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Current Topics

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

AN OMINOUS PROPOSAL.

THE cablegrams that have within the last two or three weeks reached the colony, with respect to certain complaints made by the Pope as to the increased trials of his position, have doubtless had their origin in circumstances attendant on the penal code under discussion in the Italian Parliament, at the latest date to which we have detailed intelligence. Some of the provisions of the code were of a particularly monstrous nature, and their bearing upon the position of the Holy Father would be most galling and severe. Did they become law, for example, no bishop nor priest could, even in private, express an opinion in support of the Pope's temporal power without incurring a penalty, were he convicted, of imprisonment, varying in length from three to six years and of a fine from 300 to 600 francs. But if the offence were committed in public, the punishment might be imprisonment for life with hard labour. The iniquity of such a law as this is too clear to need any explanation, and we can well understand that its passing, or the probability of its passing, has keenly affected the Pope. It has been well suggested that the introduction of such a measure into Parliament, betrays a doubt on the part of Signor Crispi, whose proposal it is, that the cause of the Holy Father is more popular in Italy than he finds agreeable. But, at the same time, it shows a growing insolence and confidence on the part of the revolutionary and Socialistic element in the population. It may, meantime, be in place to inquire how far consistent it would be for Germany, whose Falk laws are exceeded by this Italian code, to continue in alliance with a Government which had passed a law more severe than that which in the interests of civilisation and good order generally, as well as for other reasons, she has found it prudent to repeal. How, moreover, will an advance of the Socialistic and revolutionary power in Italy be in accordance with the alliance now doubtless to be extended through Germany to Russia? What seems to us more consistent with the nature of things is that an alliance should be formed between the two great powers in question, to crush the revolution in Italy, and to overthrow the Government that are evidently in combination with it or under its yoke, and to this possibly the matter may eventually come. Whether the Pope will be obliged to leave Rome or not we cannot tell. It is, however, suggestive that the insult now offered to him comes accompanied by a series of insults and hostile demonstrations against the King and Queen, and on the presence of the Pope in Rome the safety of the monarchy certainly depends. Signor Crispi, then, may be fatuously hastening the event. The expulsion of the Pope he certainly aims at, or even its imminent occurrence, may lead to revolutionary demonstrations that would call for the interference of the great power whose alliance he has sought for the monarchy, and which, in common with its ally, Russia, cannot see without apprehension the advance of the Revolution in any part of Europe. This measure then which as we are told, fills the Vatican with indignation and alarm, may possibly form the beginning of the end. And indeed were the Bill passed, it would be an extravagant advance as could well be made. One step further would be undisguised and violent persecution.

SINISTER RUMOURS.

If the gossip current in Europe a few weeks before the death of the late Emperor was true, that event, notwithstanding the peaceful disposition of the Imperial sufferer, was in the interests of peace.—It

seems that, according to the Prussian Constitution, no monarch who is not capable of performing the duties of his lofty position is qualified to reign, and that, therefore, the Emperor's mortal disease, were the law strictly adhered to, would not have allowed him to ascend or occupy the throne. While Europe was at peace, however, it would hardly have been possible to insist upon the strict enforcement of the law, and, consequently, Prince Bismarck was suspected of harbouring a design to seek an excuse in war for the deposition desired by him. The Chancellor is further said to have made the dying man's state more trying to him by the punctilious manner in which he exacted from him personally instructions even on the minutest point—refusing

so much as to permit of the intervention of the Empress, who could have given very effectual help to the invalid, on whom she was in such constant attendance, and whose every look she could interpret. All this represents the man of blood and iron in a very unamiable light, and it is to be hoped, for the sake of humanity, that the case has been at least exaggerated. But with the Emperor's death there passed away the need of war, and we have certainly seen from recent events that it seems more remote. We had ourselves, however, already foreseen, as our readers may remember, the likelihood of a renewed alliance between Russia and Germany, such as has now been made evident in the visit of the Emperor William to St. Petersburg. This necessarily puts an end to the much-dreaded alliance between France and Russia, and alters the whole appearance of matters in Europe. The liberty of action it confers upon Russia, however, with respect to the East and Central Asia must place England in a more or less unfavourable situation. The peace, then, that has been confirmed, if rumour spoke the truth, by the death of the Emperor Frederick, has also its less agreeable aspects.

BLATANT BIGOTRY.

THE defeat of the Spanish Armada has been commemorated in England with all the ardour of Exeter Hall. Of the celebration itself we have not as yet received details, but the preparations in progress, of which we have some details, were sufficiently stirring. But, if it be true, as some of the divines engaged in these preparations assert, that hardly a minister in England is to be trusted, most of those belonging to the Anglican Church being really Roman Catholic missionaries in disguise, and many of those belonging to Non-conformist congregations being nothing better, the days for Armada celebrations in the country are evidently numbered and Rome has conquered after all. Under the circumstances, a great Protestant celebration is a mockery, and only brings more prominently into notice the defeat that has been suffered. Here, three hundred years after the destruction of the Armada, with which the last hopes of Rome, so far as England was concerned, were supposed to have perished once for all—a select band of Evangelical ministers declare the country to be almost wholly in the hands of Rome. And in truth, even apart from the wild exaggerations of these ministers, and the accusations brought by them, not only against Rome for encouraging deceit, but against Protestant principles for permitting men well trained in them to fall into the systematic practice of deceit, the revival of Catholicism has been a very wonderful thing and quite enough, were it rightly considered, to cast ridicule on any celebration of the defeat of the Armada as a great and final victory of religious Protestantism. The ministers in question, however, are easily satisfied as to the claims of Protestantism for they ascribe the pre-eminence of Germany on the Continent, of Europe and that of England in the world generally to it. So far as religion is concerned the contest in Europe has been that of Germany, taught by experience to acknowledge her need of Rome's alliance and assistance, against Judaism, atheism, and infidelity, in France, for these were and are the religious or irreligious principles directing the government and policy of France. And England's supremacy in the world, outside of the United Kingdom, has been that of a country adopting heathen and Mohammedan principles with heathen and Mohammedan peoples, and whose religious Protestantism, if it were engaged at all, has been besmirched with such associations as for example that hardly mentionable one which the other day formed the subject of a debate in the House of Commons that brought the blush of shame into the faces of the least squeamish men obliged to deal with it. But this still repeated claim of worldly success accompanying the profession of a religion is, at best, the perversion of the temporal glory promised to the Jews, were they obediently to receive the Messiah. At the worst, and there is nothing to prevent men actuated by rancour and bigotry from sinking to the level of the worst, it is the old heathen idea of the support of the stronger god. Christianity gives no promise of worldly prosperity, and Christ's kingdom is not of this world. But the celebration of the defeat of the Armada, as a great and final victory of religious Protestantism, is a mockery of that event, while not only is Protestantism as a form of the Christian religion dying out, but Catholicism is making marked and rapid progress among the English people. It is wonderful that those *habitués* of Exeter Hall, who themselves recognised and deplored this progress, should not see the inconsistency and folly of their action.

EGREGIOUS RUBBISH. We have sometimes heard people who were astonished at the conversion to the Catholic Church of Protestants of intellect and culture, ascribe the matter in their bewilderment and vexation to the necessities of the *dilettante*. The idea of the Catholic Church, however, possessed by these people had been formed of what they knew or had heard of some of the great ceremonies of the festivals, and of the ordinary life and true spirit of Catholicism they knew nothing. We now find a directly opposite case, that of a man who, as a *dilettante*, received a shock to all his elegant sensibilities that effectually put an end to Catholic sympathies on his part. Mr. Ruskin, in short, in a newly published volume of his autobiography, tells us how he became utterly disgusted with the Catholic idea as he possessed it at the time. He paid a fatal visit to the Grande Chartreuse, which he found to his disappointment situated among quite commonplace hills, with nothing of the romantic beauty or grandeur of the Alps about them. The monk who attended him had "no cowl worth the wearing," "no beard worth the wagging,"—and looked completely bored. Above all he seemed bored by Mr. Ruskin and his father, who accompanied him. Notwithstanding this, however, and even forgetting the commonplace appearance of the hills, Mr. Ruskin put his head out of a window and made a "Modern Painters" sort of a remark about the religious fervour to be excited by contemplating nature. And then, said this monk, "with a curl of his lip,"—and if his beard could not even hide that we must acknowledge it to have been but a shabby crop of stubbles—"We do not come here to look at the mountains." What would you have then? A monastery in a commonplace situation; a monk with a scanty cowl and a scrubby beard, delighting not in the society of the poetic and artistic soul, and having something else to do than to contemplate the mountains! Must we not admit, as Mr. Ruskin claims, that all this was of significance enough to give for the future a different course to his religious thought? Still we cannot help being in some degree astonished at the nonsense that an eminent man and a leader of culture can sometimes talk—more especially if, as in the present case, we are to accept it as meant in earnest.

A DISGRACEFUL STATE OF THINGS. SOMETHING more, perhaps, may be learned concerning a religious system from the morals of the society formed in the country where it obtains, than from the material power possessed by that country as compared with others. A writer in *Truth*, for example, gives us a sketch of the woman of the period as she exists in England—the country where, in the destruction of the Armada, three hundred years ago, the fall of the Catholic religion became final, and where, a hundred years later, Protestantism was conclusively established. Nor is *Truth* a publication in which we expect to find much that is over strict. The writer tells us, then, that the woman of the period is one who will flaunt herself in prominent positions where discussions are taking place in which details are sifted that, says he, "make decent men almost sick with shame." He gives us an example of the crowding of the ladies' gallery in the House of Commons on a late occasion, to which we have referred elsewhere, and when a warning had been duly given of the nature of the debate to take place—Women, nevertheless were present in numbers, and made themselves prominent by their applause. Women and young girls, he tells us are familiar with, and converse with men on subjects that some years ago were held unmentionable among men themselves, and which then would have been tolerated in no place where decent-minded men assembled together. What was written in satire of the casino in 1860, he tells us quoting an outspoken passage from Alfred Austin, is true of places of public entertainment in 1888. But here is the picture he gives us of the women of the day:—"The old women enamelled and aping the antics of youth; the mature women faked up to the utmost verge of meretriciousness; the girls powdered and well skilled in the 'wicked lightning of the eyes' that formerly in the Park used to be the property of 'Anonymas,' who, in the altered state of fashion, might give their innocent sisters many a lesson in modesty and propriety." He concludes his article with the following quotation:—"You cannot think," says Ruskin, "that the buckling on of the knight's armour by his lady's hand was a mere caprice of romantic fashion. It is the type of an eternal truth: that the soul's armour is never well set to the heart unless a woman's hand has braced it, and it is only when she braces it loosely that the honour of manhood fails." But the state of things to which Ruskin alludes was the outcome of the Catholic system, by which the world of chivalry was controlled. That which prevails to-day, as described by the writer in *Truth*, if it is not the direct outcome of the religious Protestantism whose victory has now been celebrated in the third centennial of the Armada—and, verily, we are loath to accredit any form of Christianity with so foul an offspring—has, at least, not been prevented by it. Can any degree, therefore, of material power glorify the religious system of a country whose morals are shamefully corrupt?

A TELLING LETTER. THE significance of the Gladstonite victory at Ayr was emphasised by its evidently being promoted by a letter from Mr. Gladstone to the proprietor of the *Wyrshire Post*, in which he briefly but forcibly reviewed the situation. The Tories, he said, in effect, were now the advocates of what they had repudiated in 1886. They had then denied that coercion was the alternative to Home Rule, but now their watchword was permanent coercion, and that not aimed at crime but at combination apart from crime. Nay more, men were now punished in Ireland on the simple proof of exclusive dealing, although the Tories everywhere favoured this, using it against Home Rulers, and more especially, to the writer's knowledge, if they happened to be clergymen. But not only, continued the writer, had the Tories in 1886 condemned coercion, but they had also promised to Ireland, at the very least, the system of local government intended for Great Britain. They had now, he added, announced that local government would be withheld from Ireland until she had renounced her national aspirations, that is to say for ever. Under these circumstances, they asked the electors to return them on the principles they had abjured in 1886. "They then promised no coercion and plenty of local government; they now stand for no local government and plenty of coercion." Lord Hartington wrote a contradiction of this letter, which, in a letter written directly to his Lordship, Mr. Gladstone answered without difficulty. Mr. Chamberlain also wrote endeavouring to counteract the effect produced. The result, however, has proved the force of Mr. Gladstone's influence, and shown how he has triumphed in the face of the strongest opposition. But Mr. Gladstone's statement of his conviction that Ireland's national aspirations must last for ever is hardly exceeded in importance by the support given by Scotland to his views generally, including that referred to.

EXTREMES MEET. Among the strange phenomena of the day is the sympathy with despotism which, in a particular case or too, we see exist in men whose principles embrace freedom in its most liberal form. The friendly feeling that exists between the United States and Russia, for instance, has long seemed to us an anomaly, and now we find, on the part of an individual, a similar case that it seems even more difficult to explain. Mr. Stead, the editor of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, who is nothing if not democratic, has gone on a visit to St. Petersburg where he finds everything as charming as it is possible for anything to be. The railway through Central Asia he pronounces a most admirable work—not only as a piece of engineering skill, which it undoubtedly is, but as spreading abroad the influences of civilisation,—though we had never heard that Russia itself was so thoroughly civilised in all its districts. There is even reason for us to believe that Mr. Stead, who, of course, scents all notion of a rivalry in India between England and Russia is convinced that English rule in the great empire referred to is confirmed and strengthened by this line of railway. What, however, seems most of all to delight him is the management of the Russian gaols, that is those for ordinary criminals; for the prisons of the political offenders he had not as yet seen. He describes these gaols as places where a man might be fortunate to find himself incarcerated. There are schools; there are workshops in which the men are employed at trades and which only differ from those of free artisans by their superior cleanliness. There is an abundance of food—excellent soup, and above all, beer, and though rather a small beer still beer, being supplied to every prisoner at will, and all who are able to afford it are permitted to supply themselves with tea. Mr. Stead, remembering his own experiences of skilfully only during the days of his late imprisonment for libel in London, grows quite pathetic over this indulgence. If all Mr. Stead writes, in fact, be pure unvarnished truth, the Nihilists are men of double dyed guilt; and a despotic government has many features that Constitutional States might imitate with advantage. But though the meeting of extremes is interesting it is not very trustworthy.

A FORLORN HOPE. LORD WOLSELEY is an enterprising man. His latest undertaking, however, is possibly the most difficult that he has as yet confronted. Indeed we may reasonably question as to whether, on the whole, his chances of success against the Mahdi were not infinitely higher than those with which he now acts. It is certain that against Arabi Pasha and his forces he proved himself much more formidable. Speaking the other day at a Savings Banks meeting in London his Lordship delivered himself of the following bold and remarkable sentiments. He had no iced, said he, ever since he was a boy an increase in the tendency on the part of Englishwomen to spend a much larger portion of the incomes of their husbands than they were entitled to on articles of attire. There, now, what are we to think of that? Yet they say Lord Wolseley is a timid man. He has opposed the construction of the Channel tunnel; he has alarmed the country as to the possibilities of a French invasion, but he has not been afraid to face with such a statement the whole united better-half of the kingdom. But fancy a gallant soldier who, ever since his boyhood, has kept his eye on the fair sex, only to perceive the extra-

gance of their dress. Lord Wolseley has proved his prowess against savages and barbarians. He has yet to show what he can do against civilised men, but we may well inquire as to whether his entering upon a tougher conflict is a wise method of preparation for such a struggle. It was not thus they acted in the days of chivalry.

Colonial Notes.

THE Sacerdotal Jubilee of the Most Rev. Dr. Murphy has been celebrated in Tasmania. At Hobart where the Bishop was presented with an illuminated address and a purse of sovereigns, his Lordship in replying adverted to the privilege of being a child of St. Patrick, which implied an indelible engraving in the heart of the Catholic faith, hardly known elsewhere. He referred further to his career of 25 years in the Indian Deccan, whence he had come to Tasmania. Here, added the Bishop, his chief difficulty had been with education. His Lordship congratulated the people of Launceston especially on the splendid schools possessed by them.

The Rev. Father Lynch, of Dunedin, was present on July 8, at the monthly meeting held in Sydney in connection with the works of St. Mary's cathedral. The Very Rev. Dr. Carroll, Vicar-General, remarked that had he been apprised a little earlier of the visitor's intention to be present he would have asked him to tell the meeting how the erection of the beautiful cathedral at Dunedin had been managed—an office, we may add, which Father Lynch, who took so active a part in the matter, was well qualified to fulfil.

There died the other day at the Benedictine convent of Subiaco, near Parramatta, a nun who was remarkable as the grand-daughter of Michael Dwyer, the famous insurgent chief of '98. The deceased lady had been an edifying member of the Benedictine community for more than 25 years.

A noble example has been set to wealthy Catholics by Mr. John Donovan, L.L.D., of Sydney, who has presented the convent of the Sisters of Mercy at Burrows, of which his sister is the superior, with a splendid schoolroom capable of accommodating 200 children. The room was blessed on Sunday, July 8, by the Most Rev. Dr. Lanigan, who referred in eloquent terms to the generous donor. A sermon was preached on the occasion by the Very Rev. Father Vaughan, C.S.S.R.

Mr. Charles O'Neill, of Sydney, in conjunction with his partner Mr. Stockdale, has been commissioned to report on the means of supplying Broken Hill with water. Mr. O'Neill possesses special qualifications for such a task, which had already recommended him to the Minister for Mines in the Jennings Government, as chief engineer over all the water works in New South Wales.

The Parliament at Sydney keeps well to the fore in the matter of irregularities. When hon. members are not fighting they are at something else of an enlivening nature. The very last distinction of the kind is that gained by Mr. McElhone in singing a song to give point to a few sportive remarks he had to make about Mr. Abigail, the Minister for Mines. The spectacle of Mr. Abigail, described by the hon. member as dancing a Highland fling in his shirt for the amusement of a party of young ladies in the bush seems to have formed for the House a very racy notion indeed. But while a Cabinet Minister sings songs for a crowd in a pot-house, as Mr. McElhone accuses Mr. Abigail of doing, and an hon. member repeats the strains to the complete "tickling" of Parliament, we may be excused for concluding that the whole body, legislative and executive, taken together, are a mighty queer lot.

The Marquis of Queensbury seems to be superintending the working of his rules with great ardour in Melbourne. His Lordship presided the other night at a little "mill" between Burke and Slavin at the Hibernian Hall.—And whether it was to see a Marquis at his best, or to see the fight, a crush took place that can hardly be described. The principals are said to have done all they ought to have done, but the encounter was not decisive and the match was drawn. Gloves, of course, were used on the occasion, and therefore the excitement was limited. But have colonists obtained a glimpse at the legitimate use of "our old nobility"?

The Catholic schools of Melbourne and its vicinity have acquitted themselves well in the Juvenile Exhibition recently held. Both teachers and children proved themselves in all respects equal and in some superior to those of the Government institutions. Public and practical proofs like this of the efficiency of the Catholic system should put to open shame all its opponents and detractors. They certainly justify and encourage its advocates and supporters.

District Court Judge Docker has been sharply and most deservedly taken to task in the Parliament at Sydney for the insulting partisanship shown by him on the Bench. Mr. J. P. Abbott complained that at a recent case the Judge had acted most outrageously in warning the jury that if any of them were Irishmen they must remember agrarian quarrels were not to be brought into this new land. Sir Henry Parkes made a feeble attempt to defend the Judge, as merely acting with imprudence, but he was obliged to admit that it was not the first time he had behaved in such a manner. It is, meantime, something of a joke to see the worthy Docker warning men against the importation of old world feuds when he himself cannot contain the venom with which such feuds have filled him. His condition, nevertheless, is unfortunately not by any means unique.

A correspondent, writing from Naples under date June 12, gives the Sydney Freeman's Journal the following particulars respecting

Cardinal Moran's voyage to Europe:—"The voyage, on the whole, was most pleasant and agreeable. The ship was in good trim, everything in perfect order, and the captain and his officers most kind and attentive. The Cardinal said Mass every morning, except one which was rather rough. Dr. O'Haran said Mass after the Cardinal, and Father Daune *ad libitum*. The Captain kindly placed a large vacant cabin at the disposal of his Eminence, and had it fitted up as a private oratory. On Sundays the Cardinal celebrated Mass in the music-room, where all the Catholics on board were allowed to attend. There was no sickness or accident to mar the pleasure of the voyage. The Cardinal gained the respect and esteem of all the passengers. While dignified in manner, as became his station, he was as humble as a child. He is a prince of the Church of whom the Catholics of Australia ought to be proud."

It appears that Sir Henry Parkes is quite up to the level of the situation in the Parliament of New South Wales. Said Mr. McElhone, the other night, referring to something he had himself remarked about a certain Bill, "That's plain English," "It is not plain English," answered the Premier, "It is plain blackguardism." What a suggestive school of manners we find in this Parliament!

The Anglican Bishop of Bathurst, preaching in his cathedral on Sunday, July 15, strongly condemned the godless system of education prevailing in the colony. "It was," he said, "the worst blot on its history in this country that it had allowed schools in which definite religious instruction was given to be lost sight of altogether. He trusted that fresh efforts would be made throughout the diocese on behalf of the schools by both clergy and laity."

American Notes.

For the last few weeks great anxiety has been felt owing to the dangerous illness of General Sheridan. "Fighting Phil," "Little Phil" has lain at death's door from failure of the action of the heart—the first time, they say, his heart was ever known to fail him. Philip Sheridan was the son of Irish immigrant parents, and was born in Somerset, Ohio, on March 6, 1831. His boyhood was not one possessed of many advantages, and the schooling he enjoyed was of no very improved kind. He was a high-spirited, merry boy, and tales are told of various pranks played by him. He was especially plucky in horsemanship, which is of particular interest considering that one of the principal feats of his great military career was so associated. Philip Sheridan's military life may be looked upon as one of the first fruits of the growing power of the Irish immigrant in the States. It was to gain the favour of the Irish population that General Ritchie, a member of Congress, nominated him to a vacancy at Westpoint in 1848. Here he graduated, and was sent to a station on the frontier of Texas, going afterwards to Oregon, where his experiences of Indian warfare fitted him for the part he was to take in the great civil war. In this he passed from one distinction to another, winning the commendations of his superiors and the admiration of the country and rising from one promotion to another. He conquered the invincible Southern cavalry at Boonville. He led the advance into Kentucky by means of the great battle of Perryville. He fought at Stone River until going up in the moment of victory to General Rosencrans, he exclaimed, "Here is all that is left of us, General, our cartridge boxes contain nothing, and our guns are empty." His greatest feat, perhaps, was the clearing out of the Shenandoah Valley culminating in the famous recovery at Cedar Creek, when General Early, having surprised the camp of the Federals, had well nigh retrieved all his losses. It was then that Sheridan's world-renowned ride took place, "from Winchester twenty miles away." He rallied his disordered troops, and led them back to camp, gaining a victory that was saluted at Washington by one hundred guns. "Turning what bade fair to be a disaster into a glorious victory," wrote Grant. "stamps Sheridan what I always thought him, one of the ablest of generals." This is the man, therefore, concerning whose threatened loss America has been mourning. And Congress, it may be added, on what is apparently his death-bed, has honoured the dying soldier by raising his rank to that of General of the Army of the United States, making him the equal of Grant and Sherman. All hope, however, has not been relinquished. "Little Phil" is holding out against death with all the bravery of his nature, and it is believed that he may still recover. Any other man, they say, must have succumbed weeks ago. While this life lasts then, there is more than the common hope.

