

makes their success seem doubtful, and detracts considerably from any hope we might entertain as to their proving the immediate salvation of the country.

## CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own Correspondent.)

March 15, 1886.

THE unemployed difficulty is in a fair way of settlement. Some 200 or 250 applied for work. 100 are supplied with passages by steamer to Greymouth, and the balance are at work in various ways about Christchurch, chiefly at the city reserves and the property of the Drainage Board. Those who are exported will probably earn good wages, and the rest will have to be contented with the Government wages. That is the present position of the matter. The men have accepted the inevitable with a very good grace, in spite of the somewhat wild language of a few, who, having "the gift of the gab gallopin'," as the illustrious Mr. Weller used to say, fancy themselves leaders of a movement in some direction, they know not exactly whither. It is not pleasant to see good men leaving the district, and it is not exactly edifying to see those who remain drawing such low wages. But it would be a great deal more painful to see them starve, or crowd round a soup-kitchen. Bad is the best in this sorrowful business.

The only people who are hopeful in the present state of our affairs are the members of the Railway League. These gentlemen are hopeful because they are energetic. They have committed themselves to a definite programme, and are not letting the grass grow under their feet. This is their programme, "Cordial co-operation between the people of Canterbury, Nelson, and Westland to secure the construction by the Government of the East and West Coast and Nelson Railway simultaneously with the Northern Grand Trunk and Otago Central; and to advocate the extension of the League to all parts of the Colony, with a view of securing political support to these members who will advocate the completion of the trunk railway system by the completion of the above railways." The League, you will see, having concluded that nothing can be hoped for from private enterprise, has developed itself into a political body. Its agitation is gradually assuming large proportions. These will shortly be augmented by the publication of the League's pamphlet giving the history, statistics, and surrounding considerations of the railway project. This *brochure*, which has been some months in preparation, will be ready for printing on Friday next. As a capable man has been at work, the case may be expected to be well put. On the whole, the Government will, in the case of a possible political campaign after the session, find the League's organisation very useful.

Sir George Grey's arrival here from your part of the country is not so eagerly expected as such an event used to be in the not very distant past. I fancy he is feeling the pulse of the public on this occasion.

Have any of your readers seen Mr. James Anthony Froude's sketch of Sir George? If not, they ought to get that author's book, "Oceania," and look up the passage. It will edify them to learn that Sir George divides his time at Kawau between the simple duties of an agricultural proprietor and pious practices like those for which the late General Gordon was famous. According to the veracious Froude, Sir George is a mixture of Gordon, and Cromwell, and Cincinnatus, all rolled into one. Such a simple, pious, delightful, dear, clever, sagacious, old man it would be hard to meet anywhere. When you read that all New Zealand is like Auckland, and that the best thing for the country would be government by a thorough dictator; that there is little agriculture in New Zealand, and much political corruption; and when you see much detailed criticism, very exhaustive, by a man who saw nothing of it beyond Rotomahana, the Auckland clubs, and Kawau, you will be charmed, especially when you learn from his own rather lofty statement that he spent nearly all his time in reading the classic master-pieces of Greece and Rome. You will, in fact, get an insight into Mr. Froude's method of practising the art of instructing the public. Were the distinguished historian to take it into his head to describe some European country in this fashion—some country against which English people have no prejudices, if there be such a place—his reputation would vanish as fast, let us say, as he caused some portions of the great reputation of his great friend, the philosopher of Chelsea, to disappear. But New Zealand, besides being remote, is a *terra incognita*, and Mr. Froude is safe, except with the judicious few who, knowing the Colony, and having heads on their shoulders know how to use the wits therein contained.

## CRICKET.

ST. PATRICK'S COLLEGE v. WELLINGTON COLLEGE 2nd.

On Wednesday, the 9th inst., St. Patrick's College played a match against the second eleven of the Wellington College, which resulted in a victory for St. Patrick's by 18 runs on the first innings. The following are the scores. St. Patrick's, 1st. innings, 76; 2nd. innings, 105; (Holley, 10; Malaghan, 29 and 15; Mahoney, 29 and 7; M'Mahon, 20 and 1; Gorman I and 19.) Hane and Hirschberg shared the bowling honours. Wellington College, 1st. innings, 58; Wilson, 16. Henry, 11; Mahony, 5 wickets for 26; M'Irroy, 3 for 19; bowled well for St. Patrick's.

On the same afternoon a match between the Second eleven of St. Patrick's, and the Third eleven of the Wellington College, which had been commenced on the previous Saturday was concluded, and resulted in a victory for St. Patrick's. The following are the scores. St. Patrick's, 1st. innings, 73; 2nd. innings, 85; (M'Irroy A., 10; Narby, 16; Dvson, 21; Sheedy 24 (not out). Wellington College, 1st. innings, 38; 2nd. innings, 65; (Holmes, 21 and 29; M'Kenzie, 15.) St. Patrick's College thus won by 55 runs.

