

like it not. Truth will prevail in spite of error, and it needs not such stirring up of sectarian feeling to promote its cause. Let education advance, and then the mass of the people will be able to judge for themselves of the respective merits of the different beliefs, and let each one enrol under that banner in which he finds peace. It is not an ennobling work to sow the seeds of discord in a community. Belief is a matter for each individual, and with each is a matter of conscience. If one believes in the principles of any system, it ill-becomes him to find fault with the system because he finds some of the teachers of that system no better than they ought to be; if he does not believe in that system, he should quietly withdraw from it and leave its followers in peace. From the manner in which the addresses of the escaped nun are made public, there appears to be a large element of finance in the whole affair, hence there seems much of inconsistency in opening the business with prayer. Were the funds to be devoted to some religious purpose it would perhaps be consistent to open thus; but in a public meeting, where doubtless some of all creeds and no creeds are included, it is unsuited. And why should a vote of thanks be returned a lecturer who, as reward for her services, has levied a heavy toll from every person present? We would humbly suggest that the lecturer return thanks to the audience for their kind attendance and attention.

ST. MARY'S ORPHANAGE, STOKE

(From the *Nelson Colonist*.)

SOME little time back an admirable estate of nearly 400 acres situated at Stoke, within easy distance of the main road and about half an hour's drive of Nelson, was purchased from Mr. N. Fowler, with the view of erecting thereon the permanent St. Mary's Boy's Orphanage, and utilising the ground as a farm and training place for the lads brought up at this institution. Mr. Sommerville, the architect, of this city, was entrusted with the work of devising the necessary buildings, and in carrying out his duty he has kept in view the probability of the necessity arising as the establishment gains in stature and in fame of the present buildings being added to. The front of the buildings will have a westerly aspect, and they will be visible from the main road to Richmond and the railway, from which points the most noticeable feature will be the tower, which will have height of 78 feet. From the main road easterly the ground gradually ascends in the direction of what is known as Poor Man's Valley, and it is upon the rising ground that the Orphanage will be erected, though on account of spurs from the higher hills the institution will not occupy so commanding a position as it otherwise would do. The front of the building, which is to be a two storey one, will be 190 feet at the southern end, provision being left for the addition of a new wing. Forty feet from the southwest corner rises a tower and belfry to the height of 78 feet from the ground, beneath this tower being situated the main entrance to the Orphanage, consisting of a hall 10 feet wide, from which corridors branch. The building itself is plain, but substantial, and much attention has been given to the sanitary matters, including ventilation. On the lower floor the rooms will be 13 feet from floor to ceiling, and on the upper floor 12 feet; the height of the main building being 27 feet to the span of the roof, and 33 feet to the ridge. The windows are alternately double and single, those lighting the lower floor being square headed, whilst the upper ones have pointed heads. In the centre of the building is situated the refectory or dining hall, a fine apartment 70 feet by 49, and on the right of this are parlours and schoolrooms, whilst to the left there are kitchen, scullery, wash-house, laundry, and stores. To the right of the refectory are two schoolrooms 39 feet by 29 feet. Access is gained to the upper floor by means of two staircases, and on this floor are two large dormitories above the refectory, whilst there are also servants' rooms, clothes rooms, and lavatories, as well as an infirmary, which is placed near the tower. When the building, as now designed, is completed, there will be ample and splendid accommodation for 150 boys, whilst the erection of a wing on the south would provide for fully 50 more. The arrangements as provided for are admirable; the lavatories are to be arranged for hot and cold water, and with baths and basins. In the clothes rooms there will be lockers for each boy, and a water supply is to be provided for by a hydraulic ram fixed on the creek which runs through the property, and which will raise the water a height of about 100 feet, and in quantities ample for all purposes. The building will be erected on brick foundations, but will be built of wood. From the open belfry of the tower a magnificent view of the rural landscape from land, sea, mountain, and bush will be procurable. All the interior will be match lined, and for use in wet weather a large play shed, 40 feet by 14 feet, is to be built. Earth closets are to be provided, and the water from baths, sinks, etc., is to be carried some distance into settling tanks and there treated chemically. The plans appear very complete, and as tenders for the work are now under consideration, we may shortly expect to see the building in progress.

Lazy and dull feelings always precede sickness, which nothing but Hop Bitters will banish. Get the genuine American. Read.

The *Paris Temps* gives the following text of the reward offered by the English for the assassination of Pain. The document, published in several Egyptian journals last April, is signed by Captain G. F. Wilson. Selkovitch testifies that he saw Pain executed by two native soldiers acting under the orders and in the presence of Major Kitchener:—"Reward £50 sterling.—This reward is offered to anyone who will deliver up Olivier Pain and his papers, dead or alive. He left Debbah on a camel on March 13, 1885. This is his description:—Complexion light, hair and beard fair, stature about five feet seven inches, blue eyes, figure slight, thin lips, features with a hard expression, reserved in his manners and language. The expression of his blue eyes is characteristic."

MILLIONAIRE MACKAY.