The farewell given to Sir Thomas Esmonde, the Irish delegate, on the eve of his departure from New York for Ireland, was cordial approaching to the verge of enthusiasm. The meeting was one of the most important that have ever taken place, and gave an effectual contradiction to Mr. Chamberlain's statement that the Irish cause has no sympathisers among genuine Americans. Three Governors of States were among the speakers, and each of them testified to the general sympathy that prevails. The fact, indeed, that of all who addressed the meeting two only were of foreign birth, one of them being an English clergyman, should of itself be significant to disprove such assertions as that referred to. Judge Van Hoesen was in the chair and he prefaced his introduction of the guest of the evening by an emphatic declaration that Americans of every shade of political opinion were a unit on the question of Home Rule. Among the gentlemen who occupied places on the platform were ex-Mayor W. R. Grace, Mr. C. A. Dana, and several other citizens of high position. Sir Thomas Esmonde confirmed the favourable impression already made by him and gained the applause of all who were present. It is admitted on every side that he has done his duty well during the tour that has now concluded.

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Mr. Cleveland's proposed reduction of the tariff has been examined, as explained by the official reports of the imports and exports for the ten months ending April 30, with most unfavourable results. It seems that the imports for the period had increased by a sum of 28,011,414 dols., while the exports had decreased by a sum of 19,811,496 dols. This, say the advocates of Protection, gives a very decided contradiction to the theories of Free-trade, and vividly illustrates the mischief of the President's message. But what makes the matter worse is that the greatest falling off in American manufactures is shown in iron and steel and woollen goods, which the supporters of Mr. Cleveland's proposals condemn as especially giving American manufacturers an advantage over American consumers. The imports of iron and steel have advanced during the period mentioned by 3,184,173 dols., and those of woollen goods by 1,777,508 dols. All this, claim the Protectionists, should give the supporters of Mr. Cleveland's policy grounds to pause and reconsider their position.

The attempt made in the Massachusetts Legislature by a bigoted party, the Know-nothings of the day, to cripple the Catholic schools on pretence of a State inspection of private schools generally has signally failed. The result has been, not only to confound the bigots by the rejection of their proposals, but to advance the interests of Catholic and religious education by the publicity given to the cause, and the testimony borne to the efficiency of the Catholic system. To many enlightened Protestants, especially President Eliot, of Harvard, and Colonel T. W. Higgins, are the thanks of the Catholic body due.

The death has occurred at Somerset, Ohio, of Mrs. Sheridan, mother of the gallant General now so dangerously ill. The deceased lady, who was in her eighty-eighth year has succumbed to the effects of a cold, probably aggravated by anxiety arising from the illness of her son, to whom she was tenderly attached and by whom her affection was warmly reciprocated. Mrs. Sheridan was born in the county Cavan in 1801, and in 1824 was married to the father of the General, who died in 1875. She emigrated with her family in 1829, going at first to Canada and afterwards removing to the States. She was, as the mothers of great men often are, a woman of noble character, an honour to the land of her birth as well as to that of her adoption, which she well repaid for its hospitality by the gift of her glorious son. Why have such mothers been prevented from devoting such sons to the service of their native land?—*R.I.P.*

The latest distinctively American report current comes from Findlay, Ohio, where they say a hand of fire has been seen in the sky. The phenomenon appeared first in "plumes" of light which afterwards concentrated and formed a perfect band, with the forefinger pointing downward at the city. The whole town, except those who were asleep in bed, watched the portent for half-an-hour in terror. Since the days of Belshazzar nothing of the kind has been reported, but as yet, Findlay stands unharmed.

A spiritualist lady, calling herself Madame Dis Debar, has been convicted in New York for swindling a lawyer named Marsh by means of her attendant spirits. She cheated the unfortunate victim, who, nevertheless, in all other respects, is reputed a shrewd man, by a pretence of having pictures painted to his order by masters long since dead. It is said that the lady who is in more than one regard disreputable, once occupied the anti-Catholic platform. Finding it did not pay, and, doubtless, falling short of the eloquence of a Biddy O'Gorman, she took to the particular courses which have now led to her conviction.

The Legislature of New York have just passed a law for the execution of criminals by electricity. The agony of the punishment will consist in the preparations for it, death by this means taking place quicker than instantaneously, in some immeasurable fraction of a second. A doubt exists, however, as to whether the new law can be carried into force as it is said to be at variance with the Constitution of the Republic, which forbids cruel and unusual punishments, the method proposed being certainly unusual.

At the laying of the foundation stone of a Confederate monument, the other day, at Jackson, Miss., a letter has read from Jefferson Davis in which he displays an impenitent spirit. He speaks of the defeated cause as that of righteousness, and of the men who fell in it as owning the mingled attributes of the hero and the saint. Fortunately Jeff Davis and his comrades, even though heroes and saints, were hindered in carrying out their dream of patriotism—which, indeed, partook of the nature of a night-mare.

Representative Belmont of New York has given notice in Congress of a resolution to the effect that the Committee on Foreign Affairs be instructed to inquire into the case of John Curran Kent, a naturalized citizen of the United States, serving a penal sentence in Millbank prison, London, on a charge of complicity with Dr. Gallagher in a dynamite plot. It is alleged that Kent was deceived by a lawyer who represented himself as an American, and that believing his case had been taken up by the American Government he said nothing on his trial about his citizenship. An appeal made by him afterwards to the American Minister at London received no attention. The matter is now to be brought before Congress—as it is hoped with better results.

Lightning struck a country school house in Delaware county, O., recently. Jown Bowers, aged twelve years, was at a blackboard explaining an example in arithmetic and was instantly killed. The teacher and twenty scholars were thrown from their chairs, remaining unconscious nearly half an hour.

France has just slapped England squarely in the face by depriving Gen. Willoughby of the concessions granted him in Madagascar and expelling him from that country. The queen, or rather her consort, having control of internal affairs, had given Willoughby trade rights, of which the French have compelled the government to deprive him.

THE IRISHMAN IN POLITICS.

(From the *Westminster Review*.)

It is asked: Has the Irishman the same capacity for self-government as the citizen of an American State? Many Englishmen seem inclined to answer the question negatively, and to regard this answer as a fatal bar to Home Rule. But an American of 1887 can scarcely understand your asking this question. He has constantly before his eyes the strongest proof of the Irish aptitude for political discussion. Nothing, he would assure you, from his own experience, suits the Irishman's temperament better than the constant exercise of the faculties which are best adapted for local politics. A political sphere suits the Irishman's versatile genius, and employs his "gift of the gab." What your Irishman wants most of all is some outlet for his political steam, and this he finds in the profusion of the small details of local government.

Strange as it may seem, this race, which is at present denied Home Rule at home, actually controls, partly by its power of numbers, but still more by dint of its capacity for political debate and by electoral organisation, the government of most of the great American cities from New York to San Francisco. At this moment the living experiment of Irish Home Rule is visible across the ocean under the most free and democratic of all Governments. New York is said to be the largest Irish city in the world. Even learned and elegant Boston has its Irish Roman Catholic mayor. The first daily newspaper which appeared in America, the *Pennsylvania Packet*, was published by an Irishman, and from that day to this the Irish have exercised enormous influence through the American Press. As senators, representatives, State governors, mayors, they have taken their full share in carrying on the government of the Republic. It would be superfluous to multiply instances in every department of life in which Irishmen in America have come to the front rank. The important part which the "Irish vote" has played in the presidential elections from the time of Andrew Jackson, the first Irish President, till to-day, is known to all. And looking, in a general way, to the quality of the Irish immigrants, almost any fair-minded American would tell you that the Irish compare favourably at the present moment with the immigrants from other countries with regard to their fitness for being entrusted with the political rights which America gives to her citizens. If not immediately upon landing at Castle Garden, as an effect of the ocean, at all events in a generation, the wild Kerry immigrant is transformed into the most law-abiding citizen in the Union. From the statistics of the last census (1880) in America, it appears that the total number of citizens of the United States who were born in Ireland is 1,850,571, as against 745,978 born in Great Britain, and 1,996,742 born in Germany. But while Germany only contributes 4,369 German-born persons to the staff of officials and civil employes of the Government, and Great Britain 3,039, Ireland is represented by 8,231 Irish-born persons in the civil service of the State. Statistics of other occupations in the voluminous reports of the last census are equally striking. Samuel Lover wrote of the Irish peasant that "his enemies representing him as a fiend stimulate his friends to paint him as an angel." The truth is that the Irishman at home is a failure, and abroad, speaking generally, a success; an indication, one would say, that his crimes at home are the results of political circumstances peculiar to Ireland.

It has always seemed to us that a strong argument exists for Mr. Gladstone's original proposal to allow Ireland, if she so wills it, when Home Rule is given her, to remain unrepresented in the Imperial Parliament for a time. Ireland will have enough to do, and more than enough, to set her own house in order to begin with. She is not keenly interested in Imperial matters at this juncture. She might well afford to take time to settle her proper relations to the Imperial Government.

We do not mean to contend that the American cities are always model communities. They are too well known, after scandals like the recent disgraceful disclosures in New York, to be occasionally the scenes of jobbery and municipal corruption. But, in the first place, it is certain that the municipal constitutions of the American cities are often to blame for their bad government, and that these will in time right themselves. And secondly, particular attention is due to the fact that American cities are not noted for any acts of tyranny of the many over the few, such as we are told to anticipate from Home Rule in Ireland; but, on the contrary, their losses from bad government are usually a dishonest transfer of money from the many into the pockets of the few.

At Boksmeer, in Holland, a large packet of letters, containing the correspondence that passed between Napoleon I. and his brother, King Louis of Holland, has been discovered. The letters had been deposited by the King with his private secretary, whose grandson is the present owner of them.

I do not know which is the more remarkable about the Anglican females who advertise for governesses and servants, and offer them "Church privileges," instead of a proper emolument—their caunting, hypocrisy or their miserable meanness. Here is a lady who requires an accomplished governess, but she can give no salary, because all her reverend husband's vestments are very costly, so she offers "a comfortable home, washing, and Church privileges." Another audacious flea-skinner requires a finishing governess, who is thorough mistress of French, German, music, singing, and drawing, and she has the inconceivable effrontery to offer £12 a year, as she "cannot afford more, having a son at college," but she can promise "full Church privileges." Another wants a lady help, who is to be a proficient in all work and in many accomplishments, and she is offered £10 a year, and the inevitable "Church privileges," which it is really too preposterous to hold out as a bait, as if they were analogous to Papal indulgence or letters of dispensation, as everybody who wishes for them can obtain them as a matter of course, whether living in town or in country, unless the requirements are very exorbitant.—*Truth*.

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CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own Correspondent.)

AFTER a long spell of fine weather the sunshine has departed at last, and our city is drenched with rain and enveloped in fog. On these damp, misty days Christchurch, with its bare, brown trees, and sloppy streets, is one of the dreariest places imaginable. At this season the river loses all its beauty, and becomes a muddy commonplace stream, totally unworthy of its name. The willows which fringe the banks have just been subjected to a severe course of pruning, and the white wounds which remain where the branches have been lopped off, give a patchy and unsightly appearance to the trees. Since the removal of the mill-dam the river has fallen a couple of feet, and the banks are covered with dead brown vegetable matter up to the old water level. Altogether the Avon at present is not a thing of beauty, and visitors who expect to see in the Avon a magnificent, wide, winding river, are apt to be very much disappointed. At the best of times the Avon is only a stream, but on Summer evenings, when the drooping branches of the willows sweep the water, and the moon gleams through the foliage overhead, it is a very beautiful and fairylike stream indeed. Our level city is delightful in the summer time, but in its winter garb of brown and grey, and faded green, and with its clinging fogs, penetrating damp, and biting south-west winds, it is by no means an ideal town.

Mr. Alfred Saunders has, as I predicted, been once more defeated. He went very near getting in for Ashley, but the fate in the shape of the Catholic vote was again against him, and I am glad to say once more relegated the would-be member to the shades of obscurity in which all narrow-minded bigots should be kept. Mr. Saunders, since his last public appearance, has evidently lost none of his old true blue spirit of intolerance and injustice to Catholics. He was just as determined as ever to refuse all aid to Catholic schools. Therefore there is poetic justice in the death blow to his ambitious hopes being dealt to him time after time by Catholics. When Mr. Saunders, profiting by experience, learns to expand his ideas and, taking a wider view of matters, cultivates a stricter sense of justice, and fair play towards his fellow-colonists than that by which he is animated at present, and in short drops his old puritanical ideas and realises that he is living in the nineteenth century, then he may hope to achieve his great ambition and write M.H.R. after his name. Until he does that he may as well save himself and the country the cost of his share in elections, for he has not the faintest chance of ever seeing his name at the head of the poll.

The staff at the Lyttelton orphanage is evidently not a happy family. Between the master and matron and the staff including the governesses and the cook, what may be called strained relations have apparently existed for some time. In fact a kind of domestic volcano has raged in the institution for months past. At last the disturbance spread outside of the walls of the orphanage. It got to the ears of the committee. A semi-private enquiry and then a public enquiry was held. The committee took sides, six were in favour of the staff and of the dismissal of the master and matron, and seven were of the opinion that the institution was not established for the staff, but for the children, and that Mr. and Mrs. Brownlee having attached to the interests of the latter were entitled to retain their places. While all this wrangling has been going on between the staff and the master and matron, who are evidently unfitted for their position, the poor children suffer, and have frequently been supplied with food of a most disgusting kind. Instances like this cause one to contrast the cold official charity of the State with the genuine charity which is practised in Catholic institutions of the kind, and one ceases to wonder that, in the way of reformation the State effects so little, and the Catholic Church so much. It would be to the interest of society, and for the welfare of its poor waifs, if all juvenile reformatories were handed over to the wise and loving care of some of the gentle disinterested Sisterhoods of the Catholic Church. The poor little children would then grow up knowing something of human love and affection. This they will never learn with the State for their foster mother and with people like the Brownlees for their nurses.

The pupils attending the ambulance lectures were on Friday evening afforded a striking and dramatic illustration of the use of the ambulance litter. While the class was attending the lecture in the City Council Hall, one of the litters was carried across the Worcester-street Bridge on the way to the hospital. The occupant of the litter proved to be an old resident of Canterbury, named Mr. Potts, who arrived here in one of the historical "first four ships."

I am sorry to say that the Ambulance ball, which was given on the 26th, was not a great success from a pecuniary point. This is to be regretted. The Society is an admirable one, and does a vast amount of good in teaching people to render aid to each other in case of accident. Again and again there is not the slightest doubt that lives are lost through lack of the diffusion of a little practical knowledge.

The rehearsals of the "Mikado" go steadily on, and as there is no professional company in Christchurch just now the performances, which are to be given on the seventh, eighth, tenth, and eleventh of August, are sure to be largely attended.

Mr. H. Lonargan, the president of the Catholic Literary Society has been endeavouring to stimulate the young men of the Society to study the National question. Mr. Lonargan has offered prizes for the first, second, and third best papers upon the Home Rule question. Those papers are to be read before the Society on Thursday evening, when it is to be hoped that the competitors will show that they possess an intelligent acquaintance with their subject. Mr. Lonargan deserves very great credit indeed, for thus endeavouring to induce the young men of the Society to study the question of Home Rule though it is to be hoped for their own sakes that no such inducement was necessary to cause them to study a question so fraught with interest to the welfare of their country. I have been told that the subject of Home Rule is not a popular one for discussion with the members of the Literary Society. However, literary they may be, and if they had the literature of every country on the globe at their

fingers' ends I do not think that they need consider the subject of Irish politics at all unworthy of their consideration. Politics may not perhaps come strictly within the province of a Literary Society, but then the Canterbury Catholic Literary Society is not altogether composed of Max Mullers and Edwin Arnolds, one would suppose that they would not need to draw hard and fast lines. At all events a young man, especially a young Irishman who exhibits ignorance in regard to Home Rule, which apart from its vital importance to his country, is one of the political questions of the day, must to be considered a very ill informed person indeed. If the young members of the Society do not wish to leave themselves open to this charge, they had better betake themselves to the study of the Irish question at once. There may be some excuse for a young Irishman not being able to locate a quotation from Dante, Milton, Cervantes, or Beranger, but there is no excuse whatever if he is able to read for his ignorance in regard to a subject which is so nearly associated with the destinies of his own country. Should the members of the Canterbury Catholic Literary Society imagine that Home Rule is a question beneath their dignity to discuss, perhaps it might change their opinions to recall to their minds that the Dialectical Society, the debating club of the Canterbury College, last year debated the question in a most vigorous manner, when the advocates for Home Rule, nearly all Englishmen and B.A.'s, carried the vote in favour of Home Rule by a large majority.

I think that the apathy which is displayed by people of Irish birth and descent in this city in regard to Irish matters is largely due to the fact that the clergy here do not endeavour to popularise national studies. The people take their tone in this respect from the clergy, as in the case of the Literary Society, and the result is that there is a marked decadence of that strong national feeling which, among Irish people, does so much to promote that ardent enthusiasm in the cause of religion, which has worked such wonders elsewhere. Where the national feeling is weak among Irish people there will not be found that royal-hearted, open-handed generosity which has studded the world with some of its noblest eclipses. When Irish people take on the "Saxon graft of civilization," and become Anglicised, they begin to develop a thoroughly Anglican love for threepenny bits. In this, and in other colonies, it will be generally found that where the national feeling is strongest there the Church is in the most flourishing condition. In Otago, upon the West Coast, and in some other places, the Irish people are distinguished for their strong sympathies with the sacred Island of Sorrows, and in no part of New Zealand do the Catholics so freely and generously respond to the call of religion, and no where are they more devotedly attached to their clergy. The obvious inference is that in the cause of religion it is not wise on the part of those who can prevent it, to let the old, warm, generous Irish spirit die. Those who do so must be prepared for the inevitable consequences.

On Sunday Father Halbwachs announced that after vespers a meeting of the men of the parish would be held for the purpose of forming a branch of the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Father Halbwachs referred, evidently very reluctantly, to another parish matter, that is, the subject of the Sunday contributions. These are very small, and are not at all adequate to the support of the mission. This is to be regretted. Instead of the contributions falling off there is a very great necessity for them to increase. The wants of the parish are manifold. Father Halbwachs justly remarked that charity should begin at home, and so it should. It will need to stay there, too, for a considerable time before all our wants are removed. A very great and long-sustained effort will have to be made by the people before this parish is put upon a healthy footing. It is true that in so far as possessing a Magdalen Asylum we are in advance of every other parish in New Zealand, but in other respects we are lamentably behind. Our church is bad, our schools are worse, the house accommodation for the Brothers is deplorable, and the Bishop's residence is quite unworthy of him. All this sounds very appalling, but it is true. Therefore it will be seen that I do not exaggerate when I state that both Bishop and people have a stiff task before them to get this parish into ship shape, and that charity will have to make a very prolonged stay in the region of the southern end of Barbadoes street before she will have satisfactorily accomplished her work.

I see Cardinal Moran has had, or was to have another interview with his Holiness before proceeding to Ireland. No doubt his Eminence will again seek to set poor Ireland right with the Pope.

With much interest many persons are awaiting the expected intelligence that Archbishop Bedwood has put a particularly strong spoke in the Duke of Norfolk's wheel. In view of what I think I may fairly call the perfervid declamations recently made in New Zealand by his Grace, this is the least that the Irish people and consistency have a right to expect.

Mdme. Sarah Bernhardt's affidavit in the "La Tosca" case will not be pleasant reading for the "great unacted." Eight hundred is the number of unread plays which Mdme. Bernhardt thinks she has in her possession; but of course she cannot be certain to a score or so.

The rumor which obtained general circulation in Berlin that an imperial decree was about to be issued, the effect of which would almost wholly prohibit Frenchmen from visiting Alsace-Lorraine is probably much exaggerated. Nevertheless, there is a great deal of indignation in the German capital at the obstacles thrown in the way of and restrictions imposed upon German tourists upon the French frontier, and it is quite probable that some measure of reprisal will be resorted to. The *North German Gazette*, which is nothing if not official in its utterances, points to the facts that France has twice the number of officials on the frontier that Germany has and adds that most of them are Alsations. The incidents which occurred on the frontier during the last year, the *Gazette* continues, clearly shows the object of the French Government in maintaining the large force of frontier guards that it does, makes it the more necessary that Germany should adopt some method of retaliation.

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Irish News.

Antrim.—Arrangements are in progress for the disposal of the Lurgan estates under Lord Ashbourne's Act. The property is nearly 30,000 acres in extent, and the landlord has intimated that should basis of agreement be arrived at the only obligation on the tenant would be the payment of instalments instead of rent, as part of the purchase money might remain with the Land Commissioners as a guarantee fund.

As Mr. McCartan, M.P., was recently walking down Donegal street, Belfast, a number of Orangemen rushed out on the streets and crowded the windows cheering for the Pope. Their greeting hitherto to the member of the Irish party was, as the reader need hardly be reminded, "To hell with the Pope."

It is difficult for a Catholic to get any good situation in nine out of ten of the business houses of Belfast; there are many Catholic grocers who are willing to employ their own co-religionists as well as Protestants. Protestants and Presbyterians will not employ Catholics if they can help it, and the employes boycott Catholics.

Armagh.—Miss Adeline Prior, daughter of the late Colonel Prior, has been removed from Armagh Gaol to a lunatic asylum after having attempted suicide several times. She was charged with the murder of a little girl, who was found drowned some time ago in a kitchen boiler.

The children of the late Colour-Sergeant Gorman, Armagh, about whom there has been so much litigation, were, on May 7, given over by their Protestant grandparents to William Gallagher, solicitor, for Father McNeece and the Catholic guardians of the children. The elder is a fine intelligent boy, aged 7 years and 5 months; the younger, for her age, an equally intelligent girl, aged 6 years. So powerful was the case made in favour of the validity of the will of the children's deceased father that the Protestant relations, at the last moment, withdrew the appeal of which they had given notice.

