

Messrs. Eager, P. Cantwell, Carolin, Hayes, and the Chairman (Mr. R. A. Dunne, V.P.). Mr. E. Dunne also read a paper on South America and its people, and Mr. Carolin gave a reading from Dickens, descriptive of the famous falling out of Sairey Gamp and Betsy Frig.

"Mgr." Bouland (says the *New York Freeman's Journal* of May 13,) has faded gently away. Bishop Potter has no doubt found that he is not the kind of man to invite to a select Episcopal dinner party. The *Northwestern Chronicle* very truly says that when our Protestant friends can point to converts of unblemished reputation, such as Faber, Newman, Manning, and hundreds of others, they will have reason to proclaim them from the house-tops. Bishop Potter has doubtless satisfied himself that "Mgr." Bouland is not the most desirable of "verts."

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Philadelphia Ledger* narrates a conversation held by him with a Methodist minister regarding divorce, in which the minister gave credit to the Catholic senators who had opposed the proposal to make incurable insanity one of the causes for breaking the marriage tie. He quoted very aptly the authority of the late Archbishop Whately as saying that nearly all men and women might be considered, at some period of their lives, more or less insane. It would be easy, he added, to find a lawyer capable of taking advantage of this. The good minister's argument may be recommended to would-be divorce mongers in New Zealand.

ANOTHER useful consideration arising from the argument of this minister to whom we have alluded may be recommended to those among ourselves who are anxious to open up the path of genius by enabling every man to become his own lawyer, and who point to the United States as affording a great example in this respect. "Any faithless husband or wife," said our minister, "would have no difficulty in finding an unscrupulous lawyer who would rake up 'proof' that he or she was incurably 'insane,' and therefore entitled to a divorce." The point to which we would draw attention is the ease with which unscrupulous lawyers, capable of any dirty work, may be found in this country where easy access to the profession of the law aids the development of genius. Under like circumstances we might have the development of genius in New Zealand, but we would be sure to have the unscrupulous lawyer as an abounding institution.

THE secession of Dr. Ricks from the old Catholic communion gives a further insight into the true nature of that body, Dr. Ricks, who has boldly gone over to Protestantism, denounces Reinkens and his partisans very heartily. Their treatment of him, he says, has been more abominable than anything that could emanate from the Ultramontanes, even from the Jesuits themselves. Dr. Reinkens, meantime, feels himself obliged to issue piteous appeals for the support of the German organ of the body, which now, that curiosity is on the wane, threatens to fail for want of subscribers. The "Old Catholicism," in fact, that was to have destroyed the Catholic Church seems rapidly approaching its dissolution. It has proved one of the shabbiest fallings away known to ecclesiastical history.

THE *Débats* has published an interview between M. Eugene Rendu and Signor Crispi in which the former quoted the authority of M. Fournier, a former ambassador of France to the Quirinal, as his warrant for stating that King Victor Emmanuel had looked upon the entry into Rome through the breach of Porta Pia as a great mistake. The King's plan would have been to allow the revolutionists to have their way in the city until he had been called in by the genuine Romans to restore order—and this he would have done by killing some forty thousand of the men in question—of whom Italy would have acknowledged herself well rid. But these were the men who were chiefly accountable for the plebiscite of October 2nd. M. Rendu's object was to prove that Signor Crispi was mistaken in his assertion as to there being no longer a Roman question and that the opinion of many Italians, especially the true citizens of Rome—as had been that of the late King—was of a directly contrary nature. All this is of particular interest to us now, when, according to the last European reports received here, some move for the expulsion of the Pope has been set on foot by Signor Crispi—inspired and aided no doubt by the survivors and offspring of those men whom King Victor Emmanuel stigmatised as *bandits*, and in slaughtering whom he would have considered himself rendering Italy a service.

It should be welcome news to colonial agriculturists and pastoral tenants to learn that the famous English agricultural journal, the *Mark Lane Express*, has undertaken also to adapt itself especially to colonial requirements. The aid thus given to our farming population and those engaged in the breeding and rearing of cattle should prove most important to them, and the manner in which they will be thus brought into connection with persons engaged in the same pursuits in the Old Country cannot fail to tend to mutual improvement and

progress in prosperity. Indeed a marked effect may be produced upon the settlement of the colonies by the familiarising in this manner of the mind of the English agricultural classes with colonial questions and pursuits. We, therefore, consider ourselves fortunate in being able to welcome the *Mark Lane Express* into the sphere of colonial journalism.

