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Current Topics

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

HERE is a case for Lord Salisbury. We do not know how a head would keep were it brought all the way from New Zealand to be set up over Temple Bar. To be sure in former years the tattooed and preserved heads of Maoris were among the curiosities that used to be carried Home from this country, and there is now the refrigerating chamber in the meat-ships, where the freshness of the separated member might be maintained. But the donee head of a respectable Scotch settler is not to be compared to any tattooed curiosity, and the rumour that any such associations were connected with our frozen sheep might injure the sale of New Zealand mutton in London. At any rate heads have been stuck up over Temple Bar or other places of a similar kind for little, if anything, more than an open expression of the sentiments uttered by Mr. James M'Indoe the other day in a letter to the *Daily Times*. If Lord Salisbury had his will, according to his late speech at Edinburgh, Mr. M'Indoe would be sliced short in double quick time. Mr. M'Indoe writes in determined advocacy of Home Rule for Scotland: "Irishmen," says he "to a man sympathise with us; very many Englishmen are also on our side, and by united, persistent effort, we will yet again place Scotland as an independent kingdom, with perhaps a Stuart on the throne, if there be one. No German pensioners for me." If that is not treason as rank as anything that was heard even in '15 or '45 itself, it is hard to say what it is. We should not, however, recommend our Scotch friends to be very anxious about searching for another Stuart king. The race was pretty well exhausted so far as kingly qualities were concerned before they got rid of it, and revivals do not as a rule agree with Royal nature. Queen Victoria, although the Prime Minister has made a kind of Imperial nigger of her Majesty, will serve their turn well enough, and so will her heirs and successors, within due restrictions. Kings and Queens now-a-days have had too many lessons not to know when they are well off, or to try and play any tricks with questions of policy or Government. A German, again, will cost no more as a pensioner than an Englishman or a Scotchman. Indeed, perhaps on the whole *saur-krout* might come cheaper than roast beef and plum pudding, or even than cauld-kail and bannocks. While, therefore, we are in thorough sympathy with Mr. M'Indoe's claims generally, we prefer to remain loyal to Aunt D nah and her posterity—but that, may be, belongs to the Hotentot element to be found in us. There is, however, a new point to be considered in relation to Home Rule for Scotland. We know pretty well how the matter is regarded by Jock, but we have yet to learn how Jenny, taken separately, will consider it.

"She tauld thee weel thou was a skellum,
A blethering, blustering, drunken blellum."

Does this, by chance, describe the attitude of the wife? Lord Salisbury, at least, appears to think so, and calls the "sulky, sullen dame" to his aid. His Lordship's appeal to the women of the country, in fact, appears to be a libel on the condition of the domestic hearth, and a scandal on matrimony. Heads over Temple Bar, and women let loose! How does the sex like the association? Why the honour of womanhood, especially of Scotch womanhood, is at stake. The difficulty, meantime, of transmitting the heads of respectable settlers in such a condition as to be presentable on Temple Bar—secures to Mr. James M'Indoe and all those who are in harmony with him, as he rightly says all Irishmen are, and we may believe most Scotchmen to be, immunity for such utterances as that we have quoted. Their heads cannot go home as Maori curiosities, nor can they be permitted to damage the reputation of our frozen meat. But until Lord Salisbury can lay his hands on them in some way, the cause of Home Rule is safe, and must proceed and prosper.

IT is not every day that we find wit sparkling in the Dunedin police court. As a rule, matters go on there in a very humdrum fashion, and, so far at least as our respectable Resident Magistrate, Mr. Carew, is concerned, the stories of humour on the bench or at the bar are not

likely to receive any very marked or brilliant increase. When his "wash-up," therefore, does emit a stray coruscation it is worthy of record, and all who are within hearing would show themselves dull and insensible, indeed, were they not to follow the example, for instance, of the attendants on the worshipful presence of the famous Mr. Nupkins, and testify heartily to their enjoyment of the *bon-mot*. Of course, that allusion so aptly made the other day by his "wash-up" to the evidence of the informer Delany, as reported here by cable, was a joke, and one whose wit was quite in keeping with its good taste, as any one capable of due appreciation must perceive. What was the subtle point, however, made by the inaccurate quotation of the sum mentioned? "We have heard lately of a man getting 13s 10d for assisting in committing a murder," said his "wash-up," alluding to an argument advanced by counsel in one of the tobacco-smuggling cases tried last week. But the sum, as stated by cable, was 13s 7½d. What, therefore, could Mr. Carew mean by misquoting it? We are very unwilling to lose the point of the joke, even although it may not amount to much—to nothing more, in fact, than a two-penny-halfpenny matter altogether, because things are always valuable in proportion to their rarity, and any utterance made by Mr. Carew deserving of any notice or repetition is a rare thing indeed. We would, therefore, gladly hear that joke analysed, so that the point of it, in all its keenness, may be revealed. But, then, we admit, it is but natural that your Nupkins should occasionally be subtle or obscure. "You hardly know what he's arter, do you?" says Sam Weller. A joke, nevertheless, should be very plain and easy of comprehension, when any doubt as to its being a joke must leave the person speaking open to an accusation of bad taste at the very least. In the present instance bad taste would be a light thing to speak of. A magistrate on the bench referring seriously to a case proceeding in another court, on whose decision great issues depended, and quoting as approved evidence the statement of a man, of whose cross-examination, not to speak of the rebutting evidence yet to be produced, he had heard nothing, would be guilty of a very great breach of decorum, would give a very improper example, and would show himself very unfit for the place occupied by him. Mr. Carew's joke, then, was a very stupid one in itself besides betraying slowness and a faulty memory in a functionary on whose sharpness and exactness of memory a good deal depends. But, since, otherwise, it must be condemned as a great deal worse than a bad joke, let it be accepted as such. When his "wash-up" jokes again, let us hope he may be more fortunate.

WE have received, *via* St. Andrews, two more copies of the *Union*, for which we desire to make all due CONTRADICTION, acknowledgments. These papers contain three paragraphs marked as before in a gory manner. And we may remark in passing that we were not mistaken in alluding to these marks a week or two ago as possibly symbolising a return of the Tories to the days of the headsmen. Lord Salisbury's speech at Edinburgh fully confirms our surmise. One of the paragraphs, under a special heading, in a prominent position, and with the editorial comment, "This is a significant episode, and shows beyond all doubt that the Vatican intends to act vigorously on the recent Rescripts," contains the details of that vision, to put it prettily, vouchsafed to some Unionist seer as to a refusal by the Pope to bless certain religious objects. The details of this vision, when reported here by cable, we rejected as false. On the receipt of the last mail we found that they were discredited by the Irish newspapers. We now find an authoritative denial given as follows to them:—"To the editor of the *Morning and Evening Mail*.—Sir,—My attention was very naturally attracted by the following paragraph, published in the *Dublin Evening Mail* of last Wednesday:—'Rome, Tuesday.—A deep impression has been caused in clerical circles here by the pointed refusal of his Holiness to pronounce a blessing on certain medals and reliquaries tendered him for that purpose by an Irish priest who was presented to him at the Vatican by Monsignor Kirby, rector of the Irish College. The Pope inquired whether these objects were for distribution in Ireland alone, and, upon being assured that they were, he said sternly, 'Then I cannot bless them. The people of Ireland are disobedient, and seem to prefer the gospel of Dillon and O'Brien to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.' I lost no time in sending a copy of the paragraph to the venerable prelate whom it so distinctly names. I have to-day

received from his Grace the following emphatic telegram in contradiction of the story:—"Enclosure false; impudent fabrication." I know that you will make no difficulty in publishing this contradiction. —I remain, dear sir, faithfully yours, ✕ WILLIAM J. WALSH, Archbishop of Dublin. 4 Rutland square, East. 17th December, 1888.

ANOTHER WHOPPER.

A SECOND paragraph contains the details of another vision. It runs as follows:—"An English dignitary, well-known in Rome, in a letter to a Catholic priest says:—

'I am told that the Pope gave Mgr. Kirby (Rector of the Irish College) a good 'wiggling' a few days ago, when he took some of his students for an audience. The Pope told them that his Irish children, for whom he had done so much, were the only ones who had given him pain during his jubilee year. I hear that his Holiness will stand no nonsense about the Rescript, and that the tardy submission of the Irish bishops has by no means enhanced the episcopate in the eyes of Roman pontiff. . . . This vision, so far as we know, has as yet received no authoritative contradiction, but the seer who saw it was inspired similarly to him who saw the other—perhaps, indeed, one and the same seer saw both. Let us hope the well-known English dignitary who repeats the tale was not himself a mental eye-witness. Otherwise a "wiggling" in his own case would not be uncalled for, and, on the principle of spare the rod and spoil the child, it is to be desired that he may obtain it.

THE third paragraph contains a quotation from SORELY PUT TO IT. "Ireland under Coercion," a work already referred to by us, written in order by a brilliant specimen of the cute Yankee named Hurlbert, and whose worth is to be estimated by that of the writer, as he is known to fame in his own country. The passage runs thus:—"But it was reserved for the nineteenth century to witness the strange spectacle of men, calling themselves Irishmen and Catholics, deliberately slandering and assailing in concord with a non-Catholic political leader the consecrated pastors and masters of the Church in Ireland. When, in order to explain what they themselves concede to be 'the absence from the popular ranks of the best of the priesthood,' Nationalist writers find it necessary to denounce Cardinal Cullen and Cardinal McCabe as 'anti-Irish,' and to sneer at men like Dr. Healy as 'Castle Bishops,' it is impossible not to be reminded of the three 'patriotic tailors of Tooley Street.'" Mr. Hurlbert, as we have learned from the American papers, is reminded of whatever it suits his purpose to be reminded of, and his fancies are quite on a par with his facts. The fun of the whole thing is, however, to find an Orange newspaper like the *Union* thrown back for support on the Pope and the "consecrated pastors and masters of the Church in Ireland." Even if it were the genuine Pope and genuine Catholic Bishops, the position would be ludicrous. But this appeal to a bogus and exaggerated Pope and Bishops is the very culmination of absurdity. It shows us plainly the straits to which the Unionists are reduced.

THE following passages from the Roman correspondence of the *Nation* of December 29, contain a full refutation of all such scandalous gossip as that which we have quoted from the *Union*. It is to be hoped it has been read with repentance and profit at St. Andrews and other places of a like kind, where repentance and amendment are badly needed.—"The most venerable Rector of the Irish College, the Most Rev. Monsignor Kirby, has had during the past week two private audiences with the Holy Father, during one of which he drew the Pontiff's attention to the false, and, indeed, cruel telegrams sent to the English papers. He was authorised to give a distinct denial to these stupid lies. Indeed, I am informed that the Pope was very much pained when he heard of them, especially the one in which it was said that his Holiness refused to bless some beads for an Irish priest. However the secret has come out: It is all a case of money, and unless news could be invented detrimental to Ireland the money was not forthcoming. The correspondent of one noted journal, I know as a fact, received a sharp note to the effect that the paper he was writing for was not Irish, and was told that unless he could send other news he need not send any. I believe that it is the intention of the Rector to have the beautiful group of statuary presented by his Holiness placed in the second corridor of the college, at the head of the stairs, and near the passage leading to the room looking into the church. The gift has come at an opportune time, and will serve to remind us not to put faith in those who, for their own ends, would try to weaken our trust and love for the Holy Pontiff. The new Vicar of St. Peter's, Monsignor Persico, is having an apartment fitted up for him in the Palace of Sta Martha, behind the Basilica. He will go into residence about the beginning of the year. The Reuter's telegram which appeared in all the papers last Monday, in regard to his supposed report on Ireland, as well as the one I mentioned above, has called forth the following strong denial, which appeared in large type in the *Osservatore Romano*. It reads thus:—"In several English and Irish papers there has recently been published a telegram, said to have come from Rome, according to which the Holy Father had

refused to bless some medals and other religious objects presented to him for that purpose by an Irish priest, and destined to be distributed in Ireland. We are authorised to oppose to such notice the most formal denial, and in doing so we invite once more the Catholics of every nation not to put faith in the correspondence or telegrams of those journals which permit themselves to endeavour to cast a doubt on the benevolent feelings that the Holy Father entertains for all his children, both near and far off; because these doubts and suspicions, besides being devoid of foundation, are injurious to the august personality of the Pontiff.' This is, perhaps, the strongest denial we have yet had from the *Osservatore*. The question is, will these denials stop the lies?"

IMMODEST WOMEN.

WE are thorough believers in the rights of women within due bounds, and have no sympathy with prudery of any kind. In relation, however, to the case which has occasioned so much comment in the Dunedin Press during the past week, and in which a respectable lad has been accused of indecent conduct at the St. Clair baths, we differ from the policemen engaged in the matter, and look upon their gallantry and devotion to the fair sex as completely out of place. It is of course a great privilege attending on the duties of the guardians of the peace to watch over the interests of the sex, and nothing should be dearer to the heart of the gallant constable than the union thus brought about of his baton with the sword of chivalry. But there are quite opportunities enough for the knight of the truncheon and rattle to exercise this privilege without his going in search of some that seem to lie a little out of his way. If women, then—we do not say ladies, because the word lady applies properly only to the woman of refinement and modesty, who, under no circumstances, would be found in such a position—if women thrust themselves in needlessly where men are bathing, whether half-clad or wholly naked, they deserve to be as much shocked as they are capable of being, and that we will venture to say is not much. In short, the proper office for the police, under the circumstances, would seem to be that of keeping watch in the neighbourhood and warning such women off, if they saw a disposition on their part to approach too near. This is what public decency would seem to demand, and, otherwise, it can be preserved by no bathing costume that men can be required to wear. There is, in fact, no excuse whatever for women approaching the baths at St. Clair while men are bathing there. The path that passes behind the baths is a kind of *cul de sac*, and leads nowhere in particular. There is, besides, on the other side a broad expanse of beach—to which it is no hardship to demand that women should confine themselves for the necessary time. No shadow of excuse, therefore, can be found for their inmodest intrusion. As to the particular case referred to, it was dismissed by the magistrates, and very properly so. The lad accused had evidently done nothing that even prudence itself could interpret as tending towards indecent conduct. He was simply made a victim to shamelessness—owing to the punctilious devotion of a police sergeant to women that deserved no such consideration.

THE POPE AND IRELAND.

IF any further contradiction were needed of such stuff as that we have quoted from the *Union*, it is to be found in the following cablegram to the American press:—"Archbishop Walsh read from his pulpit on New Year's Day a very affectionate message from the Pope to the Irish people, in which his Holiness said: 'We have always held in special affection the Catholics of Ireland, who have been long sorely tried by many afflictions, and have ever cherished them with a love which is more intense because of their marvellous fortitude and their hereditary attachment to their religion. In the counsels we have given from time to time, and in our recent decree, we were moved not only by the consideration of what is conformable to the truth, but also by the desire to advance your interests. Our affection for you does not suffer us to allow the cause for which Ireland is struggling to be weakened by the introduction of anything which could fairly be brought in reproach against it. In order to specially manifest our affection, we send you a number of gifts which are specially blessed.' The Pope also sent a valuable present to each of the Irish cathedrals." Our readers have also learned from the passage taken by us from the Roman correspondence of the *Nation*, that his Holiness has manifested his esteem for Mgr. Kirby by giving as well a magnificent present to the Irish College at Rome. We are sent the *Union*, therefore, from St. Andrews, only that we may see how barefaced it is in the publication of falsehoods.

AN UNFOR- TUNATE LADY.

WE are sorry, (says the *Pilot*) to see the once-respected name of "The Nun of Kenmare" on a book that has been placed side-by-side with Fulton's filthy volume in the window of the Boston apothecary who advertises such obscene and anti-Catholic productions. But the "Nun of Kenmare's" book is not obscene. It is only stupid (unexpectedly so), petulant, and, on the whole, utterly absurd. It consists of over 500 pages, mainly devoted to "exposing" the endless dark conspiracies and plottings of scores of Irish bishops, priests, and sisters, against the unhappy "Nun of Kenmare." They were all

"down" on her; they drove her out of Ireland, and out of England and in America they influenced all our archbishops, bishops, priests and sisters to have nothing to do with her. And so she was left alone; and she had to publish this book. The reader learns from its every page what she does not know she has written—that the poor lady had made herself intolerable everywhere and to every one; that she was vain and insubordinate; and that she does not yet appreciate the fact that her book is only a peevish retaliation for necessary reproof. She wanted to be a law and an order to herself, and she was not allowed; that is all. A few years ago, she was a respected Sister in her convent in Ireland. That was the time for her to have written a letter to the Pope, as she does here, detailing the reforms necessary in church discipline in Ireland. It comes too late when it follows her own insubordination and desertion. She has said and done many kind and good things for Ireland and for poor Irish girls; and we refrain from using harsher words about her book than that it is 550 pages of feverish, egotistic, petty and tedious twaddle.

Colonial Notes.

The formal opening of St. Patrick's Seminary at Manly, near Sydney, took place on Wednesday, January 23rd. His Eminence Cardinal Moran presided, and there were present also the Bishops of Maitland, Goulburn, Bathurst, Armidale, Auckland, and Grafton, and a large assembly of the clergy, including members of the Orders of the Jesuits, Marists, Passionists, Redemptorists, Vincentians, Franciscans, Dominicans, and Missionaries of the Sacred Heart. There was also by special invitation of his Eminence, a numerous attendance of the laity. The building was first blessed by the Cardinal, who afterwards gave Benediction of the Most Holy Sacrament in the chapel. "With reference to the altar in the chastely furnished chapel," says the *Freeman's Journal*, "it may be mentioned that it was one of the most attractive exhibits in the late exhibition held at the Vatican to celebrate the Holy Father's Golden Jubilee. The altar, which is composed of the choice marbles of the Pyrenees beautifully blended in an elegant design, was, we understand, not only much admired, but much coveted during the Exhibition, and when it was known that the Holy Father would probably include it in his magnificent distribution of gifts to the churches and colleges of the Catholic world there were, we believe, numerous applications from all quarters for this particular altar. His Holiness, however, had, it appears, decided that the altar should go to Australia as a mark of his affection and admiration, and this decision he communicated to Cardinal Moran while his Eminence was in Rome. The money value of the altar is set down at £1,000, but the circumstances of the gift invest it with a value and an interest of a much higher order, for it is the first direct personal gift of the kind from the Sovereign Pontiff to the Church in Australia." In the afternoon the guests assembled in the principal hall of the building, where his Eminence declared the seminary open, and the Very Rev. Father O'Farrell, C.S.S.R., delivered an eloquent address, with which the ceremonies terminated.

The *Nie Calédonien* claims the beatification of the Blessed Chanel as a French glory. It is under this title, says our contemporary, that we would speak of the beatification of the Rev. Father Pierre Louis Marie Chanel, one of our fellow-countrymen, the apostle of an island which is French to-day, the martyr of his faith, and, because of his virtues as a man, a Christian, and a priest, because of his devotion reaching even to heroism, henceforth set apart for the admiration and imitation of the whole world. The name of the Blessed Chanel is a French glory; it is also a Caledonian glory, since Fatuna is one of the dependencies of this colony. His triumph is, again, for us what we shall call a domestic joy; since this apostle so justly and highly honoured is the brother of the apostles of this country and their joys are ours also.

The Bishop of Maitland left Sydney on January 3 by the *Mariposa* for San Francisco en route for Europe. A chief object of his Lordship's visit is to make a suitable provision of religious teachers for the boys' schools of his diocese. Previous to his departure from West Maitland the Bishop was the recipient of affectionate farewell addresses from his clergy and people. "On Tuesday," says the *Freeman's Journal* of January 26, "Dr. Murray came to Sydney, and on the following day he was a prominent figure at the opening of St. Patrick's Ecclesiastical Seminary. At the banquet which followed the blessing of the College, the Cardinal-Archbishop, in informing the company that Dr. Murray would be leaving by the mail boat for San Francisco during the afternoon, took advantage of the occasion to refer to his Lordship's departure in very feeling language. His Eminence spoke of the Bishop of Maitland as the oldest and most revered friend he had in Australia, and while he was happy to say his Lordship was not going away on account of failing health, but on important business, he (the Cardinal) expressed the hope that Dr. Murray would return with renewed energy and increased strength to continue the labours in his flourishing diocese which he had so successfully carried on for the past 22 years. All the other bishops present alluded in graceful terms to the Bishop of Maitland; and Sir Patrick Jennings, speaking on behalf of the laity, said that no bishop in the colony had made himself more beloved than Dr. Murray, adding that he did not think any ship leaving Sydney could be more heavily freighted with blessings than the *Mariposa* that afternoon."

The annual meeting of the Sydney branch of the Irish National League was held on Tuesday January 22nd. The President's report gave a favourable return of the year's proceedings. A sum of £1100 had been remitted to Dublin, and a further sum of £666 15s 11d, to be

remitted in due time, remained in the hands of the treasurers. In addressing the meeting, the President dwelt particularly on the necessity of making the approaching visit of the Irish delegates a success—particularly from a financial point of view. Mr. J. B. Freshhill was re-elected president. Messrs William Walsh, J. G. O'Connor, and Charles O'Neill were elected vice-presidents, and Mr. James Ward secretary.

The necessity for the old precept "Man know thyself" was never more strikingly illustrated than by Sir Henry Parkes in the course of a speech recently made by him. The speaker contradicted the current belief that he was an autocrat and tyrant, and, on the contrary, claimed credit for extreme gentleness of disposition—the distinguishing and creative characteristic of the gentleman. "What I mean by gentleness," said he, "is a tender regard for those who are weaker than yourself which I have shown in hundreds and thousands of instances, as those who know me best know; a compassionate consideration for those who are suffering, and a combination of these qualities with a sense of public justice." It would, indeed, need an intimate acquaintance with Sir Henry Parkes to know anything of the kind. In fact a minute examination of him with a powerful microscope could only reveal the very rudiments of such a disposition in him—if even such exist. If self-knowledge be necessary to repentance, Sir Henry's case is plainly hopeless.

Two miners, named respectively Pearce and McEvoy, who were working an old claim at Jones's Creek, near Dunolly, came the other day on a compact solid nugget of 99oz 2dwt. The find was made in a small corner of a dividing wall in the middle of ground that had been well worked. It came as a welcome surprise, as the men were on the point of leaving off in despair, and turning their hands to something else.

Scotch Notes.

LORD SALISBURY'S forlorn hope of aid from the women of the kingdom in maintaining the existing condition of things, if not of succeeding in measures that are positively retrogressive, has been rapidly adopted by the Unionist party generally. At Kelso, for example, Mr. Seton Karr, M.P., enlarged on this theme at a meeting of the Primrose League, held there the other day in the Corn Exchange. This hopeful party, however, appear to forget how ardent women have always been in the cause of beneficial reforms, and it should be the object of the sex now to show them that they are conservative only in what is good and just. If Lord Salisbury and his party, relying on the noise made here and there by a handful of fine ladies in connection with the Primrose League, introduce and carry a Bill to confer the franchise on women, they may find to their cost that they have made a mistake. There will be a new application of Edmund Burke's famous simile of the oxen and the grasshoppers when the influence of the women of the masses is openly manifested. If they have kept silence while the Primrose dames have been chattering they have still been something more than nonentities.

A great deal of interest attaches to the approaching election for the Govan division of Glasgow. The constituency is looked upon as a Conservative stronghold, and a Gladstonian victory there would be an event of great importance. The Conservatives, it is believed, will put forward as their candidate Sir John Pender. The Gladstonian candidate is Mr. Wilson, who has already taken his stand boldly on the Home Rule platform, and declared himself determined to advocate justice for Ireland. He is actively supported by Mr. Campbell Bannerman who, for a short time, was Chief Secretary under the Gladstone Government. This gentleman, in a speech recently made by him, called on the electors to restore the light of Liberalism in Govan, and show themselves worthy of those principles of freedom and the spirit of nationality which were the common heritage of Scotchmen.

An organ contest is at present being conducted in a rather lively manner at the West Free Church, Broughty Ferry. There is a majority in favour of the introduction of the instrument. A strong minority, however, resists. As a sample of the arguments used, the following written on a voting-paper by a protesting member is worth recording:—"The West Free Church being a well sung church, there is not the slightest excuse for getting the help of a machine to do the praise of God for the congregation. The deacons may as well propose a speaking machine to be put on the pulpit to do the praying and preaching. Possibly they may consider the present services too vulgar and unattractive. So why not also go in for a little millinery and ask the choir to dress in their bed-gowns, as some genteel churches do. However, all this tomfoolery would not be plain and simple worship of their fathers, but possibly some of the present generation are wiser than those gone before."

The Lord Advocate, replying to Dr. Clark in the House of Commons, has put an end to all hopes of compensation on the part of Hugh Matheson of Clashmore. The argument used was rather a curious one. It was to the effect that, although Matheson had been arrested and punished in mistake for a man named M'Leod, several men had been engaged in the riot, and Matheson was very like M'Leod. There were no adequate grounds, therefore, for admitting that a miscarriage of justice had taken place. As to the 13 jurymen who had expressed their opinion that the man had been unjustly punished, they were not specially qualified to pronounce on the matter.