Cavan.—A number of evictions are expected to take place soon near Belturbet, on the property of Lord Lanesboro', as the notices are posted up on the police barracks, Belturbet. There are some to take place on the estates of Lyndon Bolton, near Ballyconnell, and it is stated that in the latter case the houses will be burned.

Clare.—Several farmers were summoned at the Knock Petty Sessions, on May 8, for holding a fair in the village of Kilmihill on the days of the regular fair, held a quarter of a mile outside the town on the Stackpoole property. In the first case a nominal fine was imposed, and the remaining ones were adjourned.

On May 10, Sub-Sheriff Croker, accompanied by a force of bailiffs and police, proceeded to Deerpark, about four miles from Ennis, for the purpose of evicting Widow Fahy, for interest due on money advanced by the Board of Works for the purchase of her holding. It appears that Mrs. Fahy, at the death of her husband, understood that the interest and instalments of principal had been duly paid by him, but being unable to produce receipts, the legal proceedings resulted in favour of the Board. The evicting party arrived at 10 a.m., to find Mrs. Fahy ill in bed, and after waiting several hours, during which time the Rev. Father Walsh, of Doora, vainly endeavoured to effect a settlement, the unfortunate woman was obliged to leave her bed, which, with the other articles of furniture, was removed to the roadside, and the house and lands were handed over to an Emergency man, with a protection force of two constables. An eye-witness describes the scene as heartrending.

Cork.—A strange scene was witnessed at Cullen, on the borders of Cork and Kerry, on Sunday, May 6. The parish chapel was completely deserted in consequence of a landgrabber named Keefe and his police escort being present. The officiating clergyman, the Very Rev. Canon Griffin, P.P., announced that the chapel would be closed after that day for some time to come, because of the conduct of the people.

Pneumonia has again broken out in a more intense form among the soldiers of the Bedfordshire Regiment at Fermoy. One soldier died on Wednesday, May 16, and another was found dead in his bed on Thursday morning, being in perfect health on the previous night. Several cases were carried to hospital on Thursday. This epidemic is causing quite a panic in the regiment, the soldiers visibly shivering while on parade.

At the meeting of the Bantry Board of Guardians on May 15 a resolution was proposed, strongly condemning the action of the Government in prosecuting Messrs. O'Brien and Dillon. The chairman refused to put the resolution, but it was carried by a show of hands, and was ordered to be inserted on the minutes.

The usual quarterly examinations were held at the Munster Dairy School on May 15, Sir. D. V. O'Sullivan presiding. The result of the examinations was so satisfactory—the pupils answering correctly over ninety per cent. of the questions—that the committee decided to give prizes to all. The number of these at present in the school is within four of the highest number ever yet reached in the school. Mr. Forrest reported a continued improvement in the butter-making at the school, and stated that the result of the school teaching in this matter was becoming plainly observable all over the country.

Donegal.—Preparations are being made for evictions in Donegal.

The detachment of the King's Rifles quartered at Dunfanaghy and a large number of police from the surrounding stations were on protection duty on May 15, on the property of Wybrants Oiphert, where possession was demanded from the tenants of the entire townland of Ardsmore, sixteen in number. The bailiff and the forces were met in all cases with closed doors, and a summons was then nailed on each tenant's house commanding him to appear at Falcarragh, on the 22nd of May, before the magistrates for refusing to deliver up possession of his holding. The people of Ardsmore are only a small number of the tenants on this property that have been converted within the last

couple of months into caretakers by the eviction-made-easy mode of procedure. The Rev. J. Doherty (who holds Father Stephens' place since his imprisonment), Father Kelly, P.P. Dunfanaghy, and Mr. Kelly, National League, were present. No disturbance occurred.

The proposed evictions on the Marquis at Conyngham's Glenties estate, which were on the eve of being carried out, have been abandoned, the Marquis having agreed to terms favourable to the tenants.

Down.—An extraordinary incident occurred at Castlewellaun on the night of May 7. The Episcopalian clergyman, who is Lord Annesley's chaplain, refused permission to some local politicians to hold a meeting in the church. A crowd assembled at about 9.30 p.m., marched to the church, forced open the door of the vestry and gained admission. The chaplain protested strongly, and rang the church bell to attract the attention of the police, who, however failed to put in an appearance. Six of the leaders of this proceeding will be proceeded against at the next petty sessions.

Dublin.—The slaughter of cattle that were exposed to the infection of pleuro-pneumonia has been almost completed in Dublin. An address, signed by Mrs. Gladstone, Lord Aberdeen, and a great number of the most influential Liberal ladies and gentlemen in fashionable and political circles, has been conveyed to the Lord Mayor of Dublin, conveying an expression of sympathy with the Irish people in their present constitutional struggle.

At a meeting of the Fresh Air Association on May 15, at St. Kevin's Pro-Cathedral, Dublin, a very encouraging report was read by the Rev. R. F. Coolan. As many as 1,572 individuals from eleven city schools have been afforded the benefit of country air. The average attendance in the Catholic poor schools of the city is between eleven and twelve thousand daily.

Mr. W. O'Brien and Mr. T. Harrington, M.P.'s, while driving through the northern suburbs of Dublin on May 13, intending to call on Mr. John Dillon, met with a serious accident. At the corner of North Great George street the horse stumbled and fell, throwing them violently to the ground. Mr. O'Brien was sadly hurt on the face, arms, side and leg, but his companion practically escaped injury.

A meeting of the southern branch of the Isle of Man Agricultural Society was held on May 14 in Douglas, when the question of allowing cattle to be imported from Dublin was discussed. It was stated that the Irish authorities had recently given an order for the slaughter of large numbers of cattle in Dublin which had been in contact with others suffering from pleuro-pneumonia. The opinion was strongly expressed in favour of importation from Dublin being prohibited, and a committee was appointed to communicate with the Irish authorities, and, if necessary, to ask the Lieutenant-Governor of the island to issue a proclamation forbidding the landing in the Isle of Man of cattle from Dublin.

Matters are bad in Dublin. So it would seem from an incidental discussion in the North Dublin Union, on May 16. A relieving officer reported that there were 40 more families on outdoor relief now than last year, and that during the week no less than 125 females were receiving relief in the district.

At Frankford, fourteen men, portion of a crowd of 200 who went to plough up and sow the farm from which a tenant had been evicted, on an estate where the Plan of Campaign had been adopted, have been sentenced to a month's imprisonment.

Galway.—Mr. John Roche, P.L.G., who was released on May 4, from Galway prison, is in a very precarious state of health. He had almost completely succumbed to the harsh and cruel treatment he was subjected to while in the prison hospital. Dr. Geraghty, who is his medical attendant is most assiduous in his attention to Mr. Roche, and has grave doubts that the health of his patient is seriously endangered. Had he received ordinary care during the first few days of his illness the critical position in which he now is might have been averted.

At the meeting of the Portumna Board of Guardians on May 12, Captain J. Eyre presiding, a discussion took place on the financial condition of the union, from which it appeared that the board owed nearly £2,000, and that there was no money to pay the contractors; that the board was not able to pay the outdoor relief, and that the officers had not yet got their salaries for the quarter ending 25th March.

Kerry.—On May 7, James Kirby (Fox) was executed at Tralee Gaol for the murder of Patrick Quirke, at Liscahane, on November 7. The condemned man, who passed a quiet night, rose at five in the morning. He remained in his cell for two hours, and then attended Mass in the prison chapel. Prayers were recited after Mass, the prisoner answering the responses in a firm voice. Within a few minutes of eight the mournful procession started to the place of execution, Kirby being accompanied by Fathers O'Mallaghan and Quill. He was quite calm and collected and mounted the scaffold with a firm step. He spoke the responses to the prayers ceasing only for a short time to make a declaration of his innocence. He said, "I had neither hand, act, nor part, in Quirke's murder. I never fired a shot in my life. Cournane is also innocent." At nine minutes past 8 o'clock the drop fell. Death was instantaneous. Large crowds assembled outside the gaol. Mrs. Kirby, wife of the condemned man, was among the number, and when the black flag was hoisted, hats were reverently lifted, and prayers said for the repose of the man's soul. A detachment of the police were stationed in the vicinity of the gaol.

On May 5, a Coercion Court was held in Abbeydorney before Cecil Roche and Captain Massey, E.M.'s, at which two men named Garnett and O'Brien were charged with intimidating a labourer in the employ of a Mrs. Carney, who has been subjected to boycotting.

Kildare.—It is rumoured that Dr. Lynch is about to apply for a coadjutor to assist him in discharging the onerous duties of his important and extensive diocese. It is said that on his return he will establish a diocesan chapter. He is now 82 years of age.

Kilkenny.—Office and High Mass for the repose of the soul of the late Dr. Barry Delaney, 30 years medical superintendent

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The Cuisine is under the Superintendance of a First-Class Chef.

is asking the country people to visit and inspect his stock of Catholic, Irish National, and Miscellaneous Books,

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desires to intimate that he does not publish a catalogue of the various works kept by him, believing, as he does, that individuals can be far better suited by calling at his establishment than they could be were he to issue the most bulky catalogue possible. Catalogues, to a certain extent, are useful; but, on the other hand, many persons are led, because of the bald description of the works offered for sale, into purchasing books which are of little use to them. To avoid anything of this kind, Mr. Dunn would kindly ask visitors to the city to call on him, assuring them that he will do his best to provide them with both good and suitable Catholic and general literature

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To attract customers, and to make it worth while to pay a special visit to the Arcade, Mrs. Loft has determined to place a SALE PRICE upon every Class of Goods. If the goods are not ticketed, the Public may rely upon only being charged sale prices. Examine and contrast the following goods:—

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- Women's Lace Boots, 4s 11d. Women's Leather Slippers, 3s 6d.
- Women's Elastic Boots, 4s 6d and 4s 11d.
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Mollison, Mills & Co.	FIRST HALF YEARLY SALE	Great Clearing Sale
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Mollison, Mills & Co.	THIRTY DAYS.	Great Clearing Sale

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195 and 197 George Street, opposite Knox Church.

of the Kilkenny Lunatic Asylum, were celebrated in St. John's Church, Kilkenny, on May 14.

A memorial altar to the memory of the late Rev. Matthew Keefe is to be erected in the Church of St. Canice, Kilkenny. A meeting presided over by Father Knaresboro, for the purpose of raising funds for the above purpose, was largely attended.

King's County.—The people of Broughall and district are giving evidence of the spirit that is in them. On May 14 over one hundred men assembled to cut turf for Daniel Kilmartin, at present "a criminal" in Tullamore Gaol on a charge of having taken part in an "illegal assembly" at Broughall. Before the shades of evening had approached, turf sufficient for two years had been cut. It is a strange coincidence that Daniel Kilmartin resides on the Kemmis estate of which the "meek and oily" Toler Garvey is agent.

Limerick.—At Limerick police court on May 11, a large number of persons were fined for assaults on soldiers. It was stated in evidence that the soldiers used insulting language to the civilians and provoked them to the assaults. The magistrates strongly condemned the assaults, and remarked that if the garrison were withdrawn it would be a loss to the citizens.

Longford.—Mr. L. Connolly, M.P. for South Longford, who, owing to ill-health, placed his resignation in the hands of Mr. Parnell, has, at the request of the Irish leader, decided to retain his seat.

Louth.—The Drogheda *Independent* of May 19 says: "We are glad to see the branches throughout Louth are alive and kicking, despite the proclamation issued by the Government to terrify the members into submission to enable Lord Massereene to collect his rack-rents."

Mayo.—The Castlebar Board of Guardians have petitioned the Government to have the seed rate balance struck out, owing to the great depression existing amongst landholders at present. The memorialists submit that, under the circumstances, this would be no more than an act of justice.

Meath.—On May 8, a raid was made on the lands of a farmer named Roche, a tenant of Lord Massereene, at Rossin, by a number of Emergency men, driven on Dublin cars. They carried off the entire cattle of the farm while the tenant was asleep.

Queen's County.—Before daybreak on May 15 the sub-Sheriff of Meath, and a large staff, suddenly appeared at the farm of a man named M'Evoy, on the Lyster estate, near Ballybrophy, who owed between £700 and £800 for rent. Before M'Evoy was well out of bed, his entire stock, numbering over 200 head of sheep, lambs, cows, horses, and store cattle, were driven to the railway station. Here a special cattle train had been chartered for their removal to Maryborough, where they will be sold.

Tipperary.—The tenants on the Cashel property of Mr. A. H. Smith-Barry met the agent on May 8, and asked for a reduction of 40 per cent. The agent said he was authorised to allow only 25 per cent., and the tenants left refusing to accept the offer.

On May 9 an eviction campaign was begun on the estate of Michael Cormack at Modeshill. The estate comprises about 40 holdings of wretched land. One year ago the tenants asked for a reduction of 30 per cent., and, on being refused, adopted the Plan of Campaign. Early in the morning a large force of police escorted the sheriff and bailiffs to the estate. Their route was blocked at many places by huge barriers and trees which delayed them considerably. A large crowd of sympathizers witnessed the outrages. On the next day the campaign was continued, when a number of evictions took place and many exciting incidents occurred. At every house the Emergency men were met with strong resistance and the places were completely barricaded. On May 9 the evictions were concluded. During the entire campaign of outrages, the people showed remarkable coolness, and nothing of a serious nature occurred. Seventeen families in all were evicted. A meeting was subsequently held, at which the Rev. Michael McGrath presided, and delivered a stirring address. Mr. John Cullinan and Rev. John Cahill also spoke, after which the people separated with cheers for the Plan of Campaign. It is understood that the remaining tenants who were not on the list for eviction this time will very soon be placed on the list, and that a new eviction crusade will commence. The tenants placed full reliance on their organisation.

Tyrone.—Dr. McGrath, the Nationalist candidate for the coronership of East Tyrone, has been returned by a handsome majority over Dr. Browne, his Unionist opponent.

Waterford.—The delegates of the various branches of the Irish National League throughout this county met in convention on May 7, at Dungarvan. Resolutions were adopted renewing confidence in Mr. Parnell and the Irish Parliamentary party, and also calling on all the branches in the county to subscribe to the Members' Fund. It was also voted to present Mr. J. D. Pyne, M.P., their representative in Parliament, with a suitable address and testimonial on his release from Clonmel Gaol.

Wexford.—Mr. John Dillon writes to the editor of the *Freeman*:—"Sir—Will you kindly allow me to acknowledge the receipt of £150, which has been voted from the County Wexford Fund for the Coolgreany and Sinnott evicted tenants in that county?"

Notices of evictions have been served on twenty-five tenants on the Devon estate. The tenants owe from two to three years' rent each, and are to be evicted immediately if some terms are not agreed upon.

On May 16 a bevy of bailiffs, acting on the instructions of the landlord, proceeded to Woodgrigue, the residence of Mrs. Ennis, and cleared the lands. A number of cattle grazing were driven off, when they took possession of the lands and out offices. They did not, however, approach the dwelling house.

Wicklow.—Much amusement was afforded to the people of Wicklow and Ashford by the movements of a large force of police in the vicinity of the latter village on May 10. Some weeks ago the

local branches of the National League announced that a demonstration would be held on that date at Kiltimon, a short distance from Ashford, but subsequently the meeting was postponed to a future date. A few days before a proclamation signed by the local resident magistrate was extensively posted prohibiting the meeting, and over a hundred police, in charge of Mr. McLeod, R.M., marched to the place and remained all day, to find that there was no meeting.

WELLINGTON.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Saturday, July 21,

CONSIDERABLE excitement was caused in town when the news arrived yesterday that fighting had broken out among the Nagapuhi tribe at Whangarei, and two men were killed, besides a number wounded. The Under-Secretary for Native affairs, this morning received a report from the Resident Magistrate, Mr. J. S. Clendon, who returned from the scene at 4 a.m. to-day, and in the report the R.M. states that besides the two Natives killed, another Native has his arm shattered, and others are dangerously wounded. He informed the chief Taurau that he must cease hostilities, but he was afraid his injunction would not be followed, as the old chief was thoroughly roused. The northern chiefs had been sent for, and should they arrive at an early period, an end might be put to the disturbance. The assistance of the prophet Hani Whera had been obtained in order to quell the natives who were calming down. The wounds of the Maoris had been dressed by a doctor whom Mr. Clendon had taken with him to the scene.

The contract for filling in the new reclamation at the Te Aro end of the city, is progressing very rapidly, and Mr. McGuire, the contractor is sparing neither trouble nor expenses to do the work thoroughly and within the specified time. The earth, which is being brought from a part of the Rhodes estate, is being put into the harbour at the rate of four hundred tons a day, and already a very large slice of the work is completed. The contractor is erecting a light trestle work on the outer boundary of the contract, from the inner tie of the Queen's wharf to the Wellington Rowing Club's shed at the foot of Cuba street, from whence a concrete wall will be erected. The wall will be built of ton blocks of concrete, between which loose metal stones, specially selected for its hardness will be laid. There can be no doubt that the contractor is doing his work thoroughly but it is feared that he will not make much out of the job. Up to the present the reclamation contracts have been given to Mr. J. Sunders, a local man, but as his figure for the present work was over £1,000 in excess of the Auckland man's price, the council decided to accept the latter's tender.

There was a good attendance at the meeting of the Catholic Institute held last week, when Mr. Jenkins presided. The subject of debate was whether or not England had reached the zenith of her power, and a very interesting discussion in which Messrs. Maskell, Walsh, and O'Sullivan, took part. On those present expressing their opinion by vote, the verdict given was to the effect that England had not reached the zenith of her power, the majority, however, being a very narrow one. The members of the Institute met again on Thursday evening at the Athenæum building, when the attendance was large. Mr. Felix O'Neil presided, and a very interesting programme, which comprised readings and recitations, was taken part in by Messrs. W. M. Maskell, Duffy, Walsh, Hickson, Jenkins, Duignon, O'Sullivan and Coghlan. The question of instituting an elocution class was favourably considered, and it was decided that an impromptu debate should be given at the next meeting of the Institute.

Mr. T. F. Coghlan presided at the monthly meeting of the local branch of the National Land League which was held on Monday last at the Marist Brothers' school. As funds were needed, it was decided to hold an entertainment at an early date, and Messrs. Larkin, Noonan, Brennan, and O'Callaghan, were appointed a committee to make the necessary arrangements. It was also resolved that the existing committee canvass the city for subscriptions.

Some stir was caused here by the publication of articles in one of the local papers to the effect that complaints had been made by parents that female pupil teachers in some of the Government schools were in the habit of accosting young and middle aged men during the lunch hour, and taking part in conversations unworthy of any respectable girl. It was stated by the writer of the article that he had proof in his possession, of even greater misconduct on the part of these instructors of the youthful mind. The matter was dealt with by the Education Board in committee, when it was decided to request the writer of the article in question to furnish the Board with the proofs in his possession. Correspondence on the matter has also been received from teachers and pupil teachers in the various city schools, and the question will be discussed at the meeting of the Board to be held on Wednesday next.

Quite a building mania exists in this city; everybody is building, and there are already a great number of houses idle. But for all that, landlords will not lower the rents, and one has to pay twelve or fifteen shillings for a three-roomed house, and a decent four or five-roomed cottage is not to be had under £1 or twenty-five shillings. Large public buildings are also going up in every direction, and the re-building of the General Post Office and Opera-house is slowly proceeding.

The newly-formed Amateur Operatic Society have been giving Gilbert and Sullivan's opera "Iolanthe" at the Theatre Royal for the past week, and have been very successful. The house has been packed every night, and every seat in the circle and stalls was engaged a week in advance. The scenery (the handiwork of Mr. Briggs) is excellent, the chorus are good, and the characters well sustained.

His Excellency Lieut.-Governor Sir James Prendergast was engaged all yesterday and to-day hearing the application for an extradition warrant in regard to the French escapees, Cury and Gasparini.

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The application was granted in each case, but had the former kept quiet on his arrest, and made no admissions to the detective, the application would have been refused, his Excellency holding that the documentary evidence adduced by the French Consul was not sufficient to identify the prisoner. Cury will be handed over to the French authorities in fifteen days, but Gasparini will be detained until the charge of burglary in Auckland against him has been heard.

An old journalist, Mr. Henry Anderson, aged 50 years, died here at 6 o'clock yesterday morning, from cancer in the throat. He was formerly editor of the *Wellington Independent*, *Evening Post*, *Chronicle*, and one of the *Wairarapa papers*. He also represented Wellington in the old Provincial Council. Deceased leaves a wife and seven children.

The great Native will case, *William Muhanga Broughton v. Airini Donnelly*, was concluded on Thursday, after having lasted twenty-two days. The case involves property to the value of £130,000, besides £5,000 cash in the Bank. Judgment will be given by the Chief Justice at an early date, but it is understood that the case will go to the Court of Appeal, and probably to the Privy Council, and it has been arranged that the side which gains the verdict will pay all costs.

Parliamentary Notes.

Wednesday, 25th.—A discussion on village settlements took place in the House. The Minister of Lands, who said that the Government had no intention of continuing the system—giving as a reason that land was being rapidly taken up. Several hon. members spoke in defence of the system, especially those belonging to Auckland.—The motion for the committal of the Native Land Bill was opposed vigorously by the Maori members, being condemned by them as specially odious to their people, whom they described as having taken up arms on a milder provocation. Sir George Grey also opposed the Bill as ruinous to the Native race, and to result in conferring large tracts of land on favoured Europeans. The comparison made by the Premier between the Natives and European monopolists seems to us especially unfortunate. It must justly brand the statesman making it in Native eyes as one unfit to deal with their affairs. The motion was agreed to.

Thursday, 26th.—A discussion took place as to fencing the railways in order to prevent the frequent slaughter of cattle occasioned by their being open to trespass, Mr. Mitchelson finally stating that the undertaking was too expensive to be thought of.—The Otago Central Railway Bill was again strenuously opposed in committee, Sir George Grey taking a leading part, in the interests it seems of the workmen of Otago, to whom he is so devoted that his solicitude extends even to their grandchildren whose inheritance he labours to preserve to them. A little consideration, however, for the present generation might also be of some service, and would probably help to increase the numbers of the grandchildren in question by enabling their progenitors to remain in the country, out of which they are now being driven by the score. All the Auckland members are dead set against the Bill—and so, strange to say, is Mr. Fish, who, we are quite persuaded, does not care a fig about posterity, and must have some motive of action lying well within the present, whatever it may be. Mr. Scobie Mackenzie, again, whose opposition to monopoly of the lands and desire for *bona fide* settlement are necessarily the burning passion well known to exist in the heart of every squatter for those ends—is thoroughly opposed to the Bill, and hopes even if it be passed to make it of no practical effect.

