

command our special sympathies. The honour of old Ireland seems particularly involved in the success of a society bearing her name, even though it be only in Latin. But then if the *Riões* do not show themselves invincible men how are we to look forward with any confidence to an invasion of the colony? Both sides, however, are bound to do their best, as so much depends upon their prowess, and a spanking contest must be the result.

THE Presidential election has resulted in the victory of General Harrison. Mr. Cleveland evidently owes his defeat to the strong tendency shown by his Government to favour British interests, even at the expense of those of the United States. His tariff proposals, for instance, were reasonably so interpreted, and the Fisheries Treaty supported by him inclined clearly in such a direction. When he found the feeling of the country going against him on the point referred to, he sought to recover his position by an unceremonious dismissal of the British Minister at Washington, on some pretence variously reported to us. But even had this step been well judged, it was too late, and, according to appearances, it was in every respect a mistake. General Harrison bears a high reputation, particularly in Indiana, where he had been brought up. He is looked upon as a man of true independence of spirit, and broad and manly views. It is of deep interest to us, moreover, to know that a man occupying the exalted place of President, has declared himself unreservedly and notably in sympathy with the Irish cause. "I would rather," he said, in welcoming the Irish delegates, Esmonde and O'Connor, to Indianapolis, last December, "I would rather be William O'Brien in Tuillamore Gaol, a martyr to free speech, than the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland in Dublin Castle." The speaker now occupies a much more exalted position than any Lord Lieutenant ever held, and we may be confident that his sympathies are still with free speech and freedom generally. We, therefore, hail in General Harrison's election, a most auspicious event.

The Parnell commission still proceeds with the promise of dragging a weary length, as intended. Mr. Parnell gives it as his opinion that the inquiry will extend over 12 months, during which time we must expect to see the evidence brought forward to implicate the National party in crime reported of as certain proofs. Probably, we shall have to wait from week to week for the mails to bring us just details of the trial, as we can hardly place much reliance on the cable. Sir James Hannen has ruled in favour of the *Times*, and contrary to the argument of Sir Charles Russell, that the *Times* is not bound to show that the Parnellites were connected with the outrages concerning which evidence is tendered by it, and this ruling is considered likely to prolong the inquiry. Fortunately Lord Kinnear has decided that Mr. Parnell's Scotch action may proceed, and that will afford some relief and bring the truth more rapidly before the public.

OUR readers will be gratified to learn that Mr. Thomas Bracken has once more taken up his residence in Dunedin. He has received the appointment of local Secretary of the National Mutual Life Association of Australasia. This Society is the oldest Victorian Mutual Office, and the Melbourne *Argus* places it in the same category with the Australian Mutual Provident of Sydney. Speaking of the success of the National Mutual the *Scottish Banking and Insurance Magazine* a leading authority on financial matters says:—"No other Company in the mother country or the colonies has approached these figures in the twelfth year of its existence, and the Directors and principal officers may well be proud of the position attained by their Association. Everything has been done to liberalise the conditions of the Policy consistent with safety. The result of this foresight, combined of course with financial skill and intense hard work, is a showing which makes managers in the United Kingdom stare with astonishment." Eight years have elapsed since the foregoing remarks were written, and the results of the business of the National Mutual have been during the latter term even more satisfactory than those recorded by the journal in question. Although we have little in common with that American "Evangelical" spread-eagle of the pulpit, Dr. Talmage, the following observations of his on the subject of Life Insurance are, in our opinion worthy of consideration:—"In this day God has mercifully allowed those of us who have a limited income to make provision for our families through the great life insurance companies all over the land. By some self-denial on our part we can make this provision for those we shall leave behind us. Is there anything so helpless as a woman whose husband has just died, when, with her children at her back, she goes out to fight for her bread? Shall she become a menial servant in someone else's household? Shall she sew for a living? God knows they get but six and eight cents for making garments. Ah, no! you had better have your coffin made large enough to take all with you into that land where they never freeze or starve. How a man with no surplus of estate, but still enough money to pay the premium on a life insurance policy, can refuse to do it, and then look his children in the face, and say his prayers at night on going to bed, expecting them to be ~~his~~ ^{his} word, is a mystery to me that I have never been able to fathom." We have no doubt the National Mutual under Mr. Bracken's management will receive a large share of support.

WE have received from Mr. Thomas McKeogh, Cape Foulwind, the sum of £8, for transmission to the secretary of the National League at Dublin. The sum is made up as follows: Balance of proceeds of ball on March 17, £4 7s; contributed at a meeting for the establishment of a branch of the League, £3 13s.