Service at St. Giles' cathedral, Edinburgh, the other Sunday was interrupted by a would-be confessor who cried aloud, "Prince Albert

D. I. C.

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Victor is my king, and John the Baptist is my lord and saviour, Amen." The particular twist in the brain that gives prominence to a prince not remarkable for much, and apparently needing a good deal of licking into shape before he is fit to play the king in any decent way, is remarkable. There are not wanting people who think that it is in unreal realms only His Royal Highness is ever destined to reign. At any rate, as things are, there is very little interest attached to him, and nobody seems to consider him in relation to the future. This madman was a rare exception to a general rule.

Sheep-farming has been of late far from prosperous in Scotland. Owing to higher prices for lambs and draught ewes this year, it was believed that an improvement would be evident. It is stated, however, that, on the other hand, a decrease in the number of lambs, as well as in the price of wool, counteracts the benefits thus obtained, and leaves much still to be desired.

A windfall coming to a gipsy tribe, owing to the industry of a former member, is an event not often chronicled in the history of the strange and doubtful people referred to. It is said that the family of a late queen, known as Esther Faa, or Blythe, and frequenting the neighbourhood of Kelso, has, nevertheless, been so favoured. They are the heirs, if rumour speaks the truth, of a man who, being banished for some breach of tribal law, went to California, where he first traded as a pack-pedlar, and afterwards became the owner of land in which rich mines were discovered. The property has been left by will to the poorer members of the family, of whom there are said to be some 36.

The Crofters' Commission, sitting in the Lochinver district, has elicited evidence which shows that on some of the Duke of Sutherland's estates arrears were small because work had been provided for the tenants at 2s a day, of which half went to pay arrears due. It was shown that in several instances rents had been paid out of money sent home by friends in America, Africa, New Zealand, and other countries. Houses had been sometimes thus erected at a cost of £100. Tenants had been evicted without compensation, fined for getting married, and in several other ways ill-used and plundered. On Lady Matheson's estate in Lewis an average reduction of 36 per cent. has been given in rents, and one of over 80 per cent. in arrears.

CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own Correspondent.)

As I anticipated in my last letter, Dr. Grimes has not had very long to wait to find out exactly what the "old English sense of justice" is worth. Before the words had well passed his lips, I felt pretty sure that the experience which has come would come. All the slumbering bigotry and intolerance which are so deeply rooted in the English mind, notwithstanding the boasted love of fair play, is coming to the surface now. That the Catholics of Christchurch should have had the audacity to get up a bazaar on such a large scale as the Festival appears to have set bigotry rampant in the city. The success which attended the labours of the committee upon the opening night appears to have caused no end of jealousy. Jealousy and bigotry combined have made a big effort to kill the Festival. That the combination has not been successful I am glad to say. The committee, with an amount of courage which does them infinite credit, secured the services of the Swiss Singers for the week, and each night the concerts have drawn large audiences, and good business has been done at the stalls. Not content with writing letters in the papers, and in various other ways trying to stir up ill-feeling against the Festival, these epeneic bigots resorted to the contemptible expedient of getting a number of tracts printed and distributed about the city. These leaflets purported to give a list of Catholic societies, their objects, and the oaths taken by their members. Among these "Catholic societies" was mentioned every revolutionary society which had ever existed in Ireland. It is needless to say that the oaths, etc., were purely imaginary. At all events, even supposing they were real, they had nothing whatever to do with the Catholic Church, which has always condemned secret societies.

From the manner in which a certain society is lauded up in this tractlet, and from the fact that there was a special meeting, "upon important business" a few nights ago, of the Loyal Orange Lodge, I fancy that it is not difficult to guess whence this last and meanest effort to damage the Shakespeare Festival emanated.

The committee had incurred heavy liabilities in getting up the bazaar in a novel style and on a magnificent scale. Hence, no doubt, it was deemed that it would be a fine thing if the whole affair could be made to "freeze" sufficiently to leave the committee in for expenses as well as to disappoint the nuns. Thanks, however, to the enterprise of the manager and the committee, these benevolent designs have been completely frustrated. The Swiss Singers drew large crowds, and the crowds once in the hall spent money, so that the Festival has been a pronounced success.

It has been not only a success from a pecuniary point but in other ways. It has raised the Catholics even in their own estimation. They know now that when they do make a combined effort they can achieve a success which not only equals but far eclipses any similar attempt on the part of their neighbours. It has also taught outsiders to understand that the Catholics of Christchurch are not a mere insignificant handful of people, without organising capacity and incapable of resource. In addition to these considerations, it is whispered that during the Festival several of our young people have "met their fates," as the novelists say, and *on dit* that the nightly processions at the rink will soon be paraphrased by an almost equally lengthy procession to the "Hymenal altar," to again quote from fiction. Therefore, taking all these things into consideration, I think that the Festival committee are to be congratulated upon having accomplished a vast amount of good outside of lessening the debt upon the convent.

I fancy one reason why the Festival has produced such a crop of bigotry in Christchurch is that certain of the Anglican clergymen

have been writhing under the lately expressed opinion at Home that colonial Anglican clergy were only a lot of milksoops who were incapable of obstructing the Church of Rome in her triumphant march of progress in the colonies. They felt that on the occasion of the Festival, which was a piece of assertiveness on the part of the "Church of Rome," that something ought to be done to put a spoke in her wheel. "Something" has been done, but the effect produced will not be sufficient, I fear, to reverse the judgment passed upon their colonial rev. brethren by their Lordships at Home.

The Festival people, in engaging the Swiss Singers for the week, have given the public of Christchurch an opportunity of enjoying very cheaply one of the most charming musical entertainments which has been given here for a number of years. The strange instruments upon which they play; the quaint, picturesque costumes which they wear; the interesting appearance of the Seebold family; and the excellence of their musical attainments, all combine to produce an impression upon their patrons which I have seldom seen equalled. The audiences at the Rink have been most enthusiastic, and night after night the singers have been enthusiastically applauded. The national songs, in which the jodelling is introduced, have been greatly appreciated. There is something so indescribably startling about the jodelling that an odd sensation is produced. The company play upon a great many instruments. Madame Seebold is an accomplished performer upon the harp. Her husband, Professor Seebold, plays the cello-zither, which is an instrument of his own invention. It is made like the violoncello, but is fingered like the zither. The Misses Seebold play the zither, the xilophone, the mandoline, and other instruments. The mandoline gives forth beneath their touch very soft, sweet strains. The xilophone is a most peculiar instrument. It is made of pieces of wood, and is played upon with little sticks, which the young ladies manipulate with wonderful lightness and rapidity. The glockenspiel is another of their instruments, and has the sound of very sweet bells. It is made of steel.

The descriptive pieces were exquisite performances. In the last part of the "Guomes' March" you could distinctly hear the dying-away patter of the feet of the retreating dwarfs. Of these descriptive pieces, I liked "The Forge in the Forest" best. This composition represents a smithy in the forest. By the wonderful power of music, the various scenes intervening between night and the hour at which the smiths begin to work, and the ring of the anvil is heard, were given with marvellous fidelity. Somehow the imitation of the rhythmical sounds in the forge, brought vividly to my mind George Eliot's beautiful poem, and one could realise how the son of Lamoch was inspired to invent the first musical instrument by listening to the sound of his brother's anvil. The various instrument on the stage, and the strains evoked from them, some soft as "whispering raindrops," others like the roll of thunder, caused one to understand what must have been the wonder of Jubal, when he returned from exile, at all that had grown out of his invention. While "The Forge in the Forest" is being played, it is not the Swiss Singers which one sees, but the whole "Legend of Jubal."

Madame Seebold, besides playing the harp, is an excellent vocalist. Her voice is powerful. She sings "Come back to Erin," admirably. Another lady of the company sings with much *verve* and dash, but her voice is a little shrill.

The genius of the Seebold family is Mr. Adam Seebold who plays thirteen instruments. He plays the mandoline in a manner which would make an Italian lover die with envy. He is an equally successful performer upon the drum, the zither, the ocarina, the guitar, the glockenspiel, and various other instruments. He is a good singer, and in addition to all his musical accomplishments, he is a very handsome man. If the musical talent of his brother is not quite so versatile as his, the two of them are nearly as well off in regard to good looks. Indeed in this respect nature has been no niggard to any of the family, which comprises six brothers, three sisters, and Madame Seebold, the wife of the eldest brother. As the six Seebold brothers stand upon the stage, they are as fine-looking a lot of young men as one could see. The three sisters are pretty, graceful, shy-looking girls, who look very charming in their Swiss dress, particularly in that of the seventeenth century, which they sometimes wear instead of the modern Tyrolese costume.

The Singers appear in Dunedin in a week or so, and lovers of quaint and delightful music should not fail to hear them.

Now, turning from gay to grave, I have a piece of news to give to the readers of the TABLET which will cause to them, I feel assured, profound regret. This regret, however, will not be unmingled with pleasure when they know the whole circumstances to which I allude. In a word, then, Father Kickham is going away. He is leaving New Zealand for the purpose of joining the Jesuits. His friends will rejoice that he has received a call to join an association which comprises the ablest and best-trying men in the Church. Still, mixed with the feeling of satisfaction which must rise in the heart of a Catholic at seeing a priest advance in spirituality, there will be much natural regret on the part of Irish Catholics in New Zealand at losing a priest so well and widely loved as Father Kickham. There is in the Colony no better specimen of the thorough, frank, manly, high-spirited and high principled Irish priest than he whom we are about to lose. As a good priest and an ardent patriot, he is as profoundly respected as he is deeply loved. The departure of Father Kickham is a loss to the Irish cause in New Zealand. He has been an outspoken friend of his country. As I have said, the pleasure of his friends at his promotion will be real, but their sorrow at bidding him farewell will be very real too. Genuine prayers will go with him from all who have known him that God will bless and prosper him in the life before him. I believe Father Kickham will leave in about six weeks or two months.

The Right Rev. Dr. Luck, of Auckland, is on a visit to Christchurch at present. His Lordship patronised the Festival on Wednesday night, and expressed himself as much pleased with all he saw there. Dr. Luck remains in Christchurch till Tuesday next.

Prior Bergh, the Provincial of the Benedictine Order, also arrived from the north last week. The Prior left for Europe by the Tainui, Father Donnelly, of Oamaru, was in Christchurch last week.

[CIRCULAR.]

IN continuing the responsibility of a Dental Practice, I have adopted the modern system of doing business, adding the latest appliances, and carefully making myself and assistants perfect in our several branches.

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To those to whom I have not had the pleasure of attending in the past or latterly, I can only add that I shall be very pleased to see them, and will do my best to prove my worthiness of their support and confidence.

I venture to think that, in the interests of patients generally, I am not out of place in calling attention to the fact that for the last 26 years I have bestowed my attention to the climatic, artistic, and general requirements of a Dental Practice in this Colony.

In conclusion, I can only repeat my earnest desire to carry out consistently and honestly the sentiment of good faith, which has been my rule in past years.—Yours faithfully,

JOHN P. ARMSTRONG, Dentist.

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- „ J. M. Grace, Auckland.
- „ J. Fitzgerald, Masterton.
- „ James Gill, Darfield.
- „ J. Garguilo, Kumara.

At Shand's Track and Leeston collections are being made for the Parnell Defence Fund.

There is to be a banquet and ball on St. Patrick's night at Lyttelton.

The evidence of the informer Lecaron before the Commission goes to prove that the statements so often made by the Nationalists that it was the agents of England, and not the agents of the Land League, who inspired crime and outrages in Ireland was perfectly true. Like his miserable prototype, Armstrong, who betrayed John and Henry Sheares nearly a hundred years ago, this most mean and contemptible of the *Times*' witnesses has confessed that he himself organised the rebellion in Manitoba. He was a spy and informer then as now, and was no doubt in the pay of the Government at the time that he wormed himself into the confidence of the American Brotherhood for the purpose of inciting them to crime and betraying them. Nationalists may well wish the *Times* joy of such a witness. Major Lecaron's evidence will damage the case of the *Times* as much as its worst enemy could wish it to be damaged. As the enquiry drags its slow length along it becomes clearer every day that the enquiry will be a complete vindication of Parnell and of the National League.

Sir Robert Stout in a letter to the *Lyttelton Times*, the other day, plaintively said that he would leave some matter which was in dispute between himself and the Press for the future historian to decide. Sir Robert's bump of self-esteem is as big as ever. Imagine the "future historian" burdening his pages with the small newspaper squabbles of Sir Robert Stout. History is a pretty big thing, but I do not think that it is big enough for Sir Robert's petty controversies to find a place in it. He had better thrash out his own quarrels now than leave it to the "future historian" to do. The "future historian" may be otherwise engaged.

The extension of the Brother's school is progressing and will be completed in March.

Dr. Luck visited the Magdalen Asylum and was greatly pleased with the institution.

Reports in Saturday night's papers show that the "Loyal" Orange Lodges of Canterbury are up in arms. They have put on all their war-paint to the last spoonful, and very ridiculous and un-Christian spectacles they have made of themselves. It is somewhat ludicrous to hear a society ranting about brotherly love, and at the same time giving evidence which no one can doubt, that they are the most rancorous organisation in existence. As they profess to study the Scriptures so closely, it is a pity that they do not derive a little of the largeness of heart there prescribed for Christians from their study. They are going to move heaven and earth in Canterbury to pull the "Church of Rome" about the ears of the Pope. Catholics hear their ravings and laugh at them.

MAHARAJAH DHULEEP SINGH.

The *Paris Voltaire* prints an interview with the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh, pretender to the throne of the Indian Empire. His Majesty has recently arrived in Paris and occupies apartments in the Champs Elysees. He is described as a very bright and intelligent man about 50 years of age, with flashing black eyes, and short and thick set in build. He proposes to take the Indian Empire from the Queen of England, and to place its crown upon his own head. The *Voltaire* seems to think that he will yet give considerable trouble to the British Government.

"You wish to speak to me in your journal," said His Majesty. "Very well; but in the English papers they have already published all sorts of fantastic and ridiculous stories about me. However, that is of no consequence, for I care nothing about what they say of me. But I wish to assert that I am strong in the justice of my cause, and that I seek the aid of nobody. My father was the King of Punjab, the ruler of 22,000,000 of subjects, and the time is not far distant when I shall be proclaimed King of 250,000,000 of my compatriots. I am the son of one of my father's 46 wives, not the eldest son, for he was accidentally killed on the day of his father's funeral. A portion of the grating in the palace fell upon him and crushed his skull. In consequence of this accident there was general confusion in the family. My brothers were exterminated and I was proclaimed King of Punjab at the age of five years, my mother being placed at the head of the Regency Council. In my country my mother was considered a supernatural woman. When the insurrection broke out the English forced my mother to remain neutral by making me their prisoner. 'If I gave the signal of revolt to the Sikhs,' said she, 'the English would kill my son. Therefore I can do nothing for you. Submit to the English and abide your time. The day of deliverance will come for the Sikhs, as well as for all the other people of India. My son will do for you what I cannot hope to do.' Well, the English Government took me under its care and promised me an income of a million francs a year, when I had by right in my kingdom in personal property, outside of what I possessed as Chief of State, and in mines and lands, a revenue of ten millions."

"And up to what age have you exercised the power of King of Punjab?"

"Twelve years."

"That must have been quite a different sort of life from that which you have had since."

"Ah, you may say so! The climate, the vegetation, and, above all, the mode of living in the West, are very different indeed from what we have in the East."

"Speaking of customs, would it be indiscreet to ask you how many wives you have?"

"I have only two at present, but I can take as many as I want: for since my quarrel with the English Government I have renounced Christianity and gone back to the religion of my fathers. That displeased the royal family of England, as you may easily suppose, for I was the companion of the Prince of Wales, who came to hunt every year upon my property in England. But I have very good friends in

Russia, which country I intend to make my adopted land while awaiting events?"

"What events?"

"A European war, naturally. In the coming struggle it is probable that England will have one nation at least against her, and I don't need any more. Then I will immediately give the signal to my partisans, and all India will rise against the British Empire.-- We are well prepared already, but we don't propose to begin until the attention of England is called elsewhere."

"And may I ask you to what we owe the honour of your presence in Paris?"

"I could not very well tell you that. I came to remain a few days, but I am so well pleased that I don't intend to leave until after I have seen the Exposition."

"Do you see much company in Paris?"

"As little as possible, for I am in a false position. I should have a passport, but since I have broken with England I have no papers to show. On arriving in Paris I considered it my duty to write to M. Carnot, asking him to take me under his protection, but he has not answered my letter. In fact, that is about the only thing that troubles me. I am a king without a kingdom, and without nationality. That is a difficulty that one does not get rid of by smoking a cigarette and caressing the dog that you see here. For the present I am somewhat like him, the friend of everybody that pats my back, but I seek the friendship of nobody."

IRISH NATIONAL LEAGUE.

The members of the Wellington branch Irish National League are to be congratulated on the success of their endeavours to promote harmony and good feeling among its members, and on the means they have adopted to put before the general public the ends they have in view. On Monday, the 4th inst, at 8 p.m., the large hall of the Brothers' school in Boulcott street, was filled to overflowing with "fair women and brave men" to take part in the usual monthly entertainment meeting of the branch. After the subscriptions for the evening had been handed in and new members proposed, Mr. Healy (Vice-President), Chairman, announced that the sub-committee appointed to report on the desirability of holding a banquet on Patrick's Day, had, for patriotic motives, decided to abandon the idea of a banquet, and instead, with the help and co-operation of the branch, to hold a concert instead, and forward the proceeds to the Parnell Defence Fund. The announcement was received with applause. The following programme was then rendered:—Song, "God Save Ireland," Mr. Fleming; recitation, "Dream of Eugene Aram," Master Scallion; song, "In Happy Moments," Miss Price; recitation, "Orange and Green," Mr. Walsh; song, "The Anchor's Weighed," Mr. E. Dunne; piano-forte solo, "Irish Airs," Master Kearsley; ballad, "Molly Asthore," Miss McCarthy (encore, "Yesterday"); comic reading, Mr. B. Dugan; song, "Kathleen Mavourneen," Miss McDonald; song, "The Kerry Dance," Miss O'Driscoll (encore, "Bid me Good-Bye"). Miss O'Driscoll presided at the piano in her usual graceful and finished style, and her singing of Molloy's ever-popular song was the gem of the evening.

Mr. J. Driscoll delivered a short address on the necessity for co-operation in the present crisis.

Mr. D. O'Sullivan (past secretary), proposed a vote of thanks to the performers, and in doing so suggested that a ladies' committee should be inaugurated in connection with the branch.

Mr. O'Dea seconded the vote of thanks in an able and eloquent speech. Votes of thanks to Brother Mark for the use of the hall, and to the Chairman, brought this most successful meeting to a close.

LYTTELTON.

(From an occasional Correspondent.)

February 4, 1889.

A GENERAL meeting was held this evening for the purpose of celebrating St. Patrick's Day with a banquet and ball. A lively interest was taken in the matter, and it is going to be a great success, judging from the patronage the committee expect to meet with. The working committee of this evening number ten, of which Mr. Monaghan was elected chairman, and Mr. Harrington secretary. It was proposed by Mr. Pope, and seconded by Mr. O'Sullivan, that there be a strong and influential committee appointed, and on the strength of that proposition there were fourteen more names added, which makes the committee number 24 in all. With the assistance of our good and noble parish priest, Father Kickham, this will be a creditable affair. Father Kickham's national feeling upon such subjects as this needs no comment, as he is a thorough Irishman in all respects.

A prominent member of the Carlow Hunt was brought to his senses not long since for striking a farmer when in pursuit of Reynard; Mr. Balfour's own brother found the other day in an English court that he could not ride roughshod, as the phrase has it, over a tiller of the soil in England, when that sprig of the Scotch nobility was also engaged in the chase; and now from Kildare comes the story of a brutal assault upon Mr. Edward O'Neill, of Kilkineane, by a follower of the hounds. Mr. O'Neill tried to stop the hunt over his lands. He asked one man wearing a red coat and a tall hat his name. The man replied, "Go be damned!" Mr. O'Neill caught the horse by the reins, when the rider immediately hit him on the right eye with the butt-end of his whip. Mr. O'Neill was knocked senseless. He lay unconscious on the ground for some time. When he recovered he went out on the road, and asked some members of the hunt for the name of the man who had assaulted him. They one and all refused to give it. Some time has elapsed since this outrage took place, but we do not read of any effort of the police to bring the ruffian who struck Mr. O'Neill to justice. Had the case been the reverse, O'Neill would, no doubt, by this time be in the county prison.

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Dublin Notes.

(From the National papers.)

THE judges have decided to adjourn the Commission until the 15th of January for the Christmas holidays. At the opening of Friday's (December 14) sitting, an application was made by the Attorney-General to have Mr. William O'Brien committed for a contempt arising out of the article entitled "Somewhat too much of this" in the current issue of *United Ireland*. As a reprisal, Mr. Reid, Q.C., made a similar application against Mr. Broderick, Warden of Merton College, Oxford, for a speech reported in the *Times*, wherein he appeared to compare Mr. Davitt and Mr. Henry George to the White-chapel murderer. The judges decided that in the latter case a notice must be served on the Warden, but that Mr. O'Brien should appear before the Court on the following day. Later on, however, Mr. Reid declared that his client, Mr. O'Brien, could not personally attend at that time, and the Judges, to secure their vacation intact, decided to let the matter stand over till the next sitting. The remainder of the day was chiefly devoted to the cross-examination of the informer, O'Connor, by Sir Charles Russell, in the course of which he elicited that the witness had undertaken to give evidence to earn some money and to consult a doctor at the expense of the *Times*; he acknowledged also the genuineness of a letter from Mr. Harrington, which flatly contradicted in its most essential points, the evidence he had already given respecting it. Mr. Harrington, the fact is, had refused grants to branches in districts where outrages had been committed, whereas, according to O'Connor, he grounded his refusal on the peaceful character of the district in question.

The brave and indomitable Campaigner is at last at liberty. Judge Boyd fondly imagined that Tom Moroney would, through his friends, humbly kneel at his lordship's feet and humbly beg his lordship's pardon; but the autocrat of the Bankruptcy Court was denied such self-flattering delights, for it was no Nationalist, but Moroney's own landlord, the O'Grady, by whom the bankruptcy proceedings had been first instituted, who came forward on Thursday, December 13, and asked for his release. Mr. Beauchamp, the O'Grady's solicitor, waited on Judge Boyd at his residence the previous evening and asked him to hold a special sitting of the court to hear an application in the Moroney case. Next day it was discovered that Mr. Maurice Brooks—formerly M.P. for the city—had filed an affidavit asking to be permitted to move for Moroney's release. Judge Boyd having refused the application made by Mr. Brooks, consented to accede to the request made by the O'Grady, and signed an order for Moroney's liberation. Much satisfaction has been felt throughout the country at this tardy act of reparation on the part of Judge Boyd. Serious apprehensions had been felt regarding the prisoner's health, and it was admitted on all sides that a few more months incarceration might prove fatal to the Campaigner. His reception in Dublin after his release was enthusiastic—several of the city bands turning out in his honour. We are glad to note that the Lord Mayor of Dublin has convened a meeting of the citizens to be held at the Mansion House on next Friday, for the purpose of testifying public feeling in regard to the long suffering and heavy loss inflicted on the brave Tom Moroney.

Mr. Dillon received a magnificent welcome on his arrival on Tuesday, December 18, in the *Urbs Intacta*. Among those who greeted the hon. gentleman at the railway station were the Mayors of Waterford and Kilkenny, attended by a large concourse of people. Later on Mr. Dillon entered the City Hall, where a convention of the branches of the National League of the county was held—two hundred duly accredited delegates being present on the occasion. After resolutions had been unanimously passed condoling with Mrs. Pyne and expressing confidence in Mr. Parnell and his colleagues, the proceedings were adjourned till the evening, when Mr. Dillon addressed a large gathering of the citizens in the theatre. After a brilliant arraignment of Balfourism in Ireland, the hon. speaker proceeded to discuss the base and contemptible attempts made by the Tory Government to separate the Irish priests from the Irish people. He attributed the vitality of the Catholic Church in Ireland to the fact that the Irish priests were found in the national ranks. Mr. Dillon said that it was a sign of the greatest possible weakness on the part of the Tory Government to go crying and whining to Rome; for it shows that they do not trust much to coercion. He believed that these intriguers will come back from the Eternal City with their fingers in their mouths, and they will find, in spite of the Duke of Norfolk and all the other dignitaries who are besieging Rome with their representations, the people and priesthood of Ireland will march together to the goal of Irish freedom, united in the future as they have been in the past. Mr. Dillon's remarks, needless to add, were vociferously cheered. After a vote of thanks was passed to the Mayor, the proceedings terminated.