Friday, 27th.—A motion by the Hon. Mr. Menzies in the Council to the effect that the Bible should be read in the public schools was defeated by a majority of one.—The Committee on the Otago Central Railway was adjourned in order that a compromise might be agreed to by the advocates and opponents of the Bill. The resolutions of the meeting were that the line be extended to Ewernburn; that the Government should effect the work by setting aside sufficient land to be dealt with by the land laws of the Colony; and that the construction should be carried out with the least possible delay. Mr. Pyke condemned the resolutions as no compromise, but resulting from a preconcerted arrangement. After some further discussion an adjournment was made until Monday.

Tuesday, 30th.—The House agreed to a proposal of the Government to the effect that Government should undertake to push the railway on at once to Middlemarch. The Premier added that the work would occupy two years, but Government would be prepared to do all that was possible to shorten the time. The proposal was opposed by Mr. Pyke and his supporters, but was carried by a majority of 4.

The English invasion scare does not find an echo in this defenceless country. Any nation intending to invade the United States could easily raise vessels enough to transport 100,000 men, but they all realise that it would need a much smaller fleet to carry back the survivors.—*Pilot*.

The German Minister of Worship has approved the statutes of the German Institute of Rome, which has been founded for the pursuit of scientific researches into the history of Germany in the archives and libraries of Rome and of other Italian cities. This historical centre is directed immediately by a commission of three members chosen from the Royal Academy of Sciences at Berlin, who are obliged to present an annual summary of their work. The value of this institution, at a time when the Vatican archives have been so generously thrown open to students, is of the greatest. Several other nations, in one way or another, draw immense advantage from present opportunities in Rome. Many a question associated with American history might be resolved by a study of Vatican documents.

Diary of the Week.

WEDNESDAY, 25th.

PORTION of Jonathan Roberts' clothes found near Rhodes' Bay.—Victorian surplus revenue for year £837,000.—Boulanger defeated for Dordogne.

THURSDAY, 26th.

Snow and heavy rain general in South Island.—Fossil remains of gigantic animals found at Myrill Creek, N.S.W.—Hon. B. Campbell warns London public against tendering for Otago Dock Trust loan, as not guaranteed by Government and insufficient for purpose required.—O Kelly, member Roscommon North, arrested inciting people to disobey Crimes Act.—Gladstone celebrates golden wedding.

FRIDAY, 27th.

Bankrupt at Invercargill sentenced to four months' hard labour for concealing property.—South Australian Government moving against pauper immigration.—O Kelly admitted to bail.—Imperial Government intimates to Transvaal Government annexation of fresh territory.—Otago Dock Trust loan agent threatens action against Hon. B. Campbell.—Cardinal Moran has audience of Pope; leaves immediately for stay of several weeks in Ireland.

SATURDAY, 28th.

Public meeting at Auckland demand placing of £10,000 on Supplementary Estimates for village settlement.—American authorities capture four British sealers in Behring Sea.—English hop gardens in critical condition; great loss feared.—Kruger of Transvaal promises neutrality regarding Zululand.

MONDAY, 30th.

Revolt of Turkomans in Central Asia; more civilising work for Russia.—Great strike of navvies in France.—Crispi notifies annexation of Massowah.

TUESDAY 31st.

Unemployed at Waimate accept: married men, 3s 6d per day, unmarried 2s 6d.—Pope confined to bed with liver complaint.—Mantor, Sligo, sentenced four months, publishing boycotting notices.

Correspondence.

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

A LIVELY CONTRADICTION.

TO THE EDITOR N. Z. TABLET.

SIR,—Having represented the Tuapeka district for the last 23 years it may be considered by some of your readers strange on my part did I take no notice of the anonymous letters in your late issues, as well as other correspondence also published there, and again signed anonymously.

As a rule, and in this case there is no exception to the rule, such correspondence should be treated with contempt. An assassin who tries to do his foul and ungodly work in the dark does not deserve the honorable treatment of the open enemy who wars in a manly style. But while I would here like to treat my traducer with that contempt the liar and coward is of course justly entitled to consider his due (probably considering his lies and cowardice his mantle of security), I have a special object in writing this.

The N. Z. TABLET is the particular organ of a very large and important section of the New Zealand communities, and although I am aware you notify that you are not responsible for the opinions of your correspondents, still I am sure it is no part of your desire to allow your readers to be misled by the publication of statements contrary to fact, never mind upon what subject. I am desirous you should not deceive those of your readers who are ignorant of the facts; those who are acquainted with them cannot be deceived by false statements published in your paper or anywhere else. Had the statements of which I complain emanated from you I should have been bound to defend myself, and correct what would have simply been a misconception on your part. The case however is different and it simply becomes me to say that your occasional Lawrence correspondent in his correspondence published in your issues of the 20th inst and prior ones wallows in misstatements, base and unwarrantable insinuations, and direct lies, as the more common and more useful ordinary hog wallows in filthy mire.

The Blue Spur and Gabriel's Gully Consolidated Gold Company, Limited, is quite able to look after its own affairs, and has, so far, disappointed no shareholders, nor is it likely to do so; but should you desire any information in regard to the company (of course I mean actual facts) I can only say I shall be most happy to oblige you.

As regards Mr. Dennehy's dismissal: to you I will say I was unaware it was even contemplated, my first knowledge of his removal being obtained from the TABLET, and I have never used, or attempted in any way to use, any influence in respect of him. I have always considered Mr. Dennehy an able and efficient officer, and my official position as Visiting Justice should enable me to judge. Further, had I intended to remove him, I should have asked for information on the subject, and, if upon enquiry I found he was unfairly treated, should certainly have used my position on his behalf.—I am, etc.,

J. C. BROWN.

The report is confirmed that Bishop, the mind-reader, is in an insane asylum in San Francisco.

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day, August 9.

FOR SYDNEY, VIA LYTELTON, WELL-
INGTON, NAPIER, GISBORNE, and
AUCKLAND.—MANAPOURI, s.s., on
Wednesday, August 15.

FOR SYDNEY, via TIMARU, LYTEL-
TON, and WELLINGTON.—WAKATIPU,
s.s., on Tuesday, August 7.

FOR FIJI, from AUCKLAND.—WAINUI,
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RICHMOND, s.s., from Auckland about
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MR. DONALD STRONACH (on behalf of the New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Company, Limited) reports for the week ending August 1, as follows:—

Fat Cattle.—A very full supply was forward for this week's sales again at Burnside viz., 248 head, a large portion of which were of prime quality and heavy weight, the balance inferior to medium. The former were fairly well competed for, and brought prices fully in advance of last week's, while for the latter there was best demand. Best bullocks brought £8 10s to £9 12s 6d, one pen £10 10s; medium, £5 10s to £7 10s; others, £4 5s to £5 5s; cows in proportion.

Fat Sheep.—2941 were penned, including about 400 merinos, the rest crossbreds, medium to prime quality. Wethers suitable for export were in good demand and realising about 1s per head above last week's prices, while medium quality wethers and old ewes had less attention, in some instances fetching lower prices; but crossbred wethers brought 13s 6d to 15s 9d; ordinary, 9s to 12s 6d; best crossbred ewes, 11s to 13s; a few extra heavy Leicesters up to 14s 6d; ordinary, 6s to 10s 6d; merino wethers, 8s to 9s 3d.

Pigs.—158 were penned, comprising all sorts. A very fair demand was experienced, and competition moderately active. Suckers brought 6s to 11s; stores, 19s 6d to 26s; porkers, 30s to 36s; baconers, 43s to 60s.

Store Cattle.—The business resulting from the inquiry experienced is only to a very moderate extent, and nothing of importance in the meantime passing.

Store Sheep.—There are no sales of any consequence now effected. The only business coming under our notice at present is confined to occasional purchases of lines (not suitable for killing) at the Burnside saleyards, and which leave but little margin to the buyers.

Wool.—We notice that prices at the Antwerp sales, now being held, continue firm, with the exception of inferior combings, which are slightly lower. Locally, there is very little doing beyond the disposal on Mondays of the few oddments arriving from time to time; these, however, continue to realise very fair prices.

Sheepskins.—These, as usual, command good attention, all descriptions being readily disposed of. At our regular weekly auction sale on Monday there was a large attendance of buyers, all the members of the trade being present, when we offered a lengthy catalogue, comprising a variety of classes, the bulk of which were butchers' green skins. Competition was spirited, particularly so for best green skins, carefully looked after. Several lots showed unmistakable signs of carelessness on the part of slaughtermen, their value in consequence being considerably reduced. With the exception of these, all others brought prices showing an advance on last week's. Country dry crossbreds, low to medium, brought 1s 3d to 3s 6d; do do merino, 1s 2d to 2s 9d; medium to full-wooled crossbreds, 3s 8d to 6s 3d; do do merino, 3s to 4s 7d; dry pelts, 2d to 1s 2d; butchers' green crossbreds, 5s, 1s 11d, 4s 10d, 4s 8d, 4s 5d, 4s 1d; inferior, 3s 8d, 3s 2d; green merinos, 2s 10d to 3s 4d; lambskins, 2s 3d to 3s 2d.

Rabbitkins.—The demand continues brisk, all sorts being in good request, but more especially full-furred, thin-pelted greys, and realise prices equal to those obtaining previous to the advices reporting a fall at the last sales in London. There are several orders in the market paucity; of supplies is retarding their completion. Meantime, however, buyers are limited to prices, and in the absence of a substantial advance in price at Home, we can hardly look for very much further improvement in values here. We offered a moderate catalogue on Monday when a keen interest was centered in the proceedings. Competition was active and bidding spirited, every lot realising prices equal to late rates, quality considered. Summers brought 6d to 9d; autumn, 9½d to 12d; early winter, 14½d to 15½d; full-furred bucks and does, 16d to 16½d per lb.

Hides.—The market is in much the same position as when we last reported, there being no alteration to note in either demand or values. The continued depression in the London market is the principal cause of the prevailing weakness at present experienced here; at the same time, all coming forward are easily placed at the following quotations, viz., heavy weights in faultless condition, 3½d to 3¾d; medium, 3¼d to 2¾d; light, 2¾d to 2½d; inferior and bull hides, 1½d to 2d per lb.

Tallow.—The market continues steady and no material change in any way to report. Stocks are low but as the supply coming forward is sufficient for requirements and the city operators being the local manufacturers, in the absence of any demand for shipment prices remain as last quoted, viz., prime rendered mutton, 18s to 19s; medium to good, 15s 6d to 17s; inferior and mixed, 13s to 14s 6d. Rough fat, inferior, 8s to 9s; medium to good, 9s 6d to 11s 6d; best, clean and fresh, 12s to 13s per cwt.

Grain.—Wheat: The demand for good milling continues extremely restricted. Millers are operating with increased caution, and only purchasing in satisfaction of their immediate requirements. Second-class milling is in no demand whatever for local use; during the week, however, a few small parcels of this description have been placed for shipment; inferior and fowls' wheat continue in fair demand, but without any improvement in price. The only descriptions for milling inquired for in the meantime are prime Tuscan and red straw for mixing, and the quantity used is comparatively insignificant. We quote prime milling wheat and red straw, 2s 10s to 3s 1d, Tuscan best a shade more; medium, 2s 6d to 2s 8d, nominal; fowls' wheat, whole and full, 2s 3d to 2s 5d; inferior and broken, 1s 9d to 2s (ex store, sacks weighed in).—Oats: The market, although firm at last week's quotation, has not further improved to an appreciable extent, and beyond the disposal of a few lots suitable for milling, and an occasional lot for shipment, the business passing is limited: A good demand exists for shipping, but until there is a corresponding rise in the Australian markets, shippers are not in a

position to operate at the prices now demanded here. We quote prime milling, stout and bright, 1s 11d to 2s, extra choice a shade more; short bright feed, 1s 9½d to 1s 10½d; medium, 1s 8½d to 1s 9d; inferior, of which the market is pretty well cleared out, 1s 6d to 1s 8d; black, in small lots, up to 2s; long Tartars and Danish, fit for seed, 1s 9d to 2s (ex store, sacks weighed in).—Barley has very little attention from malsters, especially if in the slightest degree off colour. There is some demand for milling, but until growers reduce their limits very little business will be effected. There is no demand for feed, quotations nominal.

Ryegrass Seed.—The market is still inactive. Small lots are occasionally disposed of, while parcels of any size are difficult to move. We quote machine-dressed, 2s 6d to 3s; undressed, 1s 6d to 2s 3d; sacks extra.

Cooksfoot is in good supply, but sales are confined to almost retail lots, at from 3½d to 4½d per lb.

Potatoes.—The market continues bare, and prices are further advancing. Northern are worth 75s to 80s, and southern, 65s to 75s, according to quality.

GRAIN AND SEED REPORT.

MESSRS. SAMUEL ORR and Co., Stafford street, report for the week ending August 1 as follows:—

Wheat: The demand is just about the same as last week, no animation being visible in any class, and only prime quality being easily sold, while millers are not inclined to lay in heavy stocks of the former even though the prices have touched bottom. Tuscan is in best demand, and we have no doubt 3s 2d to 3s 3d could be obtained for a tip-top lot. We quote prime milling up to 3s 2d; medium, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; fowl feed, 1s 10d to 2s 3d.

Oats.—A very fair demand exists for these for both shipping and local use, but the prices now asked prohibit business of any magnitude being transacted, especially for shipping, while millers are not sanguine that present rates will be maintained in the face of the intercolonial markets not having responded to the advance here, and consequently will not purchase more than will keep them going to supply orders. They have also to bear in mind that if they put oatmeal up to a certain figure it is playing into the hands of their opponents on the other side, where oats are cheaper than here; hence their cautiousness. We placed several lines at 2s, and quote this for prime milling, though a shade more is obtainable in some instances; bright heavy short-feed, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; medium, 1s 8d to 1s 9d.

Barley.—Demand just about off, and prices nominal, say prime milling, 4s 3d; milling, 3s 3d; feed 2s 6d.

Chaff.—The arrivals are not up to demand, and all lots coming forward meet with ready sale, at for screened, nice cut oaten sheaves, £2 17s 6d to £3; ordinary, £2 10s to £2 15s.

Potatoes.—These are still advancing and stocks are not so heavy as was thought some time ago, and as the intercolonial markets are drawing large supplies, prices have made considerably, and during the week we placed some at advanced rates, but know of some having been quitted at £4 7s 6d. Southern are not in such demand, but for them we have no doubt £4 could be got if prime.

Seeds.—Ryegrass: We placed several parcels during the week, but principally Poverty Bay which is most in request, but this month ought to see business increasing in this line and at possibly enhanced prices, while the same may be said of cooksfoot and of which we placed over 5000 lbs.

Clovers.—Our season's supply came to hand per "Westland" from the leading seedsmen in London, and we have just had them tested in earth, and they have shown exceptionally good results, so that we can confidently recommend them to those requiring them, samples of which can be had on application.

MR. F. MENAN, King street, reports:—Wholesale prices, bags included: Oats, medium to prime, 1s 8d to 2s. Wheat: milling, 3s ½ to 3s 3d; fowls' 1s 9d to 2s 6d; Barley: Malting, 4s to 4s 6d; milling, 3s 6d; feed, 3s. Chaff: Best, £2 15s; medium, £2 5s. Hay: Oat, £3; rye-grass, £3. Bran, £3 5s. Pollard, £3 10s. Potatoes: Northern, £3 15s; Southern, £3 10s. Butter: Fresh, 10d to 1s 2d; salt, good demand, prime, 8½d. Cheese, 3d to 4d. Eggs, 1s. Flour, roller, £8 10s to £9; in 50lb stone, £7 15s to £8 5s. Oat meal, 10s. Roll bacon, 7d; sides, 7½d; hams, 9d, both scarce.

An inventor has asked Congress to appropriate 150,000 dollars to enable him to construct a flying ship.

The *Pilot* has already adverted to the active sympathy for Irish Home Rule of a scholarly and patriotic Hindoo now resident in England, Mr. Baboo J. Munkhoyi. Another Hindoo, Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji has shown himself so friendly to the same cause that Michael Davitt proposes him as a candidate for the Parliamentary representation of Sligo, which Mr. Kennedy has signified his intention of resigning. Mr. Naoroji is a man of independent means, and resides chiefly in London. He speaks and writes English as well as any educated Englishman. "His vote would be as sure," says Mr. Davitt, "and his voice as uncompromising for Ireland in the Imperial Parliament as would those of any member of Mr. Parnell's party." He would willingly pledge himself to vote and sit with Mr. Parnell, and to resign his seat should he fail to keep such promise. But Mr. Davitt has another motive besides Ireland's direct advantage in pressing the candidature of Mr. Naoroji: The latter is prominent among the Nationalists of India, who have been striving within the past few years to win for the people of that immense empire some recognition of native right in the administration of the law and some participation in the government of their country. For this alone he is entitled, thinks Mr. Davitt, to the active good wishes of all Irish Nationalists. And he hopes that the Irish will embrace the opportunity now presented of making for their cause millions of friends by sending to the Imperial Parliament the spokesman and representative of 200,000,000 of their fellow-sufferers of Hindostan.

M R S. D R E A V E R.
50 GEORGE STREET.



To Reduce the Stock as much a possible, all Goods will be sold AT COST. Our Late Shipments, ex Tongariro, of Ladies' and Children's

ULSTERS & JACKETS,

All the Latest Styles—Hundreds to choose from—

AT COST!

Millinery, Corsets, Underclothing Fancy Goods, Dress Materials, Ulster Cloths, Seal Cloth, etc.,

AT COST!

NOTICE.
Ladies wishing to Learn the SCIENTIFIC SYSTEM of DRESS-CUTTING Will be taught as formerly.

MRS. DREAVER.

WAKATIPU FLOUR AND OATMEAL MILLS,
LAKE HAYES.
(Between Arrows and Queenstown.)

THOMAS MURRAY, having purchased the above Mill, which is now in full working order, being lately fitted with new machinery of the latest and most approved pattern, and having secured the services of a first-class miller, is now in a position to execute orders for Flour, Oatmeal, Bran, Pollard, etc.
Cash Buyer of Wheat and Oats. Highest Prices given.

HIRE—SYSTEM—HIRE—PURCHASE OF MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

MESSRS. CHARLES BEGG & CO

do not hesitate to make the extraordinary claim for their Hire System that it is VASTLY SUPERIOR to all others, both as regards Value and the easy Repayments, which are calculated on a Lower Interest Basis than any other house.

HIRE—SYSTEM—HIRE—PURCHASE.

—We readily recognise the advantages offered by our rivals, because we were the first to introduce the Hire System into New Zealand on exactly similar lines, and, therefore, it is but common fairness and justice that we should reap the benefits of our labour and expenditure.

HIRE—SYSTEM—HIRE—PURCHASE.

—When anything stands the test of time among a discriminating people, it is pretty sure evidence of real worth and merit, and with 12 years' experience and administration of the Hire System to guide us, we still justly claim to lead.

HIRE—SYSTEM—HIRE—PURCHASE.

—That we perform all we claim is conclusively proved by the fact that those who regard us with the greatest favour are these who have dealt with us the longest. Our customers are our references.

HIRE—SYSTEM—HIRE—PURCHASE.

—We shall be glad if buyers, when comparing our prices with those of other houses, will, at the same time, also carefully compare the goods, in which case they will find that we give more solid value for the prices we receive than can be obtained elsewhere. Pianos, such as we absolutely reject, can be, and are sold at much lower prices than our importations; but there are no test of value, and lead to ultimate vexation and annoyance long before the apparently easy payments have run out.

HIRE—SYSTEM—HIRE—PURCHASE.

—The continued success and increasing popularity that has marked each alteration in our Hire System stamps it indelibly as the Safest and Cheapest Method of Purchasing (without the slightest publicity) Pianos, Harmoniums, and Organs, etc., etc. on that basis.

MESSRS CHARLES BEGG AND CO.

—Abstain from entering into competition with importers of inferior Pianos, many of which flood the market at times, and which may be classed with cheap trash. Our motto is: "Nulli Secundus" ("Second to none"), and we import Pianos and other Musical Instruments of good quality at a comparatively low price. We shall limit ourselves to a variety of English and German Pianos of bona fide manufacture, and shall endeavour, through carefulness as to the retention of their high standard quality, to retain that confidence and esteem which our past career and established reputation has already earned for us at the hands of our patrons.

THE MUSICAL WAREHOUSE,
"Nulli Secundus" (Second to None).
26 PRINCES STREET, DUNEDIN
(21 years Established).

DOMINICAN CONVENT BUILDING FUND,

A R T U N I O N .
(By permission of the Hon. the Colonial Secretary.)
To be Drawn at DUNEDIN on ST. PATRICK'S DAY

The Nuns, having recently brought out to the Colony a large increase in their numbers, it has become absolutely necessary that they should at once undertake the Completion of the Original Plans of their Convent. Therefore, they have determined to place the ART UNION before the Catholics of New Zealand in the full confidence that the claims of the Dominican Nuns as promoters of a SUPERIOR TRAINING and EDUCATION will be cheerfully responded to.

The Prize List will be found very Numerous, and of Substantial Value.

Friends are invited to undertake the SALE of BOOKS of TICKETS and Communicate with
REV. MOTHER GABRIEL,
Convent, Dunedin.

CITY BREWERY, DUNEDIN.

J A S P E I G H T A N D C O .
MALSTERS AND BREWERS.

J O H N P. H A Y E S

Has commenced the Practice of his Profession as a SOLICITOR AND CONVEYANCER.

Bank of Australasia Buildings.

Corner of BOND and BATTRAY STREETS, DUNEDIN.

WANTED KNOWN.

VACANCIES for a Few Respectable BOARDERS at MRS. PAVLETICH'S Boarding House. Steady men will find all the comforts of a home at Moderate Charges.

MRS. PAVLETICH'S,

Off MacLaggan Street (above A. & J. Macfarlane's),
DUNEDIN.

THOMAS BYRNE of Knockmaun, near Dungarvan, County Waterford, who went to California in 1864, came to Adelaide, South Australia, in 1867, went to the goldfields in New Zealand in 1868 or 1869. He will hear joyful news by communicating with the

REV. M. O'CONNOR

Numurkah, Victoria.

NOTICE.

All communications connected with the Commercial Department of the N.Z. TABLET Newspaper are to be addressed to John Murray, Secretary, to whom also Post Office Orders and Cheques are in all instances to be made payable.

To ensure publication in any particular issue of the paper communications must reach this office not later than Tuesday morning

R I V E R T O N A R T - U N I O N

(Continued.)

