The Rajah was ordered to keep a body of cavalry for the service of the British Government. Of course he objected; and Hastings had a cause for the quarrel which he wanted. "I resolved," he said, "to draw from his guilt the means of relief of the Company's distresses, to make him pay largely for his pardon or to exact a severe vengeance for his past delinquency." Hastings' resolve to make the helpless Rajah pay largely for his pardon meant that demand should follow demand for large contributions, till the victim should be driven to remonstrate; then making this remonstrate a crime, that he should confiscate all his possessions. This is exactly what the representative of England in India did. Notwithstanding that Cheyete Sing offered two hundred thousand pounds to pacify the British Government, a quarrel was fixed upon him; he was forced into a war of defence, he was conquered, and his unhappy country added to the British possessions.

The possession of those dominions did not bring as much money as the Governor-general had repeated. The disappointment had irritated him. In his anger he turned his eyes on the territory that had been ruled by his old friend Sujah Dowlah, of Rohilla fame. Sujah Dowlah was at this time beyond the reach of Hastings, he was dead. His son, a weak and worthless prince ruled. He too, to tyrannise over his own subjects, had got assistance from Hastings. So high a price was charged for that assistance that the Nabob soon began to complain of the burden. His revenues were falling off; his servants were unpaid, so he represented to the English that he could no longer keep the engagements he had entered into. He paid the Government of Hastings for the service of British troops; and now he wanted those troops withdrawn; but Hastings was not inclined to let go so favourable a hold. If the ruler of Oude sought a remission of the money he had already owed, the Governor-general, on the other hand, had wanted a great deal more than the Nabob owed. So wide a difference seemed incapable of settlement except by the ordinary methods of confiscating the entire province of Oude. Yet the difference was settled, but in a manner which marks an inhuman atrocity never surpassed by any of the brutes that at any time terrorised over mankind. The Nabob's treasury not being able to supply British wants, Hastings compelled him to plunder some one whose wealth would afford the relief he needed. Two widowed ladies, the mother and grandmother of the Nabob were by their husbands left in possession of a large treasure. A solemn compact had been entered into between the son and the mother, guaranteeing the independence of the widow's property from demands by the son or his Government. In consideration of this agreement the son received a grant of money. The British Government of Bengal was a witness of this compact, and guaranteed in all solemnity to uphold it. But things were not now as when that treaty was made. The East India Company wanted money and that want altered everything. Before the omnipotent presence of that want, oath bound treaties were as nothing; the rules of humanity and justice melted away; even the Divine law of filial piety, that law which the common humanity of the savage holds sacred, could not restrain the devouring grasp of this Company. And so, Asaph-ul-Dowlah was ordered, by Hastings, to raise his hand against his

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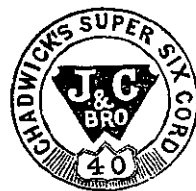
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mother, to strike her helpless, and hand the proceeds of the robbery to the English Government at Bengal. This weak and profligate son agreed to strip his mother and grandmother of their domains and treasures, for the benefit of English civilization. This treaty was drawn up at Chunar. Hastings and the Nabob separated. The latter, freed from the commanding presence of his English master, began to reflect on the awful nature of the engagements he had entered into. The entreaties and prayers of his mother and aged grand-parent seem to have created remorse in his deadened conscience. He shrunk back from the inhuman crime. Even the English representative at Lucknow could not find heart to push these extreme measures. Hastings could not bear this dallying and delicacy. He wrote to the English resident a severe letter to the effect that if the Spoliation which had been agreed upon were not instantly carried out, he would himself go to Lucknow and do that from which feebler minds recoiled in dismay. The Nabob yielded, making at the same time a declaration that he yielded to compulsion. The lands were resumed, but the eagerly sought money was not to be had. Hastings would go to the bitter end. A body of English troops forced the gates of the palace of the aged widows. The princesses refused to submit. Then a mode of coercion was used which cannot be thought of without making manhood blush with shame. The late Nabob had, according to the old custom of the East, entrusted his wife and mother to the care of two aged men—eunuchs, who on his death were placed at the head of the household. These men were by order of the British Government, arrested, imprisoned, placed in irons, and starved almost to death in order to extort money from the princesses, to carry on the work of English civilisation in India. They were kept two months in this confinement; their health gave way, they implored permission to take a little exercise in the garden of the prison. This slight mitigation of their sufferings was refused. But I must give an English Government who controlled their fate its due; they were allowed the variety of a change. These two old men were delivered over to the tormentors, to suffer in horrible dungeons tortures that never will be known. We may form some idea of their state from a letter by a British Resident to an English soldier. It runs thus: "Sir, the Nabob having determined to inflict corporal punishment upon the prisoners under your guard, this is to desire that his officers when they shall come may have free access to the prisoners and be permitted to do with them as they shall see proper."

