

CANTERBURY CATHOLIC LITERARY SOCIETY.

Christchurch, Feb. 12, 1887.

THE usual weekly meeting of the above Society took place on Tuesday evening Feb. 8. The president, (Mr. R. P. Lonargan) in the chair, and about thirty members being present. After the passing of the minutes of the previous meeting and the transacting of some other routine business, a motion was brought forward and carried unanimously, that a concert be held on St. Patrick's night for the purpose of raising funds in aid of the band just formed in connection with the Society. A committee was appointed to make the usual arrangements.

At this stage of the proceedings the Rev. Father Bowers, Parish Priest of Geraldine, and former president, entered the room. He was suitably welcomed by the Chairman, who thanked him for the very kind interest which he showed in the welfare of the Society by attending the meetings whenever his business detained him in Christchurch on a meeting night.

A motion introduced by Mr. Cummings to the effect that the library be thrown open to ladies, free of charge, was negatived.

The president was authorised to pay for the repairing of the band instruments out of the funds in hand since the last concert.

The programme for the evening was a debate as to whether the franchise should be extended to women.

Mr. Milner in the course of a well-reasoned, carefully prepared speech, opened in the affirmative. One of his strongest points being, that according to political economists, taxation without representation was nothing short of tyranny. This was the position, he contended, of a great many women who were taxpayers, but had no voice in the affairs of the country.

Mr. Kennedy, on the negative side, considered the best politics for women was the care of her own household, and the acquisition of those accomplishments, which are far more suitable for feminine minds than the theories of politicians. He further contended that if the franchise were extended, not one out of every ten would take advantage of it.

After some further remarks from other members, the question was put to the meeting, when it was found that those supporting it were in a minority. The meeting was then closed with prayer in the usual manner.

BAZAAR AT HOKITIKA.

THE final returns of the bazaar which was held during the Christmas week being now in, it is pleasant to chronicle that the undertaking proved more successful than the most sanguine could have anticipated. The net receipts have reached £545, and while this result reflects most creditably on the promoters and management, it affords another example of the proverbial generosity of the people of the West Coast. Although it was known that the Sisters of St. Columbkille's Convent were busied in preparation, and that the lady stall-holders were unremitting in their exertions for a considerable time previously, the visitors on the night of opening (Christmas eve) were unprepared to witness the magnificence of the exhibition. The hall was really dazzling, and the stalls, which teemed with wares of all descriptions, rivalled each other in brilliancy. The formal opening took place at 7.30 p.m. by his Worship the Mayor (H. Michel, Esq.), Messrs. Bonor, M.L.C., Bevan, M.H.B., McGoldrick, County Chairman, Rev. Father Regnault, S.M., and the members of the Bazaar Committee. The speeches, which were very appropriate, were necessarily short, for it could be observed that the ladies were bent on business. And the business did commence in real earnest—raffle-sheet, lucky-bags, wheels-of-fortune, and all manner of devices were brought into requisition in no time. The stalls with their mottoes were as follows:—

No. 1. "Advance Westland," presided over by Mesdames J. Clarke and Kortegast, assisted by Misses O'Brien, Sharkey, Cassidy, and Gallop.

No. 2. "Cead Mille Failthe," by Mesdames Gribben, Horgan, and Moller, assisted by the Misses Gribben, Miss Cleary, and Miss Moller.

No. 3. "Nil Desperandum," by Mesdames Rosetti and Lynch, and Miss Behan.

No. 4. "Hope on, Hope ever," by the Misses Mandl, and the Misses Ward.

The Flower Stall by Mrs. F. E. Clarke, and the Misses Byrne. The Refreshment Stall by Mesdames Duggan and Green; and the Gipsy tent, which proved a special feature, was attended to by Mrs. F. E. Clarke.

Besides the above-mentioned ladies there was a host of satellites armed with raffle-sheets, etc. At intervals, musical selections, both vocal and instrumental, were rendered with the known ability of the following ladies and gentlemen:—The Misses Gribben, violin and piano; Miss Byrne, piano; Dr. Collins and Mrs. Collins, violin and piano; Misses Behan and Fitzsimmons, vocal duet; Mrs. F. E. Clarke, vocalist; and Mr. Colman, vocalist.

Besides the Rev. Fathers Regnault, S.M., McManus, and Ahearne, who favoured the bazaar with their presence, was the Rev. Dr. Waters, S.M., of St. Patrick's College, who doubtless will bear a vivid remembrance of his first visit to Hokitika.

A squib, called "Lord Clarendon's Pound," published in *The Nation* of November 29, 1851, containing these lines, has been unearthed by a recent literary excavator:—

"Great Dan and De Grey are gone from us;

That the first is in heaven, let us hope;

And the other—do you think I may promise?—

One day will come round to the Pope."