CURIOUS reports, emanating from the Wellington *Evening Post*, are current to the effect that China is preparing to place herself on a war footing, and to that end is about to establish factories for arms, and to build arsenals and improve her navy—the chastisement of England for breach of treaties, in connection with these colonies, being her chief end. According to the admission of Chinamen in the colony, moreover, there seem to be some grounds for the reports. We have no fear that China can immediately, or even in the near future, become formidable to these colonies—but the display of any desire on her part to do so, should add to the determination of our settlers to permit of nothing that can give the Chinese a permanent footing in the country, or increase their influence or interests here in any way. Even an inferior hostile power, against which the colonies had to be continually on their guard, would be a disagreeable and unprofitable neighbour,—and under some possible, if not very probable, circumstances, the inferiority might disappear. Let China, therefore, be placed in due time at arm's length, and constantly held there.

THE cable still continues interrupted, and we have no European news. As was the case last week, a budget is expected to arrive on Friday or Saturday. But we shall see.

AN accident to the Christchurch express at the Purakanui cliffs on Tuesday evening was a very disagreeable occurrence. It was caused by the fall of a rock, loosened by the rain from the cliff above, and which threw the engine off the line, carrying with it a couple of waggons. Fortunately, owing to the customary slackening of speed on this formidable portion of the road, the train was easily stopped, and no further casualties happened, the passengers escaping with a delay, sufficiently trying nevertheless in the inclement weather, of two or three hours. Had the fall occurred a few yards further on, and thrown the engine off on the side next the ocean, hardly anything could have prevented the frightful catastrophe of a crash down on the rocks far below. The unpleasant consideration, however, still remains that nothing can be done to make the portion of the line in question secure against such accidents.

MYERS and Co., Dentists, Octagon, corner of George street, The^y guarantee the best class work at moderate fees. Their artificial teeth gives general satisfaction, and the fact of them supplying a temporary denture while the gums are healing does away with the inconvenience of being months without teeth. They manufacture a single artificial tooth for Ten Shillings, and sets equally moderate. The administration of nitrous oxide gas is also a great boon to those needing the extraction of a tooth. Read—[ADVT.]

Visitors from the country and town buyers should not fail to pay a visit to Mollison, Mills and Co.'s great clearing sale of winter stock, commencing on Saturday, July 14. The value offered cannot fail to please the keenest buyer. Call or send for price list to Mollison, Mills and Co., George street, Dunedin.

O B I T U A R Y .

We record with regret the death of Mr. James Daly, an old and highly respected member of the Dunedin Catholic congregation which occurred at his residence, Princes Street, on Tuesday. Mr. Daly was a gentleman of a singularly amiable disposition who stood well in the regard of all who were acquainted with him. The St. Kilda Town Council, of which he had been a member postponed for a fortnight their meeting, which was to have taken place on the day of his death, out of respect for his memory. The funeral will take place to-morrow (Thursday) the ceremonies commencing in St. Joseph's cathedral, at 2.40, p.m.—R.I.P.

I *Truth* see that the United States Government have just launched a formidable vessel styled a "dynamite cruiser." She is of 725 tons displacement, and is intended to steam twenty knots, and her armament consists of three guns, each firing a charge of 200lb. of dynamite by means of compressed air. It is strange, but characteristic, that, while a foreign Power has got so far as this, our energetic military and naval authorities should not have made even an experiment with dynamite artillery.

A Frankfort paper learns that Prince Bismarck, in conversation with a distinguished foreigner, Karl Schurz, has expressed his opinion that the European peace will not be disturbed for the present. He was sure the Czar would not allow the Sclav agitation to influence Russia's foreign policy. The Boulanger agitation was a matter of indifference to Germany. The Prince said "he had nothing to do with the recent alarming articles in the Press. Of course I cannot verify the correctness of the statements, but they seem probable enough."