For the fourth time since its desertion of Liberalism the constituency of Maidstone has been won by the Conservatives. This result, however, they can hardly regard as an unqualified victory. Mr. Cornwallis, their candidate, had unusual advantages; he is a local landlord, popular and esteemed, and he had in his favour all the influence—and it is no little influence—that the Baroness Burdett-Connors could command. The case of Mr. Barker, his adversary, on the other hand, apart altogether from the main principle of Home Rule, was prejudiced by his views on the licensing question. Yet, notwithstanding all this, on a rather full poll of 3,915, he was not able to secure the same number of votes as was accorded the Conservative at the previous election. His majority was slightly more than half that secured by the late member, Major Ross. The Gladstonian made a stubborn fight, and won a partial victory by increasing the Liberal vote. The Liberal vote this time was the largest ever scored in Maidstone by a Liberal.

Our Roman correspondent informs us that the Irish bishops have addressed the Pope on the question of his independence in the same sense as all the other episcopates of Europe have addressed him. The,

intolerable position in which the Pope finds himself—unable as he is to exercise his authority or receive the homage to which he is entitled without exasperating interference from the Italian Government, which has again and again broken its engagements to secure him in the exercise of his sovereign rights—is one that excites lively sympathy in Ireland. It not only excites our sympathy, but it involves our interests. The relations of Ireland and the Vatican would be much more satisfactory if the Pope were free. There would be less disposition to exaggerate the importance of diplomatic recognition from any quarter, and the officials of the Vatican would be less anxious to conciliate the European Powers and to hamper the constitutional action of their subjects. When Irishmen were defending the independence of the Pope at the cost of their lives, they were defending the independence of their own Church and the interests of their own people as well.

Gallant little Wales is not very anxious to pay the tithe tax—for the very good reason that it considers such an impost an odious imposition. The authorities, however, are equally determined to extract support for the alien Church from the Cymric farmers. It is announced that on the termination of the Christmas holidays the collection of the tithe arrears will be resumed with the utmost vigour in the little Principality. The peasants of Flintshire, Denbighshire, Carnarvonshire, and Cardiganshire have combined to resist the tax-gatherers, just as the Irish farmer resists the Shylocks who would compass his ruin. Wales is evidently finding out that passive resistance is a very useful and efficacious instrument against all kinds of tyranny. Ireland has in this instance set an example which Wales is only too anxious to follow. Every Irishman will wish the Principality success in its efforts to rid itself of such a scandalous impost as the tithe charges.

The Stockton election was a substantial success for the Home Rulers and a bitter disappointment to the Unionists. The latter had felt cocksure of capturing the seat. Their candidate was a "local man" and a large employer of labour; he had twice previously contested the seat, and he had unceasingly and diligently "nursed" the constituency, in the fond hope that he would win it at last. On this recent occasion he thought the happy time had come, and so seemed to think all his party. The Liberal candidate, Sir Horace Davey, was a stranger to the constituency—a fact which was dwelt upon by the Unionist party with almost as much indignation as if he had been Lord Salisbury's "black man." He was a "London lawyer," and this was urged against him by "Unionist" orators in a strain that might cause one to think London was away somewhere in the Himalaya mountains. And there can be no doubt that the points just mentioned told against him to some extent among the working classes. But the bulk of the electors were too enlightened and too independent to be either bamboozled or intimidated by the seductive whisperings or the scarcely disguised messages of the Primrose Leaguers, and they gave to the Home Rule candidate a triumphant majority. A very cheering circumstance noticeable throughout the contest at Stockton was that the Irish members of Parliament who spoke for the Home Rule candidate were always most cordially welcomed. Mr. John O'Connor, Mr. William Abraham, and Mr. T. D. Sullivan, wherever they appeared, whether at large or small meetings, were listened to with evident sympathy and enthusiastically cheered; and this notwithstanding the most vigorous and persistent efforts of the Unionists to excite ill-feeling against them. This fact is a sure indication that when the masses of the English people next get the chance they will end once and for ever more the reign of tyranny and coercion in Ireland.

Mr. Manning, the active secretary of the Waterford National League, has published a telling pamphlet, entitled "An Irish Murder." It is written *apropos* of an inquiry from a friendly-intentioned Englishman with reference to the murder of Fitzmaurice. Mr. Manning does not confine himself to the details of these terrible occurrences, but he boldly attacks the system that has produced them. His argument is a good one, and should never be forgotten. These crimes are paraded as a guide to Irish character, while in truth they form the most damning indictment against the system of government under which we live. The account stands thus—The aliens have made out of sections of the most peaceable peasantry in the world men who despair of securing justice except through the most dreadful methods. The moral is plain, and it is the merit of Mr. Manning's pamphlet to enforce it with considerable power.

Lord Salisbury was in Scarborough on Thursday, December 20, and his speeches affected great good humour. Colchester has been as a fall of dew in the desert to the Tories, and Lord Salisbury expanded upon the signs of Tory revival in a manner that shows the value of the long list of Liberal victories since the general election. Referring to Ireland, he declares that the way to peace lies through the Ashbourne Act; that it is the only experiment in purchase that has proved successful; and he prophesies that the experiment will be repeated again and again until the desire for purchase is exhausted. This is just what Mr. Gladstone foretold. The Tories will go on with their small doses until the British taxpayer becomes the direct landlord of nearly the whole of Ireland. What will Mr. Chamberlain say to this? With regard to Home Rule, he stated that Mr. Gladstone's measure conceded more than Grattan's Parliament, because it gave an executive; that Grattan's Parliament had brought the country to rebellion; and that if Home Rule was granted the Irish ports would soon become the harbours for every enemy at war with England. Lord Salisbury shows his insincerity in no way more clearly than in the absurd arguments he advances against the Home Rule cause. In this case he deliberately falsifies history; because it is a matter of history, acknowledged by every historian, except, perhaps, such fictionists as Dr. Ingram, that it was the English Executive provoked the Irish Rebellion out of sheer heartless policy. It was the element in the ante-Union system which Lord Salisbury directly approves that caused the dire failure of the system. The other argument does not bear examination. How an Ireland, self-governed under the supremacy of the Imperial Parliament, and with the defences of Ireland in Imperial charge, could afford greater facilities to an enemy of England than Ireland in its present condition, Lord Salisbury did

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not condescend to explain. Explanation would be fatal to his argument.

Mr. Gladstone has had a great welcome at Naples. He was received by the municipal authorities, the authorities of the University, and a deputation of students. Cheers for Ireland were raised when the veteran statesman appeared. The demonstration was a proof of the truth of Mr. Gladstone's contention, that his Irish policy has the sympathy of the civilized world. His efforts on behalf of Ireland are as truly devoted to the advancement of the cause of liberty as were those efforts devoted to the destruction of the tyranny of Bomba. The *Standard*, commenting on the visit to Naples, once more returns to the comparison instituted between Bomba and Balfour. It deprecates the assertion made by Mr. Gladstone that Bomba gains by the comparison. Mr. Balfour, says the Tory writer, was not worse. Bomba did treat his political prisoners in a way that disgraced civilisation. The bitterest opponents of Mr. Balfour will not quarrel with this distinction. According to his admirers Balfour is not worse than Bomba was—he is only as bad.

MARY LOD O'DOHERTY.

(Concluded.)

THE chief characteristic of Eva's poetry is its intense feeling, or, in other words, its transparent sincerity. There is no seeking after effect in her verses. She does not sacrifice the purity of thought or expression to any pretensions to art, and she is, consequently, natural throughout. Her poetical contributions to the literature of the Young Ireland era are marked with a burning enthusiasm. In singing of the felon's glorious fight, or chanting the song of the barricades, she is powerful and impassioned, while she is softly and sweetly delicate in her workmanship of a love madrigal. There is no striking imagery in her effusions. She does not soar to the heights where Spenser's harp is heard ringing through the empyrean; her pen does not give us any sublime or gorgeous word pictures after the manner of Mrs. Browning, but she is, nevertheless, singularly true to nature, and can appreciate the beauties of the outer world whenever they present themselves to her gaze. Like Mary, her sister Grace, Eva is more at home in the domain of simple affection than in the starry spheres where giant minds usually revel. An assiduous student of Miss Adelaide Proctor and "L. E. L." Mrs. O'Doherty has admirably caught up the spirit of both writers, without, however, in any way slavishly imitating either. One of the lady's best known pieces is devoted to a genuine tribute of praise to gallant Tipperary—a tribute which is eminently worthy of an honoured place in any collection of Irish songs and ballads:—

Were you ever in sweet Tipp'rary, where the fields are so sunny and green,
And the heath-brown Slieve-bloom and the Galtees look down with so proud a mien?

'Tis there you would see more beauty than is on all Irish ground—
God bless you, my sweet Tipperary, for where could your match be found?

They say that your hand is fearful, that darkness is in your eye.
But I'll not let them dare to talk so black and bitter a lie.
Oh! no, *maoushla storu*! bright, bright and warm are you,
With hearts as bold as the men of old, to yourselves and your country true.

And when there is gloom upon you, bid them think who has brought it there—
Sure a frown or a word of hatred was not made for your face so fair;
You've a hand for the grasp of friendship—another to make them quake,
And they're welcome to whichever it pleases them most to take.

Shall our homes, like the nuts of Coonaught, be crumbled before our eyes?
Shall we fly, like a flock of wild geese from all that we love and prize?

No! by those who were here before us, no churl our tyrant shall be:
Our land it is theirs by plunder, but, by God, ourselves are free!

No! we do not forget that greatness did once to sweet Eire belong!
No treason or craven spirit was ever our race among;
And no frown or no word of hatred we give—but to pay them back;
In evil we only follow our enemies' darksome track.

Oh! come for a while among us, and give us the friendly hand;
And you'll see that old Tipperary is a loving and glad some land;
From Upper to Lower Ormond, bright welcomes and smiles will spring—
On the plains of Tipperary the stranger is like a king.

As an instance of the sweet simplicity and pathos of her poetry we may be allowed to reproduce a few verses of hers which were strung together under the title of "Shadows"—

Where is the blackbird singing
The live-long day?
Where is the clear stream ringing
This golden May?
Ah! I know where the bird is singing,
And I know where the stream is ringing,
For my heart to that spot is clinging,
Far, far away!

Lightly the silver rushes
Wave to and fro,
Thick are the hazel bushes
Black the slue;
Sweet are the winds that whistle,
Green are the boughs that rustle,
There where the wild birds nestle,
In Glenmaloe.

Faint are the murmurs humming
Through breeze and stream,
Dim are the shadows coming—
A fairy dream!
Harp notes are heard to tinkle,
Voices of spirits mingle,
Deep in each hollow dingle,
Where violets gleam!

Ah! but the years are dreary
Since long ago—
Ah! but this heart is weary,
Sweet Glenmaloe!
Thinking of visions faded,
Lightsome and glad that made it—
Hopes that for aye are shaded,
So well I know!

Still is the blackbird singing
The live-long day;
Still are the waters ringing
This golden May—
But, ah! not for me that singing,
Nor the stream with its silver ringing,
Tho' my heart to that spot is clinging,
Far, far away!

"The People's Chief" is one of these effusions in which Eva displays much force and vigour. It will be read, we are certain, with the same interest now as that which greeted it when it appeared originally in our columns some forty golden years ago.—

The storms of enfranchised passions rise as the voice of the eagle
screaming,
And we scatter now to the earth's four winds the memory of our
dreaming!

The clouds but veil the lightning's bolt—Sibylline murmurs ring
In hollow tones from out the depths—the People seek their King!

Come forth, come forth, Anointed One! nor blazon nor honours
bearing—
No "ancient line" be thy seal or sign, the crown of Humanity
wearing—

Spring out, as lucid fountains spring, exulting from the ground—
Arise as Adam rose from God, with strength and knowledge crowned!

The leader of the world's wide host guiding our aspirations,
Wear thou the seamless garb of Truth sitting among the nations!
Thy foot is on the empty forms around in shivers cast—
We crush ye with the scorn of scorn exuvial of the past!

Come forth, come forth, O Man of men! to the cry of the gathering
nations;
We watch on tow'r, we watch on hill, pouring our invocations—
Our souls are sick of sounds and shades, that mock our shame and
grief,
We hurl the Demons from their seats, and call the lawful Chief!

Come forth, come forth, O Man of men! to the frenzy of our implor-
ing
The winged despair that no man can bear, up to the heavens soaring—
Come! Faith and Hope, and Love and Trust, upon their centre rock,
The wailing millions summon thee, amid the earthquake shock!

We've kept the weary watch of years, with a wild and heart-wrung
yearning,
But the star of the Advent we sought in vain, calmly and purely
burning;
False meteors flashed across the sky, and falsely led us on;
The parting of the strife is come—the spell is o'er and gone!

The future's closed gates are now on their ponderous hinges jarring
And there comes a sound as of wings and waves each with the other
warning,
And forward bends the list'ning world, as to their eager ken
From out that dark and mystic land appears the Man of men!

Among Eva's other poetical productions which have been received with much favour by the Irish public we might mention "Silken Thomas," a poem which appeared in the suppressed number of the *Nation* in the congenial society of Speranza's "Jac a Alea Est," "The Felon," and many a fugitive effusion, which did good work in other days for the national cause.

There was one rather significant passage in the uncompromisingly Radical speech which Sir George Trevelyan delivered at Newbury. Speaking of "the bill now before Parliament for the relief of Irish landlords," he said—"Think what ten millions would do. How many counties of England might with that sum have had the Allotments Bill carried out in fine style" (Cheers.) How many small plots of ground sufficient to keep a hard-working man and his family in comfort, and still smaller plots sufficient to enable a man earning wages to take out a livelihood, might be provided if only the State were willing to lend to English peasants on the terms on which they lent, not to Irish peasants, but to large, wealthy Irish farmers, and not for their sake, but for the sake of a few great noblemen who were intimately connected with the Government!" Sir George Trevelyan's questions will call out for an answer some day. To make experiments in Socialism is to start on an inclined plane—you cannot stop, and the pace becomes faster the further you ride.—*Pull Mall Budget*

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H. A. C. B. S.

It is nearly three years since the new District Board was established in Auckland, and none will deny the wisdom of adopting the resolutions of the Wellington Conference on the formation of one District Board, thereby uniting all the branches of New Zealand. Although Auckland was not the most convenient or central place for the Executive, yet the strength of Hibernianism in Auckland justly entitles it to be the controlling power in the colony. As this is a very important question to Irish Catholics, the discussion of the question of due representation of the several branches at the annual meetings will fittingly find a place in the columns of the TABLET. Before, however, entering into details, it may not be out of place to refer to the large number of Irishmen who give the Society the cold shoulder. These may be divided into two classes—viz., those whose social position happily enables them to dispense with benefits of the Society, but whose intelligence and presence would be of vast advantage to the Society, its government and welfare; the other class consists of those, whose interest it is to belong to such a society, especially in times of sickness or accident, and yet by sheer indifference, or to use a stronger and more appropriate term—stupidity, neglect to join when they can, to regret afterwards in advancing years and reverse circumstances that they did not. It is the only Irish Catholic Society in the colonies, and it is not to the credit of either the two forementioned classes not to belong to the Hibernian Society. There are stock objections; yes, we all know them, and it is unnecessary to specify them. We all know that wherever half-a-dozen Irishmen get together, they will have a difference of opinion. Decidedly, it would be a very hum-drum affair of life if we were all of the same opinion on all matters, but it must not be forgotten that the average Irishman has a keen intelligence and aptitude for conducting meetings, which none can excel, and the presence of those men who refuse or neglect joining is the one thing necessary for the success both of the meetings and of the Society. Auckland is the only one of the chief towns of the Colony where the Society has a decent muster roll. Yet, no sound reason exists why Dunedin, Christchurch and Wellington should not have quite as strong a membership. The responsibility for this rests somewhere. Doubtless there are reasons, which it would be the duty of a properly represented annual district meeting to inquire into. The conference held in Wellington in 1885 was a practical illustration of the beneficial results arising from a meeting of representatives from the branches. The Society was then brought directly under the notice of the Plenary Council of Sydney, and through His Eminence Cardinal Moran obtained the approval of his Holiness Pope Leo XIII. There is yet much work of this nature to be accomplished by the Society. It has a strong claim on, and ought to receive the consistent and active support of the clergy in every diocese, and indeed in every parish, for there is scarcely any parish so small that it could not furnish forty or fifty members. Young men ought to be induced to join, but especially men with families will find it to their interests to join. If this were generally adopted, how infinitely few there would be having recourse to the Charitable Aid Board in times of illness.

These and various other questions of importance can only be adequately discussed at a fully represented meeting of the branches at the annual meeting. The matter of expense, however, is a barrier which ought to be grappled with, and by some system a fund should be provided for the purpose; and to have the annual meeting movable—one year in each place:—Wellington, Christchurch, Dunedin, Napier, and so on the circuit. It is not easy to realise the impetus one of such meetings gives a local branch. For this purpose and for sending a delegate to Melbourne annually a special fund ought to be established. Mr. White, who made a special visit to Melbourne on behalf of the N.Z. District was successful in his mission, but it is an open secret that the E. D. still hold a considerable part of the N.Z. funds, which is worth spending a delegate's expenses on.

HIBERNIAN.

TIMARU.

(From our own Correspondent.)

The half-yearly meeting of St. Mary's Branch of the Hibernian Society was held on January 24th and was numerously attended. The balance-sheet, which was read and adopted, showed the finances of the branch to be steadily progressing. The list of membership however remains at a seeming stand-still, the number of new members joined for the past twelve months being barely sufficient to balance those that have left the branch during that period through various causes. The present membership could without doubt be increased to nearly double its present strength if the town and district were properly and personally canvassed and the benefits to be derived from the society laid clearly before eligible persons. Comparing the benefits to be derived from the Hibernian Society with those of other friendly societies the comparison is certainly in favour of the former, and that makes a still greater cause to regret the action of Catholics who join other benefit societies when one exists which has been sanctioned and approved by the prelates and dignitaries of the Church. A letter was read from the Christchurch Branch asking the co-operation of the Timaru Branch in sending a delegate to the annual meeting at Auckland to advocate a scheme of direct representation instead of the proxy system at present in vogue, also to assist in getting the executive meetings held in Wellington, as being more central than Auckland and to support the adoption of a graduated scale of contributions. The meeting unanimously decided to agree to this request and it is to be hoped that the delegate will be successful in bringing these matters to a satisfactory result. The election of officers for the ensuing term resulted as follows:—President, M. Crannitch; vice-president, James Cunningham; treasurer, G. Matthews; secretary, A. Wilson (re-elected); warden, J. Sullivan; guardian, J. McKenna. After the usual compliments were accorded to the retiring and incoming officers the meeting terminated.

The parish school re-opened on the 26th inst. The children's annual picnic has been unavoidably postponed and is likely to take place on Easter Monday.

The time-honoured custom in Catholic countries of ringing the Angelus bell is now established here. The Rev. Father Buckidge previous to his departure preached an eloquent sermon on the "Angelus" and exhorted the congregation to repeat the pious prayer when they would hear the tolling of the bell.

A rather sad accident occurred on Thursday, 7th inst., to a young man named William Meredith, son of the late Captain Meredith, of Timaru. While engaged in assisting to load a vessel at the wharf, his grappling hooks became fastened in the bales which he was handling, and which were attached to a crane. He unfortunately held on to the hooks, and, on being lifted up by the crane, seemed to have lost his presence of mind, and letting go fell into the hold of the vessel. In falling his head came under, and when picked up he was quite unconscious. Up to the time of writing (10th) he has not regained consciousness. The prayers of the congregation were offered up at both Massea to-day on his behalf.

The weather here is all that could be desired for this time of the year. Harvest operations are now properly commenced and in full swing. The crops are very good throughout the district, and a large yield is expected. Great expectations are indulged in about the next few years in this district, and a belief in the return of prosperity strongly exists. The high prices for farm produce now ruling promise prosperity to the farmer, and in this agricultural district when the farmer is thriving prosperously he carries nearly everyone else in his train. Our best wish, then, is to wish him success, and in doing so we are directly wishing it to ourselves.

A triduum of prayer is being held in the Church of the Sacred Heart in honour of the martyr of Futuna, the Blessed Peter Marie Chanel commencing on Sunday, the 10th inst., and closing on Tuesday, the 12th.

A gentleman in this town is in high anticipation of making a mark in the coursing world during the coming season. He possesses a greyhound of considerable merit, but until a few days ago was quite unconscious of the speed which was latent in the animal. Accompanied by his dog, he happened to visit a friend, and was accorded a hearty welcome. Between the dog and the host, however, a slight disagreement arose, which resulted in the animal making a bee-line for home at a rate of speed that convinced his owner he was fit for the "Waterloo."

PARNELL DEFENCE FUND.

(Oamaru Mail, February 8.)

There was a large attendance at the Athenaeum Hall last evening to consider what steps should be taken to assist Mr. C. S. Parnell in the investigation now being made by a Commission into charges made against him and his Parliamentary party by the London Times. Mr. John Church, who has always shown great interest in the Home Rule movement, occupied the chair. In explaining the object for which the meeting was called, the chairman expressed the pleasure it gave him to be present. That spirit of fair play which should characterise every Briton should stimulate them to assist Mr. Parnell to clear his character from the imputations cast upon it by the Times. The Home Rule for Ireland movement had his deepest sympathy, and he felt so strongly on the matter that his feelings were always deeply stirred when he thought over the injustice done to the country, and the folly of withholding from a people their greatest recognised right, namely the privilege to govern themselves. Before calling on the mover of the first resolution, the chairman read a letter of apology from Mr. James Rodger, who regretted his inability to be present owing to ill health, but expressed his sincere sympathy with the object of the meeting, and a willingness to assist as far as he was able in the raising of funds.

The first resolution, which was moved by Mr. T. Hannon, and seconded by Mr. D. Toohy, was as follows:—"That this meeting desires to express its sympathy with Mr. Charles Stuart Parnell, with the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, and with the other gentlemen who are endeavouring to obtain Home Rule for Ireland."

The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. McLaughlin moved, and Mr. Burke seconded, the following resolution:—"That this meeting expresses its indignation at the course pursued by the British Government in compelling Mr. Parnell to defend himself against the foul accusations of the Times, inasmuch as it is cruel and unfair to ask any single individual to provide funds for such a costly trial; that it is, therefore, of opinion that a subscription list should be opened in this district with the object of assisting him to have the trial fully completed in order to prove his innocence or otherwise of the serious charges of crime made against him by that paper in his leadership of the Home Rule movement."

Mr. D. Paris, in speaking to the last resolution, said that he differed entirely from those who believed that giving Home Rule to Ireland would lead to separation. It would do nothing of the sort; it would have the very opposite effect, and would lead to the cementing together of England and Ireland far more closely than at present. It was the duty of everyone who had the means to assist Mr. Parnell to clear his character, as by doing so they would show their sympathy with the cause of which he was the recognised head.

Mr. John McDowell expressed his entire sympathy with Ireland's cause, and held it to be the duty of everyone to aid Mr. Parnell in the position in which he was placed.

The Chairman said a good many of his friends had often expressed their surprise at the interest he had shown in Ireland. He felt for Ireland not because he was an Irishman, but because he looked at the movement for Home Rule as an Englishman should who believed in justice. The treatment of Ireland was a shame and a disgrace, and a stain upon the escutcheon of England; and as an Englishman he felt that a part of the disgrace attached to him, so long as the just claims of the people were withheld. He could not

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LADIES and Gentlemen.—Kindly allow us through this medium to ask you for your Practical Opinion and Personal Judgment.

We believe there are few cities in the Colony where sterling worth, in any person or thing, is more appreciated than in Dunedin, and Practical Tradesmen coming into the city, who are able to offer goods of Superior Styles and Qualities, and give Advantages in the Prices are sure to receive a good measure of public support.

Envy and jealousy, less or more, among men of similar businesses always exist, and when we "came into" Dunedin several years ago, our "going out" was very soon wished for, and we believe, if inclined to go to-day, we might retire with a pension from several Boot Dealers. Our envious friends will not be surprised to hear that we are "going," but it is a going into the Boot Business. Stronger than ever Harder than ever. Bigger than ever, and we mean to contest every inch of the Booting ground in the city more defiantly and more valiantly than ever.

We, the Great Public Benefit Boot Manufacturing Company, 46 Princes street, respectfully call upon you to see and judge for yourselves whether we are not far above all competition, and out of reach of various oppositions.

The Fight is for you; you must back us.
The contest is for you; you must support us.

The combat is for you; you must stand by us, and you'll be delighted that greater and better things will be done for you from to-day. Yours respectfully,
THE PUBLIC BENEFIT BOOT & SHOE MANUFACTURING CO.,
46 PRINCES STREET, DUNEDIN
(3 doors from Braithwaite's)
D. BUCHANAN, Manager.