Twenty years after, this nobleman *did* "come round to the Pope," not in person, but by his representative; for Lord de Grey is now Marquis of Ripon.—*Weekly Register*.

Correspondence.

[We are not responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

THE IRISH NATIONAL LEAGUE.

TO THE EDITOR N. Z. TABLET.

SIR,—I beg to acknowledge your favour of November 3, with accompanying draft for £252 10s 7d, subscription of the Irishmen of Wanganui, Ngapara, Grey Valley, Addison's, and Lyell, to the funds of the Irish National League.

Kindly convey to our friends the best thanks of the organising committee for their generous subscription to the funds of the Irish National League.—I am etc.,

43 O'Connell Street Upper, Dublin Dec. 18, 1886.

T. HARRINGTON.

Hon. Sec.

HOW AND WHY EDWARD GALLAGHER DIED.

(Special correspondence of the *Pilot*.)

New Haven, Conn., Dec. 27.

EDWARD GALLAGHER, of 104 Oakland Avenue, Jersey City, is dead. Poverty killed him. He had been a slave to poverty all his life. He had vainly struggled to escape; he had labored and planned, and no doubt had often entertained rebellious thoughts, and in the end fell an easy victim to the beset that had so persistently pursued him through life. He was an exemplary workman. He had never taken part in strikes nor boycotts, nor any of the other criminal practices to which workmen nowadays are prone. During the last seventeen years of his life he served one employer continually. He must, therefore, have been steady and temperate. And during that time he was on duty every day from four o'clock in the morning until eight o'clock at night—conclusive proof that he was not lazy. Several years ago his wife died. Her husband's "long hours" made "long hours" for her, and, being the weaker, she succumbed first. After a time he married again, and his second wife, too, fell a victim to the long-hours system. After that he struggled on, with five children and a housekeeper, fifteen hours a day for seven years. He had four periods of rest during the whole time. The monotony was first broken by the death of his wife—the law of supply and demand still permits the workman time to bury his dead. Another rest came at the death of his second wife. And a few months ago he again rested from his labors. He was attacked by pneumonia, and for nine weeks he "rested" on a bed of sickness. On the tenth week, his money having been all spent, and his debts daily increasing, he returned to work. He had not fully recovered: the disease was still in his system, but starvation loomed up in the distance, and for a whole week he labored with a deadly disease racking his frame, with the hand of death actually upon him. When the week's task was done he lay down and died. He had been sober and industrious all his life; at the age of fifty he died penniless, and just in time to escape the poorhouse. His five children have been placed in an orphan asylum. The papers that told of his death published on the following day figures that had been prepared by Mr. Atkinson, of Boston, and which proved that the workingmen of to-day are much better off than they were in 1860. The workingmen of 1860 must have had a pretty hard time.

Gallagher received 10 dols. a week, which is considerably higher than the average. His family was large, but not an exceptionally large family by any means; and even in the matter of hours his was not an exceptional case. There are thousands of workmen in bakeries, breweries, in stables, on horse railroads, and in various other employments who are on duty fifteen or sixteen hours every day. In the matter of economy Gallagher was probably far behind Mr. Atkinson; yet it is very likely that he was as good an economist as is the average workman.

Mr. Edward Atkinson has recently proven that with 10 dols. a week a workman can easily support his family, and even save money. All that is required is a diet in which soup figures largely. And if a workman finds that his family is larger than that specified by Mr. Atkinson, he can give it soup three times a day, and nothing else.

The workman who earns less than ten dollars a week must be satisfied with less soup. Some medical authorities say that people in this age eat more than is necessary. There are workmen who seem to have a vague idea of the great discovery recently made by Mr. Atkinson. There are workmen in every community who never earned more than ten dollars a week, and yet have brought up large families and saved money, they did not exactly adopt the soup theory, but they managed in other ways to live very cheaply. Their children were put at work the instant they became strong enough to carry a dinner basket. I have seen some of these "economical" workmen. At the age of sixty they are broken down old men; their wives are mere wrecks; their children are seldom healthy, always ignorant, and frequently vicious. Every dollar saved by this class of workmen is a dollar stolen from the stomachs or the backs of their children. The solution of the labour problem would be a great blessing. But even to obtain that result it is not quite proper to destroy the health and morals of the common people.

PHINEAS.

Mr. E. O'Connor, of the Catholic book depot, Christchurch, advertises a considerable reduction in the already moderate prices of his books when ordered in quantities or supplied to the clergy, or religious schools, or societies. Catalogues may be had on application. —Mr. O'Connor also offers for selection a large and select stock of pious objects of all kinds, as well as of fancy goods, paints, and school stationery. The prices placed upon all the articles in question will be found most reasonable.