

A report has been made, by a special committee, to the Pan-Anglican Conference, sitting at Lambeth, which, if it be acted upon by the Conference, should prove as decisive for many Anglicans as did the matter of the Jerusalem Bishopric for Dr. Newman. It is a report in favour of the Church's recognising the orders of non-Episcopal ministers as valid though irregular. This is simply a recommendation that the Anglican Church should renounce all her claims to an Apostolical succession, and pronounce the laying on of hands an empty form. If validity may be obtained without such things, regularity is a question of very secondary importance. It is a little inconsistent with such a state of affairs, at the same time, that the Archbishop of Canterbury should have sent a message of congratulation to the Russo-Greek Church on the centenary of Russia's conversion to Christianity. Under the circumstances, the Patriarch of Moscow might hardly care to receive such a fraternal greeting. But it is vain to look for consistency in bodies that are separated from the Church.

WITH respect to the inquiry into the charges against Mr. Parnell we know little more than we knew last week. We have, however, more definite information that the design of the Government is to hold a protracted inquiry with the object of bringing the League generally into suspicion, as connected with crime. But no great movement that has as yet taken place, not that immaculate one under Washington himself, has been free from the association of some one or more of its individual partisans with outrage and violence, and even were so much proved of the Irish National League, it would have no significance. What Mr. Parnell insists on is a prompt inquiry into definite charges, more especially as to the authenticity of the letters produced by the *Times*, and as we know the man, we may be convinced that, in one way or another, whether by a direct action against the *Times*, as mentioned, or by such an official inquiry as he desires, he will have his object carried out. His enemies have certainly caught a Tartar, and will find they have to do with one who will not be deterred by any such folly, as, for example, the Home Secretary's talk of suspicious unwillingness, or stuff of that kind. When Mr. Parnell moves, he knows in what direction he is going and has made up his mind to persevere in his course. His followers may be fully persuaded, meantime that he will lead them into no quagmire. We await the development and results of the matter in question, with the utmost confidence.

It now seems quite on the cards that a result of the Emperor William's visit to the Czar may be the restoration of Prince Alexander, married to the Emperor's sister after all, to the throne of Bulgaria. If this takes place, it will create a terrible flurry among European gossips generally, who have condemned both match and restoration as not to be tolerated by any means. But if the Emperor William is turning out more amiable than was expected, the disappointment of the gossips may go for what it is worth. For our own part we have constantly declared in favour of Prince Alexander who has always seemed to us a fine, manly fellow, and one who played a difficult part with great self-denial and dignity. As to the want of royal blood, the only definite charge brought by the gossips against him, it may be overlooked by less exalted people, and, for the matter of that, now that the operation of transfusion is well established, can it not easily be supplied? If the Princess Victoria values her lover a straw, she will gladly submit for his sake to an operation that can remove from him the reproach, if it be one, of having no royal blood in his veins. With the aid of a skilful surgeon the matter may be mended in a few minutes. Long live science, and may the course of true love by its means run a little smoother.

AN Irish exhibition has been opened in London. Among the exhibits is an Irish village street where natives of Donegal are engaged as in their cottages at home, working at the industries taught them by Mrs. Hart. There are also several picturesque erections representing the ruins of the country, among the rest a round tower, which utterly astonishes the Cockneys. One citizen of a scientific turn was heard to explain the construction as having at one time been a draw-well from which a series of geological denudations had caused the earth to retire. A jaunting-car is also to be seen, and in short everything except the reality to persuade the wandering Paddy that he is in his native land. It is hoped that the result will be to make the English people better acquainted with Ireland and more disposed to take an enlightened interest in her. Mr. Sexton made a fine speech at the opening, in his capacity of Lord Mayor of Dublin, which has been compared, very much to the advantage of the speaker, with that made by the Lord Mayor of London, the celebrated Mr. Polydore de Keyser from Belgium.

