

TEMUKA NEWS.

(From an occasional Correspondent.)

Temuka, March 25, 1889.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

On the 17th of March, the feast of the Patron Saint of Ireland, High Mass was celebrated in St. Joseph's Church, the Rev. Father Fauvel being the celebrant. The church on the occasion looked most beautiful, the gold flowers and the artificial lilies (worked by the Sisters), combined with the gold-worked laces, setting the altars off to perfection. The congregation on the occasion was very large.—The Rev. Father Fauvel delivered an eloquent and able panegyric on St. Patrick, taking for his text St. Paul to the Hebrews, xiii., 7, "Remember your prelates who have spoken the word of God to you: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation." The rev. gentleman dealt at length with his adaptedness, as he was eminent in sanctity and virtue, for the Christianising of Ireland, and delivered one of the ablest panegyrics I have yet heard on this Saint. The choir, which was under the preceptorship of the Sisters of St. Joseph, rendered with much vigour, "St. Patrick for our country pray," "Kyrie," "Credo," "Sanctus," and "Agnus Dei," Est's Mass: offertory, "Hail, Glorious St. Patrick." At night solemn Vespers were sung, and the Gregorian Benediction Service; also a hymn to St. Patrick.

On the 18th of March, on which St. Patrick's Day was observed, Temuka presented a quiet appearance. At Geraldine the annual sports were held, at which about a thousand were present. Temuka "peda" carried off by far the most prizes; also securing the cup for the most number of points, which fell to the lot of J. Collins, who won all the jumps. At Pleasant Point the usual St. Patrick's Day races were held; the attendance was good. It seems as if the racing did not give complete satisfaction, there being three protests out of six events.

ST. JOSEPH'S FESTIVAL.

This festival is always observed with much splendour in St. Joseph's parish, Temuka, as the parish, church, and schools are under the protection of the Patron Saint of the whole Catholic world. The annual treat in connection with the Convent schools (Temuka and Kerrytown) is also held on this festival. The church on this grand occasion presented an impressive appearance. St. Joseph's altar was decorated with an abundance of lilies, which were made by the Sisters of St. Joseph, and do them infinite credit, as they are very beautiful and appear remarkably natural. The other altars were decorated with large sprays of gold flowers (foliage and grasses), and other artificial flowers, which, combined with the rich trimmed-with-gold lace, gave it an unsurpassable appearance. High Mass was celebrated at nine o'clock by the Rev. Father Fauvel, S.M., during which a large number of children approached the Blessed Sacrament, several making their first communion. The musical portion of the service by the choir, under the leadership of the Sisters, was excellently rendered, as is usual on these occasions; Miss Gaffaney presiding. The pieces selected were:—Winter's Mass; at the offertory, "Sancte Joseph!"; before Mass, a hymn to St. Joseph; after Mass, "Joseph, our Certain Hope of Life." After Mass the children were marched by the Sisters into the school, where their memory still pictured to them the many luxuries that had been prepared by the good Sisters last St. Joseph's Day for them. The school was decorated with bannerettes, etc., while on the tables, which were five in number, were bunches of flowers. The tables were loaded with cakes of every description, as well as fruit, lollies, etc. At half-past ten about 200 were seated round the tables, when the Rev. Father Fauvel arrived, and grace was said. From the hearty manner in which the children indulged in the luxuries it was evident that they were perfectly happy. After all had satisfied themselves, an adjournment was made to the two adjoining paddocks, and the adults who were present to honour their children breakfasted. The ladies who assisted the Sisters at the table were:—Mrs. Carr, Misses Murphy (2), Demuth, Annie Brosnahan, Gaffaney (2), Cunnolly, Brosnahan, and Quinn. Until half-past three racing, wrestling, jumping, etc. were indulged in, the senior boys being superintended by Messrs. R. J. Lavery, Quinn, Dunn, and Polaschek, while the infants were in the Sisters' charge. The girls were in another paddock with the Sisters. The following are the principal events for the senior boys, no record having been kept of the other racing:—Boys' race, over twelve—D. Connell 1, M. Nolan 2; under twelve—J. Gaffaney 1, P. Gaffaney 2. Wrestling, over 12—J. Murphy 1, B. Horgan 2; under 12—J. Carr 1, P. Gaffaney 2. Walking, over 12—B. Horgan 1, T. Spillane 2. Under 12—P. Gaffaney 1, J. Lavery 2. Boys' Race, under 10—M. Connolly 1, J. Lavery 2, M. Demuth 3. Running High Jump (pen)—D. Connell 1, J. Jackson 2, M. Nolan 3. Hop, Step, and Jump, over 12—D. Brosnahan 1, D. Connell 2; under 12—M. Nolan 1, M. Demuth 2. St. Joseph's Day Handicap (three distances)—M. Demuth 1, J. Connolly 2, B. Horgan 3. There was a large number of other races. The prizes consisted of toys, money, to ks, etc., gifts of Father Fauvel and the Sisters. The Choir Race, for a book (first) and picture (second) presented by one of the Sisters, resulted: Miss M. Connolly 1, Miss N. Murphy 2. There was also scrambling for fruit and lollies. The Sisters were assisted in getting up races for the girls by Misses Annie Hoare, M. Hoare, N. Murphy, Annie Brosnahan, and C. Popplewell. All present did their best to enhance the happiness of the children. At half-past three, the children received lunch in the paddock, and at four o'clock they were huddled up and marched into school to be present at the Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament. The choir rendered efficiently the Gregorian benediction service and the hymn, "Holy Patron!" This brought the day's joy to a close.

