

**A FEMALE TEACHER** Wanted for a Catholic School.

Salary, £20 per annum, with board and residence. Apply, with references, to the REV. FATHER O'DONNELLI, Ahaura.

## CATHEDRAL FUND.

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

Mr. Thomas Graham, Quirindi, N.S.W.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
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WEEKLY SUBSCRIPTIONS.			
Per Rev. P. Lynch	£ s. d.	Per Mr. W. Hall	£ s. d.
„ Mr. Drummond	6 0 0	„ Mrs. Bell	1 7 0
	3 16 6		1 0 0
† P. MORAN.			

# The New Zealand Tablet.

FIAT JUSTITIA.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 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 CURIOUS STATE OF THINGS.



**MAJOR ATKINSON** and **SIR JULIUS VOGEL** do not seem to differ as to the necessity of a spirited public works policy and of further borrowing. Nor does there appear to be much difference between them on any essential point. Why, therefore, they should head different parties, it is not easy to see. But so it is. The Major is in straits. His convictions

and the requirements of his party are, as it appears to us, in conflict. We really cannot see that there is any substantial difference between him and **SIR JULIUS**, nevertheless it is evident that the Major wishes to make it appear that there is. We cannot see it, and we think the public labour under the same inability. If the Major really wishes, as no doubt he does, to convince the people of New Zealand that his views on public works and borrowing differ from those of **SIR JULIUS** it will be necessary for him to deliver another speech explanatory of his Hawera oration. There is no use in shrieking against additional taxation. **SIR JULIUS** says there need be nothing of the sort, and in this we are thoroughly in accord with him. The expenses of Government, general and local, are a great deal more than they ought to be. There are, first of all, too many members of Parliament; in the second place, too many local boards, all having a pull for the cost of administration at the pockets of the rate-payers. What necessity, for example, for 40 men in one district to look after charitable aid? What necessity for such a multitude of School Boards and committees and paid secretaries, and free railway travelling and all the rest of it? Would not one Board in each county suffice for all purposes? Our opinion is that the country is being bled to death by excessive Government, legislation, and administration. In a little time, if this sort of thing is to continue, every man in the country will be either a School Board man, or a member of a School Committee, Municipal Council, County Council, Charitable Aid Board, or Member of Parliament. Were there not a species of tragedy in the business, the whole thing would be too ludicrous for serious comment. But the fact is, the country is being governed to death. Economy is wanted, but not the economy that is always had recourse to—viz., cutting down the salaries of civil servants. They are not overpaid, but there are too many officers, including, of

course, Members of Parliament, etc., etc. Then, what about the enormous and unnecessary vote for education? Experience teaches that the plentiful endowment of schools is not the best means of promoting education. Let those who doubt this, read the various reports of the commissioners appointed to investigate the state, financial and literary, of intermediate education in England and Ireland. From these it will be seen that robbery and plunder rather than efficiency in teaching, were promoted by lavish endowments. It is no doubt the duty of the State to help education; but he must be blind, indeed, who fails to see that in this country the State is doing more mischief than good by its policy in reference to education. Certainly, one-half the amount now spent on schools could be made to suffice for all educational purposes, if men would only adopt a wise and just course on this question. We have no doubt that **SIR JULIUS VOGEL**, were he not afraid of the popular vote, would soon devise a means of settling this vexed question to the satisfaction of all, particularly of the workingman, who is now without employment through an extravagant school expenditure, and even from this expenditure derives relatively less advantage than those who are well-to-do. It is for the working man to look to it. He has the power in his hands, and if he will only open his eyes wide enough and divest himself of prejudice, he can easily put an end to the present depression. No additional taxation will be necessary. Let the vote for education be cut down to one-half its present amount, a wise system of schools established, and then the Government can raise a loan of from five to six millions sterling for reproductive public works. Cannot the people of the country do what the poor Catholics are doing,—exert themselves to provide education for their own children? It is their duty to do this, and it is not at all creditable to them to shove off their obligations on to the shoulders of the tax payer. The work, too, would be done better if people paid directly for the education of their children. The Government has already done more than it ought to have done, and now that so many fine schools have been built and so many reserves made for educational purposes, it certainly is not too much to expect people who have means, to bear themselves the burden of paying directly for the maintenance of these schools and their teachers. Were this done, our present depression would soon disappear. Three millions sterling at least have been spent on our present system of education, and has not the greater part of this been borrowed money? Borrowed money! is it not a shame that a well-to-do people should so demean themselves as to borrow money to educate their children, particularly whilst the workingman is walking idly about in want of work?

THE form of the demonstration to be made in honour of the Most Rev. Dr. Redwood will be seen from the following resolutions passed unanimously at a meeting of Catholics held the other night at St. Mary's Convent Wellington:—(1) That during the visit of His Eminence Cardinal Moran, to Wellington, advantage be taken of the opportunity, and of the opening of St. Patrick's College, to present to His Lordship the Bishop a fitting testimonial from the whole of his diocese. (2) That with this object a circular letter be addressed to the priests of every parish of the diocese, asking them to make a collection from every adult Catholic for the purpose. (3) That subscriptions be received to the amount of one shilling and upwards as donors think fit. (4) That Rev. Father McNamara and Mr. P. S. Garvey be appointed joint treasurers of the Testimonial Fund, and that the moneys collected be placed by them in the Bank of New Zealand. (5) That a sufficient sum out of these moneys be devoted to the purchase of a crozier and pectoral cross and chain, and that the remainder be handed over in sovereigns to His Lordship. (6) That the mode of collecting subscriptions be left to the different parish priests, but that they be asked to obtain and transmit the collections to the treasurers at Wellington not later than January 31st, 1886.

WE have received a pamphlet entitled "The Origin and Spiritual Nature of Man," by James Copland, M.A., M.D., Ph.D. We shall notice the publication more at length in an early issue.

WE notice that the pupils of the Catholic schools have scored another success at the recent Junior Public Examinations for the University of Sydney. The Marist Brothers, for example, sent up 31 boys from their St. Joseph's College, Hunter's Hill, of whom 30 passed, obtaining two silver medals and one prox. acc. Several boys also passed from their parochial schools.

WE learn that it is the intention of the railways department to run special trains, or to issue excursion tickets so as to enable people at a distance to be present at the opening of the Dunedin Cathedral on February 14. The opportunity offered, as we have reason to believe, will be taken advantage of by many who are looking forward to the approaching ceremonies.