(From the *Chicago Herald*.)

THE story of John W. Mackay's buying the *New York Herald*, or rather as the original liar said, "taking it for debt," has been appropriately squeaked. That was perhaps the silliest *canard* of the season. Right here it ought to be said that there is more nonsense written about John Mackay than perhaps any other rich man in America. Most of the twaddle about his wealth is the veriest romance. He is in truth very rich, richer than almost any American who, without the aid of such advantages as may come from pure chance, can ever hope to become, but the fashion that many have of ranking Mackay with the Monte Cristos of the earth is absurd. There are scores of men in America richer than Mackay, and who have their wealth better invested and more in hand. The great bonanza firm reached the climax of its golden romance in 1876. Their stocks in the bonanza mines were then worth perhaps 100,000,000dols. The mines in which they had a controlling interest were paying 2,000,000dols. a month, but this went gradually down and went rapidly. That firm, as a firm, never realised more than 300,000dols. a month profit. This was enough to give romance to the silver cave, and if it had held out in treasure it would no doubt have made Mackay, Flood, Fair and O'Brien the richest people on the earth's surface.

But it did not hold out. O'Brien died in 1878, while these stocks were yet paying dividends, and while their market value was yet away up. His stocks were disposed of at market rates, yet his whole estate settled up but 9,000,000dols. Every bonanza interest tumbled after that. Its stocks, stamp mills, wood and water interests, and all went to the dogs. Mackay, it is well known, had twice what his other partners had. Therefore, if he had died in the place of O'Brien at the time the latter did his estate would have come to 20,000,000dols. or thereabouts. That was the very climax of bonanza wealth.

Mr. Mackay never was richer than 20,000,000dols. even on paper. He has been known as the poorest investor of any of the bonanza firm. He never yet made an investment, except in Government or State bonds, that yielded a dollar of income. All his speculative investments have come to naught. He gives away vast sums, squanders other vast sums, and we all know what Mrs. Mackay accomplishes in the way of expenditure. One day, in front of the Nevada Bank, in San Francisco, Mr. Mackay read in a paper handed to him an absurd statement that Mrs. Mackay had offered to buy the *Arc de Triomphe*, in Paris, for 2,000,000 francs. "You may say," said John W. in his broad North of Ireland accent, "that Mrs. Mackay is no fool and neither is John Mackay. That is a dom he, sor. An' you may say, mon, that if John Mackay was fool enough to pay for that arch or any other arch, begad, sor, he don't know where in h—the money is comin' from. They've bled me, sor, like a lot of wolves. They say Mrs. Mackay has spent half a million a year in Europe. It's a dom he, sor. She lives like a lady and I want her to do so, but, begad, 50,000dols. a year pays all her expenses, balls and all, for a whole year. They said the other day she spent 50,000dols. on a single ball to Grevy or somebody—Gad knows who he is,—but that is a he, sor. She don't spend 50,000dols. in a whole year in Paris. Say that, will you, sor?"

Mr. Mackay was sincere in this. Mrs. Mackay is not near the spendthrift that a lot of romance writers try to make her out. Yet John's own admission that her expenditures were 50,000dols. a year, or thereabouts, is enough to make workers growl and people of small means weep. Fifty thousand a year to idle away! Just for a woman and a woman's pride! A woman, daughter of a barber—a barber in Downville, Cal., in 1856, now 'Colonel' J. H. Hungerford, of the Boulevard des Malesherbes—the knightly father-in-law of the great "American Midas," as the French love to call Mackay. After all, it is a stupendous joke. And the Prince Telfener, of Italy, married the youngest of the barber's daughters, and the Prince Colonna, heir of the greatest house of Italy, married Mackay's step-daughter—her father was a poor little druggist in a mining camp in Nevada City. Could any rough or vigorous romance ever find such expression?

Hundreds of letters from those using Ayer's Hair Vigor attest its value as a restorer of grey hair to its natural color. As a stimulant and tonic, preventing and often curing baldness, and cleansing and soothing the scalp, its use cannot be too strongly recommended.

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 yourselves. Carter and Co., 60 and 62 George street, Dunedin.

"That split" in the Irish national movement, which English journalists discover as faithfully at stated periods as they capture the sea-serpent in the dull season, has been again discovered and again discounted. Mr. Michael Davitt, if our contemporaries across the Channel were to be believed was going to smash everything before him. He was to pulverise the Irish Parliamentary policy, as it were, with dynamite. He was to make short work of Mr. Parnell just as Finn McCool could have made short work of Tom Thumb if they had ever met in combat. All this, and more, Mr. Davitt was to do about the time of the general election. Mr. Davitt, however, who may be accepted as a very reliable authority on the whole matter, declares that he has no intention whatever of doing the work assigned to him by the British Press. On the contrary, he counsels the Irish people to preserve the closest union and declares that there is only one Parliamentary policy in Ireland, and that, he says, is the policy of Mr. Parnell. Furthermore he asserts that no other Parliamentary programme would be tolerated in the country.—*Nation*.