While these hellish cruelties were being perpetrated at Lucknow, the princesses were in confinement at Fyzabad. Food was supplied them in such small quantities that their female attendants almost perished of hunger.

Of course Hastings invented a pretext for all these barbarities. The war with the Rajah of Benares, which I have already touched upon, produced disturbances at Oude. These disturbances Hastings found it convenient to attribute to the Princesses. Evidence of this charge there was none, unless mere hearsay. The accused were allowed no trial; they were not furnished with the charge against them; they were permitted to make no defence. A corrupt judge named Impey gave his sanction, and the authority of his still more corrupt High Court of India, to the whole proceeding.

Week after week, and month after month this infamous work of degrading aged ladies, and torturing old men, went on till at length twelve hundred thousand pounds had been wrung out of the Princesses. Hastings now felt satisfied that he had got the last of their treasures, and that further severity would be useless. He felt kind enough to give liberty to the wretched men at Lucknow. "When their irons were knocked off, and the doors of their prison opened, their quiver-lips, the tears which ran down their cheeks, and the thanksgivings which they poured forth to the common Father of Mussulmans and Christians melted even the stout hearts of the English warriors who stood by." This robbing of the Begums was the last great work of Annexation which Hastings performed. He had annexed largely and unscrupulously. He extended the British Empire. But to the honour of our race be it said, there were men in England who detested ill-gotten gain. Burke and Dundas were at work, striving to arouse the indignation of Great Britain and its Parliament against the Indian atrocities. It must be said they were not so successful as even moderate justice (if I may use the expression) could wish.

Let me again change the scene to Hastings in England.

"The directors (of the East India Company) received him in solemn sitting, and their chairman read him a vote of thanks which they had passed without one dissentient voice." "I find myself" wrote Hastings about a year after his arrival, "I find myself everywhere and universally treated with evidence, apparent even to my observation, that I possess the good opinion of my country."

With a few of the leading events of the great Governor-general's life now before our minds, let us glance at him in the evening of his life at his English home. We shall be puzzled at seeing so many opposing qualities exist in one nature. The man who snatched a wife from her husband; the man who hung Nuancomar out of revenge, who desolated the territory of Cheyte Sing; who slaughtered the Bohillas; who tortured aged men; who grossly degraded and mercilessly robbed aged ladies, and who bid the son raise his hand against his mother; this man, Warren Hastings, became so poetical in the decline of his life, that every morning he wrote a fresh poem, which, to the great delight of his family and guests, made its appearance on the breakfast table as regularly as the eggs and the rolls.

The fact that Carter and Co., of George Street, are the only Drapers in Dunedin doing a strictly Cash Trade who import their own Goods direct from Home Markets, is the one cause of their being able to sell cheaper than any other firm. Carter and Co. have just opened, ex S.S. Coptic and Kaikoura, 16 cases Men's and Boys' Clothing, and in consequence of the desperate scarcity of Ready Money, they have decided to offer the whole lot, for a few weeks at Landed Cost. Therefore call, inspect, and judge for yourself. Carter and Co., 60 and 62 George street, Dunedin.

THE ATTACK ON CAPTAIN PHELAN.

WHILE great and good patriots are devoting their lives to the cause of Ireland, it is deeply to be deplored that their labour and sacrifice should be at the mercy of passionate, irreligious, and irresponsible men. The fearful and murderous quarrel in O'Donovan Rossa's office has shocked the civilised world, and injured none but the Irish people.

The name of O'Donovan Rossa is the first mentioned; but we are happy to say that the evidence clearly acquits him of all knowledge of the dreadful affray.

That Phelan was attacked without premeditation we believe will be the result of the trial. That an angry altercation took place over his alleged betrayal of secrets, and that blow followed word, seems to be the burden of the evidence, so far as it has been hastily gathered.