AN immense gathering of priests and people from all parts of the country assembled at Armagh on Sunday (says the *Nation* of November 13), to witness the investment of the Most Rev. Dr. Logue the Primate, with the Pallium. This solemn and interesting ceremony was performed by his Eminence Cardinal Moran. When the Pallium had been imposed, the Cardinal, taking for his text "Feed my lambs feed my sheep," preached an eloquent sermon, in which he dilated on the past glories of Catholic Ireland, of the fidelity of her children, and their wonderful work as missionaries in other lands. At the conclusion he was presented with an address in the name of the faithful of Armagh. His Eminence in reply stated that he took part in the ceremonies of the day because they exhibited the link between the Church of Australia and the Church in Ireland. It is the ambition of the younger Church to imitate, if not rival the older. We are glad to record his Eminence's recognition of a relationship that had been occasionally ignored in the past.

THE drawing of the grand Art-Union at Napier is definitely fixed to come off on 3rd January. As the prizes are to be drawn for on that day it is to be hoped that those who have books in hand will do what they can to dispose of them, and return the blocks in good time, so that there will be no disappointment.

WE direct the attention of our readers to the success achieved by our Catholic Colleges and Convents at the Junior Public Examination recently held at the Sydney University. To Dunedinites it will be gratifying to learn that the Christian Brothers' College at Brisbane, which occupies almost first position, is under the direction of Rev. Brother Bodkin, who for many years held the position of Director of the Christian Brothers' school of this city: Junior Public Examination, Sydney University: Marist Brothers' College, 20 pupils passed; Marist Brothers' High school, 8 pupils passed; Marist Brothers' St. Patrick's school, 1 pupil passed; Christian Brothers', Brisbane (Rev. Brother Bodkin), 19 pupils passed; Christian Brothers', Balmain, 2 pupils passed; Patrician Brothers', Albury, 2 pupils passed; Patrician Brothers', Bathurst, 1 pupil passed; Patrician Brothers', Redfern, 1 pupil passed; St. Patrick's College, Goulburn, 18 pupils passed; St. Vincent's College, Goulburn, 17 pupils passed; St. Aloysius' Jesuit College, 1 pupil passed; Riverview Jesuit College, 5 pupils passed; St. Stanislaus College, Bathurst, 6 pupils passed; Good Samaritan Convent, Sydney, 2 pupils passed; Good Samaritan Convent, Rosebank, 3 pupils passed; Good Samaritan Convent, Newtown, 2 pupils passed; Good Samaritan Convent, Balmain, 1 pupil passed; Presentation Nuns, Lismore, 3 pupils passed; Presentation Convent, Wagga-Wagga, 1 pupil passed; All Hallows' Convent, Brisbane, 4 pupils passed; Convent of Mercy, Albury, 1 pupil passed; Convent of Mercy, Goulburn, 3 pupils passed; Sacred Heart College, Maitland, 2 pupils passed.

WE see a statement to the effect that the Rev. W. E. Addis, an Oxford convert to the Catholic Church, and a member of the congregation of the Oratory, has reconsidered his position and withdrawn from the Church. This announcement, however, does not come upon us with any surprise. We are ready to receive it as most probable, and the consequence to be expected from certain of Father Addis's contributions to the "Catholic Dictionary," of which he was editor. The late Mr. MacMaster, of the *New York Freeman's Journal*, who had done more perhaps than any man of his time to unmask what was irregular and unorthodox, and to bring about the amendment of abuses in Catholic affairs, was the first to sound the note of alarm and the subject was afterwards taken up in the *Month*, where a full exposure and correction were made. The conversion and subsequent lapse of men like Father Addis, of which several cases have occurred, is no doubt due to some imperfection in the work of conversion. The converts are probably more dissatisfied with Protestantism than imbued with the true Catholic spirit, and, therefore, the Church has no hold on them. It is this fact that should make those who are engaged in the work of conversion duly cautious, and not ready without full trial to receive, and perhaps imprudently encourage, every neophyte who presents himself to them. We may add, in connection with the outcry recently made as to the danger of alarming intending converts by the sympathy shown by the Irish priesthood with the National cause, that instead of their deploring it, the matter might rather be regarded with favour as a method of putting the sincerity of the religious intentions of the catechumen to the test. We regret Father Addis's fall, therefore, if it be true, but we are not surprised by it. The rev. gentleman, we are told again, in withdrawing from his Catholic mission expresses himself as filled with sorrow for being obliged to relinquish associations that have formed the happiest days of his life. But, although a man may be unfortunate enough to lose his religious faith, we do not consider that he must necessarily become bereft of all gentlemanly sentiments. And, as a matter of fact, we do not find that many of those so lapsed become the slanderers of the Church they have deserted. That degraded calling is left to low fellows or lower women, who find in the mud-slinging of the Protestant or Freethinking sects their true home, and work out there by their abominable vomiting the further degradation of themselves, if possible, but certainly that of their hearers.