THE Very Rev. M. Walsh desires to acknowledge with many thanks, the receipt of blocks of tickets with accompanying amounts from the following:

	£.	s.	d.	
Mr. W. H. McKeay, Dunedin	0	14	0
" M. McNamara, Eastern Bush	1	18	6
" Thomas Duffy, Marewhehena	1	19	2
Mrs. B. Geary, Riverton	2	0	0
Mr. A. T. Brazil, Ettrick	2	0	0
" D. Hughes, Mossburn	2	0	0
" W. Lynch, Alexandra	2	0	0
" J. Mulholland, Gimmerburn	2	0	0
" N. McPhee, Awamoko	2	0	0
" D. O'Halloran, Waikouaiti	0	10	0

(To be continued.)

J. M. HALL, Hon. Sec.

NOTICE.

SUBSCRIBERS having copies of the TABLET dated December 3 1886, will please send them to the office.

IRISH NATIONAL LEAGUE

PAYMENT OF MEMBERS' FUND.

BOXBURGH.

£.	s.	d.	Mr. J. Dunley	£.	s.	d.
1	0	0	Mr. J. Dunley	0	10	0
1	0	0	" F. Laloli	0	5	0
1	0	0	" W. P. Westcott	0	5	0
1	0	0	" W. Darwood	0	5	0
0	10	0	Miss B. Person	0	5	0
0	10	0				

MILLAR'S FLAT.

0	10	0	Mr. T. Hand	0	10	0
0	10	0	" P. Shiels	1	0	0
0	10	0				

ETTRICK.

1	0	0	Miss A. S. Brazil	1	0	0
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(To be continued.)

J. W. D I C K S O N
 (LATE J. O'RIELLY.)
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Customers' Orders promptly attended to.

The New Zealand Tablet.

FIAT JUSTITIA.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 3, 1888.

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.

THE OTAGO CENTRAL.



R. PYKE'S Bill *re* Otago Central Railway has been defeated, and this means that the Otago Central is not to be made for a very long time, if ever. This is the sum and substance of the Premier's proposals, and for this the people of Otago are to thank several of their own representatives. But it will be said: how can

this be said, in the face of the pledge of the Premier that th's line shall be pushed on to Middlemarch with all possible speed, and that next session, if he should consider it necessary, after himself inspecting the country, to continue the line in the interests of settlement, he will bring in a Bill to authorise a company to continue it to Clyde? With all due reverence for the Premier, this is transparent humbug. The conduct of all Governments for the last ten years in reference to this line gives reason for the conviction that Government will have no difficulty in finding reasons for slow instead of rapid progress. The resolution of the Premier to visit the country himself is ominous. The public can not forget the report of the Commission some years ago to the effect that the country through which it was proposed to run the Otago Central was little better than a howling wilderness. Commissions have a knack of only seeing what they want to see, and Ministers are

usually not much better. The public of Otago have learned to distrust both Commissions and Ministers, from Sir H. ATKINSON to Sir R. STOUT, on the Otago Central. For ten years all Ministers have laboured hard not to push on this railway, but to find out excuses for not doing so. This is plain to the most cursory observer, and we are convinced that as it has been in the past so it will be in the future. The great cry now is: By all means let the line be made, but by the Government, and not by a private company on the land grant principle. The cry is little short of scandalous, and is really only the merest pretext. Anyone who considers the subject carefully must come to this conclusion. Why, Sir H. ATKINSON proposes to bring in a Bill next year to authorise a private company to make the line to Clyde, and pledges himself to give 33 per cent. in land, or 50 per cent. in plant, to said company. Is not this the very principle of Mr. PYKE'S Bill? And yet the men who stonewalled Mr. PYKE'S Bill declare themselves ready to accept the Premier's offer. They must consider the people of Otago the merest dolts if they fancy these people so dull as not to be able to see through the subterfuge. The Premier's offer is an astute project, whose chief aim is to kill the Otago Central, or, at all events, to postpone its completion even to Clyde for probably half a century. If Sir H. ATKINSON is in earnest, he has nothing to do but take up Mr. PYKE'S Bill and amend it so as to secure mining interests and the settlement of the land, if he thinks the Bill does not contain sufficient provisions in these respects. But it will be said: Do you doubt the word of the Premier, or do you think he will fail to redeem his pledge next session? Our answer is: the Premier will not have the money to go on to Middlemarch. The loan is not to be touched, and ordinary revenue is falling. Notwithstanding twenty-five per cent. of an increase in Customs Duties, last month's Customs returns are less than they were the corresponding month of last year, and so we are convinced it will be to the end of the year. Under these circumstances it will be very easy for the Premier to say we could not go on to Middlemarch, owing to the depressed state of the Colonial finances. But then, it will be asked, what about the promised Bill to enable a private company to complete the line to Clyde? Well, we say the reasons that are found valid for rejecting Mr. PYKE'S Bill this year will be equally valid for the rejection of a perfectly similar Bill next year. On the whole, therefore, we are persuaded that the people of Otago may throw their caps at the Otago Central, that in reference to it they are befooled, and that the chief of those perpetrating this foolery are to be found amongst their own representatives. All this affords another argument of the folly of those who laboured so hard years ago to destroy local self-government, and centralise everything in one remote town.

VAIN are the self-congratulations of those who assert it as proved that Ireland is not coerced because of her Catholic faith. What otherwise is it that has moved the Irish Methodists to memorialise the Wesleyan Conference against Home Rule. Is it not that they oppose the admission of Catholics to equality with them? What again, has induced Mr. Chamberlain speaking a day or two ago at Birmingham to bring forward once more the old argument of the civil war to be caused by the rising of Ulster. These are anti-Catholic movements and anti-Catholic movements only, and they give the lie direct to those interested Protestants and anti-Catholic Catholics who declare that the Catholicism of the country has nothing to do with th^e matter. That Mr. Chamberlain's argument shows a weakness and a want of any valid plea is nothing to the purpose. Beyond a few Orange riots, of complete insignificance if they did occur of which there is some doubt, there would be no rising of Ulster. But the readiness to make use of the anti-Catholic argument proves the point.

It is to be feared that the patience of the Irish people is beginning at last to fail, and that coercion, which has in everything else proved a failure, has succeeded at length in driving them, or some of them, to desperation. A fierce resistance to eviction is reported from the Wray estate at Rathkeale, in Limerick, and two boycotted men have been murdered—one at Listowel, and another at Kanturk,—the crimes being committed in the broad daylight by masked men, who immediately escaped. Can it be that the fate of these unhappy victims was accelerated by any fear lest the boycott was about to be relaxed? It has been looked upon, we know, as a preventive against the commission of murder. In any case, it is conclusively proved that, if it were the disposition of the people to commit crime, coercion has no terrors to restrain them. Murder that stalks abroad at mid-day is not an apparition seen in well-governed countries.

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.

THE GRAVE OF MICHAEL DWYER.

(By MISS CATHERINE TYNAN in the "Poems and Ballads of Young Ireland.")

Ah, Michael Dwyer. To think of you, lying
Far from the home of your race,
Alien breezes moaning and sighing
Softly over your sleeping-place,
Alien rains on your dear, dead face.

The stranger-land scattered bud and blossom
Upon your pulseless breast—
But would you had died on your mother's bosom,
The mother who loved you best—
Her fond arms rocking you into rest!

You who loved her, would have died for her,
Gladly suffered and bled,
After all the years you sighed for her,
Eating the exile's bitter bread,
The hand of the stranger fashioned your bed.

Oh, I think you tossed in a fever,
Lying there underground,
While the scentless blossoms flaunted for ever
Over your heaped grave mound,
And the songless birds flashed by with no sound.

The sunlight splendour, fierce and mysterious,
Beat on your lonely grave;
You lay there with your lips delirious,
Moaning of wind and wave,
And of singing streams that the green ferns lave.

The restless life of the tropical forest
Pierced through the grave and the gloom,
Struck new pain to the heart that was sorest,
Panting, fainting for home,
For the happy grass where the daisies bloom.

Well you knew how the breeze was sighing
Far in your own Inaai,
And the pearly clouds from the westward flying;
The steeps were shining all sunset pale,
The great hill shadows fell on the vale.

The air blew soft from the late-mown meadows
Faint with the fragrant hay;
Clear the blackbird piped in the shadows,
And all in the twilight, dewy and gray,
The thrush was singing her heart away.

The hills stood up in the Summer weather,
Veiled with a fiery mist;
Gold and purple blent on the heather,
Rose and silver and amethyst,
On the mystic peaks that the sunlight kissed.

Sweet the days when you and your Mary
Love and laughter knew,
Up in the clouds of that mountain eyrie,
If you had been less true,
Never gray sorrow had gloomed on you.

But, my chief, could you pass unheeding,
While on the plains below
The true sons fought for their own land bleeding?
Your brave wife's lips were ashen with woe,
But they smiled as they whispered "Go!"

In that desolate year of sorrow,
Death gathered him flower and fruit;
Thick his harvest stood in the furrow;
The heart of the land was broken and mute,
The great hopes lying slain underfoot.

When our eagle sailed with the swallow,
Out in the mist and rain,
South, where never an eye could follow;
All in a gray day heavy with pain,
Avro-ne! and Lever came home again.

Never sent a message or token,
All the days and the years
That he went, with his brave heart broken,
To and fro through his wild compeers,
Like other men with life's hopes and fears.

But the lines of pain on his forehead
Deepened day after day,
Round the strength of his lips were scored;
The eyes grew blind that were strained away
To the sunset where holy Ireland lay,

The eyes that stared in the long night-watches
Seeing the green hillside,
And the Irish homes 'neath golden thatches,
The lighted casements at eventide—
Till the pierced heart turned from its pain and died.

I wish you slept where your kin are sleeping—
The dove-gray valley is sweet;
And the holy mountains their strange watch keeping
Would love you lying still at their feet,
The dewy grass for your winding-sheet.

You would sleep soundly, your sad lips smiling,
Dreaming, and hearing still
The bonny blackbird with song beguiling,
The rain's light feet on the hill,
The children's laughter merry and shrill.

I have a fern that hath waved above you,
Just at your green grave's head,
Sent to me by one who doth love you:
Many a prayer, she said,
Kneeling long by your lonely bed.

And now I weave of my idle fancies,
All for the love of you,
A wreath of passion-flowers and of pansies
Twined with shamrock and bitter rue,
To lie on the grave I never knew.

THE IRISH CAUSE.

(Dunedin Evening Star, July 28.)

MR. PARNELL,

OUR cable intelligence in regard to the real nature of the present Parnell controversy has not been of a very explicit character. We have heard a great deal as to what it is proposed to do, but not very much as to the subject of the doing which Mr. Parnell is really charged with, or how far it is sought to implicate him with Irish irregularities during the last few years; for this we must wait until the receipt of our reports of the libel action O'Donnell v. *The Times*. Meanwhile, if a Commission is to sit upon the matter, it is undoubtedly only reasonable that the subject of deliberation should be of a distinctly stated limit, and that judgment should be delivered "upon an early day." No doubt nothing would better suit the Tory party—by no means confident of Mr. Parnell's guilt—than a desultory, far-reaching inquiry, prolonged *sine die*—a kind of Jarn-dyce v. Jarn-dyce—during the wearisome progress of which the useful stigma of suspected criminality should hang over the entire Nationalist cause. If Mr. Parnell has been guilty of being an accessory to crime—which, until absolutely proved, we utterly decline to believe—then the sooner his guilt is demonstrated the better for all parties concerned. Perhaps a Commission of English Judges is as good a tribunal as could be chosen; for though the Bench is, almost without exception, Unionist, the very fact of that being the case, together with the extreme magnitude of the responsibility involved, will be apt to have the effect of causing the Judges to lean towards the side opposed to their own prepossessions rather than otherwise. A very good omen is the declaration of Mr. Chamberlain, that he believes in Mr. Parnell's innocence; for during the last few years there has been little love lost between the two men, and Mr. Chamberlain's declaration is doubtless of a politic rather than a personal nature. Believing Mr. Parnell's innocence to be a fact and not unlikely to be proved, he does not wish it to be said afterwards that he took up a dubious and suspicious attitude. We imagine, too, that Mr. Chamberlain would really prefer that the Irish leader should be able to demonstrate his innocence; we wish that we could imagine as much as regards the bulk of the Conservative party. Mr. Reginald Brett's disclosures—mention of which is made in this week's cablegrams—seem to point a possible explanation of the great *Times*'s "funds"; and we trust that it may yet be shown that the famous newspaper has fallen victim to a gigantic and (as it will then seem) ludicrous hoax.

HOME RULE.

Meanwhile one important fact is worth bearing in mind—viz., that the truth or falsehood of the charges brought against the Irish leaders is immaterial to the proper consideration of the Home Rule question. Of course, if those charges were sheeted home, the result would, as a matter of fact, prove very prejudicial to the progress of the cause, and the Tories would use their new weapon with relentless unscrupulosity and undoubted success; but it is none the less true that the demand for Home Rule, as represented by Mr. Gladstone, would still be a lawful and righteous demand, and one destined to Home Rule at Mr. Parnell's request or at Mr. Parnell's threat. He took it up, firstly, because at the first election under the extended franchise the vast majority of the Irish constituencies declared in favour of the demand for popular autonomy; and secondly, because he himself had become convinced, gradually but clearly, of the justice of that demand—a justice by no means incompatible with Mr. Parnell's guilt. Were the Irish leader to be discredited, the majority of law-abiding Irish electors would neither share his discredit nor change their views. Home Rule would still be the cry of the people, and would still be a prospective certainty. A just cause is necessarily hampered, but not rendered unjust, by the unworthiness of its advocates. We are arguing upon an improbable—and, we trust, impossible—hypothesis; but, in view of the mere chance, and as a general fact this independence of a policy and its agents is worth remembering.

Mr. J. W. Dickson, Wellesley street, Auckland, supplies to order all the Irish national or Catholic periodicals and newspapers of the day, whether published in the United Kingdom, America, or the colonies. All orders are attended to with the utmost promptness. Mr. Dickson also has constantly on hand a large stock of school requisites, stationery, and objects of Catholic piety. His prices will be found extremely moderate.

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Dublin Notes.

(From the National papers.)

DR. O'DWYER has once more rushed into print with an address to the clergy of his diocese, in which his lordship seeks to lay down the law and explain the Prophets on the subject of the recent Papal Circular. The Bishop thought fit to reveal the proceedings of a private meeting of his colleagues by announcing that at the re-union held in Clonliffe on the 30th May, a letter was received from Dr. Walsh, stating, by direction of the Pope, that the practices of boycotting and the Plan of Campaign, as they have actually existed in Ireland, stand condemned as violations of the moral law of charity and justice. Whether this be or be not a breach of etiquette we will not for the present stop to inquire. "*Roma locuta est, causa finita est*," seems to be the burden of the prelate's discourse. Home has spoken authoritatively, and so has Bishop O'Dwyer. Henceforward we must hide our diminished heads, and accept our politics, as well as our religion, from the source of superior wisdom to be found in the Palace of Corbally. Dr. O'Dwyer's references to the leaders of the Irish people as "a few reckless, bad men," and members of a conclave "who sat on the Pope in Dublin" look extremely odd when put side by side with his Lordship's signature to the collective document of the hierarchy, in which these same leaders are thanked for their services to the national cause! Bishop O'Dwyer goes on to inform his clergy that for the future they must instruct their flocks that the latter cannot violate this Decree of the Holy Office without sin; while the agitation at present taking place in the country with the view to vindicate Ireland's claims to independence and Ireland's right to think for herself in secular matters is referred to as a "heinous" offence. Such "wickedness" must cease in the diocese of Limerick. This is the express ultimatum of Limerick's prelate, who appears to be as dogmatic in his utterances as if he were the Supreme Pontiff himself speaking *ex cathedra*.

The Bishop's pronouncement is not, we must add, all gall and wormwood. One of its paragraphs is well spiced with sugar and peppermint—judicious ingredients which, however, will not render the document one whit more palatable to the generality of Irish Nationalists. His Lordship is condescending enough to say he is a Home Ruler, and good enough to believe that there never will be peace in Ireland or prosperity until every farmer is the owner of his farm. The pith of the prelate's document lies in the dictum in which he threatens the pains and penalties of excommunication in case his mandate is disobeyed. A few rebellious Catholics will, it seems, be put outside the fold if they continue to criticise the Pope and the Limerick prelate. On the whole we cannot but regard this pronouncement as an ill-timed and injudicious missive, which will, probably, do more harm than good. We trust, however, it will not have any deplorable effect on Catholicity in this country. Irish Nationalists will not pay the slightest heed to the thunderbolts of Corbally. They know that Bishop O'Dwyer is preaching literally in the desert. The significant fact of his colleagues in the Irish hierarchy remaining mute while he is shrieking in the wilderness ought to convince everybody that it is Bishop O'Dwyer only who is responsible for the peculiar ideas enunciated in the address just referred to.

The anti-Irish Press has, of course, received the Bishop's document with a snug complacency and an exquisite self-satisfaction. The chorus from that quarter is a ringing *Te Deum*, in honour of the Limerick prelate. The *Express*, for instance, points to the fact that Dr. O'Dwyer has evidently the courage of his opinions. Although the journal candidly admits that neither the Bishop of Rome nor any foreign prince, prelate, or potentate, hath a right to have any jurisdiction in the realms subject to the Imperial Crown of England, it hails with delight the Papal Rescript, and Dr. O'Dwyer's sledgehammer interpretation of the same. The gentlemen on the *Express* would go down on their marrow-bones to the Sovereign Pontiff so long as he helps them in their policy of coercion, but no longer. In other words they would seek to make a tool of the spiritual Father of millions of Irish Catholics, for their own base ends and ignoble purposes. And yet these Machiavellis in miniature are the bishop's allies and the bishop's panegyrists. We wish Dr. O'Dwyer joy of the very pleasant company which he is at present keeping.

Notwithstanding Mr. Dillon's very strong objections to being interviewed, a representative of the *Pall Mall Gazette* has succeeded in fixing him and obtaining his views on current political topics. Mr. Dillon informed his questioner that the Plan of Campaign was in operation on thirty estates, and that on none of them was its working likely to be influenced by the Rescript, the only effect of which, he thinks will be to restrain a few of the priests from openly advocating the Plan. Mr. Dillon does not believe that any rupture is possible between the Liberal and Irish parties, as their alliance is too firmly cemented. The reporter thus concludes his account of the interview, "As we came out of the library, and descended the spacious staircase, Mr. Dillon remarked, 'Yes, it will be a great change from this to eight feet by four.' As I looked into that face of inexpressible sadness and strange pallor, I wondered what might be the effect of six months on a plank bed. But as he closed the door after me, and his fine jet black head of hair disappeared behind it, he rejoined; 'I'll hope to live to see Balfour go under anyhow.'"

Mr. Gladstone has addressed to Mr. William Robertson, of the *Ayrshire Post*, a letter in reference to the contest which is proceeding at Ayr as we write. Mr. Gladstone vigorously exposes the iniquity of the Unionist policy in Ireland. "In 1886," he writes, "we contended that the choice before the country lay between Home Rule and coercion. This our opponents denied, and they induced the country (but not Scotland) to return them. They now appear as the advocates of that which they then repudiated, in that they are the advocates of coercion without any outburst or excess of crime; of coercion, not temporary as heretofore, but permanent; of coercion, not really aimed at crime, but at combination apart from crime. Nay, more even than this, according to all such information as we

possess, men are now punished in Ireland without evidence, even of combination, upon the simple proof of exclusive dealing, a practice in favour with Toryism everywhere else, and now largely used against Home Rulers, particularly, to my knowledge, if they happen to be ministers of religion. But in 1886 our opponents not only renounced coercion, they also loudly proclaimed that Ireland was to receive from the Parliament at Westminster as a minimum gift the liberal system of local government which they (very properly) wish to establish in Great Britain. They are now proposing local government on this side of the Channel; but Mr. Smith and Lord Hartington have publicly announced that it is to be withheld from Ireland until she shall renounce what Lord Carnarvon approved as her national aspirations—that is to say, it is to be renounced for ever. Thus the Dissident Liberals, who are seeking to destroy the only possible foundations of a permanent and hearty union, have cast to the winds the two great promises which procured their majority; and they now ask the electors to return them on the very principles they abjured in 1886. They then promised no coercion and plenty of local government; they now stand for no local government and plenty of coercion." Mr. Gladstone concludes with a warning to the electors of Ayr not to be deluded by any pretence on the part of the Unionists that they will ever do anything unfavourable to the "Beer and the Bible" interests which the Tories have especially in charge.

Colonel King-Harman has at last given up his post of Under-Secretary, and has retired, we hope, to a more congenial world than ours. Another victim has been added to the list of those who have already succumbed to the tear and wear of the Irish office. There is no reason for doubting that the incessant worry attendant upon the far from pleasant position which he held in the House of Commons shortened and embittered the closing months of the Colonel's life. It was the crowning mistake of his life. And Mr. Balfour it is who deserves all the blame. In his new capacity as assistant to this worthy he undoubtedly worked hard, and the work he was called on to perform was of no light or attractive nature. He deserved better of Mr. Balfour than he received. It was a poor return for his labours to be treated as he was treated. The Government application to grant him a salary, coming, as it did, after a solemn protestation that his office would be honorary, was peculiarly characteristic. The action was dictated by a spirit of wanton malevolence. It was intended to be a galling offence to the Irish people. But the blow has recoiled on themselves. The result of their action is the death of King-Harman. No one can hesitate to believe it was the Balfourian tactics that brought on his death.

The Government Shylocks are not going to wring their pound of flesh from the people of Mitchelstown so easily. We are informed from the locality that the most energetic resistance is threatened on every side to the utterly uncalled for Grand Jury impost. The inhabitants are not in a humour to put their hands in their pockets in order to compensate a police constable for a few scratches and bruises sustained by him in a *mêlée* in which three of their own kith and kin were brutally murdered. A considerable portion of the time allowed for the collection of the tax has already expired; and yet only 200 out of 8,000 ratepayers have paid down their money. Notices are being posted up in the town and locality calling upon the cesspayers to make the collection of this tax impossible. The brave and sturdy men of Mitchelstown now stand to their guns and defy all the horse, foot, and artillery of the Tory Cabinet to force them to settle this odious bill of costs.

Removable Hill should be at once collared by the first policeman he meets in Longford, and arraigned in the dock on the charge of using threatening language. Mr. Hill's remarks from the bench at Lanesborough on Tuesday, June 5, were in reality the cruelest of menaces. That overbearing individual actually threatened several prisoners brought before him that if they indulged in any more drumming at evictions he would have their drums smashed and the drummers packed off to gaol for six calendar months! The insolence of the Removables is growing apace. Mr. Hill's unblushing effrontery is thoroughly characteristic of the gang to which he has the "honour" of belonging. The magistrate who goes the length of creating a new offence, and mapping out the pains and penalties attached to such offence, is a phenomenon not met with beyond the confines of the four seas of Ireland.

