

shall have her rights, and they have made up their minds, whilst failing in no duty to their sovereign, to refuse to submit to ill-treatment at the hands of any portion of their fellow-subjects, be they English, Scotch, or the Irish garrison, as the landlord class of their country is called. Of course their enemies say this is disloyal, but Irishmen have intellects too keen to treat such a calumny otherwise than contemptuously, and too brave to be turned from their righteous course through fear of such a baseless falsehood. Men can, thank God, be truly loyal to their country and its Government, and at the same time condemn abuses and even passionately demand their rights. And Irishmen are such men. It gives us great pleasure to publish the report of the proceedings of Wednesday evening's meeting, and we entertain not the least doubt that should a hostile force attack this portion of Her Majesty's dominions, none will be found in the day of trial more brave, devoted, and skilful than the members of the Irish Company of Dunedin Volunteers.

OMNE IGNOTUM PRO MAGNIFICO.

ONE of our contemporaries is not quite satisfied with the appointment of Sir GEORGE WHITMORE to the command of the Colonial Forces. In the estimation of the writer to whom we refer Sir GEORGE is too old a colonist to be fit for the office, and, as he would seem to argue, consequently too ignorant. He is also evidently of opinion that it is only necessary to send home for an officer, to get the genuine article. Well, we are rather sceptical as to the certainty of always securing the real thing by importations from Home, and we really thought that a sad experience had cured colonists of the craze of runing like babies after new comers. Hitherto any one from Europe with plenty of assumption was sure to be run after, and notwithstanding the many proofs lately afforded that they were made of brass and clay, we regret to find that a cure has not been effected. One would have thought, however, that a public writer holding a responsible position would have felt himself called upon to sustain an appointment made by the Government on its responsibility, and have abstained from vilipending its judgment before trial, and from flinging distrust in the face of a brave and proved soldier at the very first moment of his appointment. Now is the time to endeavour to inspire confidence, not distrust; now is the time to sustain the Government by willing and encouraging words, instead of labouring to sow the seeds of distrust and weaken confidence in the leaders of the country. We do not desire to eulogise Sir GEORGE WHITMORE,—he is above our eulogy—but we do think that his experience of the Colony, his knowledge of its geography, people, and resources is one of his chief recommendations, and we have little doubt that, all things considered, his appointment is the very best that could have been made. We must say we entertain the greatest distrust of strangers pitchforked over the heads of able and tried colonists, simply because they are strangers. There is a great deal too much of that spirit which regards everything not our own as necessarily something better than our own, amongst colonists, and which cannot be better described than in the words of our heading—"Omne ignotum pro magnifico,"—which may be freely translated by the old saying: Cows far away have long horns.

THE devotions of the Month of Mary will commence this (Friday) evening, with the Rosary and Benediction of the Most Holy Sacrament, in St. Joseph's Church, Dunedin.

HIS Lordship the Bishop of Dunedin will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation at Lawrence on Sunday next, and at the Teviot on the following Tuesday. He will be in the Queenstown district on the second and third Sundays in May. His Lordship will return to Dunedin for Pentecost, and on the Tuesday following will administer first Communion and Confirmation at St. Patrick's Church, South Dunedin. On the Sunday after he will be in Invercargill.

ON Sunday, the Feast of the Patronage of St. Joseph, the Sacrament of Confirmation was administered to 106 recipients in St. Joseph's Church, Dunedin, by His Lordship the Bishop. The girls confirmed, who for the most part were pupils of the Dominican Nuns' Schools, were prettily attired in white; and the boys, under the care of the Christian Brothers, wore each a blue scarf and medal. The conduct of both boys and girls during the ceremonies showed that they had been well instructed.

Now that Russian cruisers are reported to be in more or less proximity to our coasts, we may be permitted to doubt the prudence that has issued the very creditable half-yearly report and balance

sheet of the Bank of New Zealand which will be found in another column. But, Russians or no Russians, the management deserve to be congratulated on the marked success that has attended on their efforts for the good of the company, and we are very happy to congratulate them.

AN "Old Identity" writes to the *Daily Times* objecting to Belgian colonists on the authority of some silly publication called a "Girls' Annual," and which it seems is accountable for a shamefully false and disreputable article on Belgian Girls. We should be glad to learn from an Old Identity, who ought to be a good authority on the subject, what it is that makes Scotch women who according to the recent testimony of the Provost of Edinburgh, and undeniable statistics, are grossly immoral, so much superior to Belgian girls who lie, that they should be infinitely preferable colonists! Old Identity might also inform the public as to whether Presbyterian ministers do not wink at illegitimate births quite as much as Catholic priests wink at lying. There is certainly quite as much reason that they should do so. Will "Old Identity," who is surely experienced in this matter, kindly crack this nut for us?