But the fact remains that a few desperate and ungovernable men assume to commit terrible deeds in the name of the Irish nation; that they "make war" on their own account, and carry out their own law of vengeance on each other whenever their passion and suspicion are aroused.

Lynch law is a blind and damnable law; but it is better than the single sudden dagger-stroke of a man wild with wrath. It is appalling to think of Ireland's good name hanging on the will or wisdom of a "Bob Ingersoll man" and an angry butcher.

Ireland has gained greatly within the last few years, and the gain has come through the intelligent organisation. When these forces fail, they leave behind a determined physical power that will speak if need be in its way. But they have not failed. The words of Mr. Parnell in the English Parliament now represent not only Ireland's will, but the will of millions of men in other countries. The day is assuredly not distant when Ireland will be as free in her union with England as the American States are with each other.

Such events as these of Saturday will urge all who love Ireland to strengthen the hands of her chosen representatives and support the established organisation of her national purpose. Independent war-makers and executioners do not represent the Irish or Irish-American people; and if they cannot be controlled, they must be repudiated and condemned.—*Pilot*.

COUNT O'DONNELL.

(From the Dublin Freeman.)

WHILE Spain has had a hundred distinguished men of the Irish race in her service, none ever wielded so much influence or attained as high a position as Leopold O'Donnell, Count of Lycena, Duke of Tetuan, and Marshal of Spain, whose name ranks with the most illustrious men of this or any age, and who is looked upon as the Warwick of Spain, one who toyed with the Crown at his fancy. He came of the old stock of O'Donnells, who, having fought it out in their mountain fastnesses, betook themselves to Austria and Spain and served faithfully the cause of the Catholic monarchs. Joseph Henry O'Donnell, Count of Abispa, was the father of the future statesman. In the war against Napoleon the former obtained the rank of lieutenant-general in the army of Spain, and was viceroy of the Island of Tenerife when Leopold was born. At the age of fifteen the latter filled the position as aide-de-camp to a general of division, and after that his advancement was rapid. No occasion was let pass without he displayed some of that dauntless bravery he inherited from his Irish forefathers, and before long he held the position of commander-in-chief of all the troops in a part of Spain. Soon after he was appointed lieutenant-general, the occasion for the new honour being the relief of Lucena, which was being besieged by a large Carlist force. Gathering together an army much inferior in numbers to the latter, he marched to the relief of the town; and gave battle to the Carlists, who were commanded by their celebrated general, Cabrera. The battle was a decisive one, owing to O'Donnell's brilliant manoeuvring, the Carlists being completely routed. Thus the town was relieved, and the enemy prevented from obtaining the mastery over the whole of Valencia, as he certainly would if O'Donnell had been defeated. In 1843 he was appointed captain-general of Cuba, and during his term of office the island was most prosperous and peaceful. It was during his administration, and owing in part to his influence, that the importation of slaves into the island was almost entirely stopped. At the entrance to the port of Havana is a fortress which has been named in honour of O'Donnell. On his return to the peninsula he entered actively into Spanish politics, and took rank as one of the leading statesmen of the day. In 1854 he became virtually director of Spain, being at the head of an administration pledged to popular reform, and thus continued for several years. The war with Morocco called him into active service once more, and at the head of the Spanish troops we find him bringing the war to a speedy and successful termination. For his services in this war he received the title of Duke of Tetuan. His last public office was President of the Council and Minister of War, which he took in 1865. Two years later he died at Biarritz, France; and Spain sincerely mourned the loss of one of the greatest men who had ever managed her affairs. Whether for his valour on the battlefield or his wisdom in the council, there is no Spaniard that will not accord him the reverence due to greatness, and there is no Irishman that will not feel proud of his name and glory.

The mind depends for its health very largely on bodily conditions. The gloomy fears, the desponding views, the weariness of souls that many complain of, would often disappear were the blood made pure and healthy before reaching the delicate vessels of the brain. Ayer's Sarsaparilla purifies and vitalizes the blood; and thus conduces to health of body and sanity of mind.

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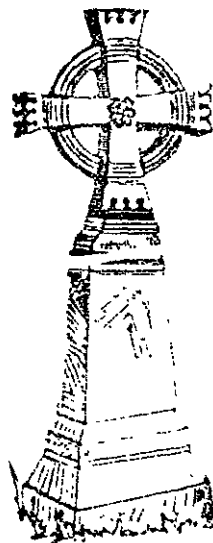
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