There are very strong suspicions that Lord Randolph Churchill and Mr. Chamberlain contemplate a *rapprochement*. Both gentlemen have the common ground of dissatisfaction at a state of things in which they are left isolated beyond the bounds of their respective parties. It is the old story of extremes meeting. Lord Randolph Churchill and Mr. Chamberlain were each supposed to represent the most advanced and aggressive forms of Radicalism and Toryism respectively. Yet, if rumour is true, their misfortunes have now brought them together. The following inspired paragraph in the *Birmingham Daily Post* would appear to corroborate this rumour: "On Lord R. Churchill's personal intentions on any point we know and say nothing; like the wind, 'he bloweth where he listeth.' But Mr. Chamberlain has within the past few days publicly defied his own position in his recent speech in our Town Hall. He is for the maintenance of order in Ireland by the due execution of the law; he is for remedial measures for Ireland by means of public works and land purchase; and then he is for a reform of local government in Ireland. While making these declarations he expressly declared that land reform must precede the reorganisation of local government; and, while advocating the reform of local government, he excluded from it the creation of a separate Parliament and a separate Government, which, according to Mr. Parnell and his allies, constitute the essential features of what is called Home Rule."

Kilkenny was on Thursday the scene of a public meeting called together for the purpose of endorsing the Manion House resolutions on the Papal Rescript. The Mayor of Kilkenny presided, and was assisted on the occasion by the Mayor of Waterford, and Messrs. Chance and Clancy, M. P.'s. A motion to the effect that the people of Kilkenny cordially and unreservedly endorse the resolutions of the Catholic members of the Irish Parliamentary party with reference to the Papal Circular, was unanimously carried. Mr. Clancy, in support-

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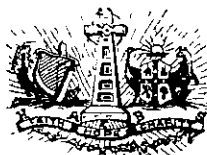
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ing the motion, said that he had read the recent declaration of the Irish Episcopacy with the utmost satisfaction. The Bishops, he said, had declared authoritatively that it was not the intention of the Holy See to interfere in Irish politics in issuing the Rescript. The hon. gentleman accepted the interpretation; but he believed that the intention of the Holy See was one thing, and the use to which the Circular had been put was another. They might judge whether that use was of a political nature or not when they found that the persons who had been living upon it for the last few weeks were Balfour and his devoted allies, the Castle "Cawtholics."

Meetings on the Papal Rescript continue throughout the country. One of the largest gatherings ever witnessed in Cork was held on Sunday, June, 3 and was addressed by the worthy Mayor and Mr. William O'Brien, M. P. The latter's speech on the occasion was an emphatic vindication of the rights of the Irish people to think for themselves in politics. Mr. Dillon spoke at Da key, where his remarks on the same subject were greeted with the same enthusiastic applause that greeted his fellow-members' utterances in the Cork Park. A meeting was also held on the same day at Portumna, at which Mr. Michael Davitt continued his well-timed criticisms of the Circular. Thus it happened that in the East, West, and South of Ireland manifestations took place simultaneously at which there reigned a perfect unanimity of opinion. Scores of public bodies are, moreover, passing resolutions endorsing those which were recently adopted by the Irish Catholic members at the Mansion House. Never did Ireland seem more unanimous on any subject than on this. It is to be hoped that the uncompromising attitude of the Irish people in this crisis will have its due effect on future Vatican councils.

At the General Assembly of the Presbyterians of Ireland held in Belfast, the speech of a delegate was a noticeable feature. It is not usual for Belfast non-Catholic audiences to hear Home Rule addresses. In fact these are regarded as savouring of the oft-quoted "Popery, brass money, and wooden shoes," which the Orangemen would have all true followers of King Billy to hold in abomination. Yet the General Assembly was treated to such a speech and by a gentleman who brought the advantage of experience to his exposition of the benefits which self-legislation confers on a country. The Rev. W. Gillespie is a member of a deputation from the Presbyterian Assembly of the thriving colony of Victoria; and the Victorians are to be thanked for sending a man of his broad common sense to represent them. He expounded to his audience what Home Rule really means and the practical advantages it provides. The Australian colonies, he pointed out, have their own legislatures, yet they are not separated from the mother country, nor are they anything but prosperous, flourishing, and contented by reason of their self-management of affairs. It is hoped the valuable lesson he has taught the Presbyterians of Ireland will not be thrown away. The Irish Presbyterians are remarkable in our history for their patriotism and devotion to the cause of their country.

It is stated, on the authority of Reuter, that Cardinal Simeoni has written to Mgr. Perrico, in the name of the Pope, instructing him to leave Ireland. Reuter is evidently in the dark as to the Monsignor's whereabouts. The Papal Envoy has been for the past month or two residing in Great Britain; and he is at present, we believe, the guest of his Grace the Catholic Archbishop of Edinburgh. From the same source we learn that a member of the Sacred College (whose name, however, is judiciously concealed) requested that the Pope should demand strict obedience from Irish Catholics to the Decree of the Holy Office. The Pope, we are told, observed, in reply, that the Irish and their bishops know well what their duty was, adding that any pressing injunctions of the nature indicated were uncalled for and would be useless. Such, in a nutshell, is this week's (ending June 16) Vatican gossip concerning Ireland.

A highly influential meeting was held on Thursday (June 7) evening in St. James's Hall, London, at which Mr. John Morley, just returned from Ireland, stated that coercion had altogether failed to attain its objects. There are, continued the speaker, landlords of the incorrigible class, who, no doubt, like the Bourbons, forget everything and learn nothing, and who believe that the shadow will go back on the face of the dial, and that, somehow or other, in spite of the franchise and land legislation, they will be restored to their old prerogatives of rack-renting and eviction. Nobody says that the desire for Home Rule in Ireland is one whit less active or less alive than it was two years ago. No constituency in Ireland has changed its mind on that great national issue. Referring to the Papal Rescript, Mr. Morley acknowledged frankly that on its issue he thought it would put a temporary check on the Irish movement. Now, however, he is satisfied that he was mistaken on that point. "We applied coercion for generations," said Mr. Morley, "in its extreme and most violent form, in order to drive the Irish people from the faith which they had chosen to embrace. With what result? We drove away their priests; we compelled them to practice their worship in caves. We did all that coercion could do. With what result? That at this day the Tory Government is thankful that the Vatican comes to their assistance!" Mr. Morley's admirable speech was throughout punctuated with the applause of his sympathetic and appreciative audience.

A storm-cloud burst recently at Maize, near Wichita, Kan., extending over a space about 500 yards wide and a mile in length. A darkness almost equal to that of night covered the area. The streets were turned into rivers; the water finding an outlet into the Arkansas, washing away a number of houses, in one of which lived a family named Rockby, consisting of father, mother, and two children, all of whom were drowned.

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THE STORY OF A WOMAN'S COURAGE.

(ROBERT HOWE FLETCHER, in the *Agonaut*.)

CHAPTER I.

THE Johnstown stage was due at City of Rocks at five o'clock. About that hour a man in a flannel shirt, dirty soldier trousers tucked in his boots, and a slouch hat on the back of his bronzed, bearded, unkempt head, materialised in the obscurity of the doorway of the station-house, and shading his eyes with his hand looked down the road. As he stood there a cloud of dust became visible in the distance. It floated and wavered nearer and nearer, until the creaking and jingling of dry wood, leather and metal, and the pounding of hoofs, were heard. Then, as the cloud approached the station, an apparition of two horses and a stage-coach was seen within it. The cloud stopped in front of the house, the dust settled, and the coach, coated inside and out with the white powder, was disclosed. The driver, looking like a miller, laid his whip on the roof and prepared to descend. The station-keeper who, meanwhile, had stepped out in the road and silently commenced to unhook the traces, looked up for the first time. The next moment he dropped the trace with an exclamation of wonder, while his hand slowly but instinctively sought the revolver which hung in a belt loosely about his hips. For a few seconds he scrutinised the face of the man who was swinging himself down from the box, and then his look of surprise changed to one of recognition, his hand relaxed its hold on the pistol, and he said heartily, "Well, I'll be darned! Lieutenant, is that you? Why, what's come of Jim?"

"He was taken sick down by Shot-gun Creek and had to lay off at the milk ranch," said the man addressed, taking off his hat and beating out the dust against his leg. He was tall and broad-shouldered, but slender, and was dressed in the same manner as the station-keeper, even to the revolver which hung about his hips. His voice and bearing, however, the only characteristics unaffected by the dust, betrayed a difference between them.

"It leaves me in a purty fix!" said the ostler. "Frank's out after stock, and there's no one yere but me. Who's goin' to take the stage on?"

"I'll take it on as far as Pack City, if you like," said the lieutenant. "The old man will find some one there to take Jim's place easy enough."

The station-keeper, without replying, mechanically resumed his duties of taking out the horses, and watched them meditatively as they walked slowly off to the stables. Then finally turning to the lieutenant, with the air of one whose mind is made up, he said: "By thunder, I guess that's the on'y thing we kin do. I can't leave yere. I wouldn't have a head of stock left by the time I got back. Them damned Injuns is gettin' worse and worse, not to mention the hoss thieves and road agents that's gettin' thicker'n fleas on a dog's back. It's sort o' crowdin' you, though, lieutenant, and I don't know what the old man'll say."

"He won't say thank you at any rate," said the lieutenant.

"You kin gamble on that," said the ostler, approvingly. "Who's this Johnny come lately?" he added, as a passenger from the inside of the stage strolled towards them.

"Jim said he was a stockman," said the lieutenant; "he's billed for Pack City."

"Jim!" growled the ostler, contemptuously.

"Jim's a stranger himself in these parts. How should he know?"

And when the traveller, an elderly man, joined them with a sociable remark that "it was purty to'ble warm," the ostler vented his scorn for Jim by ignoring him altogether, and continuing his talk with the lieutenant about way-bills, express, mail and other stage matters. But the passenger appearing in no wise affected by this lack of cordiality, held his ground, and if he did not join in the conversation, listened to it so persistently that the ostler finally turned to him, and said, rather sarcastically, "Stranger, is there any thing I can do for you?"

"Well, no, pard," replied the traveller, good-humouredly, "there's nothin' yer kin do fer me, but I reckon you kin do somethin' fer that lady inside, she's petered plumb out, and the kid's yellin' like all possessed."

At this the amateur driver opened the stage door and looked in. There was the usual litter of mail-bags, and small bundles, and smell of dust and leather. Addressing the woman, who, in a long linen duster, and with a veil over her face, reclined limply in one corner, half holding a crying baby, the lieutenant said "Supper station, madam."

This announcement producing no reply, he repeated it in a louder tone. The only result was an added force to the baby's cries.

"I reckon she's fainted," said the other passenger, appearing at his elbow with a cup of water; "try this yere."

The lieutenant, got inside, followed by the old man, to whom he unceremoniously handed the baby. Taking out his pocket-flask, he mixed a little brandy and water, and pushing the veil up from the unconscious mouth, he succeeded in partially reviving the exhausted woman. "Now then," he said in an authoritative tone, "you must come outside in the open air, and wash your face and hands, that will brace you up quicker than anything. Then when you have some dinner you will be all right. We haven't much time," he added.

The woman obediently arose, but, cramped and worn out by the long day's ride, had to be assisted to the ground. She succeeded in walking over to the water trough, and sitting down on its edge, silently took her baby. The lieutenant brought her a basin and towel, and left her to toilet. Presently he returned and said, "Supper is ready."

"Thank you, I don't want any supper," was the reply.

As he heard her speak for the first time, the lieutenant looked at the shrouded form in surprise. The voice was low and trained, the voice of a gentlewoman. It startled him with a swift suggestion of perfumed lace, and six-button kid gloves, of waltz music, yachting

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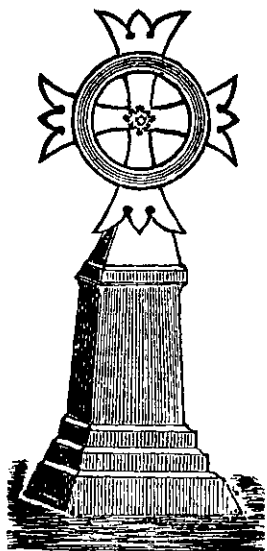
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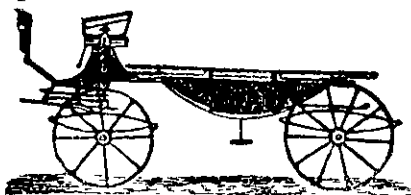
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Universal Satisfaction is Guaranteed to Householders by the use of this Company's Coal.

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I BEG to thank my Patrons and Friends who have so liberally supported me during the last seven years, and beg to notify that for the convenience of my numerous Customers in Caversham, Roslyn, Mornington, etc., I have opened a BRANCH SHOP in HIGH STREET (opposite D.I.C.), where I have on hand a Large and Varied Assortment of Materials for Umbrellas, Parasols, etc. Repairs, etc., at the very lowest Prices in the City.—**A. MARTINELLI** Factory: Frederick St. Competition defied.

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Now Landing, ex Woodlark, from New York.
 If you want a good light, use the best and save trouble.

All the Cans in this shipment of Oil have the New Tap, with revolving top and long spout. This top serves as lamp-filler, canvent, faucet, and can-filler; saves labor; no soiling of hands.

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 A Private Family and Commercial Hotel, five minutes from Railway Station. Private Apartments for Families. The Best Brands of Wines and Spirits. Billiard Room. Tariff Moderate. Special Terms per week for Private Families.

ALLIANCE HOTEL,

THAMES ST., OAMARU.
 (Late occupied by Mrs. Grant.)
A. J. ADAMS, having taken the above well-known Hotel, begs to intimate to his numerous country friends and the travelling public generally that he is now prepared to offer them every Accommodation at a small charge, viz., Meals and Bed, 1s; Boarders, £1 per week. A superior table kept. Hot, Cold, and Shower Baths; also a good Billiard Table.
 The Alliance Hotel is well-known as the best working man's Hotel in Oamaru.
A. J. ADAMS, Proprietor.

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We have just landed, ex Peru, 60 bale Paperhangings, from the Cheapest Manufacturers in the world, and being bought as Job Lines, they are extremely Cheap; and as we have very large Shipments coming to hand we intend selling at very Small Profits, and would advise Purchasers to call and judge for themselves.

30,000 Pieces to choose from—4d per piece and upwards.

Artists' Colours, double tubes, 6s per dozen; Oil Colour Boxes, from 7s 6d each; Sketching Blocks, Academy Millboards, Mounting Boards, Stools and all kinds of Artists' Materials at Lowest Prices for Cash.
 Hessian Canvas, very strong (2 yds wide), by the bolt, 4d per yard; Glass Shades (white glass), round, square, and oval, and Ebonised Stands—from 1s 9d each.

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Mouldings from 1s per length. Picture Framing done at the Lowest Prices. Oil Paintings, Lithographs, Engravings, &c., &c.

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BOTANICAL GARDEN HOTEL,

NORTH-EAST VALLEY,
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THOMAS KIRK, Proprietor.

The Botanical Gardens Hotel now being finished, the proprietor begs to inform his friends and the public generally that he is prepared to receive Boarders and resident Families. The Hotel is easy of access (being in close proximity to the Gardens), overlooks the grounds, and in one of the healthiest parts of the town. The cars stop at the door every six minutes. Large and well ventilated Bed rooms, Parlours, Sitting-rooms, etc.

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and low, murmured words in dim conservatories. The recollection of the fried pork and beans awaiting them in the station, however, brought his mind back to the subject.

The stage, when it left City of Rocks, was twenty minutes late. But the jack-rabbits, which laid back their ears and scudded at its approach, found it no mean rival that afternoon.

"I'll bet ten dollars he makes it up afore he gits to Stoney Creek, and not turn a hair!" said the station-keeper to himself. Then, after a further contemplation of the fast-receding cloud of dust, he added in a more reckless tone, "I'll bet ten dollars he makes it up afore he gits to Dick Day's ranch, and not turn a hair!" As no one accepted either of these generous propositions, he shook his head and remarked confidentially, "There ain't many kin copper the lieutenant, now, if you year me!" and, disappearing in the gloom of the interior of the house, City of Rocks was left once more to the hot silence of its fantastic stones.

CHAPTER II.

IN THE SILENCE OF THE CANON.

The sun was setting behind Bald Butte as the Johnstown stage approached the five-mile grade which led down to Stoney Creek. The air was growing cool. The rabbits, looking like sage-bushes in motion, flitted about in the twilight. A colony of prairie-owls, posting themselves at intervals along the road, accompanied the intruding vehicle through their territory, the head of the line rising as the stage drew near and gravely flying down to take station at the foot, until, the danger departed, they solemnly withdrew. Down the grade the stage went, with the driver on the brake and the horses trotting loosely in their harness, until, with a final jolt and lurch, they fetched up on the bank of Stoney Creek. The driver swung himself off the box, and taking an iron pail out of the boot, proceeded to water his horses. The elderly passenger emerged from the stage with a tin cup, and scooping some of the bright cold water, from the noisy mountain stream, gallantly took it to the lady inside. Then, helping himself, he said to the driver, with a laugh:—

"I judge you've been making up time. Ye herded 'em along pretty lively down the grade."

The lieutenant nodded his head. The position in which he found himself had responsibilities that discouraged sociability. Going to the other side of the stage, he got out his overcoat and put it on. It was a garment made of rough blue cloth, long and voluminous, with a cape that came to the waist. Quietly slipping his revolver from its holster, he put it in a narrow pocket in the lining of the coat. This pocket, apparently made for the purpose, dispensed with the ostentatious and cumbersome method of belting the pistol on outside. These preparations for the night completed, he mounted to his place, and made the usual warning inquiry, "All set?"

"If you don't mind, pard," said the passenger, "I'll ride outside for a ways, and give the lady a chance to stretch."

"I don't mind," said the lieutenant, and the elderly stranger climbed laboriously to his side. The horses' hoofs splashed and the stage wheels crunched their way through the stream, while the water fretted and foamed noisily about the wet fetlocks and through the cleaned spokes. Then hoofs and wheels came out on the soft bank, and the stage sped silently along the damp bottom land. Dark forms shaped themselves into cottonwood trees and alder bushes, and dissolved again into the darkness, while the fresh odour of the earth and growing things scented the cool night air.

"Have a drink?" said the passenger, sociably, drawing out a bottle.

"No, thank you," said the lieutenant; "I don't drink on the box."

"Right you are," said his companion; "well, here's luck! You h'aint been long on the line, I take it?"

The stage had commenced to ascend the grade on the other side of Stoney Creek. The road wound up through a canon or gulch, in the bottom of which was the dry bed of a winter torrent. It was a long, tedious pull to the top of the mesa, and the horses had to take their time to it. Notwithstanding that a thin line of light on the brow of a distant mountain signalled that the moon had risen, it was very dark in the canon, so dark, that although the lieutenant kept peering ahead of the horses, he could see but little more than a bend of the winding road faintly defined by the denser obscurity on each side of it. The passenger himself, notwithstanding his steady flow of talk, seemed affected by the surrounding gloom, and maintained an alert gaze upon the side of the road. The lieutenant spoke to his horses, which were showing a restive disinclination to proceed. They were almost at the top of the grade now. A clump of scrub-oaks at the head of the canon was in sight. The shadows here were very dense by contrast with the moonlight, which lay in the open beyond. It was at these shadows that the horses were pricking their ears. The lieutenant cracked his whip over the unruly animals, but as he did so he looked sharply in the direction of the oaks. Was not something moving there? Or was it the moonlight shadows playing their usual tricks on highly strung nerves? Then he remembered there was a spring under those oaks, and that cattle were always around it; or perhaps, a stray deer from the mountains might have come there to drink. His military training and frontier experience made him guard against unreasoning alarm. At the same time the station-keeper's open secret that the paymaster's funds were abroad flashed across his mind. It would never do for him, an army officer, to hand down Wells-Fargo's box to the first road agent who asked for it. Professional pride, if naught else, forbade it. He said nothing to the man at his side, but, under cover of his cape, he slipped the lines and whip into his left hand, and with his right cocked the revolver in his pocket. The elderly passenger, notwithstanding that his eyes were also fastened on the clump of oaks, seemed quite unsuspecting, and continued to talk.

A shrill whistle suddenly startled the silence of the night. The passenger on the box, almost without a pause, leaned over, and laid one hand on the lines, with the other pointed a pistol at the driver's head, and said, but no longer in the accents of the uneducated person:

"Hold up your hands, lieutenant!" At the same instant a man with a masked face, and holding a gun, appeared in the middle of the and stopped the horses.

The lieutenant turned pale, and stared in amazement at the man by his side.

"It's no use," said the elderly passenger, steadily. "We've got the drop on you! Be quick, or I'll—"

"Well," said the lieutenant, defeatedly, "you have got the drop on me, for a fact!" And drawing a long breath he slowly raised his arms. But when his left elbow was high as his shoulder, with his right hand he pressed the trigger of the revolver in his pocket.

There was a muffled report, a shriek, and a curse, followed by another report, then another, and another, confused and intermingled, the sharp crack of the rifle ringing out over the duller noise of the pistols. When the sounds ceased, the man in the road was crawling on his hands and knees toward the shadow of the oaks whence he had emerged. There was no one on the box but the lieutenant, and he was standing erect. In a next moment he pitched head first over the dash-board on to the off-horse's back, and from there rolled on to the road. It needed but this to goad the frightened animals into a stampede, and with the lines under their heels, kicking and shying, they galloped cut over the prairie.

It is not easy for two horses to run away with a Concord coach, especially after coming up Stoney Creek grade. And so, after the stage had lumbered and lurched at their heels for a half mile or so, the horses came down to a trot, and then to a walk, and finally stood still, and gazed around, trembling, and ready for a second flight. The moment that the vehicle stopped, the veiled face of the lady passenger appeared at the door, and her terror-stricken voice cried, but almost inaudibly, "My God! what has happened?"

Aroused from a troubled sleep by the report of a pistol, followed by a man's shriek, more shots, curses, and groans, she had opened her eyes just in time to see a heavy body fall over the wheel and on to the ground. Then the stage had started forward, the wheel going over the thing on the ground with a sickening jolt. As the stage bounded on, she had been thrown violently to and fro, clinging convulsively to her baby, unable to realize what this grisly horror of the night might be. With shaking hands, she now unfastened the door, and stepped out, found herself alone in the awful silence and solitude of the night.