UNION STEAM SHIP COMPANY OF NEW ZEALAND, LIMITED

The above Company will despatch steamers as under:—

- FOR OAMARU.—**BEAUTIFUL STAR** s.s., on Tuesdays and Fridays. Passengers from Dunedin wharf at 10 p.m. Cargo till 3 p.m.
- FOR LYTTELTON, WELLINGTON, PICTON, NELSON, TARANAKI, AND MANUKAU.—**PENGUIN**, s. s., on Tuesday, February 19. Passengers 3 p.m., from wharf.
- FOR AUCKLAND, VIA LYTTELTON, WELLINGTON, NAPIER, and GISBORNE.—**WAIRARAPA**, s. s., on Wednesday, February 20.
- FOR MELBOURNE, VIA BLUFF AND HOBART.—**ROFOMAHANA**, s. s., on Feb. 20.
- FOR SYDNEY, VIA LYTTELTON, WELLINGTON, NAPIER, GISBORNE, and AUCKLAND.—**WAIRARAPA**, s. s., on Wednesday, February 20.
- FOR SYDNEY, via OAMARU, LYTTELTON, and WELLINGTON.—**TAKAPO**, s. s., about Saturday, February 21.
- FOR FIJI from AUCKLAND.—**ARAWATA**, s. s., about Saturday March 2.
- FOR TONGA, SAMOA, and TAHITI.—**RICHMOND**, s. s., from Auckland about February 22. Freight and passengers booked through. Full particulars on application.

SPECIAL CARGO AND PASSENGER SERVICE.

Reduced Fares by these Steamers.
For **TIMARU, AKAROA, LYTTELTON, WELLINGTON, NELSON, and WESTPORT.**—**GRAFTON**, s. s., on Friday, February 22. Passengers from Dunedin Wharf at 4 p.m.
For **GREYMOUTH** (taking cargo for Hokitika) via Oamaru, Timaru, Lyttelton, and Wellington.—**BRUNNER**, s. s., on Feb. 17.
For **AUCKLAND**, via Oamaru, Timaru, Napier, Gisborne and Tauranga.—**A Steamer** early. Cargo at wharf.
OFFICES: Corner of Vogel, Water, and Cumberland streets.

THE FARMERS' AGENCY COMPANY (LIMITED).

CAPITAL £10,000.
CHAIRMAN:
EDWARD HERBERT, Esq., Lawrence.
Offices and Store:
Macandrew and High Streets, Dunedin.

This Company has been formed for the purpose of acting as Agents in the SALE OF GRAIN, STOCK, and other PRODUCE.

Business will be commenced before the end of FEBRUARY, and due notice will be given of the first sale at Burnside, which will probably be on the last Wednesday of the month.
JOHN GRINDLEY,
Manager.

the British Government they may lead Ireland, but they would never coerce her, and of this England had had convincing proofs for ages past. Why should not the right to make their own laws be conceded to the people, and thus bring about that which force would never accomplish? Gladstone, with Forster, had tried coercion, but found that it would not work, and so convinced had the former become of the folly of persisting in the use of force that he, like a man, eventually became, and is now, one of the strongest advocates of Home Rule. All honour to him, he would say, as his action displayed the truly great mind. Before sitting down, Mr. Church read the following extract from Freeman, the historian:—"National willful and persistent refusal to redress admitted public injustice must, in the end, lead to contempt of law. Then comes the fatal vicious circle which the strong cast round the weak. To order, no concessions are necessary; to disorder, no concessions are possible. Then is offered the well-known dilemma of poor Ireland: If you keep the peace, you are contented; if you break it, you are disqualified and punished."

The resolution, on being put to the meeting, was carried unanimously.

On the motion of Mr. James Rooney, it was resolved to elect eleven gentlemen as a committee to give effect to the former resolution. The following were elected: Messrs M. Shortel, Jas. Cooney, J. Fitzgerald, P. Dooley, O'Neill, Wise, T. F. Burke, Barton, J. Curran, T. Rodgers, and M. Cavanagh, with power to add to their number. Mr. John Cagney was appointed treasurer and Mr. Daniel Toohy secretary.

A subscription list, was opened in the room, and the sum of £16 7s 6d was soon collected.

It is intended to forward the foregoing resolutions to Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Parnell.

A vote of thanks to the chairman completed the business.

Commercial.

MR. DONALD STRONACH (on behalf of the New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Company, Limited) reports for the week ending February 13 as follows:—

Fat Cattle.—275 head yarded. Best bullocks brought L7 5s to L9 5s; ordinary, L4 to L6 10s. Cows from L3 10s to L6 17s.

Fat Sheep.—1836 penned. Best crossbred wethers, 10s 6d to 12s; ordinary, 7s 6d to 9s 9d; best do ewes, 8s 6d to 10s 9d; ordinary, 6s 3d to 8s 3d. Mixed merino, 5s to 5s 6d.

Fat Lambs.—Only 693 were penned, and brought from 5s 3d to 8d.

Pigs.—92 were penned, prices being about same as last week, viz., suckers, 8s to 16s; porkers, 26s to 30s; baconers, 41s to 50s; extra heavy to 67s. We sold 12 at 41s to 60s.

Store Cattle.—The demand is fairly active. All sorts are saleable, more especially aged steers in forward condition, but without any improvement in values, which remain low in sympathy with prices realised for fat stock.

Store Sheep.—Transactions so far are still limited to small sales, buyers evidently holding off in the anticipation of being able later on to obtain their requirements at prices more in accordance with their ideas of values. Meantime, buyers, being satisfied that the number on hands for disposal will be very much short of requirements, are not disposed to make any concessions.

Wool.—By the last San Francisco mail just to hand we are in receipt of priced catalogues of the fifth and last series of London wool sales for the past year, which fully confirm cable reports of the progress of these sales at the time. We are also in receipt of our London circular, which says that at the close there was a fairly steady tone, and the position as compared with the closing rates of the previous auctions was as follows:—Superior greasy merino, $\frac{1}{2}$ d to 1d per lb advance; medium and inferior greasy do, about $\frac{1}{4}$ d; scoured merino, $\frac{1}{4}$ d to 1d; fine crossbred, 1d; medium and coarse crossbred, $\frac{1}{2}$ d to 1d; lamb (except faulty descriptions), $\frac{1}{2}$ d per lb. Since the close the market has been without change. Having regard to the comparative ease with which the quantity available for this year ('89) say 160,000 bales were dealt with, (b) the lightness of stocks believed to be held by dealers and manufacturers, and (c) the healthy consumptive demand which exists at the trade centres, there seems no reason why the still larger quantity of colonial produce which, it is expected will arrive during 1889, together with the increased shipments looked for from the River Plate district, should not be absorbed without any appreciable loss of the advance recently obtained. Our London office telegraphed on the 9th inst. that the present series is progressing satisfactorily, competition increasing, and the market firmer. Of the local market, pending the opening of the fourth series of sales at the central auction rooms, there is little to report.

Sheepskins.—We submitted a full catalogue at our auction sale on Monday, when we had nearly all the buyers in the trade present. Competition was very active for butchers' green skins, especially for well-saved early shorn shearings, while for bare and badly-saved pelts there was less demand and prices lower. Country dry skins had good attention and realised satisfactory prices; of these cross-breds, tow to medium, brought 1s 3d to 3s 10d; do. do. merino, 1s 2d to 3s 8d; full-woolled crossbreds, 1s to 6s 3d; do. do. merino, 2s 9d to 5s 3d; dry pelts, 1d to 1s 1d; green do., crossbred, 1s 8d, 1s 7d, 1s 6d, 1s 5d, 1s 4d; interior and bad, 11d to 1s 3d; lambskins, 1s 6d to 2s 6d.

Habit Skins.—The market is necessarily quiet owing to the absence of supplies. Small lots invariably come to hand, for which there are purchasers at all times, but the business done is unimportant.

Hides.—The market is unchanged, a moderate demand continues to exist at equal to late rates. Very few are shipped, prices paid by local manufacturers leave no margin for shipment. We quote heavy

weights, clean and free from cuts, over 60 lbs, $3\frac{1}{2}$ d to $3\frac{3}{4}$ d; medium, $2\frac{1}{2}$ d to 3d; light, $2\frac{1}{4}$ d to $2\frac{3}{4}$ d; inferior and bulls, 1d to $2\frac{1}{2}$ d per lb.

Tallow.—Both public Press and private telegrams report the Home market depressed, and prices receding, which will, no doubt, ere long, have some effect on prices now ruling locally. In the meantime, however, supplies are bare, and as quotations hold good, which we give as follows. Prime mutton, 25s 6d to 26s 6d; good to prime, 24s to 23s; medium, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; inferior, 20s to 21s 6d. Rough fat, inferior, 10s to 15s; medium, 15s 6d to 17s 6d; prime caul, 18s to 19s per cwt.

Grain.—Wheat: There is no improvement whatever in the tone of the market, which continues extremely dull, particularly with regard to the demand for milling. Some of the mills are standing still, while others are working off old stocks, and only buying when certain descriptions for mixing are required. There is an over-supply of medium and unsaleable, except at fowl wheat prices. We quote nominally—prime milling, 3s 3d to 3s 6d; medium, 2s 9d to 3s; inferior, 2s to 2s 6d (ex store).—Oats: Owing to suitable freights offering during the past week a few speculative purchases have been made for shipment, otherwise the market is quiet, and very little disposition on the part of shippers to operate, except at prices which holders are disinclined to accept. We quote from sales made during the week—although we are doubtful whether the same prices could be obtained now—prime bright milling, 2s 5d to 2s 6d; best feed, 2s 3d to 2s 4d; inferior to medium, 1s 9d to 2s 2d, ex store.—Barley: In the meantime the market is at a standstill, and until the new crop is to hand there will be no business of any consequence. Quotations nominal.

GRAIN AND WOOL REPORT.

MESSRS SAMUEL OBE AND CO., Stafford street, report for the week ending February 13, as follows:—

Wheat.—The market continues exceedingly flat, there being no buyers either for milling or export. A slight demand exists for fowl feed for shipment. Quotations: Prime milling, say, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; medium, 3s 2d to 3s 3d; fowl feed, 2s 6d to 3s.

Oats.—The demand has been rather better this week, but without any corresponding improvement in value, which are, prime milling, 2s 3d to 2s 5d; bright feed, 2s 2d to 2s 3d; inferior and discoloured, 1s 10d to 2s 1d.

Wool.—Since last sale cable advices from London report that prices there for cross-breds are firmer, while inferior to medium merinos are easier. This will doubtless affect the competition at the next sales which will be held to-morrow.

Barley.—A few parcels of Cape have been sold at 3s, but it is evident from inquiries from Australia that prime malting will rule high when the new crop is available.

Chaff.—This is in fair demand, but arrivals during the week were almost nil. We sold all forward at $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

Potatoes.—The market is well supplied, and prices have a downward tendency. Quotations— $\frac{1}{2}$ d 10s to $\frac{1}{2}$ d 7s.

MESSRS ARTHUR McDONALD AND CO. report as follows for the week ending Wednesday, 13th February:—

Sheepskins continue in strong equity at late rates. We are the only firm of auctioneers in Dunedin who do not charge buyers $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. commission on sheepskins.

Hides.—The consignments coming forward are not equal to the demand, and we can place any quantity at 3d to $3\frac{1}{2}$ d for prime lots, and up to $3\frac{1}{2}$ d for extra.

Tallow.—Butchers' rough fat, 18s to 18s 6d. Tallow in bags and tins sold at from 17s to 24s per cwt.

Rabbitskins.—There is a good demand, but supplies are very small. Prices are unchanged.

Potatoes.—At $\frac{1}{2}$ d 10s to $\frac{1}{2}$ d 15s.

Salt Butter.—There is a good inquiry at $\frac{1}{2}$ d for prime.

Horsehair.—Tail is worth 1s per lb. Cow tips at 1s 9d to 2s 1s per doz; cowhair, dirty, 8d to $9\frac{1}{2}$ d; washed, 10d to 11d per lb.

MR. F. MEENAN, King street, reports:—Wholesale prices, bags included. Oats: 2s 3d to 2s 6d, nominal. Wheat: milling, 4s; fowls' 2s 6d to 3s 1d. Chaff, $\frac{1}{2}$ d 10s to $\frac{1}{2}$ d 11s. Hay, new oaten, $\frac{1}{2}$ d 10s; rye-grass, $\frac{1}{2}$ d 10s. Bran, $\frac{1}{2}$ d 15s. Pollard, $\frac{1}{2}$ d 5s to $\frac{1}{2}$ d 10s. Flour, stone, $\frac{1}{2}$ d 10 to $\frac{1}{2}$ d 15s; roller, $\frac{1}{2}$ d 11 to $\frac{1}{2}$ d 15s. Potatoes, kidney, $\frac{1}{2}$ d 7. Oatmeal, $\frac{1}{2}$ d 10s. Butter, fresh, 8d to 10d; salt, nominal, $\frac{1}{2}$ d Eggs, 1s.

There are several "good things" of Whewell's, the famous Master of Trinity, collected in the December number of *Temple Bar*, but one of the very best is left out. Whewell was at one time engaged in a controversy with Sir David Brewster about the parallelism of worlds, and took, as is well known, the view that there was but one world—which, as someone happily remarked, was very natural, considering the prominent place he occupied in it. Some one slyly pointed out to him the passage in the *Vulgate*: *Nunc errant decem mundi*? (It should be explained for "the ladies" that *mundi* may mean either *worlds* or *cleanings*.) Whewell instantly turned a text against his opponent by replying: "Very true; but look at the next question: *ubi sunt novem?*"—*Pall Mall Budget*.

The friends of Gladstone and of Ireland will be glad to know that he has not for many years felt in such good health as of late as he does to-day. Advices from Naples describe him as robust and ruddy, full of animation, and walking and driving with an ardour equal to that of the youngest member of the party. He actually talks of climbing Vesuvius and renewing acquaintance with the famous crater which he first made 38 years ago. The Liberals are always exceptionally hopeful and enthusiastic on the birthday of the great leader. To-day they are cheerfully asking one another why Mr. Gladstone should not live as long as Viscount Eversley, the former speaker of the House of Commons, who died recently at the age of 95, full of intellectual vigour to the last. De Lesseps is three years older than Mr. Gladstone, and is, to all appearances, good for many years of hard work. Lord Palmerston died in the harness at the age of 91, and might have lived ten years longer or more had he taken as much care of himself as Mr. Gladstone does.

PARNELL DEFENCE FUND.

GREYMOUTH.			
£	s d	£	s d
Mr. M. Kennedy	5 5 0	Mr. W. Sullivan	0 10 0
" F. Campbell	5 5 0	" J. Moloney	0 10 0
Rev. D. P. Carew	2 2 0	" P. McNamara	0 10 0
Mr. T. Joyce	2 0 0	" J. Butler	0 10 0
" M. Phillips	1 0 0	" J. Kennedy	0 10 0
" D. Hogan	1 0 0	" T. O'Connor	0 10 0
" G. Dennis	1 0 0	" P. Fogarty	0 5 0
" J. Higgins	1 0 0	" W. Sullivan	0 5 0
" W. O'Keefe	1 1 0	" J. Trainor	0 5 0
" P. M. Griffin	1 0 0	" P. Mahoney	0 5 0
" D. O'Shedy	1 1 0	" G. Whittaker	0 5 0
" M. McDonnell	1 1 0	" J. J. Clarke	0 5 0
" T. P. O'Donnell	1 0 0	" T. Keily	0 5 0
" W. Killeen	0 10 0	" B. Trowland	0 5 0
" E. A. Burke	0 10 0	" D. Daffey	0 5 0
" F. C. Dupre	0 10 0	" J. Dinan	0 5 0
Mrs. M. Butler	0 10 0	" T. Keily	0 5 0
Mr. M. Dalton	0 10 0	Miss M. O'Neill	0 5 0
" J. Hunt	0 10 0	Mr. D. Quion	0 5 0
" T. O'Brien	0 10 0	" J. McGain	0 5 0
" M. Gleeson	0 10 0	" E. Lodge	0 5 0
" R. Gleeson	0 10 0	" J. Butler	0 5 0
" P. Whelan	0 10 0	A Friend	0 5 0
" J. Griffin	0 10 0	Mr. J. Leonard	0 5 0
" R. Scully	0 10 0	" K. Hanan	0 5 0
" P. Lynch	0 10 0	Miss H. Roche	0 2 6

BLACK BALL.			
Mr. W. Kinsella	1 0 0	Mr. P. Lagoni	0 10 0
" F. Grogan	1 0 0	" J. Halpin	0 10 0
" D. Kelly	1 0 0	" J. W. Ross	0 5 0
" B. Dunphy	1 0 0	" R. H. Wessels	0 5 0
" P. Watson	1 0 0	" J. Glasson	0 5 0
" T. Clifford	1 0 0	" F. Lingrin	0 5 0
" J. Hogan	1 0 0	" W. Campbell	0 5 0
" D. Hogan	1 0 0	" J. D. Kennedy	0 5 0
" J. Beauchamp	1 0 0	" A. Anderson	0 5 0
" P. Troy	1 0 0	" P. Anderson	0 5 0
" J. Kelly	1 0 0	" J. Drake	0 5 0
" F. Halpin	1 0 0	" H. Jones	0 2 6
" M. Kelly	1 0 0	" K. H. Knudson	0 2 6
" J. Harris	0 10 0	" C. Luid	0 2 6

MAORI CREEK			
Mr. B. North	0 10 0	Mr. M. Daley	0 10 0
" T. O'Halloran	0 10 0	" P. Convery	0 10 0
" W. Kelly	0 10 0	" J. O'Neill	0 10 0
" J. Roche	0 10 0	" J. O'Donnell	0 10 0
" J. O'Sullivan	0 10 0	" J. Clarahan	0 10 0
" M. O'Brien	0 10 0	" J. O'Donnell	0 10 0
" T. Fallon	0 10 0	" J. Poynton	0 10 0
" J. W. Poynton	0 10 0	" A. Flaberty	0 10 0
" I. Cahill	0 10 0	" W. Heenan	0 5 0
" M. J. Maloney	0 10 0		

CAMERON'S TERRACE			
Mr. J. Finn	1 0 0	Mr. T. Flannagan	1 0 0
" J. Flannagan	1 0 0	" E. Cronin	1 0 0
" T. McCafferty	1 0 0	" M. Murphy	0 10 0

PAROA.			
Mr. Denis O'Neill	0 10 0	Mr. John Condon	0 5 0
" John Byrne	0 10 0	" Edmund Power	0 5 6
" M. Dowling	0 5 0	" Jas. Dillon	0 2 6
" P. O'Neill	0 5 0	" Jas. Quinn	0 2 6
" John Ryan	0 5 0	Mrs. Keating	0 2 6
" Wm. Prendergast	0 5 0	Mr. Thos. Cotton	0 2 6
" M. Gilheuddy	0 5 0	" John Spencer	0 2 6
" Thos. Walsh	0 5 0	" Michael Keating	0 2 0
" R. Delaney	0 5 0	" Michael Fraber	0 2 0
" P. Power	0 5 0		

ROSS.			
Rev. Father Macmanus	1 1 0	Mr. P. Clare	0 10 0
Mr. P. Healy	1 1 0	" J. M'Cartney	0 10 0
" J. Crowley	1 1 0	" W. Cass	0 10 0
" M. Crowley	1 1 0	" D. Reeding	0 10 0
Mrs. Grimmond	1 1 0	" J. Haligan	0 10 0
Mr. J. Griffin	1 0 0	" J. A. Roberts	0 10 0
" T. Hartigan	1 0 0	" J. T. Petros	0 10 0
A Friend	1 0 0	" J. Scott	0 10 0
Mr. J. O'Gorman	0 10 0	Mrs. Brown	0 10 0
" J. Landers	0 10 0	" Bellamy	0 10 0
" P. Stuart	0 10 0	" Mulhearn	0 10 0
" P. O'Raw	0 10 0	" Coughlin	0 10 0
" J. O'Neill	0 10 0	Mr. P. Burns	0 5 0
" C. M'Alister	0 10 0	" D. M'Crackin	0 5 0
" W. Morehead	0 10 0	" M. Scanlon	0 5 0
" J. Shuckey	0 10 0	" P. Maloney	0 5 0
" W. Burke	0 10 0	" W. Hughes	0 5 0
" J. O'Dea	0 10 0	Mrs. Thomson	0 5 0
" T. Murphy	0 10 0	" Manchan	0 5 0
" J. P. Moye	0 10 0	" Cass	0 5 0
" G. Johnston	0 10 0	Miss O'Connor	0 5 0
" P. M'Kenon	0 10 0	" Boyle	0 5 0
" D. M'Brude	0 10 0	" Galvin	0 5 0
" P. M'Creedy	0 10 0	Mr. W. Moye	0 4 0
" T. Markham	0 10 0	" M. Moye, jr.	0 4 0
" L. Markham	0 10 0	Mrs. Falvey	0 2 6
" J. Fleming	0 10 0	Mr. P. Phullitt	0 2 0
" F. Moran	0 10 0	" W. Fauch	0 2 0

BRUNNERTON.			
Mrs. Morrissey	1 1 0	Mr. Frank Duggan	0 5 0
Mr. J. James Creagh	0 10 0	" Martin Mooney	0 5 0
" B. McGee	0 10 0	" Wm. Byras	0 5 0
" P. Scully	0 10 0	" P. Moore	0 5 0
" Jno. McDonnell	0 10 0	" M. Dornan	0 5 0
" Patrick Casey	0 10 0	" P. Rodgers	0 5 0
" Thomas Jones	0 10 0	" W. Cosgrove	0 5 0
" F. McFarland	0 10 0	" Charles Seaton	0 5 0
" Louis de Gasperi	0 10 6	" P. McDonnell	0 5 0
" M. Hallinan	0 5 0	" Thomas Moore	0 5 0
" Thos. Brady	0 5 0	" M. McGrath	0 5 0
" Gilbert Anderson	0 5 0	" Jno. Kennedy	0 5 0
" Thomas Troy	0 5 0	" Jno. Callinan	0 5 0
" Pierce Ryan	0 5 0	" P. O'Neill	0 5 0
" J. McDonnell	0 5 0	" M. Keating	0 5 0
" — Stack	0 5 0	" J. Isdel	0 2 6
" Wm. Tregoning	0 5 0	" B. Larkin	0 2 6
" P. Ducey	0 5 0	" J. Rooney	0 2 6
" Jeremiah O'Donnell	0 5 0	" McGuinness	0 2 6

RIMU.			
Mr. M. Cashman	1 1 0	Mr. P. Keenan	0 8 0
" J. Griffin	1 0 0	A Friend	0 7 6
" W. Shanley	0 15 0	Mr. J. Clancy	0 6 0
" J. Phaelan	0 15 0	" T. M'Namara	0 5 6
" T. Tierney	0 15 0	" P. Boyd	0 5 6
" P. Melican	0 15 0	" P. Gooley	0 5 0
" J. Mahoney	0 16 0	" J. Magan	0 5 0
" M. M'Eranev	0 12 0	" T. Loog	0 6 0
" J. Holywood	0 11 0	" W. Wall	0 4 0
" M. Moore	0 10 0	" W. Logan	0 4 0
" P. O'Connor	0 10 0	" J. Moran	0 3 0
" M. Connolly	0 10 0	" F. Ryan	0 1 0
" M. M'Cormack	0 10 0		

MILTON.			
Rev. Father O'Neill	1 1 0	Mr. P. Curran	0 5 0
Mr. J. B. Scanlan	2 2 0	" T. Doocey	0 5 0
" M. Kert	2 2 0	" T. Scanlan	0 5 0
" T. Halpin	2 2 0	" M. Lynch	0 5 0
" T. Cannon	0 10 0	" J. McNamara	0 5 0
" T. Burke	0 10 0	Mrs. Nolan	0 5 0
" W. Murphy	0 10 0	Mr. L. Dolev	0 4 6
" J. Hauley	0 10 0	" G. Popplewell	0 2 6
" J. Griffin	0 10 0	" J. Boyle	0 2 6
" J. McFarlan	0 10 0	" E. Athy	0 2 6
" P. Calvey	0 5 0	" J. Hickey	0 2 6
" L. Walsh	0 5 0	" T. Caeerley	0 2 0
" E. Hassett	0 5 0	" T. Moloney	0 2 0
" P. Maly	0 5 0		

RANGIORA ART-UNION.

To be held on MONDAY, 18th MARCH, 1889.

The Rev. D. P. O'Connor desires to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of Blocks of Tickets, with accompanying amounts, from the following ladies and gentlemen:—

£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
Mrs. Bowers	3 5 0	Miss Wardell	1 0 0
Miss B. O'Neill	4 5 0	" M. Kelly	0 15 0
Miss M. Doherty	6 5 0	Mr. M. Kennedy	3 0 0
Mrs. Rooney	6 5 0	Miss H. Kelleher	1 0 0
" P. McGrath	6 5 0	Mrs. Sigby	0 5 0
" Byrant	2 15 0	Mr. P. Butler	2 0 0
Mr. Murphy	0 5 0	" Mulvihil	0 5 0
Miss Kerrigan	0 10 0	" P. McKenna	8 10 0

(To be continued)

NOTICE.
All persons holding Blocks of Tickets will please return same, SOLD or UNSOLD, not later than the 15th of March, 1889.
D. P. O'CONNOR.