NOTIFICATION TO THE CLERGY OF THE DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN.

DEAR REVEREND BRETHREN:—You will perceive from the annexed documents that the Most Rev. the Archbishop of Sydney, has been appointed Apostolic delegate for the purpose of holding a Plenary Synod of the Australasian Churches, and that His Grace has summoned all entitled to assist at such a Synod to meet in Sydney on the 14th of next November in the cathedral church there. His Grace has also requested the Bishops to publish these facts in their several dioceses; and ask prayers for the success of this most important assembly. Wherefore, in obedience to this mandate, we hereby inform you that a Plenary Synod will be held in Sydney in the cathedral and adjoining buildings there on the 14th of next November, and that (D. V.) we shall be present at it. We have also to request that from the date of the reception of this, the prayer *Deus Refugium* shall be said in every Mass in which, according to the rubrics, it can be said, together with its secret and post-communion, till the termination of the aforesaid Synod. In order that the faithful may join in public prayer for a blessing on this Synod, We prescribe that the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary be said before all Masses till our return from Sydney.

P. MORAN,
Bishop of Dunedin.

Given at Dunedin, April 28, 1885.

EDICTUM CONVOCATIONIS SYNODI PLENARIE AUSTRALIENSIS.

PATRIUS FRANCISCUS, Dei et Apostolicæ Sedis gratia, Archiepiscopus Sydneyensis, Metropolitanus, etc.

Illustrissimis et Reverendissimis DD. Archiepiscopo et Episcopis Ecclesiarum Australiensium et aliis omnibus qui de jure Synodo Plenariæ interesse debent, salutem in Domino.

Cum ex parte Reverendissimorum Præsalum Ecclesiarum Australiensium Sanctæ Sedi innotuerit in votis esse ut plenaria totius Australiæ Synodus celebraretur, cumque hujusmodi consilium summopere placuerit Sacræ Congregationi de Propaganda Fide, Sanctissimus D. N. Leo Papa XIII., Supremus in terris Ecclesiæ Pastor, Nobis potestatem concessit (ut ex Litteris Brevibus die 10^æ Junii anni elapsi datis, et huic Decreto adnexis constat) qua ad normam Sanctorum Canonum talem Synodum Ecclesiarum Australiensium convocarem, eidemque ex Delegatione Apostolica præsessem. Nos itaque vi auctoritatis benigniter concessæ Synodum Plenariam Australiensem in Civitate Sydneyensi qui locus omnibus Præsalibus commodus et opportunus visus est, in Cathedrali Ecclesia et ædibus adjacentibus ad xviii. Kalendas Decembris in die Sabbati ante festum Patrocinii Beatissimæ Mariæ Virginis quæ inceptis nostris sit propitia, incipientem, et subsequentibus diebus proseguendam, et Deo adjuvante ad ejus gloriam et laudem, et fidelis populi salutem, absolvendam ac perficiendam indicimus et convocamus.

Cæterum venerabilibus Præsalibus, quorum cor unum et anima una est, occasionem hæc Synodus præbebit qua sapientissima cœnœnici Concilii Vaticani decreta solemniter inculcentur, abusus in disciplina Ecclesiastica si qui sint corrigantur, Catholica juventutis institutio vindicetur et foveatur, et alia peragantur quæ ad salutem animarum et Ecclesiæ bonum promovendum spectant.

Hæc vero ut rite perficiantur, Reverendissimos Præsules rogamus et requirimus ut, cum suis theologicis clero seculari vel regulari selectis ad Synodum hanc veniant, aut, si ipsi legitime impediti sint, procuratores mittant. eos pariter rogamus ut, in suis Diocesis, omnibus qui Synodo Plenariæ de jure vel consuetudine adesse debent aut possunt, hujus Synodi indicationem notam faciant.

De cætero, quoniam in vanum laborant qui ædificant domum nisi Dominus ædificet eam, rogamus et adhortamur pietissimos Præsules et omnem clerum ac populum ut suis orationibus Nos et omnes qui Synodo intersint adjuvent, Deum optimum maximum assidue obsecrantes ut assistentem sapientiam immittat quæ nobiscum sit et nobiscum laboret, mentes illuminet et corda succendat, sicque actus et operationes bene inceptas feliciter ad exitum perducatur ut nostris consilia pietas promoveatur, ecclesiastici ordinis decus augeatur, fides firmetur et opera Christianæ pietatis et misericordiæ magisque abundant adeoque qui foris sunt hæc videntes glorificent Patrem qui in Cœlis est et in unicum salutis ovile aggregentur.

Datum apud Sydney, die 15 Aprilis, 1885.

P. MORAN,

Revmo. D. Episcopo Dunedinensi,
Dunedin.

Archiep. Sydneyen.