Hark! what was that? She tore her veil from her head, and with it came her hat. Great masses of black hair fell down her shoulders, and a white, young face shone out in the moonlight, lovely even in its terror. The noise was but the piping of an insect, but it sounded like a distant shriek. Then the wind stirred the dry grass, and it seemed to the panic-stricken woman as though it was the voices of men pursuing. Her hair rose, and all the blood in her body rallied in her heart. She would have fainted had it not been for the wailing of the dependent baby in her arms. What should she do? Her first impulse was to run from what might be behind her. But her feeble limbs failed at the sight of the wide plains and obstructing sagebrush. If she could but get upon the stage and drive. She went to the horses, and spoke to them. One of them whinnied in reply, and that encouraged her. She crept between them, talking to them all the time in trembling, beseeching tones, and got the lines out from beneath their hoofs. Then holding the reins and the baby in one arm, she scrambled on to the wheel, and from there to the driver's seat. Everything was so big, the lines, the seat, the brake, her little feet did not reach the dashboard, but rested on some sacks of barley that filled the forward boot. In this barley she made a nest for the baby. When she was ready to start it was evident that she was not ignorant of driving. She held the lines and whip like the amateur drivers of the New York coaching clubs. The horses had been restive during these prolonged preparations, and they started off freely at her timorous word.

(Concluded next week.)

H. A. C. B. S., AUCKLAND.

THE half-yearly meeting of the Auckland Branch of the above Society was held on Wednesday, July 11, at the ordinary place of meeting, Catholic Institute, Wellington street. There was a large number of members present, including some visiting brethren of the Ponsonby branch, and the Very Rev. Father Hackett, chaplain, who is also a full benefit member. It was decided by resolution, that the branch attend in regalia the social gathering to be held in August, in aid of St. Patrick's new presbytery. The election of officers for the ensuing term resulted as follows:—President, Brother S. Fairweather; vice-president, Brother W. Poulsen; secretary, Brother J. H. White (re-elected); treasurer, Brother W. Kane (re-elected); warden, Brother J. Wrist; guardian, Brother M. Nolan; sick-visitors, Brothers John Patterson P.P., and M. O'Keefe; delegates to district-meeting, Brothers Rev. Father Hackett and President Fairweather; medical attendants, Drs. Lewis and Erson. The election of assistant secretary was held over until next meeting. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the retiring president, (Brother D. Flynn) and the outgoing officers for the efficient manner in which they had one and all performed their duties.

At the quarterly meeting held a fortnight previous, three of the Benedictine Fathers of St. Benedicts, Newton, were proposed as members, viz., Very Rev. Father O'Sullivan (superior), Very Rev. Father Downey (parish priest), and the Rev. Father O'Gara.

The amount of contributions received at this meeting, was nearly £90, which was considered, according to the depressed state of the times, very satisfactory. The sum of five pounds was voted for the Benevolent Fund to help a distressed member and family.

Two ragged Italian children, who were arrested in Chicago while gathering cigar stumps on the streets, explained that they sold the discarded weeds to a fellow-countryman for 15 cents a pound, and that they were "made into cigarettes."



GOVERNMENT LIFE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT.

CHIEF ADVANTAGES.

Low premiums and large bonuses.
Funds kept in New Zealand.
Claims paid immediately after proof of death.
Most liberal conditions.
Low New Zealand mortality.
Economical management.
State security.

TOTAL SUM ASSURED (including Bonus Additions) ... £7,135,243
TOTAL FUNDS (the whole invested in New Zealand) ... £1,323,403
In addition to the above funds, the office has an ANNUAL INCOME of over ... £268,000

The Surplus Cash Profits in 1885 were £242,556

OPENING OF TONTINE SAVINGS FUND SECTION

Tontine Savings Fund System Policies are now being issued.
New Assurers and existing Assurance Policyholders will be allowed to join this section.
All profits accruing after entering the section are set apart to be divided among the policyholders remaining in the section at the end of 1900, when liberal returns in cash are anticipated.

The principles of the Tontine and mode of keeping accounts are not kept secret, as in case of other Tontines advertised.

* Information can be obtained at the Head Office and all Branches and Agencies, and also from the Travelling Agents of the Department.

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FIRE, MARINE, LIFE, ACCIDENT.

Lowest Rates of Premium.

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Suites of OFFICES in New Building TO LET. Apply

THE EQUITABLE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND.

READ BROTHERS BULL-DOG BEER.

The Finest Bottled Ale and Stout imported.

Further supplies Now Landing ex Taranaki, in pints and quarts—champagne bottles.

Trade Mark, DOG'S HEAD (see model), of which the President of the Bull-Dog Club in London writes to Messrs Read Brothers as follows:—"The finest British Bull-dog ever known was Champion "Crib," owned by Mr Thomas Turton, of Sheffield. But "every dog has his day," and "Crib" has long since departed. Your admirable model may, however, be considered to represent a typically perfect dog. If your Beer carries as good a head as your dog it will be hard

"(Signed) JAMES W. BERRIE,
"President of the Bull-Dog Club."

Orders for the above Beer promptly executed by

W. & G. TURNBULL & CO.,
Agent for Dunedin.

DR. SPEER'S PRIVATE DISPENSARY,

WELLINGTON.

Established for the Scientific and Speedy Cure of

CHRONIC, NERVOUS, AND SPECIAL DISEASES.

THE EXPERT SPECIALIST, DR. SPEER, is a Regular Graduated Physician educated at Harvard College, U.S. He has devoted a lifetime to, and is acknowledged to be the most Expert Physician in his Specialty in the United States.

YOUNG MEN AND MIDDLE-AGED MEN

Who suffer from Nervous and Physical Debility, Loss of Energy or Memory, Eruptions on the Face, Mental Depression, Kidney and Bladder Troubles, etc., will do well to consult, Dr. Speer.

HOSPITAL EXPERIENCE.

Having been Physician in one of the leading Hospitals of the U.S. enables him to treat all private troubles with excellent results. He wishes it distinctly understood that he does not claim to perform impossibilities, or to have a miraculous power; he claims only to be a skilled and successful Physician, thoroughly informed in his Specialty.

CHRONIC DISEASES OF MEN AND WOMEN.

All applying to him will receive his honest opinion of their complaints. No experimenting. He will guarantee a Positive Cure in every case he undertakes, or forfeit \$200.

Consultation in Office or by Post, FREE.

N.B.—All Medicines necessary for a complete cure can be sent secure from observation on receipt of symptoms.

The Doctor's famous Pills, 1s and 2s per box. Ointment, 1s 6d per box. This Ointment positively cures irritation, itching, and all skin diseases. By post, 2d extra.

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DR. SPEER will send a trial bottle of his medicine free of charge (carriage excepted) to any person applying to him who will give full particulars of their trouble. This will demonstrate his unbounded confidence in these wonderful remedies, which are only known to himself, and which for over two years have achieved such unvaried success in his New Zealand practice.

All applicants for a trial bottle of his medicine must enclose 2d stamp for reply.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED!!!!

Ask the most eminent physician
Of any school, what is the best thing in the world for allaying all irritation of the nerves, and curing all forms of nervous complaints, giving natural, childlike, refreshing sleep always?

And they will tell you unhesitatingly

"Some form of Hops!!!!"

CHAPTER I.

Ask any or all of the most eminent physicians:

"What is the only remedy that can be relied on to cure all diseases of the kidneys and urinary organs; Bright's disease, diabetes, retention, or inability to retain urine, and all the diseases and ailments peculiar to Women?"

"And they will tell you explicitly and emphatically "Buchu!"

Ask the same physicians

"What is the most reliable and surest cure for all liver diseases or dyspepsia, constipation, indigestion, biliousness, malaria, fever, ague, &c.," and they will tell you
"Mandrake! or Dandelion!!!!"

Hence, when these remedies are combined with others equally valuable,

And compounded into Hop Bitters, such a wonderful and mysterious curative power is developed, which is so varied in its operations that no disease or ill health can possibly exist or resist its power, and yet it is

Harmless for the most frail woman, weakest invalid or smallest child to use.

CHAPTER II.

"Patients

"Almost dead or nearly dying"

For years, and given up by physicians, of Bright's and other kidney diseases, liver complaints, severe coughs, called consumption, have been cured.

Women gone nearly crazy!!!!

From agony of neuralgia, nervousness, wakefulness, and various diseases peculiar to women.

People drawn out of shape from excruciating pangs of rheumatism, inflammatory and chronic, or suffering from scrofula.

Erysipelas!

"Salthreum, blood poisoning, dyspepsia, indigestion, and in fact almost all diseases frail

"Nature is heir to"

Have been cured by Hop Bitters, proof of which can be found in every neighbourhood in the known world.

None genuine without a bunch of green hops on the white label, and Dr. Soule's name blown in the bottle. BEWARE of all the vile poisonous stuff made to imitate the above.

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MRS. M'BRIDE ... Proprietress.

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HOLLOWAY'S PILLS

Long experience has proved these famous remedies to be most effectual in curing either the dangerous maladies or the slighter complaints which are more particularly incidental to the life of a man, or to those living in the bush.

Occasional doses of these Pills will guard the system against those evils which so often beset the human race, viz.:—coughs, colds, and all disorders of the liver and stomach—the frequent forerunners of fever, dysentery, diarrhoea, and cholera.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT

Is the most effectual remedy for old sores, wounds, ulcers, rheumatism, and all skin diseases; in fact, when used according to the printed directions, it never fails to cure chafe, deep and superficial ailments.

The Pills and Ointment are Manufactured only at
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And are sold by all Vendors of Medicines throughout the Civilized World; with directions for use in almost every language.

Beware of counterfeits that may emanate from the United States. Purchasers should look to the Label on the Pots and Boxes. If the address is not 533, Oxford Street, London, they are spurious.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS, WESTPORT.

THE following are the results of an examination of the Westport Catholic school conducted by the Rev. Father Goggan, S.M., of St. Patrick's College, Wellington. The rev. examiner expressed himself well satisfied, especially considering that the children had been only six months in the respective classes. All the children in attendance were examined.

Sixth Standard.—Number on roll, 11; presented, 10. The following passed in the subjects mentioned:—Writing: Minnie Lempfert, Annie Scanlon, Wm. Organ, Thomas Pain, Louisa Andersen, Edward McMahon, James Molony, Daniel Sheehan, Edward Terry, James McPadden; 10 passed. Composition and Spelling: James Molony, Wm. Organ, Thomas Pain, Edward McMahon, Annie Scanlon, Louisa Andersen, James McPadden, Edward Terry, Minnie Lempfert, Daniel Sheehan; 10 passed. Reading: William Organ, Minnie Lempfert, Louisa Andersen, Thomas Pain, James Molony, Annie Scanlon, Daniel Sheehan, Edward Terry, Edward McMahon, James McPadden; 10 passed. Arithmetic: James Molony, Wm. Organ, D. Sheehan, Thomas Pain, Annie Scanlon; 5 passed. Grammar and Parsing: Daniel Sheehan, Wm. Organ, James Molony, Annie Scanlon; 4 passed. Geography: James Molony, Wm. Organ, Thomas Pain, James McPadden, Annie Scanlon, Edward McMahon; 6 passed. History: (Irish and English) Daniel Sheehan, Thomas Pain, James Molony, Wm. Organ, Edward McMahon and Minnie Lempfert; 6 passed. Catechism: Thomas Pain, James Molony, Edward Terry, Edward McMahon, Daniel Sheehan, Wm. Organ, and Annie Scanlon; 7 passed.

Fifth Standard.—Number on roll, 11; presented, 10. The following passed in the subjects mentioned:—Writing: Josias Leech, Kate Quinn, James Gallagher, Norah Horn, Mary Moloney, Daniel McLaughlin, Lucy Pain, James Kelly, Minnie Gallagher, Louisa Vitaglich; 10 passed.—Composition and Spelling: Norah Horn, Josias Leech, Minnie Gallagher, Kate Quinn, James Gallagher, Louisa Vitaglich, Lucy Pain, Daniel McLaughlin, Mary Moloney; 9 passed.—Reading: Louisa Vitaglich, James Gallagher, Minnie Gallagher, James Kelly, James Leech, Kate Quinn, Norah Horn, Louisa Pain; 8 passed.—Arithmetic: Minnie Gallagher, James Leech, Kate Quinn, Louisa Vitaglich, Mary Moloney, Norah Horn, James Gallagher, Lucy Pain; 8 passed.—Grammar and Parsing: James Leech, James Kelly, Gallagher, Kate Quinn, Lucy Pain; 5 passed.—Geography: James Leech, James Gallagher, Daniel McLaughlin, Minnie Gallagher, Norah Horn, James Kelly, Mary Moloney, Louisa Vitaglich; 8 passed. History: Minnie Gallagher, Norah Horn, Kate Quinn, James Gallagher; 4 passed.—Catechism: Mary Moloney, Norah Horn, Kate Quinn, James Gallagher, Lucy Pain, Daniel McLaughlin, Minnie Gallagher, James Kelly, Louisa Vitaglich; 9 passed.

Fourth Standard (senior division).—Number on roll, 17; presented, 17. The following passed in the subjects mentioned:—Writing: Francis Mulqueen, Ada Lempfert, John Vitaglich, Basil Dickson, Angela Sontgen, Teresa Pain, Thomas Frank, Mary McPadden, Mary Sontgen, Margaret Gallagher, John Quinn, Mary Terry, Mathew Scanlon, John Mulqueen, John Sexton, Milie Milligan; 16 passed. Spelling and Dictation: Teresa Pain, Mary Terry, Milie Milligan, Margaret Gallagher, John Vitaglich, John Quinn, Thomas Frank, Angela Sontgen, Ada Lempfert, Matthew Scanlon, John Mulqueen, Basil Dickson, M. McPadden, Francis Mulqueen; 14 passed. Reading: John Mulqueen, Milie Milligan, Margaret Gallagher, Matthew Scanlon, John Quinn, John Vitaglich, Basil Dickson, Thomas Frank, Francis Mulqueen, Angela Sontgen, Teresa Pain, Mary Terry, Mary McPadden, Mary Sontgen, T. Sherlock, Ada Lempfert; 16 passed. Arithmetic: Thomas Frank, Matthew Scanlon, Francis Mulqueen, Milie Milligan, Mary McPadden, John Vitaglich, Mary Terry, John Quinn, Mary Sontgen, Margaret Gallagher, Teresa Pain; 11 passed. Grammar: Mary McPadden, Milie Milligan, Thomas Frank, John Quinn, Margaret Gallagher, Mary Terry, Angela Sontgen, Francis Mulqueen, Matthew Scanlon, Basil Dickson, M. Sontgen; 11 passed. Geography:—John Mulqueen, Thomas Frank, Basil Dickson, Margaret Gallagher, Matthew Scanlon, John Vitaglich, John Quinn, J. Sexton, Francis Mulqueen, Angela Sontgen, M. Sontgen; 11 passed. Catechism: K. Hanna, John Mulqueen, Francis Mulqueen, Margaret Gallagher, Matthew Scanlon, Mary McPadden, T. Sherlock, Mary Terry, Teresa Pain, Milie Milligan; 10 passed.

Fourth Standard (junior division).—Number on roll, 18; presented, 15. The following passed in the subjects mentioned:—Writing: Josephine Lempfert, Frances Collins, Alice Molony, Francis Roche, Mary A. Clarke, Mary Cate, Mary Lamplough, Margaret Terry, Robert Hanna, John Organ, Bridget McPadden, Selina Berlin, James O'Malley, Daniel Moloney; 14 passed. Dictation and Spelling: R. Hanna, M. Terry, J. O'Malley, M. Cate, M. A. Clarke, A. Molony, J. Lempfert, F. Roche, F. Collins, J. Organ, B. McPadden, S. Berlin, M. Lamplough; 13 passed. Reading: M. Cate, J. O'Malley, J. Lempfert, F. Collins, F. Roche, D. Moloney, M. A. Clarke, A. Molony, J. Thompson, M. Lamplough, M. Terry, R. Hanna, S. Berlin, B. McPadden, J. Organ; 15 passed. Arithmetic: J. Lempfert, M. Lamplough, R. Hanna, J. O'Malley, M. Terry, M. A. Clarke, M. Cate, A. Molony, J. Organ, F. Collins; 10 passed. Grammar and Parsing: J. O'Malley, R. Hanna, J. Thompson, D. Moloney, M. Terry, J. Lempfert, M. A. Clarke, F. Collins, A. Molony, F. Roche, J. Organ, B. McPadden, M. Lamplough; 13 passed. Geography: F. Roche, A. Molony, R. Hanna, J. O'Malley, M. A. Clarke, J. Lempfert, J. Organ, M. Terry, B. McPadden, M. Lamplough; 10 passed. Catechism: R. Hanna, A. Molony, J. Organ, J. O'Malley, J. Lempfert, J. Thompson, S. Berlin, D. Moloney, F. Collins; 9 passed.

Third Standard.—Number on roll, 21; presented, 20. The following passed in the subjects mentioned:—Writing, spelling, reading, arithmetic, geography, grammar: James Slowey, Rose Siovey, James McKenna, Frank Tottenham, Sarah O'Connell, Margaret Sherlock; writing, spelling, reading, geography, grammar: Annie Kennedy, Sturme Young; writing, spelling, reading, geography: Kate Organ, Agnes O'Callaghan, Annie Gallagher, Jane

Sexton; spelling, reading, grammar: Nellie Sheehan; writing, reading: Stephen Sherlock; writing, spelling, reading, grammar: George Tottenham; writing, spelling, reading: Clara Hollis; spelling, reading, geography, grammar: John Kelly; writing, reading, geography: Alice Kelly; geography: William Dolan; spelling, reading, geography: Margaret Lyons.

Second Standard.—Number on roll, 11; presented, 10. The following passed in the subjects mentioned:—Reading, spelling, dictation, writing, arithmetic: Leon Simon, William Pessanti, Jeremiah Cartayne, William Sheehan, Peter Ambrose; reading, spelling, dictation, writing: Charles McKenna, George Quinn; spelling, dictation, writing: William Sexton; reading, dictation, writing: William Cartayne, A. Fred Braishaw.

First Standard (division A).—Number on roll, 15; presented, 14. The following passed in the subjects mentioned:—Reading, spelling, useful knowledge, arithmetic, writing: Amy Pain, Mary Carey, Annie Milqueen, Frena Sontgen, Mary Molony, Eddie Roche, Myles McPadden, William Clarke; reading, spelling, arithmetic, writing: Anna James; reading, spelling, useful knowledge, dictation: Mary Giffiths, Arthur Boone, William Kelly, Johanna O'Connell, Lucy Ambrose.

First Standard (division B).—Number on roll, 8; presented, 8. The following passed in the subjects mentioned:—Reading, spelling, writing, tables: Elizabeth Cartayne, Mary Ryan, Sarah Hartigan, John Carey, Thomas Hartigan, Philip Sexton; writing, reading: Sarah Cate; reading, spelling, writing: Frank Terry.

First Standard (Division C).—On roll, 9; presented, 9. The following passed in the subjects mentioned:—Spelling, reading, mental arithmetic, copying: John O'Connell, James Sexton, Margaret Hartigan, Kate Ryan, Mary Sexton, Kate McPadden; reading and mental arithmetic, Annie O'Brien; mental arithmetic and copying, Julia Ambrose.

First Standard (Division D).—On roll, 12; presented, 12. The following passed in the subjects mentioned:—Reading, spelling, tables, copying: Lily Vitaglich, Lizzie Horn, Thomas Terry, William O'Brien; reading and spelling: Thomas Maher, Lizzie Gallagher, Annie Horn, Thomas James, Thomas Ryan; reading, Teresa McLaughlin; spelling and copying, Bernard Clarke; reading, spelling, and copying, George White.

Summary of examination held at St. Canice's School, Westport June 19, 20, and 21, 1888:—

SENIOR DIVISION, Standards 4, 5, 6				JUNIOR DIVISION, Standards 1, 2, 3			
Subject.	Pre-sented	Passed	Per cent	Subject.	Pre-sented	Passed	Per cent.
Writing	52	51	98	Writing	72	61	84.7
Composition and spelling	51	47	92.1	Spelling	73	63	86.3
Reading	52	49	94.2	Reading	73	66	90.4
Arithmetic	51	35	68.6	Arithmetic	73	38	52
Grammar	52	33	63.4	Grammar	20	8	40
Geography	52	36	69.2	Geography	20	13	65
History	20	10	50	Dictation	14	14	100
Catechism	47	39	83	Useful knowledge	14	13	92.8
Totals	377	300	79.5	Totals	359	276	76.8

Average on all subjects in Senior Division, 79.5 per cent.; average on all subjects in Junior Division, 76.8 per cent.; average whole school in all subjects, 78.2 per cent.

CANTERBURY CATHOLIC LITERARY SOCIETY.

THE ordinary weekly meeting of this Society took place on Tuesday evening, the 17th inst., a large number of members being present. Mr. R. P. Lonargan was in the chair. An invitation from the Rev. Father Ganaty to the members of the Society requesting their presence at the opening of the Magdalen Asylum was accepted with thanks. The Rev. Chaplain of the Society, Father Halbwachs, informed the members that arrangements had been made for the celebration of a Requiem Mass for a deceased member of the Society, Mr. Claude Belmer, who was accidentally drowned in the Moikouhi River, south of Ross, some days previously, and exhorted all the members to go to Holy Communion at that Mass, which it was unanimously resolved to do. Mr. M. Manaway testified to the loss the Society had sustained by his death, the deceased being a very clever musician, and on many an evening had entertained both the members of the Society and their friends. His sad death has made a gap which it will be hard to fill.

The chairman promised a prize of one guinea upon the best written paper on "Home Rule in its relation to Ireland." There will no doubt be a warm contest, as the members are all taking a lively interest in the competition. There being no programme for the evening, on account of the mission, the meeting then closed in the usual manner. During the mission the members of the Society approached Holy Communion in a body. There was also no programme prepared for the Society's meeting; during the mission, the rooms being but formally opened after church in the evening had finished.

By the operation in Pittsburg of the Brooks High License Law 502 saloons out of 727 have been closed up, never, probably, to be reopened.

Parisian tradesmen and hotelkeepers are complaining that this is the worst season within their memory since the war. Numbers of foreigners, notably American families, have left Paris in view of the riots, and others have deferred their annual visit.

THE BEST ASSORTMENT OF

GENT.'S HATS AND CAPS GENT.'S SCARVES AND TIES GENT.'S GLOVES AND HANDKERCHIEFS.
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CONSTANT investigation has been made to find an article perfectly adapted for preventing the excruciating pain caused in extracting teeth. Its value, as the best dental obtundent ever known, has been fully demonstrated by the severest tests, time having also served to confirm the most sanguine expectations. Among its numerous advantages especial attention is called to the following:—

First.—It produces entire insensibility to pain during the extracting of teeth—a thing never before accomplished without danger.
 Second.—Its action is confined entirely to the teeth being operated on; it does not benumb any other organ.