NOTICE TO OUR READERS.

NOW READY.
ST. JOSEPH'S ALMANAC
FOR
CATHOLIC FAMILIES;
OR,
A SIMPLE GUIDE TO ALL THE FESTIVALS OF THE
CHURCH FOR THE YEAR OF OUR LORD, 1889.

Gives full and accurate information respecting the Catholic Clergy, Churches, Convents, Schools, etc., in each of the New Zealand Dioceses.
Gives the Decrees of the Plenary Council held in Sydney, November 1885. Also complete Calendar for 1889; giving Festival and Fast days throughout the year, besides other necessary information for Catholic Parents, Householders, and others.
Gives invaluable hints to the Farmer, Miner, and Gardener.

To be had from all Catholic Booksellers.
PRICES, 6d. By POST, 8d.

M R. T. F. F A U L K N E R
Organist Trinity Church, Stuart Street,
(Pupil of Mr George J. Hlvey, Organist of Chapel Royal,
Windsor, England),
**TEACHER OF THE PIANOFORTE, ORGAN, HARMONIUM
AND SINGING.**
CUMBERLAND ST., OPPOSITE RAILWAY STATION, DUNEDIN.

Mr. Faulkner begs to intimate that he is prepared to receive Pupils for the above tuition, either at the above address or at their respective homes. Terms upon Application.

A T JAMES DUNNE'S, 141 GEORGE STREET, you can purchase—

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The Works of St. Liguri and Father Faber
The Works of Cardinals Newman and Manning
The Works of many other Catholic writers
Irish National Books
The Works of A. M. Sullivan and John Mitchell
The Works of Michael Davitt
The Works of Charles Gavan Duffy and Father Tom Burke
Catholic Prayer Books, Rosary Beads, and Scapulars
Catholic, Irish, National, and general Newspapers
Pure Wax Candles.

JAMES DUNNE,
BOOKSELLER,
141 George Street, Dunedin.

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

DEATH.

HICKSON.—On the 7th February, 1889, at Clyde, Francis Gerald Joseph Hickson, son of James Hickson, Inspector of Police, Clyde; aged 13 years.—R.I.P.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"**CYNIC.**"—Unless some particular reason calls for it we do not, as a rule, enter into explanations as to rejected correspondence, or contributions of any kind. If not published within a week or two it may be taken for granted that the matter forwarded is not suitable to our columns.

"**A CORRESPONDENT.**"—The case described would find a more fitting sphere of publicity in a court of law. If it cannot be taken there, we should subject ourselves to an action for libel in publishing its details.

"**STOP MY PAPER.**"—Our partiality is, on the contrary, shown towards those who would make fools of themselves publicly if we permitted them. You were stabbily treated, no doubt, but it is a case for private punishment. By publishing such details, we should make both you and ourselves ridiculous—while we made too much of the people who have offended you.

The New Zealand Tablet.

FIAT JUSTITIA.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1889.

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.

DEVELOPMENTS.

M R. PARNELL'S action in the Scotch Courts has come to an end, on a technicality. This is a suggestive commentary on the proceedings of the *Times*. For many months the *Times* was engaged challenging Mr. PARNELL to prosecute it either in England, Ireland, or Scotland, but the moment this challenge was taken up the *Times* moved heaven and earth to stop proceed-

ings, and employed every engine of ingenuity, and availed itself of every technicality to prevent the action from being tried. This shows that the *Times* has no faith in the justice of its cause, and that it is convinced it is unable to sustain its position in a court of law before a jury. It is a confession of guilt, and in this light it will be considered by all dispassionate men. It appears that Mr. PARNELL failed in Scotland on a technicality and has now commenced an action against his base calumniator in Dublin. Some time ago the *Times* was virtuously indignant with Mr. PARNELL for not taking an action against it in Dublin. We shall now see how much honesty and sincerity was in this indignation. Had the *Times* been sincere in its taunts as regards Scotland, it would have waived every technical objection and consented to the trial of the action on its merits. But it is now clear that the *Times* was only playing a part, and that neither an honest nor a creditable part of a comedy intended to throw dust in people's eyes, so far, at all events, as Scotland was concerned. We shall soon see what credit is to be given to its words as regards Dublin. Will it have recourse to technicalities there in order to stop the action? Will it employ every trick of lawyers to prevent Mr. PARNELL from having his action tried before a jury? Will it invoke the aid of the Government should the action come on, to provide a partisan judge and a packed jury? All know how these things can be done in Ireland, and how ubiquitous are the influence and action of the Executive. Then we shall see, and, when we do so, we shall be in a position to judge of the tactics and motives of the *Times*. Judging from what has recently taken place in Scotland, we can entertain no doubt that the *Times* is in mortal terror of a fair judge and jury in any part of the world, and we shall not be rash, therefore, in saying that the *Times* will have recourse to every trick and subterfuge, and employ every device known to the most cunning lawyers, to prevent the trying of the action in Dublin. For, although juries can be easily packed there, as has often been the case before, and jury lists lost in some mysterious way, still this will not be so easy now as it used to be; and the *Times* will, therefore, be obliged to run the risk of having its conduct put before an honest jury. But a terrible fight may be first expected. In the estimation of the *Times* it will be safer to prevent the trial of the action altogether than to face a jury. It is not very unlikely, consequently, that the species of opposition had recourse to in Scotland with success will be availed of by it in Dublin.

A certain Major **LECARON** has appeared before the Parnell Commission in the rôle of an informer. With the best will in the world to do the dirty work of the Government and the "Forger," he has miserably failed to implicate the Irish Members in the schemes of the Invincibles and dynamitards, but has succeeded to perfection in proving himself to be an unmitigated ruffian. According to his own testimony given on oath—if such an oath is of any value,—he has been for the last twenty years a member of revolutionary societies, has organised a rebellion in Manitoba, has been cognisant of criminal proceedings against the British Government, etc., etc., and during all this time has been the agent of said British Government, in its pay, and acting as its informer, betraying the unfortunate people whom he instigated to crime. It is hard to say whether this story is more discreditable to the Government or to the Major himself. It amounts to a terrible indictment of both, and shows that the Government and its base tools are immeasurably more guilty of the crimes and which it has punished unfortunate and wretched men than for the men themselves. It teaches another lesson, which the Irishmen ought to take to heart, and that is the folly and criminality of becoming members of secret societies. The moment a man becomes a member of a secret society he loses all freedom, and entirely places himself in the power of the basest slave, and is sold like cattle to a Government which employs the crime and the tools of crime and the betrayers of their companions and dupes.

This makes up another chapter to be added to the large volume which contains the awful history of conspiracies, treasons, betrayals, and hangings, for which the British Government is almost entirely responsible in Ireland. Let the agitation for the redress of grievances be open, above board, manly, straightforward, and intelligent; let Irishmen be on their guard against men who suggest to them secrecy, oaths, and underground plotting. For the most part these are criminals only intent on making others criminals, in order

that they may betray them, and enrich themselves on the proceeds of their own criminality and treasons. See how this Major and similar men have traded on their simplicity and love of country; see how they have turned their indignation against the wrongs of their country and race to their own pecuniary advantage; and see with what unblushing effrontery and cynical shamelessness they can testify in the courts of justice to the infamous part they have played in ruining individuals and wrecking their country's hopes—safe themselves in the protection of their employers in high places, who are hardly less criminal than the base informers themselves.

THE Most Rev. Dr. Moran will leave New Zealand for Europe by the *Kaikoura* on Thursday the 21st. His Lordship will, therefore, take his departure from Dunedin by the *Wairarapa* which leaves for Lyttelton on Wednesday.

A PROCESSION of the Blessed Sacrament will take place in St. Joseph's Cathedral, Dunedin, on Tuesday evening next on the conclusion of the meeting of the Confraternity of the Holy Family.

It is announced that Mr. Herbert Gladstone, M.P., has arrived by the *Austral* at Albany. The visit of this gentleman to the colonies should afford an opportunity to Irish settlers of showing by their reception of him their gratitude for the part taken in Irish affairs by his illustrious father—the Grand Old Man, with whom, also, Mr. Herbert Gladstone is fully in sympathy on the point alluded to.

WE have received from Greymouth £86 and from Ross and Rimu £40 3s, for transmission to Dublin in aid of the Parnell Defence Fund. A sum of £13 15s 6d has also been forwarded to us from Milton in connection with the collection initiated in Dunedin. Letters from the gentlemen forwarding the sums in question, and expressing sympathy with Mr. Parnell and his colleagues, will be found in another place.

WE are advised that some inaccuracy, no doubt quite accidental, occurred in a letter recently published by us from an occasional correspondent at Westport. Previous to the appointment of a curate, mentioned by our correspondent, Mass was celebrated there regularly on two Sundays in succession, and it was only on every third Sunday that the celebration was omitted, and then there were generally Vespers and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament in the evening. The Catholic school also was assiduously attended to by the Parish Priest, who had been zealous in promoting its interests in every possible way since its establishment.

THE Dominican Nuns have received art-union blocks and remittances from Mesdames N-bit, per Miss M-Mullen; Mair, Portobello; P. Fagan, Dunedin; Bradley, Caversham. Miss Mountney, Queenstown. Messrs J. Rattray, Dunedin; and W. Cavanagh, Balclutha. Owing to the small amount of the receipts and the value of the prizes, the nuns are unwillingly obliged to postpone the drawing. Particulars of when this will take place, which must be decided by the progress made during the next few weeks in the sale of tickets, will be given by us in due time.

MR. BALFOUR is just now amusing himself by the contemplation of Mr. O'Brien's precarious state in prison. Mr. O'Brien, we may add, has been placed in the infirmary, where his clothes have been restored to him. This tickles our male Candia, and makes him feel very cheerful. Sympathy with the sufferer, however, is being widely manifested.

FATHER MCFADDEN has been charged with complicity in the killing of Inspector Martin. As to be charged with a crime, under existing circumstances in Ireland, means also to be convicted of it, we can have but little hope that the good priest will escape. The guilty party, nevertheless, is the Government, who are alone accountable for the riot in which the man was killed.

THE evidence of the delightful Mr. Delaney is being employed against Pat Molloy, whom, it appears, they are actually trying to convict of perjury. We shall probably know in a day or two whether the system of successful jury-packing extends also to London.

AMONG the items given by the *Gazette* is the promotion of Messrs. B. A. Dunne and Edward O'Neill as lieutenants respectively in the Dunedin Irish Rifles and the Palmerston South Rifles. We are happy in congratulating these gentlemen on the recognition thus made of their merits.

"ST. JOSEPH'S ALMANAC," published by the N. Z. TABLET Printing and Publishing Company, Dunedin, and sold at the very moderate price of 6d, is a book that must prove of great value in

every Catholic household. The calendar not only gives, with excellent explanations in several instances, the festivals and fast-days of the Church, but also names the saint or saints of each day, adding interesting particulars as to their various careers. The work referred to was done especially for this publication by a religious of the diocese of Dunedin, and it reflects great credit on its compiler. The almanac contains besides a translation published recently by the Bishop of Maitland of the decrees of the Synod of Sydney. Its secular contents include garden and farm calendars, ready-reckoners, and tables of measurements, and other matters of the kind, as well as a time table of the mails. The book, in short, is remarkably well compiled in every respect, and, as we have said, a very good and useful publication.

THE *Times* this week produced a great gun altogether against the National leaders. This is one Major Lecaron, a Fenian, a Clan-na-Gael, a Manitoban rebel, a dynamiter, an anything or anybody, in short, that it is possible, or impossible either for the matter of that, for any one to be. Major Lecaron, swears that Mr. Parnell is an out-and-out revolutionist, who would be a Fenian if he were permitted to be so by the Brotherhood, and who looks for the freedom of Ireland to an armed rebellion only. He swears that several others of the prominent Nationalists are revolutionists as well; that Egan had paid Dutch officers to assist the Boers in the war against England; that he had declared himself ready to continue active warfare, and to support the murder policy. He says 90,000 dols. of the skirmishing fund was spent—and therefore, of course, thrown away—in arming vessels and preparing other offensive measures against England. He says Mr. O'Kelly had employed seventy members of the Clan-na-Gael to ship arms to Ireland. He has, moreover, pass-words and cyphers, and secret papers of the League to produce. We see, therefore, that Major Lecaron is a very formidable person indeed.

THERE is, however, some slight danger that Major Lecaron may prove just a trifle too formidable, and by placing the condition of things prominently and vividly before the English public may do as much harm as good to the cause he is meant to serve. Major Lecaron it appears has been in the pay of the English Government since 1863, since which time also he has furnished a thousand reports, having joined the Fenians for the purpose of betraying their secrets. The serious point is, meantime, that the Major, in the pay of the English Government, as he says, has been accountable for deeds quite as bad as any he accuses the Nationalists of countenancing or encouraging. He it was, according to his own account, who was head of the organization which sent Gallagher to destroy buildings in London with dynamite,—and who, consequently, was responsible for the undertaking of the fool whom he betrayed, for he says he also revealed the plot and had Gallagher arrested. He says, besides, that he had organised the rebellion in Manitoba and supplied the necessary funds to carry it on. Louis Riel, therefore, whose execution formed one of the illustrations given by Lord Salisbury in his Edinburgh speech, was doubly the victim of the English Government—seduced by their agent to rebel, and then hanged by them for doing so. Will the English public now that this detestable method of proceeding—so long employed unknown, as we may hope, to them in Ireland—is brought vividly before them, countenance its perpetuation, or will they not visit those who have made use of it with their anger and save their own honour in the eyes of the world? If Lecaron is corroborated and proved to state the truth, it is not Gallagher and Louis Riel who were the criminals;—it is not even their tempter and betrayer—this true son and imitator of the devil—but it is the Government itself that is guilty, and, if they sustain the Government, the people will also take upon themselves the guilt. This informer, therefore, has placed the honour of England at stake before the world, and is even more formidable to the Government in whose support he is produced than to the men whom it is his office to destroy.

SIR RICHARD WEBSTER, nevertheless, even supported as he is by Major Lecaron, appears to be backing down. He now declares that he will not connect Mr. Parnell personally with murder but will be content with proving that he had deliberately allied himself to persons whom he knew to be murderers. But the letters attributed to Mr. Parnell, if they were genuine, would connect him personally and closely with murder. It is evident, therefore, that the Attorney General has relinquished all hope of proving the authenticity of these letters, and is preparing to withdraw as plausibly as possible from making the attempt. The reason of the delay made in entering upon an examination of them is now very apparent.

MR. PARNELL we perceive is not to be baffled by the dishonesty and cowardice of the *Times*. That newspaper has availed itself of some technical point to prevent the hearing of the Scotch action, what point we do not as yet know, but it can hardly be that raised as to Mr. Walter's personal responsibility, which had been decided by the Court of Session in accordance with Lord Kinneir's ruling, and in favour of the plaintiff. Mr. Parnell, therefore, has resolved to

transfer his case to Dub in, no doubt being aware that, even though the old trick of packing a jury may once more be played—with all the particular skill too of Pether the Packer, the exposure made by the evidence will be sufficient for his purpose.

THERE is at least one weak point connected with Major Lecaron's evidence. It is quoted with a contrary intention, but its bearing is, nevertheless, quite apparent. Mr. Gladstone, it is said, although as Premier he had received Major Lecaron's reports as to the doings of the Land League, still proposed to entrust the destinies of Ireland to the members of that association. But surely this means one of two things—either Mr. Gladstone placed no reliance on Major Lecaron's reports, or, if he did, he saw the only way of putting an end to the degrading and abominable system of which the informer was a minister, was to alter the plan of government under which it had so long existed, and of which it formed a necessary part. In either case the interpretation tells in favour of the effort Lecaron's evidence is intended to quash.

AND this is that glorious and enlightened British rule of which we have heard so much—a thing supported by plots and seductions; by sending out into all parts of the world men who are not only spies, but the seducers who turn the criminals and conspirators they are also hired to betray. The true-born Briton has been wont to condemn the systems of secret police employed in certain foreign lands, and to thank God that he himself is not as other men are. But if he is not as other men are it is because he is infinitely worse. His own particular system far surpasses in its baseness any that exists elsewhere. Meantime, we see how infamy brings its nemesis with it. This enslavement and oppression of Ireland not only involve the utter degradation of British rule and its disgrace in the eyes of the world, but they impose besides on the tax-payer a heavy burden of expense. The true-born Briton pays through the nose for the maintenance of a system that gives all his honourable pretensions the lie, and degrades his country to the level of a strumpet.

MEYER AND CO., Dentists, Octagon, corner of George street. They guarantee highest 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.]

The Farmer's Agency Company has been formed for the purpose of acting as agents in the sale of grain, stock, and produce generally. The well-known reputation of Mr. John Grundley, the manager, is a sufficient guarantee that in every respect the business entrusted to the company will be so transacted as to secure the utmost satisfaction on the part of all who avail themselves of their services.

Mr. W. R. Border's engine and boiler works Main North Road, Timaru, are conducted in a manner that testifies admirably to the experience gained by their proprietor during his long period of service as foreman for Messrs. Scott Bros. Christchurch. All kinds of work proper to such an establishment are turned out in first-class style and at moderate rates.

Messrs. F. W. McGill and Co. have re-opened the drapery establishment lately conducted by Mr. Thomas McGill in the Royal Arcade, Dunedin. Their stock is large and well selected, and the well-earned reputation of the house will be maintained by the excellence of its goods and the reasonableness of prices.

Diary of the Week.

WEDNESDAY, 6th.

SYDNEY capitalist prevented by property tax from purchasing building lots in Auckland.—Meeting of sympathisers with Parnell at Hawera, Gordon Furlong in chair.—Floods at Castleman, Victoria, and Albury and Cooma, N.S.W.—Great fire at Buffalo, New York.—

THURSDAY, 7th.

Largely attended Parnell Defence Fund meeting held at Oamaru.—British consulate at Ching-Kiang, China, burned during riot.—

FRIDAY, 8th.

To Kooti visits Auckland with intention of going to Poverty Bay.—Announced that Pope presents golden chalice as jubilee gift to Melbourne;—Condon, M.P., Tipperary East sentenced two months.—

SATURDAY, 9th.

Successful trial of Maxim gun at Melbourne.—"Jack the Ripper" commits three murders at Spanish Town, Jamaica.—Serious riots in Rome.—Serious riots and strikes in Belgium.—

MONDAY, 11th.

Boulanger proposes for France election of President as in America.—Afghan Ameer marching with 5000 troops on Turkestan.—

TUESDAY, 12th.

Earthquake shocks in Lancashire, and at Naples.—U.S. Senate votes quarter million to protect American interests in Panama.

Correspondence.

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

PARNELL DEFENCE FUND.

TO THE EDITOR N.Z. TABLET.

SIR,—Following the example of the beloved and patriotic Bishop of Dunedin, I have much pleasure in forwarding you the enclosed cheque for £40 3s towards the Parnell Defence Fund, together with the list of subscribers. The necessity of every Irishman subscribing to so worthy a cause is now so well known that further comment is unnecessary.—I am, etc.,

P. STUART.

Ross, February 2, 1889.

TO THE EDITOR N.Z. TABLET.

SIR,—We have much pleasure in forwarding you the enclosed amount, £86, subscribed in the undermentioned districts towards the Parnell Defence Fund, and to request that you will be good enough to forward the same at your earliest convenience to its destination. We feel sorry that we are not able to complete our lists at present, but deem it advisable to forward what we have on hand and forward a second instalment by St. Patrick's Day, and hope that those who have not subscribed already will do so by that time.

The following amounts were subscribed in the following places: Greymouth, £38 3s 6d; Brunnerton, £11 16s 6d; Black Ball, £17 2s 6d; Maori Creek, £9 5s; Cameron's Terrace, £5 10s; Paroa, £4 7s; total, £86 4s 6d; less exchange, 4s 6d—£86. Other districts in the Grey Valley, who formerly forwarded their contributions through this branch, are this time forwarding it through the Rev. Father O'Hallahan. By publishing the accompanying lists in the TABLET you will oblige.—We are, etc.,

THOMAS P. O'DONNELL, President;
M. PHILLIPS, Hon. Treasurer;
JAMES CREAGH, Hon. Secretary.

Greymouth, February 5, 1889.

TO THE EDITOR N.Z. TABLET.

SIR,—Please forward the amount of enclosed cheque for £13 15s 6d to the "Parnell Defence Fund" as soon as convenient.

There never was a time when it was at all so necessary for the Irish race all over the world to come forward and show their attachment to the land of their fathers.

The Times and Government, it appears, are determined to carry on a sham inquiry into the acts of the Nationalist leaders in the hope (vain hope I trust) that those noble patriots' cause will eventually break down through want of funds, and then, of course, those unscrupulous colleagues would boastfully claim a victory.

I trust all who love honesty, justice and fair play, irrespective of creed or nationality, will come forward, and by their subscriptions show to the world that they are entirely opposed to oppression, injustice, and foul play, as practised by Lord Salisbury and his tool, Mr. Walter, or from whatever quarter it might come. I enclose a list of subscribers' names, for which please find room in the TABLET.—I am, etc.

JAS. B. SCANLAN.

Milton, February 12, 1889.

London, December 31.—The Vienna correspondent of the Times says that for the first time in years the Emperor of Russia has sent a friendly Christmas greeting to the Pope.

When Mr. Gladstone was at Birmingham the other day he slipped across from Sir W. Foster's house to the Oratory to inquire after Cardinal Newman. He could not see the Cardinal, but was received by the Father who habitually attends him. In conversation it came out that the venerable patient was fond of reading in bed, but that the Fathers had difficulty in finding him a safe and suitable light. Mr. Gladstone instantly replied, "I have the very thing by me," and posting back to Sir W. Foster's house, returned bearing a candlestick with a reflector attached, which he left as a present for the Cardinal. Considering that this happened on the very afternoon of the Bingley Hall meeting—in the midst of the hurry and excitement of preparation—it is a striking instance, says the London correspondent of the Manchester Guardian, of self-forgetfulness and thoughtfulness for others.

Mgr. Persico's report on the Irish question is almost complete. It is said that he directs attention to the anomalous fact that all the governing authorities in Ireland, from the Lord Lieutenant downwards, are Protestants and not well disposed towards Catholics. On the other hand, he says, the agrarian struggle engenders outrage and a total violation of the moral law. He himself has improved the state of affairs, but much remains undone. The Irish people refuse absolutely to admit that the Plan of Campaign is criminal. They consider it a legitimate retaliation upon the land-owners, who, they say, must pay for the misdeeds of their class in the past. The Land Courts sometimes succeed in quieting the people by obtaining concessions from the landlords, but generally they inspire little confidence. The Pope may still do much, provided he can convince the Irish people that he is not acting in accordance with an agreement with the English Government. The people must be made to comprehend the moral importance of their acts; they must be taught to accustom themselves to a separation of political questions from moral questions. They must not serve as the instrument of those who, under the pretext of nationality, lead them to the commission of acts that are contrary to morality. Mgr. Persico expresses the most absolute disapproval of boycotting. He signifies the opinion that Irish political aspirations must be satisfied before peace can be restored.

TRY KIRKPATRICK'S SPECIAL QUALITY FRESH FRUIT "K" JAMS.

NOTICE.—Our Special Quality "K" Brand of New Season's Jam is made from Fresh Fruit within a few hours after it has been gathered. It thus retains the full flavour of the Fresh Fruit, and IS THE BEST QUALITY IF IS POSSIBLE TO MAKE.

CAUTION.—None is genuine unless our name is stamped on the tin, and has our Registered Trade Mark, the letter "K" on the label

**S. KIRKPATRICK AND CO.,
MANUFACTURERS, NELSON.**

9, 10 and 11 ROYAL ARCADE.

GREAT SALE.—Goods purchased at Enormous Reductions now to be cleared, Selling at Less than usual Cost Price. Come and See the Goods. It will pay you to visit Mrs. Loft's during this *bona fide* Sale. It is Fresh Goods that are being parted with to make room for goods ordered.

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:—

Men's Colonial-made Bluchers, 6s 3d and 6s 9d.
Men's Colonial-made Balmorals, 8s 11d.
Men's Colonial-made Elastics, 9s 11d.
Men's English-made Balmorals, 7s 11d.
Women's Lace Boots, 4s 11d. Women's Leather Slippers, 3s 6d.
Women's Elastic Boots, 4s 6d and 4s 11d
Women's Cashmere Slippers, 1s 11d.

All other lines equally Cheap at

MRS. LOFT'S

CHEAP BOOT SHOPS,

Special Attention shown to the Drapery Department at No. 12 Arcade. Cheap Lines in plenty.

Remember, only Sale Prices for All Goods at

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As Low-priced Pianofortes are largely sold by Auction throughout New Zealand, and are afterwards offered for Sale by parties who are not in the trade.