B. M'Mahon, Hon. Sec. St. P. C. C. C.

## BLLENHEIM.

(From an Occasional Correspondent.)

March 10, 1886.

THE Most Rev. Dr. Redwood has been on a visit to the district of Marlborough since Thursday, 4th inst. On last Sunday he preached two very eloquent sermons, to crowded congregations, at the 11 o'clock Mass and Vespers. Many of the leading non-Catholics of Blenheim assisted at both services. On Monday, his Lordship visited the Convent Schools, conducted by the Sisters of Mercy. This is the first visit of the Bishop to the Convent Schools, which were opened towards the end of last year, but his Lordship seemed quite pleased with the number attending them, there being about one hundred and seventy (170) on their rolls. Although his Lordship visited Blenheim rather unexpectedly, the children prepared a handsome address and beautiful song of welcome. His Lordship afterwards paid a visit to the Boys' school, in which he also received an address from the pupils. On Ash Wednesday, his Lordship blessed and distributed the ashes, and explained, in an eloquent discourse, the full import of the ceremony. His Lordship has returned to Wellington this evening, and is accompanied by the Rev. Mother Superior of the Wellington Convent, who had been in Blenheim for the past few days. There are three young ladies—Misses Staff, O'Dwyer, and Fairhall—accompanying the Rev. Mother, with the view of completing their education in the Wellington Convent.

## REVIEW.

*The Eve of the Reformation*, by the Rev. W. Stang. Part I, 2s., net. Whitaker Bros., Wellington.

AN excellent work and beautifully got up. It refutes many points which, according to bigoted and falsified history, throws a slur over the religious discipline of the 14th and 15th centuries. Amongst Popes, bishops, and priests, the author points out many fit models for even the "period of faith." In a word, he shows that "all the good came from the Church, and that the bad was caused by the evils of the State." The truthful and religious way in which the characters of Alexander VI., Leo X., of Wolsey, Fisher, and Ximenes are handled, manifests both erudition and skill, whilst the chapters on "Saints and Divine Art," or that of printing, gives an amount of facts which in themselves are an ample refutation of the prejudices commonly fostered against the Church and clergy of that time.

## THE MAGDALEN ASYLUM.

### A VOICE FROM "MOUNT MAGDALA."

IN making the present appeal on behalf of the poor Magdalens of this Colony we wish to repeat a few words we wrote a short time ago:—"For several years past we have been anxious to snatch from eternal ruin a certain portion of the erring flock committed to our care," and to-day, thank God, we have every reason to hope that our desire will soon be realised.

On the 18th of the present month His Eminence Cardinal Moran laid the foundation stone of the Magdalen Asylum, at "Mount Magdala," near Christchurch, and the warm congratulations which have come to us from all classes and creeds, from the North and the South, from the East and the West, evince the spirit with which the Magdalen is welcomed in this young Colony.

A very desirable site had been secured for this purpose, and we intend to proceed without delay with the erection of the building if the friends of the good cause will place sufficient funds at our disposal.

The Sisters of the Good Shepherd are on their way from Europe to take charge, at once, of the Institution; and daily we meet with a poor Magdalen, who, tired of a misspent life, seeking a shelter, and finding no security against the biting blasts of renewed temptation, turns away with the weight of the world's accusation, with the world's condemnation, and becomes the victim of an unholy impulse, which cannot be recalled without a sigh—nay, without a tear.

His Lordship the Bishop of the Diocese writes to me thus:—"My Dear Father Ginty: Now that we have succeeded, by God's grace, in obtaining a foundation of the Good Shepherd Nuns in Canterbury, we have to take steps to carry out with promptness and energy this great design. It has my best wishes, my most fervent prayers, and my most copious blessings. I feel sure that it will meet with the heartiest co-operation from all classes and creeds, and will be productive of incalculable good, while it will draw down the especial blessing of God on all the other works of your district.—I remain etc., etc. † FRANCIS REDWOOD."

If, then, it were ever true to say that "he who gives quickly gives twice," we should venture to endorse the proverb on the present occasion, in order that soon we may see another House of the Good Shepherd added to the 150 Homes scattered over the globe, in which more than 4000 Religious bestow their devoted care on twenty thousand children and young girls.

The inmates of "Mount Magdala" and the Good Shepherd Nuns placed over them will ever remember, with lively gratitude, the benefactors of the great work now before the charitable and generous people of New Zealand.

Cheques and P.O. Orders to be made payable to me.

L. M. GINATY, S.M.,

Mis. Rect.

Christchurch, Feast of St. Mary of Cortona.

Messrs. Whitaker Bros., Wellington, have received new supplies of Catholic books and publications from America, London, and Dublin. Their catalogue includes almost every work that can be required. Their prices are extremely moderate.