

Colonial Notes.

In the recent discussion on the Education estimates in the Victorian Parliament, Sir Bryan O'Loghlen argued strongly in favour of the right of denominational schools to share in the sums set apart for exhibitions and scholarships. In 1884, he said, there were 170 denominational schools in the colony with an attendance of 24,000 children, but in 1888 there were 371 such schools with an attendance of 44,090. This, added the speaker, was a matter which should be taken into consideration, because all those children were prevented from competing for the Government scholarships. Mr. Pearson in reply defended the existing system on the special plea that it could not be ascertained as to whether or not a child attending a private school had the advantage of particular instructions over and above the standard of those given at the Government Schools. Although a teacher in these schools, he explained, was permitted to devote himself to the private instruction of pupils intending to compete, his time was necessarily limited. But such a reply in every respect must be regarded as absurd.

The removal of the Rev. Father Hennebery from the mission of New Town and Glenorchy, Tasmania, has occasioned great sorrow among the flock to whom the Rev. Father has ministered for the last twenty years. An address has been presented by them to the Archbishop, recalling Father Hennebery's successful labours in the cause of religion and begging that he might be permitted to remain still with them. His Grace, however, has feelingly replied that the very reasons they urge in support of their petition are those that forbid his granting it. Father Hennebery's well known zeal in the cause of religion had marked him out for the promotion now conferred upon him and which was the highest it had been in the power of the Archbishop and his council to bestow. The Catholic community who would not rejoice to be so refused must be selfish indeed.

In opening the new church of the Frater Domini at Clifton on the Darling Downs, Queensland, a few weeks ago, His Grace, the Archbishop of Brisbane, recalled to his hearers the manner in which he had urged to settle on the lands. He had often, when officiating at Toowoomba, he said, laid the prayer-book down and read for his people the proclamations of the *Government Gazette* throwing the lands open. Even when an Education Bill had been introduced that withdrew support from Catholic schools, he told them that if they had to choose between the schools and the lands to let the schools go and take the lands, the Education Act might be amended, but the lands once gone could never be recovered. The land was necessary to the formation of good homes, and he believed there was no channel of God's grace better than a good home.

The good people of New Caledonia are evidently of the opinion that it is a suitable proceeding to make their hay while the sun shines. They are all agog to take advantage of the strikes at Newcastle in promoting the interests of their coal-mines. It seems that they have excellent coal in abundance—if it can only be got to light. That is the chief difficulty, however, and, as we must admit, it possesses its disadvantages—for, if on a cold day you have a block of coal that will not light, it would be quite as comfortable, and much less provoking, to have a lump of a stone without any specious pretences about it. New Caledonian coal, nevertheless, can be got to burn when mixed with Australian coal—and then, although an assay made at Bre'st pronounced it rubbish, a certain Captain Maubeuge of the steamer *Calédonien*, belonging to the *Messageries maritimes*, vows it has ever so much more heat in it than any other coal. The colonists, therefore, are bestirring themselves, because they are afraid that unfortunately the strikes at Newcastle must some day come to a termination and put an end to their chance, if they are not quick about it. But have our neighbours considered that should the strikes continue without an end, Australian coal necessary to communicate the needful degree of warmth to the rather sluggish product of their mines might not be forthcoming? From this point of view, it may seem to the unprejudiced that they were quite as much interested in the termination of the Newcastle strikes as any of us. A supply of coal, you know, even *ad infinitum*, without anything to burn it, would be but a melancholy possession. And, let us inquire finally—is Captain Maubeuge of the steamer *Calédonien* quite sure that the heat in his furnace did not issue principally from the ass-sting mixture there of Australian coal? Our contemporary, the *Néo-Calédonien*, advises the Colonists to desist from politics and devote themselves to coal—and, perhaps, as the climate is hot, he gives them good advice. Excitement there is heating, and coal is not.

The 9th of September, the twenty-fourth anniversary of the death of Père Laval, has been observed as usual in Mauritius, an immense crowd visiting the tomb of the holy priest, reputed a saint, in the church of Sainte-Croix. The *Annales* tells us it would be impossible to describe the pious enthusiasm of these thousands of people. It is necessary, says our contemporary, to take part in these scenes, worthy of the first days of Christianity, to form a just idea of them.

French influence is re-asserting itself well at Madagascar. A cadet corps, composed of youths belonging to the best families of the country, has lately been formed under the direction of French officers. The Catholic missionaries also have had a triumph. It has taken the shape of the public baptism of a Princess of the blood Royal, with the special permission of her Majesty, Queen Ranavalona III. This signifies a good deal, when it is remembered that her Majesty is the head of the English Methodist Church in the Island.