Third.—It contains no deleterious substance.

Fourth.—It is no way injurious to the health.

Fifth.—It is perfectly harmless in every respect, and no accident can ever occur through its use.

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Seventh.—The mental torture and unnatural strain upon the nervous system of the patient, produced by constant expectation and dread of pain, are entirely avoided.

Eighth.—It advertises itself, as every patient on whom it is used is sure to become an ardent advocate of its truly wonderful merits.

Painless Extraction 5s.

Cannabis Indica (the latest and most successful local

anæsthetic), Cocaine, or Calerific Fluid used for

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ARTIFICIAL TEETH.

To this, the largest and most important department, special attention and critical examination is invited in reference to shape, color, translucency, and vital appearance, and in contrast with other teeth in comparison with strength, lightness, and adaptability.

From a determination to do work of a higher quality and better finish than has ever been placed within the reach of patients, no efforts have been spared to get out all that skill, ingenuity, and patient industry could produce.

Advantages of Superior Dental Work:—

First.—It is much stronger and lighter than usual.

Second.—It is free from injurious ingredients, and therefore healthful, and most unlikely to cause inflammation.

Third.—It is cleanly and beautiful in appearance.

Full Set Artificial Teeth £8.

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 Good Stabling, including loose boxes and yards.

Trams pass every half-hour.

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Country residents in Washdyke, Temuka, St. Andrews, Pareora, Pleasant Point, Fairlie Creek, Winchester, and the surrounding district should patronise the institution.

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THE IRISH QUESTION AT ROME.

(Special correspondence of the *Pilot*.)

Rome, May 26.

ARCHBISHOP WALSH, of Dublin, left Rome on his homeward journey to-day at 3.40 p.m. He was accompanied to the station by the venerable Monsignor Tobias Kirby, Archbishop of Ephesus, and rector of the Irish college; Very Rev. Father Glynn, O.S.A., Prior of the Irish Augustinian Convent of Santa Maria, in Posterula; Very Rev. Father Luke Carey, O.S.F., Guardian of the Irish Franciscan Convent of St. Isidore; Father Reardon, of the Irish College, and the *Pilot* correspondent. The Archbishop went to Pisa, where he will be joined by his secretary, Father Pettit, who has been staying at Fiesola, near Florence, for some weeks past.

During the time of his stay here the Archbishop of Dublin has been made the object of most unworthy attacks on the part of English journals. Scarcely a day passed without some deliberate lie or insulting remark being made about him; and a few days ago the Rome correspondent of the London *Times*, publicly defied him to say that what the correspondent stated about him as facts were not facts! To all this series of unjust attacks the Archbishop has made no reply in public. Perhaps the most painful of all insinuations made about him during his stay here was that made by Catholic and friendly journals to the effect that his testimony was given before the Holy Office previous to the publication of the now famous decree. The Congregation of the Holy Office had to determine on the morality of a series of statements of facts furnished them and they were not a commission for the acceptance of testimony. The document or statement of Ireland's case prepared by the Archbishop in obedience to the Pope's command, was not laid before the Holy Office, and would not have had any reason to be presented to that tribunal. What this congregation judged upon so far as can be seen, was the report furnished by Monsignor Persico, the Apostolic Delegate to Ireland. Perhaps some day or other a complete and detailed account of Mgr. Persico's mission will be made public, and then it will be seen what were the materials on which the Delegate drew up his report and what weight and value should be attached to them. A passage in the resolutions drawn up by the Irish Catholic Members of Parliament at their meeting in Dublin on May 17 to the effect "that the allegations of fact which are put forth in the circular of the Holy Office are, to our knowledge, unfounded, and could not, we venture to affirm, have been promulgated under the authority of the Holy Office if statements so prejudicial to the Irish people had been tested by reference to the prelates of Ireland and the elected representatives of the people," conveys a very serious reproach against the method of examination conducted by Mgr. Persico. These representatives are certainly entitled to speak for the Irish people, and if they have been passed over by the delegate in his examination of persons qualified to inform him, when he was receiving testimony from landlords and Orangemen, it looks as if his examination was somewhat incomplete. There has been a torrent of indignation launched by tender-minded English Catholics against the Irish because, it is said, these take it for granted that the Pope is capable of being bent towards England's policy and may be made to act against Ireland. Perhaps the Irish people have trusted to the justice of their cause more fully than was prudent. At any rate, they made little or no apparent effort to represent their cause at Rome. The whole policy of England with regard to Rome, almost since the accession of the present Pope, has been to strive and bend him to put his hand on Ireland. Hence arose the "unofficial agent," Sir George Errington, and the "mission" of the Duke of Norfolk. But besides these notorious and public attempts to win the Pope to the English way of thinking, there were the private individual efforts of English Catholics, such as that of the late Sir George B. Weyer, who announced to His Holiness that a continuance of Mgr., now Cardinal, Schaffino's journal, the *Aurora*, in which some Irish wrongs were calmly and temperately related, would retard the conversion of England by fifty years! Again, there was that of the English Bishop who suggested to the Pope the propriety of sending over English priests to convert the Irish, and who received the cutting rebuke of the Pontiff. These are, besides, a number of English busy-bodies, who have more or less influenced Italian Prelates to believe that Ireland is in league with the red revolution of the Continent, and must be submitted to severe discipline. It is not the Irish who believe that the Pope will ever do or say aught but what is just and fitting to themselves or to anyone else. The English are the believers in this, and true to their national characteristics, they act upon their belief and use their best efforts to render it effective in their favour.

Rome, June 2.

It is remarkable that the Liberal-Unionist newspaper, the *Daily Chronicle* of London, should dwell so frequently and so fondly on the sayings of the *Moniteur de Rome* concerning the Irish question. It is to be hoped that the reason of this strange affection will be divulged some day. The harmony between them at present is curious. The Rome correspondent of the *Chronicle* telegraphs, May 30, as follows: "In an article, which I have reason to know has been directly inspired by the Pope, the *Moniteur de Rome* sharply condemns the attitude of the Irish Catholics who have taken part in the meetings which have been held in Ireland for the purpose of protesting against the Papal Rescript." In the same article of the *Moniteur*, of which the above is an inaccurate summary, the writer says: "Let us be allowed to remark that this (the resolutions protesting against the pretended intervention of the Pope, his interference in the political affairs of Ireland) is a perversion and absolute falsifying of the conduct of the Holy See, which, in condemning the Plan of Campaign and boycotting, has kept in a sphere superior to politics."

The *Moniteur de Rome* refers to the results obtained by Catholic Prussia and proposes it as an example to the Irish. This is not a parallel case, and, in the case of Prussia, the Pope's interference was admittedly political, while his Holiness has just declared—and the *Moniteur* also—that his action in reference to Ireland is in a domain far above politics.

In a later issue, the *Chronicle* (June 1) has a telegram from Rome which contains the following sentences: "The chief grievance of the Nationalist bishops in Ireland is that the Brief of the Holy Office was made known through the medium of the English Press—the London *Daily Chronicle* having been the first to announce the decision—even before it was communicated to them. It is of this that Archbishop Walsh complained to the Pope." That the Papal Decree was communicated first to the newspaper in question is a fact which reflects shame on the person connected with the Vatican who made the communication. In all probability we have not yet heard the end of this act which brought about so much bitter feeling, and which was one of the causes that produced the agitation in Ireland on reception of the news that a decree was about to be issued.

This agitation has produced one good result. This is the further assurance of the Pontiff, this time to all the Bishops, that he has not the remotest intention of interfering in the political affairs of Ireland—which comes forth at the same time that the people are asserting their determination to have no foreign interference in their political affairs. It is a remarkable and a happy coincidence.

The whole superstructure built by Tory journals—Catholic and Protestant alike—on this decree, as a deathblow to Irish Nationalism, has fallen. Even those here who regarded it as the first step towards a renewal of diplomatic relations between England and the Vatican are disappointed, and now declare that such relations are indefinitely postponed. That result is owing to the action taken by the Irish people, as well as to the superior wisdom of the Pope. His Holiness, although desiring the establishment of such relations between England and the Vatican, is not likely now to encourage the permanent appointment of an English slanderer of the Irish at the Vatican. It is bad enough to have to contend with the falsehoods, misrepresentations, extenuations, and such like, of an unclassified group fulfilling "missions," or running "agencies," or simply spreading their stories on private grounds; it would be worse to have a chartered reporter here in permanence. But such a danger is, in all probability, postponed for an indefinite period.

P. L. CONNELLAN.

INGERSOLL.

(New York *Freeman's Journal*.)

In his review of "Robert Elsmere," Mrs. Humphrey Ward's novel, Mr. Gladstone makes a point which ought to be thoroughly insisted on. It is that the unbeliever in Christianity is false to his own theories when he accepts the results of Christianity and admits they are good. If his theories are true, Christianity has been a curse, not a blessing. But the very civilisation he praises, and in which he exults, is the consequence of the Resurrection of Christ and the fidelity of His Church to His Word. Mr. Gladstone also marks another defect in the arguments of the Agnostics and the Positivists. They know—or, at least, they pretend to know—very little about Christianity. In their imaginary dialogues, the Christian has almost nothing to say for himself. While in real life, he has a great deal to say.

The Positivist and the Agnostic are even more bigoted than the Calvinist, because they pretend to an impartiality with which the Calvinist never asked to be credited. They wipe Christianity off the table of the world. "It is an effect thing," they say; "it has done no good. It has cramped all the best faculties of man. Let us return to nature."

Thus argues Mr. Ingersoll—the most superficial and flashy of the apostates. For no man, in this age of the world, with the evidences of Christianity and the work of Christianity before him, can go back to Paganism without being an apostate.

It is unfortunate that the education of the American public should make it possible for Mr. Ingersoll to obtain the hearing he does. If the present system of Christless schools continues to numb the faculties and blight the best instincts of the majority of the population of this country, Mr. Ingersoll's brutal and thoughtless jibes will be quoted in a widening circle. Our self-centred friends, the Methodists, the Baptists, and the Presbyterians, have too great a hatred of the Catholic Church to adopt her methods of saving their children from the horrors of the New Paganism. They find the public schools good enough for them. They will regret it.

Ingersollism means a return to Pagan license and Pagan sins. Why not kill the maimed or afflicted child if it be in the way? asks the Pagan of our time. The world ought to be beautiful; sickness and affliction are not beautiful; let us away with them. Put up the Venus of Mélos, says Ingersoll, pull down the crucifix; let the tired workman gaze on this remnant of Grecian art; the day of the crucifix is past; what human nature needs is not the sight of most noble suffering, most noble sacrifice, but of sensuous beauty.

Where does this lead us? Where did it lead the Greeks and the Romans? Juvenal and Suetonius tell us. But some of these Positivists say that Juvenal and Suetonius exaggerated then, as newspapers sometimes do now. Yet there are some things in Plato and many things in the Greek poets which show that Pagan morals, not only among the lower classes, but in the most cultivated circles, had become, as Mr. Gladstone says, worse than bestial. To Christianity, the world is indebted for the preservation of all that is best in it to-day. And yet Mr. Ingersoll wants us to go back! He is the apostate apostle of darkness, of lust, of blood, and of cruelty. A man may cry out: "I believe, O God, help my unbelief," and we may respect him. He may even be dumb in his unbelief, and we may pity and love him. But for the apostate who, for money, raises his hand against the crucifix, there should be no quarter. Such a man is a moral leper among men, the enemy of motherhood, of childhood, of chastity, of truth. He may deck himself with garlands, but he is a satyr, unclean, licentious. His smile is a jeer and his laugh a sneer. He lives to kill, wear what mask he may.

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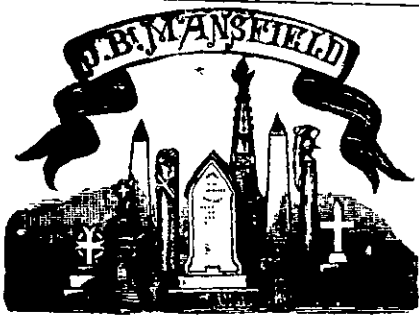
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JOHN BARRETT

T I M A R U .

(From an occasional Correspondent.)

When other matters for comment fail, it is not an unusual resource to fall back upon "the weather." However, we have had such an unusual experience of that commodity here during the past week that a few remarks about it may not be out of place. During the middle and latter parts of the week we have had a heavy and steady down-pour of rain, and in consequence a series of floods, accidents to bridges and railway lines. Communication was completely stopped with the McKenzie Country, the snow there being—according to that infallible authority "the oldest resident"—the heaviest known for years. Temuka, Winchester, Geraldine, and Pleasant Point all seemed to have shared in the storm, and all the low-lying lands in these districts are converted into mushroom lakes for the time being. On Saturday night the rain ceased, but it will take a few days before things resume their wonted appearance.

The choir has been rather unfortunate of late in losing some of its leading members. I am glad to see, however, that the place rendered vacant by Mrs. Flimer, who recently left for Melbourne, and who was leading soprano in the choir, is very creditably filled by Miss Conway, lately of Dunedin. This lady possesses a clear musical voice, of good range and power, and will, without doubt, be a great acquisition.

Mr. T. W. Tymons who has resided here for the past seven years is about leaving Timaru, to embark in business on the West Coast. Mr. Tymons carries with him the best wishes of all his co-religionists in Timaru. A true Irishman he has never been found wanting in any movement brought forward for the benefit of his countrymen at Home. As a member of the local branch of the Hibernian Society, he has been an indefatigable worker, and it is due to his earnest canvassing that the Branch can lay claim to the greater number of its members. I learn that the officers and members of the Branch do not intend to allow Mr. Tymons to depart without giving him a tangible proof of their regard.

The half-yearly meeting of St. Mary's Branch, H.A.C.B.S. was held on the 14th inst. The election of officers resulted as follows:—President, T. Sheehy; vice-president, W. Cunningham; Treasurer, M. Crannitch; secretary, Andrew Wilson; guardian, G. Matthews; sick visitors, Brothers L. Hartnett, J. Walley, and Jno. Maloney. The balance sheet was read as showing the Branch to be in a fairly flourishing condition. The Rev. Father Foley paid a high tribute of praise to the retiring officers, and complimented the Branch on its steady progress.

Apropos of friendly societies, the registrar for New Zealand, in an address delivered in Wellington in January last to an assemblage of delegates from the various societies established in the colony, pointed out some fundamental errors existing in the management of most of them. One of these errors, viz. equal contributions irrespective of age at entry, unfortunately applies to the Hibernian Society, and the principle is so manifestly unjust to young members that the sooner a reform is made in that particular the better. As an example, a young man aged twenty years joins the society and pays 1s per week as a contribution; a man aged forty years joins and pays the same contribution per week. If they both live to the age of sixty years the younger member pays 1s per week for twenty years longer than the older one. The branches in New Zealand should combine to have this particular altered and a graduated scale of contributions adopted.—Some months ago steps were taken to form a Branch of the Society at Temuka and at first the idea was taken up by the residents there with a lively interest. Latterly, however, the matter seems to "hang fire." It is to be hoped the promoters there will stir up and show a little more energy, as there is every facility for establishing a strong Branch of the Society in Temuka.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS AND THE JUVENILE EXHIBITION.

(Melbourne Advocate, July 14.)

WITH the approval of our venerated Archbishop, several of the Catholic schools of the city and suburbs most willingly, and even eagerly, accepted the invitation to exhibit and give performances at the Juvenile Exhibition. Both teachers and pupils were delighted with the opportunity thus presented of entering into friendly competition with other schools, and we do not flatter our boys and girls in saying that they have come most creditably out of the ordeal. In some respects their preparations were made under disadvantageous circumstances. They had no State aid or patronage to help them on, and no high-salaried instructors in art to coach them for the occasion. But for these wants they had compensation in teachers whose hearts are really in their work, and in the wholesome impressions produced on their ductile minds by the Christian lessons they daily received. And the result is what might have been expected. In plain needlework, in embroidery, in drawing and painting in penmanship, and in fancy work of different kinds, no competent judge who critically examined the exhibits could hesitate to award the palm to those from the several convents. We have in our mind some tapestry work of the finest texture and beautifully shaded, some water colour etchings which would deserve a place on the line in any exhibition, a few admirable studies in black and white, some skilfully executed map tracing and shading, and some exquisite specimens of lace, but as we cannot in our space distinguish between the exhibits from the several schools and fairly apportion praise, we shall confine ourselves to general allusion. As for the entertainments given by our Catholic schools, they were at least up to the highest standard reached by juveniles from any other quarter. In music, vocal and instrumental, in recitations, in deportment and behaviour, the children from these schools acquitted themselves in a manner which confessedly much gratified our Archbishop, and with that verdict in their favour our children

may be well satisfied, even if it received no endorsement. Catholic parents have, therefore, the best possible reason for being more than satisfied with the part their children played under circumstances which tested the quality of the education given in our schools, and which brought prominently out the good effects of discipline based on motives which, at the same time, influence heart and understanding. To the Catholic community generally it must be gratifying that their schools have come so successfully out of the competition. It is due to the Archbishop that the efficiency of our teachers and the proficiency of our children have thus been placed in evidence before the community. The public spirit and sound judgment, which his Grace has unquestionably displayed in this matter, add one more weighty claim to the many already recognised in his administration of the affairs of the diocese.

WHY HE DID NOT GO TO THE HOSPITAL.

HE COULD LEAP THROUGH THE AIR.

MY object in writing is twofold: to express my gratitude for a great benefit, and to tell a short story which cannot fail to interest the feelings of many others. It is all about myself, but I have remarked that when a man tells the honest truth about himself he is all the more likely to be of use to his fellow creatures. To begin then, you must I had long been more or less subject to attacks of bronchitis, a complaint that you are aware is very common in Great Britain in certain seasons of the year. Some months ago I had a very severe turn of it, worse, I think, than I ever had before. It was probably brought on by my catching cold, as we are all apt to do when we least expect it. Weeks passed by, and my trouble proved to be very obstinate. It would not yield to medicine, and as I also began to have violent racking pains in my limbs and back, I became greatly alarmed. I could neither eat nor sleep. If I had been a feeble, sickly man, I should have thought less strangely of it; but as, on the contrary, I was hearty and robust, I feared some new and terrible thing had got hold of me, which might make my strength of no avail against it. I say, that was the way I thought.

Presently, I could not even lie down for the pain all over my body. I asked my doctor what he thought of my condition, and he frankly said, "I am sorry to have to tell you that you are getting worse!" This so frightened my friends, as well as myself, that they said "Thomas, you must go to the Hospital; it may be your only chance for life!"

But I didn't want to go to the hospital. Who does, when he thinks he can possibly get along without doing it? I am a labouring man, with a large family depending on me for support, and I might almost as well be in my grave as to be laid on my back in a hospital unable to lift a hand for months, or God only knows how long. Right at this point I had a thought flash across my mind like a streak of sunshine in a cloudy day. I had heard and read a good deal about Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup, and I resolved, before consenting to be taken to the hospital, I would try that well-known remedy. On this I gave up the doctor's medicine and began taking the Syrup. Mark the wonderful result! I had taken but three doses within twenty-four hours when I was seized with a fit of coughing, and threw up the phlegm and mucus off my chest by the mouthful. The Syrup had loosened and broken it up. Continuing with the Syrup, the racking pain, which I believe came from the bitter and poison humours in my blood and joints, soon left me entirely, and I felt like going to sleep, and I did sleep sound and quiet. Then I felt hungry, with a natural appetite, and as I ate I soon got strong and well.

I felt I could leap through the air with delight.

In a week I was able to go to my work again. It doesn't seem possible, yet it is true, and the neighbours know it. There are plenty of witnesses to prove it. And, therefore, when I preach the good news of the great power of Seigel's Syrup to cure pain and disease far and wide, nobody will wonder at me.

THOMAS CANNING.

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There is great rejoicing at Chamberlain, Dak., over the news that President Cleveland has signed the bill opening up about eleven million acres of the Sioux reservation to settlement.

While Mary Floyd was milking a cow at Urbana, O., a little sack containing eighty-five dollars dropped from her bosom, and the money was eaten by the cow.

At Mt. Carmel, Pa., owing to an accident to a passing freight train on the Philadelphia and Reading R. R., a car loaded with Dupont powder exploded, wrecking seventeen buildings and causing eight deaths. Thirty were injured. Loss to property 75,000dols.

The Duke of Devonshire, who is now at Chatsworth, has lately sold a number of short-horns from his herd at Holker Hall, which is probably the finest in the world. Three have been bought to go to Buenos Ayres, six for Minnesota, and two for Canada.

Last week, at a sale of autographs, a characteristic letter, written by Sir Isaac Newton, fetched £63, being bought for Trinity College, Cambridge.

GRATEFUL WOMEN.

None receive so much benefit, and none are so profoundly grateful and show such an interest in recommending Dr. Soule's American Hop Bitters as women. It is the only remedy peculiarly adapted to the many ills the sex is almost universally subject to. Chills and fever, indigestion or deranged liver, constant or periodical sick headaches, weakness in the back or kidneys, pain in the shoulders and different parts of the body, a feeling of lassitude and despondency, are all readily removed by these bitters. "Courant."

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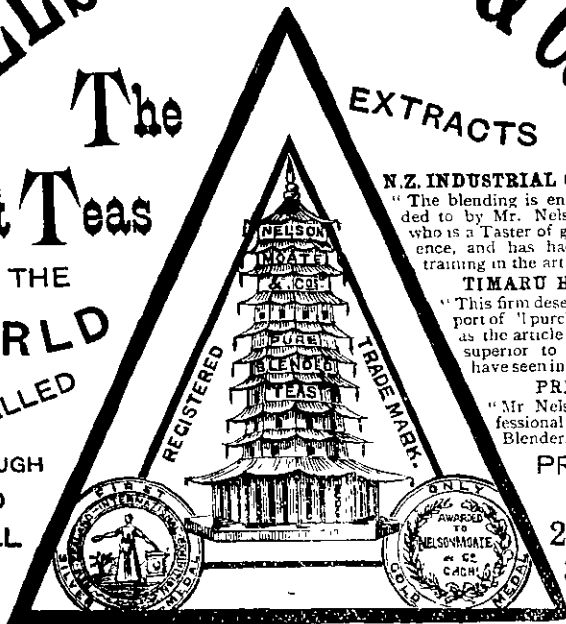
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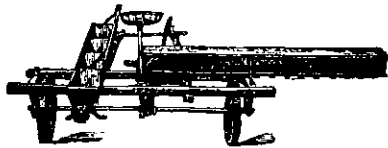
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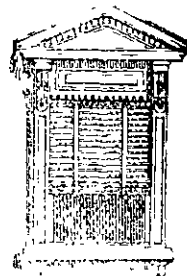
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