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MOST RELIABLE MAKERS IN EUROPE

Are arranged for inspection and trial by intending purchasers, *must be appreciated*. The highest-class Pianofortes are celebrated and unequalled for high-class Mechanism, Beauty of Tone, Elasticity of Touch, with Elegance of Design, Reliable Workmanship, and the Choicest Materials.

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Under this liberal system great Advantages are offered to the Public.

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In their splendid Stock can be selected under a form of **HIRE AGREEMENT** for settlement as may be agreeable to the inquirer, within **TWO YEARS**; in special cases, within **THREE YEARS**.

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And inquirers are invited to make a Cash Deposit on Selection, and to make other Monthly or Quarterly Payments at arranged dates.

The amount left over for future payment, and the time required, regulating the advance at a fair rate upon the Cash Price. On completion of the terms of agreement, the Instrument is transferred by a receipted sale note to, and thereby becomes the property of the individual who entered into the arrangement.

This system has been in constant use to the convenience of Hundreds of Families all over the Colony **FOR MANY YEARS**.

**CHARLES BEGG & CO.,
DUNEDIN and TIMARU.**

THE GRANITE HOUSE, Ready-Money Drapers and Importers, 36 and 38 George street.

BARGAINS in Homespun, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Nice range of Colours, and the Cheap: at in Dunedin.

BARGAINS.—Strong Tweeds for Boys' wear, 1s 1d, 1s 6 $\frac{1}{2}$, 1s 11d. 2s 6d; Very Superior Colonial Tweeds, 2s 11d. 3s 6d

BARGAINS.—Macintoshes 3s 11d, 4s 6d, 5s 9d; Short Jack's, 10s 6d, 12s 6d up; Ulsters 7s 6d 9s 6d, 12s 6d, 17s 6d up

BARGAINS in Ladies' Trimmed and Untrimmed Hats, at Reduced Prices; a Large Assortment to select from.

BARGAINS.—Hollands, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 6d, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, up. Still at old prices, and Duty Free.

BARGAINS.—Flannels, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 1s, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ yard up; Swanskin, from 7 $\frac{1}{2}$; Furar Towel ng. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ 1, 6d, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ 1 up.

BARGAINS.—Boys' Knicker Suits (sizes 2 to 8), prices 4s 6d, 5s 6d, 6s 9d upwards: lined throughout.

BARGAINS.—Men's Tweed suits, very large selection. 17s 6d, 22s 6d, 24s 9d, 28s 6d, 30s to 55s; Wonderful Value.

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PATRON—RIGHT REV. DR. BYRNE.

The above College will **RE-OPEN** for the coming academic year under the management of the Priests of the Congregation of the Mission, to whom it has been entrusted by his Lordship the Bishop of the Diocese.

Spacious and well-appointed buildings, combined with beauty and healthfulness of situation, and the solid training imparted to the pupils, have already won for St. Stanislaus a prominent place amongst the educational establishments of the colonies.

Many important improvements and additions, amongst which may be mentioned a well-equipped Chemical Laboratory and Philosophy Hall, will, it is hoped, increase the present advantages of the College and enable the Vincentian Fathers to give the pupils entrusted to their care an education fully suited to the requirements of the day.

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MALSTERS AND BREWERS.

Irish News.

Cavan.—The other day public attention was directed to a case heard before the Land Commission in Dublin, in which Mr. Robinson, agent of the Castlestuart estate, was ordered to refund a sum of £75 which had been irregularly obtained by him under the Arrears Act. The court declared that the tenants of the townland of Mulrick, Gowna, in whose name the arrears had been obtained, were not bound by statutory agreements fixing fair rents which the tenants had been induced to sign in the belief that they were signing papers in connection with the Arrears Act. The agent was not very happy at being obliged to hand over the £75, and at seeing the tenants, whom he thought he had bound up for 15 years, declared free to go into court to have a fair rent fixed, and he had an opportunity on November 24 of showing his respect for the decision of the Land Commission and what he thought of the temerity of those wicked tenants who ventured to appeal from his office-made arrangements. Even while the case had been before the Land Commission Court this tyrant got ejection decrees against five of the tenants, the Judge refusing to fix fair rents for them on the ground that the case had gone to a higher court, but still thinking himself competent to pronounce sentence of eviction. Mr. Robinson, with the Sheriff and bailiffs, executed his sentences of death. He himself, with his bailiff, nailed up and fastened the doors and windows after the poor people had been driven forth into the storm of wind and rain that swept the hillside, and their little effects broken and scattered about. Rev. M. Corcoran, who, with Father Grey, was present all the day, offered two years' rent on behalf of the tenants, but the offer was sternly refused, the agent declaring that he would not accept any rent, and that the only terms of settlement possible would be that the tenants should, after eviction, pay a fine to the landlord and go back as future tenants at the old rent, or any other he might choose to fix.

Clare.—An influential meeting of the Touclea branch of the League was held on November 25. Jeremiah Connolly occupied the chair. After enrolling several new members, the following resolution was carried:—That we sincerely regret the sad and untimely death of Mr. Pyne, M.P., the hero of Lisfenny Castle, and we tender our heartfelt sympathy to his family and friends.

The annual celebration in commemoration of the Manchester Martyrs was to have been held at Kilrush on November 23. The authorities posted policemen in the graveyard, but their number was too small to cope with the people when they arrived in large numbers and gathered round the memorial cross. Thomas Coote, a Protestant Nationalist, proceeded to address those present, but the police force, being reinforced, cleared the graveyard.

Cork.—A Coercion Court sat at Skibbereen to hear charges of unlawful assembly at the Castlewownend meeting. The men charged were Patrick Driscoll, Daniel Murphy, and Jeremiah Walsh of Myros. G. K. Sherlock, Bandon, prosecuted, and Mr. Downes defended. The court was thronged, amongst those present being Father O'Leary, Rev. James O'Sullivan, Rev. J. O'Hea. Constable Baldwin stated that he saw one of the policemen strike a man with his sword during the meeting. After hearing several other witnesses, the Removables sentenced Murphy and Walsh to two months' imprisonment, and dismissed the case against Driscoll.

Derry.—The following circular has been sent out by Agent Clark to the Clark tenants in the Maghera district:—"Dear Sir:—In January, 1885, I addressed you a circular to the following effect:—'If any tenant desired it, my father would sell him his farm in such a way that the annual installments that he would have to pay for the loan would be four shillings in the pound less than the present rent and would cease altogether in 49 years, when the farm became a freehold, and that this purchase would be so arranged that the tenant should receive a reduction equal to four shillings in the pound on the rent due last November.' By not purchasing then you have practically allowed three years to be added to the price of your farm, for any payment you have since made would have gone to reduce the 49 installments you have to pay. Instead of this you have paid three years' rent which, as regards any benefit you derive from it, might have been thrown into the fire. As we wish that this estate should get the benefit of the Ashbourne Act, father desires me to say he repeats the offer contained in the circular of December, 1885, as far as regards purchase, with this limitation—that last November's rent be paid before the first of February. I understand applications for a million and a half of this proposed loan (which is only for five millions) have been lodged with the Commissioners. There ought, therefore, to be no delay in sending in your application if you decide to buy.—Yours truly, J. JACKSON CLARK." No steps have yet been taken by the tenants. It is expected they will not buy.

Donegal.—Bishop O'Donnell of Raphoe delivered a grand speech at the annual social reunion of the natives of Donegal resident in Glasgow, Scotland. He was happy, he said, to find such a large and enthusiastic gathering of Donegal people who, driven from their native land by a cruel and tyrannical Government, still cherished the scenes of their childhood and worshipped their fatherland through weal and woe.

It is reported on good authority that the dispute which has existed for nearly twelve months between the Marquis of Conyngham and his Glenties tenants has been settled, notwithstanding that at the Glenties Petty Sessions a large number of warrants for possession were granted against tenants and evictions were expected to take place soon. The new agent, Wm. Hammond, attended at the rent office and accepted the rents, less the reduction demanded by the tenants, having forgiven all costs and reinstated those tenants who were under notice of eviction.

Fermanagh.—The Michaelmas Quarter Sessions for the Newtownbutler district of the County Fermanagh were opened in that town before J. C. Neligan, County Court Judge. J. W. Hanrahan, Clerk of the Crown, having called over the names of the Grand

Jurors, the Judge, in addressing them, said he was glad to be in a position to congratulate them on the light calendar they had to deal with. They had only one bill altogether to consider, which was of a trivial nature, and which he was sure they would have no difficulty in dealing with.

Galway.—James Kilmartin, of Shralea, Ballinasloe, has advised the tenants of this county to prevent the land-robbers from hunting on their farms.

On November 27 considerable excitement was caused in the House of Commons by the service of a summons on David Sheehy, the member for South Galway. Mr. Sheehy was about to leave the House, after having concluded his speech, when one of the attendants handed him a card. He proceeded at once to the lobby and was there served with a summons under the Crimes Act by Constable Sullivan, from Ireland. Several members of Parliament witnessed the unusual incident, and the policeman's conduct was afterwards declared to be a breach of privilege.

Kildare.—Rev. B. Byrne presided at the recent meeting of the Two-mile House branch of the League. Proposed by James Dillon, seconded by Peter Daly, and passed:—That we condemn the action of the trustees of the O'Kelly estate in casting upon the roadside their unfortunate tenants, who were peacefully seeking a reduction in their rents which the past bad times rendered necessary, and we pledge ourselves to support them by every means in our power in their struggle against such tyrannous and barbarous treatment.

Kilkenny.—One of the most extraordinary scenes ever witnessed in a court of justice took place in Kilkenny on November 28. Several persons were prosecuted for riot in connection with the late Manchester Martyrs' celebrations. Mayor Egan presided, and with him on the bench were Mr. Kough, Alderman McDermott, and Mr. Kennedy, R.M., who is a Removable for the County of Carlow. There was exceptional excitement, and at one time Alderman McDermott, emulating the example of Justice Hannen, gathered up his papers and left the bench in a huff. He came back again. The magistrates subsequently had some very warm words on the bench, which greatly amused the audience. Objection was taken to Mr. Kennedy's sitting on the bench on the ground that he had no Commission of Peace for the city, which Mr. Buggy, who appeared for the defence, said was quite separate from the County. A lengthy and animated conversation ensued. Mr. Kennedy continued to sit on the bench for some time. The moment he asked the first witness a question the Mayor directed the witness not to answer him and requested Mr. Kennedy not to interfere with the court. Mr. Kennedy then retired from the bench amidst a scene of wild confusion, the people cheering loudly.

King's County.—W. D. Whelan, solicitor, Tullamore, holds a unique position regarding the Parnell Commission if it is true, as reported, that for some time he has been preparing evidence on behalf of the Parnell side in the present commission of inquiry in London. At all events, he has been made aware that his knowledge of the League will be required by the *Times*.

Kerry.—At the recent meeting of the Killarney Guardians, Daniel Crowley, relieving officer, laid before the Board notices of intended evictions on the Kenmare estate served on him. The parties to be evicted are James Mahony, Denis T. Houlihan, Kate Kelly, John Houlihan, and John Leary.

The other day, as a farmer named John Dennehy was going home from Killarney to Headford, he was arrested by Sergeant Smythe, of Headford station, and taken before Colonel Turner at the Police Barrack, where he was searched for documents in connection with the Plan of Campaign and questioned as to having handed over money. He was discharged, and was accompanied to his home by the head-constable, who on the way tried to get information from him as to the working of the Plan of Campaign on the estate, assuring him that he would not suffer for having given information. But Dennehy gave no information, having none to give, and the Sergeant was fouled.

Limerick.—A National League Convention, composed of the League branches of the surrounding districts, was held at Galbally, November 18. Delegates from the Anghborough, Ballylanders, Emly, Knocklong, Pallasgreen, Bansha and Kilmoyler, and Galbally branches attended. Very Rev. Canon Ryan was called upon to preside. He said they would have many matters to consider pertaining to the working of the League in the district, some suggested by resolutions passed at the recent Thurles Convention. The reverend chairman then referred to the case of the O'Neills, evicted by Count Moore, and defending his action in supporting them in their struggle. In conclusion he said the eviction of a tenant for a year's rent, especially in the present depressed times, was establishing a fearful precedent. A number of resolutions were then adopted bearing on the case.

On November 29 a proclamation signed by Mr. Irwin, R.M., was posted throughout the city forbidding the holding of a meeting next day "to spread and encourage sedition," this being the first intimation to the people that such a meeting was to be held. Extra police were drafted into the city. A circular was then posted on the walls calling on the Nationalists of Limerick to visit the memorial cross at the cemetery in commemoration of the Martyrs. This placard was torn down by the police during the night, and the Government proclamation was effaced by the people. November 23, 60 police were posted at the memorial cross, Major Rolleston and Mr. Irwin commanding. During the day the gates of the cemetery were locked, but large numbers visited the cross, which is just outside the cemetery. Prayers were offered up for the Martyrs in several of the churches.

Louth.—Removable Magistrates Kilkenny and Evanson held a Crimes Act Court at Dundalk recently. John Maguire, Patrick McGuinness, Bernard O'Hagan, Patrick O'Hagan, Joseph Kelly, James Keating, and Peter Jackson were arraigned on a charge of singing "The Memory of the Dead"—a celebrated patriotic song by Dr. Ingram, a Fellow of Trinity College—commencing with the line, "Who fears to speak of '98?" Maguire, in whose possession a revolver was found, was sentenced to three months' hard labour, and the others to two months' hard labour.

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GARDEN AND GROUNDS attached to the Hotel, make it the finest place in New Zealand for the accommodation of Tourists, Travellers, and Families.

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MERCERY.		thing "at and
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Mayo.—Thomas Byrne presided at the recent meeting of the Bohola I.N.L. The following resolution was passed:—That we condemn the action of Judge Morris in confirming the barbarous sentence of six months' imprisonment which had been recorded against the Mayor of Sligo by Removables Henn and Turner, and we believe the article for which Mr. M'Hugh is suffering was a just and reasonable comment, the sentiments contained in which shall be cherished by the people of Ireland when Bloody Balfour and his infamous tools will be heard of no more.

The match between the Newport Wolfe Tones and the Westport John MacHales was played at Newport on November 18 and resulted in a draw. Precisely at two o'clock the Westport team arrived on a number of cars, and, being joined by the members of the Wolfe Tone Club headed by their brass band, immediately repaired to the trysting-place. John Mc'Ney and W. Dorris acted as field umpires, and Alex. Kavanagh as referee. The Tones won the toss and played with great energy, keeping the ball well on Westport territory until half-time was called. On sides being changed the MacHales seem confident of success, but the Tones charged with great determination and after a hard struggle scored one point. Within two minutes of time being called the MacHales skilfully forced the leather on to their opponents' ground and succeeded in scoring a point. After the game both teams returned to Newport, the band playing and all the people singing the national anthem, "God Save Ireland."

Monaghan.—The Irishmen of Kimberly, South Africa, have sent to P. O'Brien, M.P. for North Monaghan, a very handsome present in token of their admiration of his courage in the fight against Coercion in Ireland, and of sympathy with him in his long term of imprisonment. It consists of a large Cap diamond of extremely pure quality set in a massive ring of South African gold.

Tipperary.—The celebration of the anniversary of the Manchester Martyrs at Carrick-on-Suir, was interfered with by the police. A black flag displayed from the windows of the Gladstone Temperance Society, was seized after some resistance on the part of the members. A barber's shop was also entered, and another black flag was seized. Some stone-throwing prevailed in the evening and the police charged the crowd several times. Forty prosecutions will be initiated at the forthcoming sessions. The excitement subsided in the evening and the town is now quiet.

At a Crimes Act Court held at Thurles by Removables Meldon and Carew, an Emergencyman, named John Tappins, was charged with having a loaded revolver in his possession in a proclaimed district without a license. It appeared that he was under the influence of drink, and that he deliberately jostled against a reputable farmer named Dwyer. A police constable deposed that he heard Tappins call Dwyer a "bloody Land Leaguer," and say to him, "You should get a bullet in the backbone. I have authority to do that." The police had great difficulty in taking the revolver from accused, Tappins was sentenced to one month's imprisonment.

Westmeath.—The anniversary of the execution of the Manchester Martyrs was celebrated in Athlone on November 23. The band of the Workmen's Club paraded the principal streets of the town playing the "Dead March in Saul," and prayers were offered up at all the Catholic churches for the repose of the souls of the Martyred Three.

There was an influential meeting of the local branch of the League on November 25, under the presidency of Rev. E. O'Reilly. Andrew Allen said:—The *Times* Commission was now sitting 20 days, and with all the resources which were at the command of the Tory Government, and they were wonderful indeed, nor did they refrain from entering into the lowest channels to obtain the much-prized information—it was satisfactory to every Irishman to know that they were not able to prove the League guilty of one particle of crime or outrage. A dark plot had been instituted to drag down the Irish Members and to lower them in the estimation of their countrymen and the world. Not alone across the Channel were their enemies at work, but if they came nearer home they could pick out plenty of men of the same stamp who were too willing to defame the National cause. If the National League were in prosperity every one would be ready to strew flowers in their way, but when any little adversity had to be contended with then they lent their assistance in heaping contumely upon it. It was the duty of members to stand up in defence of a cause mantled with pure National spirit. The path of true Nationalism was never one of roses, on the contrary it was always a path of sorrow, and the Irish people should be determined to bear with all trials in order to win their National rights.

Wicklow.—The Home Rule football tournament was commenced on November 27. Owing to a local meeting but one of the ties could be played, the clubs engaged being the O'Donnell Aboos, Miltown, and the Michael Dwyers, Rathfarham. In the first half the Dwyers, playing with the wind, put six points to their credit to their opponents' nil. When change of ground was called it was expected the Miltown boys would easily wipe out the score, but though they fought a determined match with the Dwyers, they were unable to do so, and had to put up with another two points against them, which left the score—Michael Dwyers eight points, to O'Donnell Aboos nil.

The Unionist party is the party of despair. Seldom have we been shown that fact more strongly than in the reception of the Holborn result by the Unionist Press. Holborn is one of the safest Tory strongholds in the three kingdoms. Notwithstanding this, the Home Rulers have come near to capturing it. Comparing 1888 with 1885, we find that, while the Tories have only added 351 to their vote, the Liberals have added 960 to theirs, and that the majority has been pulled down in consequence from 1,571 to 965. Any party with the least spark of hope or confidence in it would regard this result as very bad and unsatisfactory. But what do the Unionists say? Why, so convinced are they of the essential hopelessness of their cause that the fact of being beaten within an inch of their life instead of killed outright appears to them "an unqualified triumph," and "a victory of which they have a right to be proud."—*Pall Mall Budget*.

ST. PATRICK'S SEMINARY, MANLY, NEAR SYDNEY.

(From the *Freeman's Journal*.)

SHORTLY after 3 o'clock on January 23, the principal hall on the first floor was crowded to witness the formal ceremony of opening the Seminary, and to hear the address which the Very Rev. Father O'Farrell, C.S.S.B. had been announced to deliver.

His Eminence, before introducing the preacher, said it was a great pleasure to him to declare St. Patrick's Seminary open for the reception of aspirants to the holy office of the priesthood. He was sure all present shared in the sense of pride and pleasure he experienced on that eventful day, and he was confident also that they all joined with him in hoping that under the Divine blessing the seminary would be speedily productive of the happiest results in supplying the Church of Australia with a body of bright and devoted young priests, who would have the special advantage in ministering to the spiritual requirements of the Catholic community of having grown up around the altars and sanctuaries of their own fair native land, and of having stored their minds and disciplined their hearts in an institution peculiarly Australian. St. Patrick's was destined to play an important part in the religious advancement of the colonies, and he had little doubt that the priests who would go forth from those walls would prove themselves in no degree inferior to the brave and devoted men who had come from other lands to labour for God in Australia, and who had by their zeal and their self-sacrifice kept the lamp of faith brightly burning in this continent. No church could be considered established on a firm and enduring basis until it had its own priesthood—a priesthood which had sprung up within itself and from its own body—and the fact that Australia had now an ecclesiastical seminary in which its youth might be trained for the priesthood could not but inspire all interested in the great spiritual as well as the great material advancement of this favoured land with feelings of great happiness and consolation. It would be a sad thing if Australia, which had made such marvellous strides in all material things, should be lacking in any of the great test points of a Christian nation, and it was, he thought, a subject for joy and congratulation that an auspicious commencement had been made that day with a great sacred work which was destined to be fruitful of blessings and consolations, not only to the young and vigorous Church of Australia but to the whole community.

THE DISCOURSE.

The Very Rev. Father O'Farrell, C.S.S.B., then delivered an eloquent address on the character and the aims of the seminary. Father O'Farrell, opening his address, said:—A few short years ago I stood up in this headland admiring the beautiful and expansive view which it commands. It was then a bleak and barren spot, houseless and cheerless. The very proximity of the Quarantine reserve seemed to make the place more uninviting and strange. The cold iron fence seemed to say, "Keep away; come not here: it is the Molokai of New South Wales—the place where the plague-stricken are sheltered." Yet on that very day, and on this bleak and cheerless headland, was fixed the site of the noble building that is this day inaugurated. It is but another instance of the civilising influence of the Catholic Church which the prophet foretold would make the desert bloom, and which has been already fully accomplished in the Christian civilising of the barbarism of Europe. It is indeed a noble building—a building of which Australia in her growing greatness may be proud—a fitting ornament to grace the entrance of Sydney's far-famed beautiful bay—a watch-tower to signal to every traveller that here Christianity has gained a footing, and the Catholic Church is at work. But why raise such a pile? why such massive masonry? why that tall majestic tower? why those elaborate carvings? why such spacious halls, such imposing colonnades? What means such lavish expenditure? Could not the money that built it be given to the poor? Thoughts and sentiments of this kind filled the narrow mind of Judas when he saw Mary Magdalen lavish her precious ointment on Him whom she believed to be God. And such, too, is the feeling of many about this College because they know not its end—the sublime purpose for which it is destined. They know not nor appreciate the results to be looked for from its working. To give majesty to the law, to inspire respect for authority, to exalt our ideas of learning and of the cultivation of the arts and sciences, enormous sums are yearly expended by the State, by municipalities, and by individuals on law courts, Houses of Parliament, Treasury offices, on libraries and museums. What purpose has the Catholic Church in view when she puts forth her hand to build up such a splendid institution as this? She has a great principle to vindicate, a great truth to witness to in this land. That principle is the principle of Christian and Catholic education—that truth is the dignity and sanctity of the Roman Catholic priesthood. And the noble structure that now crowns this hill is the embodiment, the substantial expression of the Church's exalted views concerning the education of her children, but especially of those children destined to be her priests. By the providence of God a Prince of the Church is sent here to represent and carry out the views of the Church in a princely measure, and he is here to-day to open this institution with befitting solemnity and pomp. An august assemblage of bishops and dignitaries is gathered around him, and a brilliant array of the cultivated talent of our young Australian nation is also here to add splendour to the ceremonial. And right fitting it should be so, for it is Catholic unity that has given to this the queen city a rich gem of architecture, a meet companion for St. Mary's Cathedral across the harbour, a new and splendid sanctuary of the highest kind of religious education is opened, where those who are called by God as Aaron shall be trained and fitted for the highest dignity and office man can aspire to—the dignity and office of the Catholic priest. To educate the young Levite, to fit him for the exalted office he aspires to, to send him forth a fitting labourer for the vineyard, a worthy shepherd for the flock—this is the aim—this the work—this the anticipated fruit of St. Patrick's Australian Ecclesiastical Seminary. With such a view before me I can easily understand why you, my Lord Cardinal, have your heart in this

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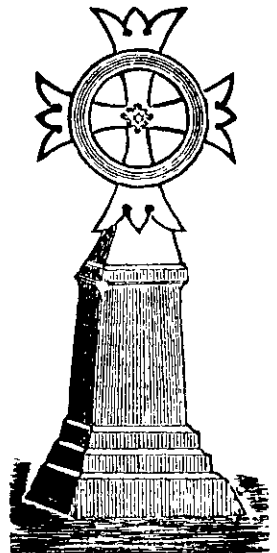
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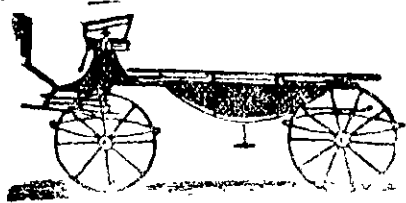
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WE BEG to notify our customers and Friends generally we have removed our place of Business to our New Premises (opposite Reid and Gray's, Princes Street South), where we shall be able to execute all orders with punctuality and care.
 HORDERN, BRAYSHAW, AND WHITE,
 DUNEDIN CARRIAGE FACTORY,
 Princes Street South,
 DUNEDIN.

KAITANGATA RAILWAY AND COAL COMPANY (LIMITED)

KAITANGATA COAL.