The colony of New South Wales has lost one of its greatest sons in the Right Hon. William Bede Dalley, who has succumbed to the illness that had been so anxiously watched by his friends and

admirers throughout the colony. Mr. Dalley, who was born in Sydney in 1831, was distinguished in every branch of life. He was an eloquent speaker, an able writer, a professional man of great powers, and a wise and brilliant statesman, while in his private capacity he was noted for his amiable and kindly disposition. His death at so comparatively early an age is keenly and widely regretted. His funeral took place on Tuesday October 30th, a solemn Mass of *Requiem* and office for the dead being celebrated in St. Mary's cathedral. The Bishop of Maitland officiated, assisted by Mgr. Verdon, the Very Rev. Dr. Carroll, V.G., the Very Rev. Dr. O'Brien, and the very Rev. Dr. Clancy, S.J.—and a panegyric of the deceased was pronounced by the Rev. William Kelly, S.J. There was a numerous attendance including the principal personages of the city.—*R.I.P.*

On the day of the funeral of the late Right Hon. W. B. Dalley, (says the *Australian Record*, the organ of the Church of England in Sydney), a friend (himself an esteemed old colonist) related to us an incident of which he was eye-witness. He was passing Mr. Dalley one day near the corner of King Street, and turned to take a second look at the well-known figure in elaborate walking dress. Mr. Dalley was just in the act of taking a handkerchief from his pocket, the perfume of which reached our friend, when a poor little child fell several paces off in the road, which was very dirty at the time. Spotless vest and snowy kerchief all were forgotten, and quickly and gently the child all daubed with mud, was carried in safety and deposited with a cheering word or two on the pathway by the kind-hearted barrister. Our friend anticipated her Majesty in dubbing him Right Honourable there and then.

Gounod's new Mass written by the famous composer in honour of Joan of Arc, was performed for the first time in Australia at St. Patrick's church, Sydney, on Sunday, November 4. The occasion was rightly considered a great one, especially by the French settlers, one of whom marked it by presenting a magnificent bouquet of flowers to a side altar of the church. But it is not France alone that to-day should honour the memory of the glorious Maiden. Here is, above all, the type of character that the world needs at this moment for its salvation. An earthly duty, seen in the light of Heaven, and resolutely, and through all difficulties and dangers pursued, a sublime purity, a divine pity, a complete self-devotion and a glorious enthusiasm, by all of these was Joan characterised, and they are what the more grovelling age most stands in need of. Let us hope that Gounod's fine work may serve to spread abroad devotion to that saintly and unique memory with whom all these things are associated, so that by ponderating on its example the world may be purified. It is not for nothing that even infidel France has been inspired, at this time, with a devotion to Joan of Arc.

Measures are being actively carried out in Sydney to give a joyful reception and welcome to his Eminence the Cardinal Archbishop, who is expected to return, by the s.s. *Cuzco*, towards the end of the month. His Eminence will be received not only as a great Prelate and Prince of the Church returning to a devoted people, but also as the champion who has fearlessly served the cause of his country, and vindicated it in the face of hostile powers.

American Notes.

AMONG the tactics employed by the Democrats to secure the re-election of Mr. Cleveland, not the least discreditable has been the attempt to meet the arguments of Mr. Patrick Ford in the *Irish World* by accusing that gentleman of having deserted from his regiment during the war of the rebellion. Mr. Ford replies by the very pertinent inquiry as to what his personal character has to do, for instance, with the question of the tariff, on which he has principally opposed Mr. Cleveland's candidature. He does not, however, confine himself to this answer, but makes a complete exposure of his accuser, who has already brought the same accusation against him in 1884—for which he was punished as a libeller, serving a term in prison. Mr. Ford finally produces testimony from the surviving officers of his regiment, the Ninth Massachusetts, which proves him to have been a true and faithful soldier. The attempt, therefore, has not been attended with any great measure of success.

At the nineteenth annual meeting of the Society of the Army of the Cumberland, lately held in Chicago, a committee was appointed to consider the question of the erection of an equestrian statue of General Sheridan at Washington. General Alger, Governor of Michigan, on the occasion delivered a brilliant panegyric of the deceased soldier, who, he said, had never lost a battle. Sheridan, he added in effect, had been the soldier of conscience. He believed intensely that rebellion was a crime, and that it ought to be punished. It was this intense earnestness that made his success.

One of the most telling speeches made in support of the candidature of General Harrison has been that delivered the other day at Indianapolis by General George Sheridan. The speaker took Protection for his strong point, and quoted from the annals of the past to show how rigorously England herself had formerly enforced it. She had prohibited and discouraged manufactures in the American colonies, and allotted to these colonies the task only of providing raw material. But the case of Ireland was still more glaring, said the speaker. Her desolate condition, in spite of her rich capabilities and immense natural advantages, was due solely to the iron hand and accursed rule of England which had struck down her growing industries and silenced her looms and spindles. That Irishman who votes for Cleveland, he added, is simply voting approval of the policy