AT the last meeting of the Dunedin Catholic Literary Society, Mr. George Sullivan read an instructive paper on Botany which was rendered interesting also by the easy and graceful style in which it was written, and Mr. Falkner read a paper on "The Chinese," which

for a first attempt was highly praised by the critics, who mustered in unusual force. Mr. R. A. Dunne recited T. D. Sullivan's "Poor Little Jimmy," and received the thanks of the meeting for his excellent selection.

THE committee of the House of Commons have approval of Sir James Hannen, Sir Charles Day, and Sir Archibald Levin Smith, as the commissioners to conduct the Parnell inquiry. One of these, at least, that is Sir Charles Day, a Catholic, is furiously anti-Irish. Mr. O'Donnell, meantime, has protested to the speaker of the House against the commission as interfering with his legal rights, his intention being to move for a new trial against the *Times*. Mr. O'Donnell, however, as we have already remarked is not a very trustworthy person.

A LETTER has been received in Dunedin, during the week, from the Rev. Father Lynch. The rev. gentleman, who wrote from Maitland, N.S.W., reports of himself as improving in health. This will be welcome news to many of our readers.

THE Dominican nuns request us to acknowledge the receipt of blocks and remittances in connection with their art-union, from the Rev. Father Fox, Auckland; Miss Carson, Dunedin; Miss Colehan, Waitati; and Mr. David Fitzgerald, Wakanui.

THE return by the coroner's jury of a verdict ascribing Mr. Mandeville's death to the brutal and unjustifiable treatment he had received in Tullamore Gaol confirms all that rumour had spread abroad concerning that abominable stronghold. It, moreover, makes certain the handing down of Balfour's memory as that of a tyrant and man of blood, even if nothing more happens before his career is closed to make his memory excel still more fully in infamy.

GENERAL BOULANGER in his book on the Franco-German war, deals very severely with England for her desertion of her ally in the hour of trial. French blood and French money, he says, had been lavishly used in fighting her quarrels and furthering her interests. But, he adds, a fool only can reckon on British gratitude and chivalry. England saw in the war the means of increasing her commerce, and she made use of it to that end. The General is also severe on Italy, and in both instances we must admit that the severity was well deserved. But perhaps, the day of reckoning is yet to come. England indeed may already see its dawn in the omnipotence in the East given to Russia by the German alliance.

A WRITER who reviews in the Dunedin *Evening Star* a pamphlet published by Mr. Ashcroft on Ritualism, says, among the rest, "the days of ignorance are gone." The writer, however, in his review, flatly contradicts himself, for it would be difficult to find, within so small a compass, a greater display of ignorance than he himself makes in his review. "Many a boy of twelve years old," he tells us, speaking of the present as contrasted with the past, "can comprehend an abstract truth more readily than a Father of the Church of the Dark Ages." And yet the "Dark Ages" were those that, for example, produced Dante, whose chief wisdom was that of the theologians of the times. They were those that produced St. Thomas and other great intellects of whom also our reviewer seems never to have heard. Again he mocks the idea that the Almighty can be pleased with what he calls, with indirect reference to the ritual of the Catholic Church, "childish mummeries." But we would send our reviewer to the Old Testament where he will find a ritual much more childish in appearance than anything to be found in Christianity. Had ritual in itself been displeasing to the Almighty would He have commanded the observance of a very minute and elaborate one? Want of thought and want of knowledge are in many instances the chief qualifications of those who, like this writer in the *Star*, set themselves up as authorities in religious matters.

A VERY successful concert was given in the Choral Hall, Dunedin, on Friday evening by the pupils of Mr. G. H. Schacht's violin school, whose performance reflected most creditably on the instructor received by them. Miss Wooldridge and Messrs. H. B. Smith and Jones also gave their assistance as vocalists, and Herr Schweers contributed much to the success of the evening by his masterly playing on the piano.

MYERS and Co., Dentists, Octagon, corner of George street. They 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.]

Dr. E. Stone Wiggins predicts an earthquake in California between now and October, saying it will move across the Pacific from Asia.