The Company beg to intimate to their Patrons, as a safeguard against the imposition of other Coals, that the KAITANGATA has a Bright Shining Appearance, Lights Quickly, and Lasts; Free from Smell of any kind, and is singularly Superior in every way for Household Consumption.

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

Procurable from all Coal Merchants.

FACTORY:

190



29

GEORGE ST.

ROYAL

Op. Morris's.

ARCADE.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

I have much pleasure in announcing to my patrons and friends, who have so liberally supported me for the past seven years, that I have taken those commodious and centrally-situated premises, 190 George street, where I will now have the most complete facilities for carrying out all the branches of my Parasol and Umbrella business.

For the convenience of my numerous Customers in Caversham, Ro-lyn, Mornington, etc., I have opened a BRANCH SHOP in 29 ROYAL ARCADE, 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. Competition defied. Factory: 190 George street. A. MARTINELLI.

NOONDAY OIL.

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.

NOONDAY FOR WASHING CLOTHES. A few tablespoonfuls of Noonday Oil saves half the labour.

Full directions can be obtained from your Grocer.

WANTED KNOWN—

THOMAS GORMAN,

HORSESHOER, GENERAL BLACKSMITH, and WHEELWRIGHT.

All kinds of Jobbing done.

NORTH ROAD, TIMARU.

THE ASHBURTON HOTEL,

EAST STREET.

Proprietor MR. DEWANE. 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.

(Lately 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.

SANITARY PIPE AND STONWARE FACTORY, KENSINGTON.

THE undersigned having purchased the above Works, is prepared to sell at Lowest Current Rates.

J. H. LAMBERT.

NORTH-EAST VALLEY AND KENSINGTON.

TO THE HOTELKEEPERS, STORE-KEEPERS, AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC OF NEW ZEALAND.

J. D. FERAUD

AERATED WATERS, WINES, AND CORDIAL MANUFACTURER, MACLAGGAN STREET, DUNEDIN.

Inspection of my manufacturing process is invited, and a single bottle of my produce can be purchased from me for the purpose of being analysed.

J. D. F. received the following Awards for his Exhibits at the Sydney, Melbourne, and Dunedin International Exhibitions:—

Constantia Wine,	1st degree of merit
Peppermint	1st "
Lemon Syrup	1st "
Lime Juice	2nd "
Ginger Wine	2nd "
Raspberry Vinegar	3rd "
Cherry Brandy	2nd "
Burgundy Wine	3rd "
Ginger Brandy	4th "
Aniseed Liqueur	4th "

FERAUD'S COMPOUND EXTRACT OF SARSAPARILLA.

Prepared only by J. D. FERAUD, MacLaggan Street, Dunedin.

University Laboratory, Dunedin, 4th March, 1884.

I have analysed J. D. Feraud's COMPOUND EXTRACT OF JAMAICA SARSAPARILLA and find it to be a well-prepared mixture of extracts of sarsaparilla and mezereon, with a number of other organic compounds, sweetened and coloured with sugar and caramel. It is free from mercury and all other mineral poisonous substances. In composition it is similar to Dr. Townsend's Sarsaparilla, differing mainly in the proportions in which the ingredients are present.

(Signed) J. G. BLACK, M.A., L.S., Professor of Chemistry.

work, why you have spared no expense in raising a structure worthy of such a sublime purpose, and why your heart throbs to-day with holy joy to see thus far your noble aspirations realised—a new epoung in faith between the priesthood and people of Australia. The preacher, after fully explaining the religious significance of the erection of such an institution, and the part St. Patrick was destined to play in an ecclesiastical and intellectual sense, sketched the work to be done, and pointed out the obligations of the clergy and laity to succour and support the college by every means in their power, remarking that it was absolutely essential that the establishment, on account of its peculiar character, should be free and independent of civil power. In that college the students would receive a high intellectual training, and their hearts would be perfectly moulded to virtue, self-sacrifice, and charity, on the model of the Divine exemplar. Father O'Farrell thus concluded: From this Seminary will go forth the man whose influence is more powerful than that of statesman or general—because God is with him—and whose ministrations bring more solid and abiding comfort than all the wealth of the world can buy. Therefore I congratulate you, my Lord Cardinal, and you, my lords, for though the prospect of a large ripening harvest may render your souls anxious, to-day is opened a Seminary in whose halls will be reared a goodly army of zealous labourers to gather in the sheaves. I congratulate you, also, very reverend brethren, for here will be trained in the same holy traditions worthy successors of your ministry, and heirs of your sacerdotal virtues. I congratulate you, too, the Catholic people of Sydney, first, that you have in your midst architects whose genius could give birth to such a sublime conception, and that Australian hands have been found able to build up a structure which in nobility of design and magnificence of proportions is unrivalled by any of the historic colleges and seminaries of the older countries. But I congratulate you still more on the fact that, with the establishment of this Seminary, it will be now in Australia as it has been and is in Ireland, the glory of the father's life and the joy of the mother's heart to see a child of theirs enter this Seminary, and go forth from it crowned with the dignity of the priesthood. Rejoice then to-day, Catholic Australians, for a light is risen for you, here in the land of your birth or adoption, a source is opened which shall ever send forth its streams of salvation and consolation which your fathers ever thirsted after and drank of when they could with so much profit. And let our ardent prayer to heaven this day be that, by the grace of God and under the blessed patronage of St. Patrick, what Clonmacnoise and Bangor and Lismore did for Ireland, this Seminary may do for Australia—make it a land of scholars and of saints.

There was no collection, by the Cardinal's instructions; but it was intimated that the Rector, Mgr. Verdon, would be happy to receive donations from any friends who were desirous of showing practical sympathy with the object for which the institution was founded. Father O'Farrell's discourse terminated the day's proceedings. During the afternoon the Seminary was thrown open to the public, and the visitors who thronged the halls and corridors found the inspection of the building a very interesting and pleasant experience. Ten students, we understand, have already entered the Seminary. Donations amounting to over £400 were handed in after the opening ceremony.

A DESCRIPTION OF THE BUILDING

Architecturally, the Seminary ranks first among the college buildings of Australia. It is a noble structure, and its features of commanding grace and beauty are set off by the peculiarly picturesque character of the site and its surroundings. Standing on the highest part of Manly, the great white walls and lofty towers present an appearance which makes the college a conspicuous feature of the landscape scenery of the Heads, and an object which challenges attention from all who pass in and out of the harbour. To his Eminence the Cardinal-Archbishop belongs the credit both of conceiving the idea of establishing the college, and of successfully carrying the project into practical effect, and the magnitude of the undertaking may be best estimated by the consideration of the fact that it has involved an expenditure of £70,000 in round numbers. The style of the building is pure Gothic, of the early French domestic school, and with its pointed arches, clustered columns, cloisters and branching roof, the building possesses a charm seldom met with in colonial architecture. The proportions of the building have been evidently carefully studied. The various parts are harmonised and skilfully worked out, and combine three very excellent qualities—order, proportion, and durability. It is probably the largest structure ever designed by a private firm in the colonies, and contains an area in its various floors of nearly 60,000 square feet. The building has been well grouped and artistically broken up in large masses with due regard for light and shade. Not all the architect's care, however, has been bestowed on the exterior, for the arrangements of the interior have been thoughtfully studied. The Seminary is a four-story structure, with a tower in the centre of the principal facade, facing the pretty seaside village of Manly, and its walls rise to a height of about 180 feet. In the centre underneath the tower is a bold pointed entrance arch with four orders of shafts with foliated caps and moulded arches, with label moulding terminating in a moulded cap that forms a basis for the statuette of St. Francis Xavier. The spandrels are filled in with two elaborately moulded quatrefoils with bold early French shield, containing the Papal arms and those of his Eminence, one being on either side. Monograms and the date of erection, together with a panel with the words, "St. Patrick's Seminary," surmount these. Above the main entrance there are two beautiful tracery windows, filled in with stained glass, that light the oratory on the first floor. The porch is fourteen feet square, and gives admission on either side on to a balcony, with arcades and balustrade. Passing from the porch through the main doorway the visitor is struck with the large central hall, measuring 44ft by 20ft wide. At the rear of this are the cloisters, 12ft wide, extending from end to end, a length of 200ft. The principal stair case, admirably and artistically designed, faces the chief entrance, and forms one of the features of the interior. The staircase is supported on columns and arches, resting on coupled columns, with cleverly-moulded capitals, bases, and sur-bases. Enter-

ing under these arches the eye is charmed by the view. Tier upon tier of pointed and rampant arches rise one above the other with their beautiful proportions and their exquisitely treated mouldings, bold, yet delicate in profile, with all the artistic rendering of light and shade characteristic of the masterpieces of the middle ages. One cannot help admiring this staircase, all the construction of which is honest and open to the eye, the noble newels at the top being in complete harmony with the arches at the bottom, and the whole, combined with the "dim religious light" shining through the stained-glass windows on the beautiful colour of the Pymont stone used in its construction, producing both a pleasing and a solemn effect. With regard to the exterior, the most striking and impressive feature perhaps, is the front arcades supporting the verandahs and two balconies. They harmonise admirably with the design of the gable ends and shelter the rooms on the principal fronts from the fierce rays of the western sun, casting deep shadows of graceful contour over the light-coloured stone of which the main building is constructed. The lower arcade presents a striking appearance with its lower story of segmental arches, the mouldings of which are quaintly developed, from the circular moulded capital with stops, to the square arris of the member that receives the skewback. The arcades and balconies, as well as the entrance hall and cloisters on the ground floor, are paved with black and white marble laid in diamond fashion. The balustrade is very simple in design, but well-proportioned, and aids the *total ensemble* in a great degree. The arcade on the first floor is differently treated, and, if possible is more beautiful than the one below. The arches are painted with circular openings between them; the balustrades are also different—no repetition showing poverty of design. Generally speaking there is nothing elaborate in the details; all is plain, relying for effect on the beautiful proportions that the architects (Messrs. Sheerin and Hennessy) have worked out. The finest view of St. Patrick's Seminary, we think is that obtained from the north-west, taking in the front elevation, and that towards the ocean. This wall has no cross wall to tie it to the main building on the ground or first floors, so that it was necessary to construct buttresses to strengthen the wall. These buttresses, seven in number, terminate as pedestals to support statues. They are well proportioned, admirably adapted to their purposes, and give remarkable dignity to the ocean view. The ceilings throughout are lined with kauri and cedar, panelled and varnished, giving a cheerful appearance to the interior. Every room is specially ventilated, and the excellence of the workmanship throughout specially attracted the attention of the visitors.

NOTES ON A TRIP FROM WELLINGTON, N.Z., TO BOSTON (MASS.), UNITED STATES; AS READ BEFORE THE WELLINGTON CATHOLIC INSTITUTE.

(Continued)

27th.—To-day I have to mourn the loss of a faithful friend—my meerschbaum—which dropped on the floor of the car while I was sleeping and was picked up by some collector of scattered property. I strongly suspect a pock-marked youth who is in the same car, *en route* from 'Frisco to some place beyond Chicago. His principles are loose, I know, from his own showing. We pass the celebrated Black Canon, the mountains towering on each side almost shutting out the sky, and the cars winding round the base so close that one can touch the rocks on one side—at the other is a mountain torrent. Then comes a tug-of-war up the ascent leading over the last chain of the Rockies. Two engines are pulling might and main, occasionally passing through snow sheds. I am told that this line was made at the sacrifice of an immense number of lives. We reached the summit, where one engine was detached and went on in front. We went down on the other side at a tremendous pace, using the brakes all the time. The engine which went on in front might be seen rushing at our train at the rate of 45 miles an hour, and then suddenly disappearing around the abrupt curves leading us down the mountain. To look out of the cars at the awful depths below is almost certain to bring on a fit of the nerves. We arrive at Denver at 12.30 a.m. on the morning of the 28th. I am tired and cold, and as we have some 8 hours to wait for "connection," I go to a hotel for the night. A comfortable sleep does me good and enables me the better to face the remainder of my journey. Denver is a pretty town doing a good business. I find here, as I noticed in some of the smaller towns, that you cannot tell by the outside of the shops (stores) what is inside. Denver is a well laid-out city. The streets are broad and handsome, and, unlike 'Frisco, they are even and clean, the want of the great traffic and dry weather being the cause of it, I fancy. We left Denver at 10 a.m. and at nightfall came to a place called "Bartley." Here an amusing scene occurred: about twenty young laughing girls surrounding a young man who is leaving that place. They were shaking hands with him in a violently demonstrative manner. One young woman on the outskirts of the crowd jumped up and said she wanted to kiss him: the others united in asking him not to go away. One of our passengers said "Our girls didn't give me such a Go!-speed." Immediately after leaving Bartley we pulled up at the scene of an accident. The Lightning Express, which had been going at the rate of sixty miles an hour, had run off the track and the cars were capsized, one man being killed and several injured. The engineer got jammed and was almost scalded to death by the escaping steam. A ludicrous side to the otherwise tragical occurrence was that the engine of the unfortunate express telescoped a car full of hogs which was standing on the siding, and the hogs that escaped being killed ran all about and into the neighbouring houses. We were detained over an hour and a half, waiting for the line to be cleared. In a characteristic conversation which I partially overheard among the passengers in my car the following scraps are noteworthy:—Passenger: "I saw the 'Flyer' pass Bartley once, and by G— she never touched the earth for ten miles; the track was soft and she jumped." Second passenger: "I travelled from Portland, Maine, into Boston once, 110 miles, in 100 minutes. An Englishman who was holding on with both hands asked me how long this speed was to be kept up. I said, 'Guess so long as she keeps on the track, or till she gets to Boston.'" Third passenger:

E. J. WALSLEY,
230 COLOMBO STREET NORTH,
CHRISTCHURCH.

Cheapest House in the City for
**GOOD, USEFUL, AND SERVICEABLE
DRAPERY,
MENS' & BOYS' CLOTHING, &c.**

TAILORING done on the Premises. A
First-Class Cutter. Style and Fit Guaranteed
At Greatly Reduced Prices.

Country Orders specially attended to.

Please send for Samples and Prices.

DRESSMAKING AND MILLINERY
Done on the Premises.



**CHRISTCHURCH MONUMENTAL
WORKS;**

MANCHESTER AND BARBADORS STREETS,
CHRISTCHURCH.

J. B. MANSFIELD,
MONUMENTAL MASON.

Designs and Estimates forwarded to all
parts of the Colony on Application.—Stone
Carvings, etc., Iron Railings and Cemetery
Enclosures.—All kinds of Lavatory and Job-
bing Work done in Stone or Marble.

D. MCBRIDE
TIMBER AND COAL MERCHANT

BEACH ST.

QUEENSTOWN.

SOUTH END MONUMENTAL WORKS,
Established - 1865.

H. PALMER,
STONE MASON & SCULPTOR,
Princes Street South, Dunedin.

Monuments and Tombsstones Fretted of
New Zealand Granite, Scotch Granite, and
Italian and American Marble.

Tombs Railings in great variety.

THE TRADE SUPPLIED.

Town and Country Orders promptly
attended to

A. J. CRIBB
TAILOR,

(Next to Mr. Dallas, Saddler),

RIDGWAY STREET, WANGANUI.

Has much pleasure in notifying that he has
taken the above shop, where he will be pre-
pared to receive orders for Gentlemen's Tailor-
ing in all its branches.

Charges Moderate. Terms Cash.

**TO BLACKSMITHS, STATION-
HOLDERS, MINE MANAGERS,
STORE-KEEPERS, and OTHERS.**

The Undersigned have now on hand a Large
Stock of the famous A. A. Company's Double-
screened Smithy; also Brunner, Greymouth,
and Westport for the same purpose. HOUSE-
HOLD COALS from the same Mines at the
Lowest Prices.

MARTIN, WATSON, & CO. (LTD.),
Octagon and Stuart Street,

ROYAL FAMILY HOTEL,
Corner of
WALKER AND PRINCES STREETS,
DUNEDIN.

PATRICK O'BRIEN - - - Proprietor
(Late of the Munster Arms).

P. O'BRIEN, having taken the above
spacious and centrally situated Hotel, has had
it completely renovated and furnished through-
out under his own supervision. He is, there-
fore, prepared to offer specially good accom-
modation to Boarders, Country Visitors, and
his Friends the Public generally, and he has
every confidence in inviting their patronage.
Single Bedrooms, Apartments for Families,
Private Sitting Rooms, A Good Table, Liquors
of the Best Brands only. Terms Strictly
Moderate. Passengers called for the early
Trains.

OCTAGON STORE.
L. LOMAS AND FRASER.

Try our FACTORY CHEESE. Try our
BACON and HAMS, and try our OCTAGON
BRAND TEA. The Purest and Best to be
had in the market. New Fruit just landed.

On hand Best PORT & SHERRY WINES.
Best OLD HIGHLAND WHISKEY. Best
Denis Mounie's BRANDY, First Quality.
Unfermented WINE in Stock.

PIER HOTEL

CRAWFORD AND JETTY STS.,

DUNEDIN.

W. HEFFERNAN - - PROPRIETOR

(LATE SHAMROCK HOTEL

BENDIGO, VICTORIA.)

Successor to J. Baxter.

**BRUNNER COAL COMPANY'S
COAL BUSINESS.**

We beg to thank the public for the liberal
patronage accorded to us in the past, and to
intimate that the said business will be con-
ducted on the same premises by our successors
—The Grey Valley Coal Company (Limited)
—under the general management of our Mr.
M. Kennedy, and we beg to solicit for the
said Company a continuance of the said
liberal patronage.

ACCOUNTS.—We request that all claims
against the business of the Brunner Coal Co.,
or against the Steamers, may be sent in not
later than the 17th inst. for payment.

KENNEDY BROS.

**THE GREY VALLEY COAL
COMPANY (LIMITED),**

BATBAY STREET WHARF, DUNEDIN,

Includes

Wallsend, Coalpit Heath & Brunner Collieries.
Having taken over the Brunner Coal Com-
pany's business on shore and afloat, it will be
our constant aim not only to maintain, but
to largely extend the said business. The pos-
session of these three celebrated Collieries
enables us to do so most advantageously for
our customers.

There will also be a large supply of the
best Coalbrookdale and Newcastle and all
local Coals on hand. Sales from the com-
bined mines last year were 160,000 tons.

TO COUNTRY BLACKSMITHS AND
MERCHANTS.

We have constantly arriving cargoes of best
Double-screened Brunner Nuts, so favourably
known for smithy purposes. Orders by post
or otherwise punctually attended to. De-
livered in any quantity at Railway Station
in bags or waggons.

TO MALSTERS AND IRONFOUNDERS.
We are large manufacturers of Coke for
melting and smelting purposes—cannot be
equalled.

TO BRICKLAYERS AND CONTRACTORS.

We manufacture at our Mines all Kinds of
Fire Clay Goods, equal to best imported,
and much cheaper. Fire Bricks, Fire Clay,
and all kinds of Fire Tiles for Bake Ovens
Ranges and Grates, &c., &c., kept in stock.
GREY VALLEY COAL CO. (LIMITED),
P. M'ARDLE,

Local Manager.

CASH ONLY.

CITY CASH GROCERY

BONA FIDE

CHEAP CASH GROCERS

AND

PROVISION MERCHANTS

No 21 Royal Arcade, Dunedin.

Boxes of Groceries carefully packed and
sent to all suburban stations.
Provisions a Speciality.

Cleanliness, Punctuality, Accuracy and Des-
patch are leading features at the
CITY CASH GROCERY.

J. T. HALL Manager

£10,000 Given away to Buyers
of a bottle of Bredalbane
Whiskey. Shipped by Alex. Ferguson and
Co., Glasgow. Particulars from all Wine
Merchants, Store-keepers, Hotel-keepers, and
Spirit Dealers. Wholesale Agents—Wm.
Scouler and Co., Dunedin, N.Z.

JOHN GILLIES,
Cabinet-maker, Upholsterer, and Under-
taker, 18 George Street Dunedin (late Craig
and Gillies), begs to notify that the Liquidation
of the late firm is now closed.

The Business in future will be carried on by
John Gillies, who now takes this opportunity
to thank his numerous friends and the public
generally for their patronage in the past, and
respectfully solicits their future favors, when
his long practical experience in the trade will
be made use of for the benefit of his customers.
The present large stock on hand and to arrive
will be offered at sweeping reductions.

The public are heartily invited to call
inspect the stock of

FURNITURE, CARPETS, LINOLEUMS,
FLOORCLOTHS, BEDSTEADS,
AND BEDDING

of every description.

House Furnishing on the Time-payment
System.

Factory: 11 Great King Street.

COBB & CO'S
TELEGRAPH LINE ROYAL MAIL
COACHES.

PASSING THROUGH
THE GRANDEST SCENERY;
IN THE WORLD.

COBB & CO'S Telegraph Line of
Royal Mail Coaches from Christchurch to
Hokitika, Greymouth, Kumara, Ross, Beetham
and Westport, leave Springfield every Tuesday
and Friday on arrival of first train from
Christchurch, returning to Christchurch every
Wednesday and Saturday.

Return Fares £7 0 0
CASSIDY, BINNIE & CO., Proprietors
Springfield,
Agent, W. F. WARNER,
Commercial Hotel, Christchurch.

**OLD CLUB LIVERY & BAIT
STABLES,**

MACLAGGAN STREET
(Opposite the Arcade)
DUNEDIN.

THOMAS POWER Proprietor
Saddle Horses, Carriages, and Buggies
for Hire.

BARRETT'S HOTEL
HIGH & MANCHESTER STREETS,
CHRISTCHURCH.

This new and commodious Hotel occupies
a most central position in the best business
part of the City, and is in close proximity to
the Post Office, Railway Station, etc.

The Rooms being lofty, well-ventilated, and
superbly furnished, it offers unrivalled accom-
modation to Families, Tourists and Travellers.

Those visiting Christchurch will find it to
their advantage to inquire for the above Hotel.
Large and comfortably furnished Billiard
Room, with Two of Alcock's Prize-Medal
Tables.

JOHN BARRETT

Travelling on the Central Pacific in Nevada I saw some jackrabbits; there must have been 50,000 jackrabbits, by G—." From this they got to talk of farming and stock-raising. Bill Cody (Buffalo Bill), Bill Foley (another cattle king), horse-taming, the relative merits of wild and tame horses, etc.

29th, 10.30 a.m.—Pacific Junction. A young, pleasant-faced fellow in the car told me this morning that the corpse of his most intimate friend was in the baggage wagon, and that he was as good as a few as ever walked. Changed into a first-class car this morning, the beautiful appointments of which I much appreciate. We crossed the Mississippi this evening.

30th.—Arrived in Chicago at 7.30 a.m. Transferred from the Union Depot by Parmelee's Bus Service. As we rattled over the frozen streets I was so numbbed with cold and upset from constant travelling that I could scarcely notice my surroundings. Snow falling heavily, a leaden sky, and the dull roar of the traffic of this city of five or six hundred thousand inhabitants was all I noted before my time came to again start on my eastward course.

31st, 5 p.m.—Buffalo. Very tired and ill. I have to wait three hours for the train leaving for Boston, via Niagara. The Depot in which I am sitting is spacious, and heated to a high degree by steam pipes, with stoves placed at intervals. It is lighted brilliantly by electricity. Outside close to the platform is a pole 250 feet high, from which is suspended a large globe of electric light, which must appear to the uninitiated like a miniature sun. At the door of the depot stands a conductor who at 10 minutes to train time calls out to the passengers: "all aboard for the 'Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul Express going east,' or whatever train may be going east or west. His voice sounds solemn and sad as it rolls out the warnings to the waiting passengers. This practice obtains at all the large depots so that it is an impossibility for anyone to miss a train. On enquiry I find that if I go on to Albany I can reach Boston the same night, but that, if I go via Niagara I shall have to pass another night on the road, so I elect to go on to Albany and miss Niagara as I have an ever-increasing feeling of illness on me. I start at 8 a.m. for Albany and Boston, and through mistaking my instructions for the first time I get on the wrong train. I have an intuitive perception that such is the case, and, asking the conductor I find that I am going to a place called Blackrock. He pulled up the train and dropped me. Amid a network of hns I picked my way in the semi-darkness across to the *terra firma* outside the depot and rushed back, to find my train standing far away from the platform, with "all aboard," ready to start. I dodge under a Pullman car, run the gauntlet of an engineer or two and get on board just in time. We reached Albany at 5.15 p.m. and changed cars for Boston. To give an idea of the intense cold I need only say that the glass of the car is coated two inches thick inside with ice and there are double glasses on each window one an inch inside the other.

Arrived in Boston at 1.30 a.m. on the 1st February and am driven to an hotel through the deserted streets of the "Hub of the Universe." I do not rise till 11.30 a.m. Immediately join my friends and in the evening look around the city. Everything is shrouded in snow; the pleasant jangle of the sleigh bells falls musically on the ear; the street cars are running as usual, relays of men being employed to keep the rails clear. The sun is shining brightly from a blue, cold sky and thousands of people are in the busy streets, all well protected against the biting blast. What a different matter is street locomotion here. On the side walks people always keep to the right, so that two streams of pedestrians on the same sidewalk are perpetually moving along without jostling each other. The street traffic is immense and the horses pass each other on the right, not as in our streets on the left. The stores are crowded with fashionably dressed ladies in furs andables. I meet a "dead mille faithle" from a number of old friends on the first night of my arrival in Boston. I am pressed to drink lager beer of the best brand and to try some good cigars, but, alas, the pity of it! I can do neither, as I am feeling weak and ill, with cold shudders passing through my frame. In the first four days I see something of the city, and among other sights what had an especial interest for me was the State House. It stands in a noble square—a fine building with a gilded dome. Here the State Legislature hold their sittings. In the entrance hall, which is beautifully arranged, having a marble floor, are several niches or recesses in which are placed the tattered colours of the regiments from Massachusetts that fought in the war of the rebellion. The silk in some instances is all torn, and soiled with blood-stains. The staffs of many of the flags are broken, but are carefully mended with wire. Each flag, torn and bloody as it is, conveys to the beholder a whole volume of thought, upon which I need not enlarge. I also visited the Western Union Telegraph Co.'s office in State street, and was courteously received and shown over the operating room. Being a company's concern and worked for dollars, the adjuncts (so to speak) are not very elaborate, but the instruments are of the best and latest description. One thing I may mention about American telegraphy is that all messages are written in ink and are press-copied, unlike ours, which are written in pencil, using carbonic paper for duplicate. The various systems in use would have little or no interest for my hearers. On the fifth day of my stay I am laid by the heels with typhoid fever and pleurisy, and the doctor attending me shakes his head and declares it a bad case. From the 8th to the 17th I battle with my grim enemy. At one time I woke to consciousness, to find that the doctor had given it as his opinion that I could hardly recover. The priest was sent for and he had administered the Sacraments. He was an American gentleman, named Father O'Neill, with a wonderful, health-giving, magnetic influence about him. I rapidly recovered once the crisis was passed, and was able to sit up on the 17th, and quite astonished the doctor by showing such recuperative powers. In passing I may mention what struck me as a very neat invention—an invention by which a handsome fortune was amassed—and that is the Cash Railway System which is used in all the stores in the States. Two brass lines of rail run all round the shop or store; there are little baskets of brass wire suspended over the counters, and when cash is received it is put into a hollow wooden ball and placed in the basket. A string is then pulled, which hoists it up and tilts the ball

on to the railway. The ball is then impelled at a rapid rate along an incline till it reaches the cashier's desk, when it drops into a basket close to his hand. It extracts the cash from the ball, which he hoists on to another inclined railway line, and the ball returns from whence it was despatched. This system is in general use and is very neat.—Before I left Boston I saw the world-renowned yacht "Volunteer," which beat the "Thistle" for the cup. She is a magnificent centre-board, and, as she stands on the "ways," looks a regular greyhound. Her designer, Burgess, is, it is stated, about to build a cutter to go to England to compete, as English yacht-owners say it is impossible to beat his centre-board built yachts, and they decline to send another representative to risk defeat.—The time has come for me to start on my return journey. I procure a ticket with sleeping car accommodation to San Francisco, and on Sunday, 26th February, at 7 p.m., I am on the train at the "Hoosac Tunnel" Depot of the Fitchburg line, taking leave of my many kind friends. Baggage checked, and all being ready, the train noiselessly leaves the station, and I have in all human probability looked my last on Boston city. Nothing of note occurred till I arrive in Chicago on the 28th February, 9.15 a.m. I am booked by the "Burlington route," and find that there is a strike on that line; 700 of its engineers are out. I must go by the "Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul to Council Bluffs. The Burlington Company has 5000 miles of rail in the heart of the country, so some idea may be gathered of the immensity of their traffic and the inconvenience caused by the strike. I wait ten hours in Chicago for the Western train, staying in the comfortable depot, as the weather is piercingly cold and my health not restored. All about are iron-framed seats; crowds of people are coming and going. In a large dining hall at one end, coloured waiters are moving about, a baggage clerk is busy handing light articles to travellers who leave them there for an hour or two, and redeem them on payment of five cents. At another end two booking clerks are dealing out tickets. Yet another window is for Pullman palace sleeping car tickets. I take a short walk in the city, and am struck with the immensity of its buildings. Streets of ten-storied houses can be seen. The immense granite blocks, 18 and 20 feet long, and 6 feet wide are set with the rough sides out, just as they came from the quarries, giving an indescribable air of solidity and massiveness. Chicago is a new city, it having been burned down in 1871. Its population in 1877 was 750,000. With a knowledge of this and the greatness of the city on me, I could not help thinking that we had a great deal to achieve in the way of material progress in New Zealand. The great length of the streets in Chicago may be imagined when, as a commercial traveller told me, the address of an individual he visited was numbered over 3000.

(To be concluded in our next.)

THE MYSTERY OF CLOOMBER.

(By A. CONAN DOYLE, in the *Pall Mall Budget*.)

"There is a scientific incredulity which surpasses in imbecility the obtuseness of the cloot-hopper."—BARON HELLENBACH.

CHAPTER III.

OF OUR FURTHER ACQUAINTANCE WITH MAJOR-GENERAL J. B. HEATHERSTONE.

THERE was, as may well be imagined, much stir amongst our small community at the news that the Hall was to be inhabited once more, and considerable speculation as to the new tenants and their objects in choosing this particular part of the country for their residence. It speedily became apparent that, whatever their motives might be, they had definitely determined upon a lengthy stay, for relays of plumbers and of joiners came down from Wigton, and there was hammering and repairing going on from morning to night. It was surprising how quickly the signs of the wind and weather were effaced, until the great square-set house was as all as spick-and-span as though it had been erected yesterday. There were abundant signs that money was no consideration to General Heatherstone, and that it was not on the score of retrenchment that he had taken up his abode amongst us.

"It may be that he is devoted to study," suggested my fathers as we discussed the question round the breakfast table. "Perhaps, he has chosen this secluded spot to finish some *magnum opus* upon which he is engaged. If that is the case, I should be happy to let him have the run of my library."

Esmer and I laughed at the grandiloquent manner in which he spoke of the two potato sacks full of books. "It may be as you say," said I, "but the General did not strike me during our short interview as being a man who was likely to have any very pronounced literary tastes. If I might hazard a guess, I should say that he is here upon medical advice, in the hopes that the complete quiet and the fresh air may restore his shattered nervous system. If you had seen how he glared at me, and the twitching of his fingers, you would have thought that it needed some restoring."

"I do wonder whether he has a wife and a family," said my sister. "Poor souls, how lonely they will be! Why, excepting ourselves, there is not a family that they could speak to for seven miles and more."

"General Heatherstone is a very distinguished soldier," remarked my father.

"Why, papa, however came you to know anything about him?"

"Ah, my dears," said my father, smiling at us over his coffee cup, "you were laughing at my library just now, but you see it may be very useful at times." As he spoke he took a red-covered volume from a shelf and turned over the pages. "This is an Indian Army List of three years back," he explained, "and here is the very gentleman we want—Heatherstone, J. B., Commander of the Bath, my dears, and 'V.C.' think of that. 'V.C.'—formerly colonel in the

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Indian infantry, 41st Bengal foot, but now retired with the rank of major-general. In this other column is a record of his services—capture of Ghuznee, and defence of Jellalabad, Sobraon, 1848, Indian Mutiny, and reduction of Oudh. Five times mentioned in despatches. I think, my dears, that we have cause to be proud of our new neighbour."

"It doesn't mention there whether he is married or not, I suppose?" asked Esther.

"No," said my father, wagging his white head with a keen appreciation of his own humour. "It doesn't include that under the heading of 'daring actions'—though it very well might, my dear, it very well might."

All our doubts, however, upon this head were very soon set at rest for on the very day that the repairing and the furnishing had been completed, I had occasion to ride into Wigtown, and I met upon the way a carriage which was bearing General Heatherstone and his family to their new home. An elderly lady, worn and sickly-looking, was by his side, and opposite him sat a young fellow about my own age, and a girl who appeared to be a couple of years younger. I raised my hat, and was about to pass them, when the General shouted to his coachman to pull up, and held out his hand to me. I could see now in the daylight that his face, although harsh and stern, was capable of assuming a not unkindly expression.

"How are you, Mr. Fothergill West?" he cried. "I must apologise to you if I was a little brusque the other night—you will excuse an old soldier who has spent the best part of his life in harness. All the same, you must confess that you are rather dark-skinned for a Scotchman."

"We have a Spanish strain in our blood," said I, wondering at his recurrence to the topic.

"That would, of course, account for it," he remarked. "My dear," to his wife, "allow me to introduce Mr. Fothergill West to you. This is my son and my daughter. We have come here in search of rest, Mr. West, complete rest."

"And you could not possibly have come to a better place," said I.

"Oh, you think so," he answered; "I suppose it is very quiet indeed, and very lonely. You might walk through these country lanes at night, I dare say, and never meet a soul, eh?"

"Well, there are not many about after dark," I said.

"And you are not much troubled with vagrants or wandering beggars, eh? Not many tinkers, or tramps, or rascally gipsies—no vermin of that sort about?"

"I find it rather cold," said Mrs. Heatherstone, drawing her thick seal-skin mantle tighter round her figure. "We are detaining Mr. West, too."

"So we are, my dear, so we are. Drive on, coachman. Good day, Mr. West." The carriage rattled away towards the Hall, and I trotted thoughtfully onwards to the little county metropolis.

As I passed up the High-street Mr. McNeil ran out from his office and beckoned to me to stop. "Our new tenants have gone out," he said. "They drove over this morning."

"I met them on the way," I answered. As I looked down at the little factor I could see that his face was flushed, and that he bore every appearance of having had an extra glass.

"Give me a real gentleman to do business with," he said, with a burst of laughter. "They understand me and I understand them. 'What shall I fill it up for?' says the General, taking a blank cheque out o' his pouch and laying it on the table. 'Two hundred,' says I, leaving a bit o' a margin for my own time and trouble."

"I thought that the landlord paid you for that," I remarked.

"Aye, aye, but it's well to have a bit margin. He filled it up and threw it over to me as if it had been an auld postage stamp. That's the way business should be done between honest men—though it wouldn't do if one was inclined to take an advantage. Will ye not come in, Mr. West, and have a taste of my whisky?"

"No, thank you," said I, "I have business to do."

"Well, well, business is the chief thing. It's well not to drink in the morning, too. For my own part, except a drop before breakfast to give me an appetite, and maybe a glass, or even two, afterwards to promote digestion, I never touch spirits before noon. It may be that I'm over particular, but it's as well to be on the safe side. What d'ye think o' the General, Mr. West?"

"Why, I have hardly had an opportunity of judging," I answered.

Mr. McNeil tapped his forehead with his forefinger. "That's what I think of him," he said, in a confidential whisper. "He's gone, er, in my estimation. Now, what would you consider to be a proof of madness, Mr. West?"

"Why, offering a blank cheque to a Wigtown house-agent," said I.

"Ah, you're aye at your jokes. But between ourselves now, if a man asked ye how many miles frae a seaport, and whether ships come there from the East, and whether there were tramps on the road, and whether it was against the lease for him to build a high wall round the grounds, what would ye make of it, eh?"

"I should certainly think him eccentric," said I.

"If every man had his due, he would find himself in a house with a high wall round the grounds, and that without costing him a farthing," said the agent.

"Where, then?" I asked.

"Why, in the Wigtown County Lunatic Asylum," cried the little man, with a bubble of laughter, in the midst of which I rode on my way, leaving him still chuckling over his own facetiousness.

The arrival of the new family at Cloombur Hall had no perceptible effect in relieving the monotony of our secluded district, for instead of entering into such simple pleasures as the country had to offer, or interesting themselves, as we had hoped, in our attempts to improve the lot of our poor crofters and fisher folk, they seemed to shun all conversation, and hardly ever to venture beyond the avenue gates. We soon found, too, that the factor's words as to the enclosing of the grounds were founded upon fact, for gangs of workmen were kept hard at work from early in the morning until late at night in erecting a high wooden fence round the whole estate. When this was finished, and topped with spikes, Cloombur Park became impreg-

nable to any one but an exceptionally daring climber. It was as the old soldier had been so imbued with military ideas that, like Mr. Uncle Toby, he could not refrain even in times of peace from standing upon the defensive. Stranger still, he had victualled the house as if for a siege, for Begbie, the chief grocer of Wigtown, told me himself that the General had sent him an order for hundreds of dozens of every imaginable potted meat and vegetable.

It may be imagined that all these incidents were not allowed to pass without comment. Over the whole country-side there was nothing but gossip about the new tenants of Cloombur Hall and the reasons which had led them to come among us. The only hypothesis, however which the bucolic mind could evolve was that which had already occurred to Mr. McNeil, the factor namely, that the old General and his family were one and all afflicted with madness, or, as an alternative conclusion, that he had committed some heinous offence and was endeavouring to escape the consequences of his misdeeds. These were both natural suppositions under the circumstances; but neither of them appeared to me to commend itself as a true explanation of the facts.

It is true that General Heatherstone's behaviour on the occasion of our first interview was such as to suggest some suspicion of mental disease; but no man could have been more reasonable or more courteous than he had afterwards shown himself to be. Then, again, his wife and his children led the same secluded life that he did himself; so that the reason could not be one peculiar to his own health. As to the possibility of his being a fugitive from justice, that theory was even more untenable. Wigtownshire was bleak and lonely, but it was not such an obscure corner of the world that a well-known soldier could hope to conceal himself there, nor would a man who feared publicity set every one's tongue wagging as the General had done. On the whole, I was inclined to believe that the true solution of the enigma lay in his own allusion to the love of quiet and that they had taken shelter here with an almost morbid craving for solitude and repose. We very soon had an instance of the great lengths to which this desire for isolation would carry them.

My father had come down one morning with the weight of a great determination upon his brow. "You must put on your pink frock to-day, Esther," said he; "and you, John, you must make yourself smart, for I have determined that the three of us shall drive round this afternoon and pay our respects to Mrs. Heatherstone and the General."

"A visit to Cloombur!" cried Esther, clapping her hands.

"I am here," said my father, with dignity, "not only as the laird's agent, but also as his kinsman. In that capacity I am convinced that he would wish me to call upon these new comers and offer them any politeness which is in our power. At present they must feel lonely and friendless. What says the great Firdousi? 'The choicest ornaments to a man's house are his friends.'"

My sister and I knew by experience that when the old man began to justify his resolution by quotations from the Persian poets there was no chance of shaking it. Sure enough, that afternoon saw the phaeton at the door, with my father perched upon the seat, with his second-best coat on, and a pair of new driving-gloves. "Jump in, my dears," he cried, cracking his whip briskly: "we shall show the General that he has no cause to be ashamed of his neighbours."

Alas, pride always goes before a fall! Our well-fed ponies and shining harness were not destined that day to impress the tenants of Cloombur with a sense of our importance. We had reached the avenue gate, and I was about to get out and open it, when our attention was arrested by a very large wooden placard, which was attached to one of the trees in such a manner that no one could possibly pass without seeing it. On the white surface of this board was printed in big black letters the following hospitable inscription:—

GENERAL AND MRS. HEATHERSTONE

HAVE NO WISH

TO INCREASE

THE CIRCLE OF THEIR ACQUAINTANCE.

We all sat gazing at this announcement for some moments in silent astonishment. Then Esther and I, tickled by the absurdity of the thing, burst out laughing; but my father pulled the ponies' heads round and drove homewards with compressed lips and the cloud of much wrath upon his brow. I have never seen the good man so thoroughly moved, and I am convinced that his anger did not arise from any petty feeling of injured vanity upon his own part, but from the thought that a slight had been offered to the Laird of Brankome whose dignity he represented.

CHAPTER IV.

OF A YOUNG MAN WITH A GREY HEAD.

If I had any personal soreness on account of this family snub, it was a very passing emotion, and one which was soon effaced from my mind. It chanced that on the very next day after the episode I had occasion to pass that way, and stopped to have another look at the obnoxious placard. I was standing staring up at it and wondering what could have induced our neighbour to take such an outrageous step when I became suddenly aware of a sweet girlish face which peeped out at me from between the bars of the gate, and of a white hand which eagerly beckoned me to approach. As I advanced to her I saw that it was the same young lady whom I had seen in the carriage.

"Mr. West," she said, in a quick whisper, glancing from side to side as she spoke in a nervous, hasty manner, "I wish to apologise to you for the indignity to which you and your family were subjected yesterday. My brother was in the avenue and saw it all, but he is powerless to interfere. I assure you, Mr. West, that if that hateful thing," pointing up at the placard, "has given you any annoyance it has given my brother and myself far more."

"Why, Miss Heatherstone," said I, putting the matter off with a laugh, "Britain is a free country, and if a man chooses to warn off visitors from his premises there is no reason why he should not."

"It is nothing less than brutal," she broke out, with a petulant stamp of her foot. "To think that your sister, too, should have such

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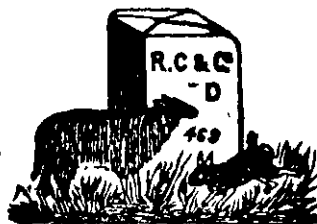
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an unprovoked-insult offered to her! I am ready to sink with shame at the very thought."

"Pray do not give yourself one moment's uneasiness upon the subject," said I earnestly, for I was grieved at her evident distress. "I am sure that your father has some reason unknown to us for taking this step."

"God knows he has!" she answered, with ineffable sadness in her voice. "And yet I think it would be more manly to face a danger than to fly from it. However, he knows best, and it is impossible for us to judge. But who is this?" she exclaimed, anxiously peering up the dark avenue. "Oh, it is my brother Mordaunt, Mordaunt," she said, as the young man approached us, "I have been apologising to Mr. West for what happened yesterday in your name as well as my own."

"I am very very glad to have the opportunity of doing it in person" said he courteously. "I only wish that I could see your sister and your father as well as yourself, to tell them how sorry I am. I think you had better run up to the house, little one, for it's getting near tiffin time. No—don't you go, Mr. West. I want to have a word with you."

Miss Heatherstone waved her hand to me with a bright smile, and tripped off up the avenue, while her brother unbolted the gate, and, passing through, closed it again, locking it upon the outside.

"I'll have a stroll down the road with you, if you have no objection. Have a manilla," He drew a couple of cheroots from his pocket and handed one to me. "You'll find they are not bad," he said. "I became a connoisseur in tobacco when I was in India. Are you lit? I hope I am not interfering with your business in coming along with you."

"Not at all," I answered. "I am very glad to have your company."

"I'll tell you a secret," said my companion. "This is the first time that I have been outside the grounds since we have been down here."

"And your sister?"

"She has never been out either," he answered. "I have given the governor the slip to-day, but he wouldn't half like it if he knew. It's a whim of his that we should keep ourselves entirely to ourselves. At least, some people would call it a whim; for my own part I have reason to believe that he has solid grounds for all that he does—though perhaps in this matter he may be a little too exacting."

"You must surely find it very lonely," said I. "Couldn't you manage to slip down at times and have a smoke with me? That house over yonder is Branksome."

"Indeed, you are very kind," he answered, with sparkling eyes. "I should dearly like to run over now and again. With the exception of Israel Stakes, our old coachman and gardener, I have not a soul that I can speak to."

"And your sister, she must feel it even more," said I, thinking in my heart that my new acquaintance made rather too much of his own troubles, and too little of those of his companion.

"Yes; poor Gabrielle feels it, no doubt," he answered, carelessly; "but it's a more unnatural thing for a young man of my age to be cooped up in this way than for a woman. Look at me now. I am three-and-twenty next March, and yet I have never been to a university—nor to a school, for that matter. I am as complete an ignoramus as any of these clothhoppers. It seems strange to you, no doubt; and yet it is so. Now, don't you think I deserve a better fate?" He stopped as he spoke, and faced round to me, throwing his arms forward in appeal.

As I looked at him, with the sun shining upon his face, he certainly did seem a strange bird to be cooped up in such a cage. Tall and muscular, with a keen, dark face, and sharp, finely-cut features, he might have stepped out of the canvas of Murillo or Velasquez. There was latent energy and power in his firm-set mouth, his square eyebrows, and the whole pose of his elastic, well-knit figure.

"There is the learning to be got from books, and the learning to be got from experience," said I, sententiously. "If you have less of your share of the one, perhaps you have more of the other. I cannot believe that you have spent all your life in mere idleness and pleasure."

"Pleasure!" he cried. "Pleasure! Look at this." He pulled off his hat, and I saw that his black hair was all flecked and dashed with streaks of grey. "Do you imagine that this came from pleasure?" he asked, with a bitter laugh.

"You must have had some great shock," I said, astonished at the sight; "some terrible illness in your youth. Or perhaps it arises from a more chronic cause—a constant gnawing anxiety. I have known men as young as you whose hair was as grey."

"Poor devils!" he muttered, "I pity them."

"If you can manage to slip down to Branksome at times," said I, "perhaps you could bring Miss Heatherstone with you. I know that my father and my sister would be delighted to see her, and a change, if only for an hour or two, might do her good."

"It would be rather hard for us both to get away together," he answered. "However, if I see a chance I shall bring her down. It might be managed some afternoon, perhaps, for the old man indulges in a siesta occasionally." We had reached the head of the winding lane which branches off from the high road and leads up to the laird's house, so my companion pulled up. "I must go back," he said, "or they will miss me. It's very kind of you, West, to take this interest in us. I am very grateful to you, and so will Gabrielle be when she hears of your kind invitation. It's a real heaping of coals of fire after that infernal placard of my father's."

He shook my hand and set off down the road, but he came running after me presently, calling me to stop. "I was just thinking," he said, "that you must consider us a great mystery up there at Cloombur. I dare say you have come to look upon it as a private lunatic asylum, and I can't blame you. If you are interested in the matter, I feel it is unfriendly on my part not to satisfy your curiosity, but I have promised my father to be silent about it. And, indeed, if I were to tell you all that I know, you might not be very much the wiser after all. I would have you understand this, however—that my

father is as sane as you or I, and that he has very good reasons for living the life which he does. I may add that his wish to remain secluded does not arise from any unworthy or dishonourable motives, but merely from the instinct of self-preservation."

"He is in danger, then!" I ejaculated.

"Yes, he is in constant danger."

"But why does he not apply to the magistrates for protection?" I asked. "If he is afraid of anyone, he has only to name him and they will bid him over to keep the peace."

"My dear West," said young Heatherstone, "the danger with which my father is threatened is one which cannot be averted by any human intervention. It is none the less very real, and possibly very imminent."

"You don't mean to assert that it is supernatural," I said incredulously.

"Well, hardly that either," he answered with hesitation. "But there," he continued, "I have said rather more than I should, but I know that you will not abuse my confidence. Good-bye." He took to his heels and was soon out of my sight, round a curve in the country road.

A danger which was real and imminent, not to be averted by human means, and yet hardly supernatural—here was a conundrum indeed! I had come to look upon the inhabitants of the Hall as mere eccentrics, but after what young Mordaunt Heatherstone had just told me, I could no longer doubt that some dark and sinister meaning underlay all their actions. The more I pondered over the problem the more unanswerable did it appear, and yet I could not get the matter out of my thoughts. The lonely isolated hall, and the strange, impending catastrophe which hung over its inmates, appealed forcibly to my imagination. All that evening, and late into the night, I sat moodily by the fire, pondering over all that I had heard, and revolving in my mind the various incidents which might furnish me with some clue to the mystery.

(To be continued.)

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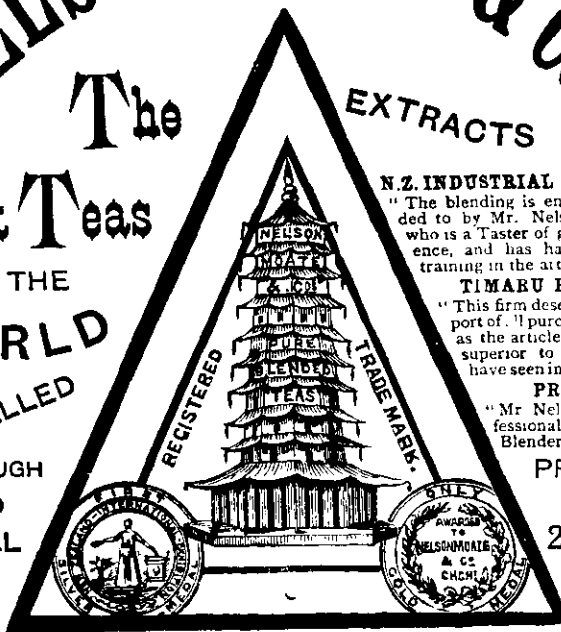
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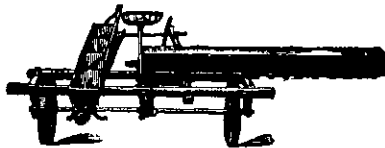
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