On Sunday last Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Father Fauvel at Pleasant Point. The devotion of the Holy Rosary was held in St. Joseph's church at 10 o'clock.

A short time ago a missionary calling himself "Rev. J. Paterson" delivered a lecture in Temuka on his travels. The audience was large, all thinking they would hear something new and interest-

ing, but, as they nearly all said, they were "had." The lecturer was a pettifogging tiddiwinker of the Exeter Hall stamp. The only difference was that the fussy old "cuss" lacked their ability. Mostly all were disgusted with his attacks on the Irish and Catholics in general. These usurpers—I mean these unauthorised, unordained hypocrites—once upon a time could make a good thing out of fools on the "anti-Popery" ticket, but that time has just about come to an end. The feeling is decidedly against them here.

ARRIVAL OF MR. JOHN DEASY, M.P., AT SYDNEY.

(Freeman's Journal, March 16.)

THE Irish National Delegates, the first of whom, Mr. John Deasy, M.P., for West Mayo, arrived here on Wednesday, find one part of their mission to Australia considerably forestalled. It is not necessary for them now to enter into any defence of their leader or his party against the foul slanders which for so many months have been heaped upon them. The cable has done that for them, and we can imagine with what satisfaction it was that they heard on reaching Australia the glad news, though doubtless not unexpected, that the few weeks of their pleasant passage to the Antipodes had sufficed for the total collapse of the *Times* case. Their mission may be one now solely of argument and reason, or as Mr. Deasy put it, "a mission of peace to state to the Australian people exactly how the Irish question stood at the present time, and to put forth the grounds upon which they based their appeal." "The delegates," he said, "were the advocates of right and of the principles of self-government which the people of Australia had put into practice, and they only desired that the Irish people should enjoy those principles which had been shared by the dependencies of the British nation," and he further "wished emphatically to state at the outset of their campaign in Australia that their programme would in no degree exceed the limits of Mr. Gladstone's Home Rule proposals of 1886." Events travel so fast that it is possible that before their Home Rule campaign in Australia is half over it may have ceased to be necessary. It is evident we were not wrong in supposing that the collapse of the *Times* conspiracy was as good as a year's growth to Home Rule, and we can say from our own knowledge, as Mr. Deasy says of the Cape Colony, that there are many people here whom the complete clearing of the Irish leaders from any suspicion of complicity with crime will convert at once from mere passive sympathisers with the Irish cause into very active supporters. But the battle, unfortunately, is to be fought not on Australian ground, or the campaign would be short and decisive indeed, but on English, although even there it is impossible to doubt that the influence of the *Times* fiasco has been and will be very fully felt. At any rate, Mr. Deasy has no manner of doubt about it. The balance of power in Great Britain, he tells us, rests in the hands of about 7 per cent. of the electors, which percentage, if won to the Irish cause, would mean an overwhelming majority at the next general election; and he declares his belief, not only that it will be won, but that a far larger proportion of the electors even than that will turn from the Tories in disgust. "I am confident," he says, "from my knowledge of English politics that a dissolution is only necessary in order to place Mr. Parnell, the *Times* criminal, in the position of Prime Minister of Ireland." And the basis of his belief is that it must now be clear to the English electors, who, he says, are "in the main observant and fair-minded," that "the Government and the *Times* entered deliberately into a conspiracy to ruin Mr. Parnell and the Irish party, and through him to wreck the Irish cause," and that the English people hate conspiracies. It is mainly through this old bugbear of conspiracies, each fouler and falsier than the other that England has been kept so long blinded and prejudiced against Ireland, but the tables are now turned, and the conviction of the Tory Government and the Tory journal of the crime most hateful to Englishmen, cowardly conspiracy, will clear at once and for ever from that always lying aspersion the Irish cause. It was a happy coincidence, by the way, that the papers which announced Mr. Deasy's arrival here also announced the cheerful fact that another of the *Times*' good men had gone wrong, and that despairing of a case to which every fresh witness only added fresh perjury, the *Times* had again and finally decided to proceed no further. Thus ends in shameful defeat and disgrace what the *Herald* called the other day "an unpleasant incident," but what history will call one of the most infamous plots that ever recoiled on the heads of its wicked devisers. With the arrival of Mr. Dillon next month the Australian campaign will begin in earnest. But it will not be a campaign. It will be an ovation; a more than royal progress; one long, continued, triumphal procession in honour of the men, there and their worthy comrades over the sea, who, under the blessing of God on their righteous cause, have saved Ireland.

Among other petty insults to which the widowed Empress Frederick has been subject by her eldest son is the order recently published in the *Official Gazette* depriving her of the use of the Imperial crown on her coat-of-arms, and decreeing that in future she must content herself with the attributes of a mere Queen of Prussia.

The Paris correspondent of the *Catholic Times* writes:—The eminent Catholic Senator, M. Lucien Brun, has delivered a remarkable speech on the laicisation of the primary schools. He showed that the laicisation campaign was carried on against the wishes of the enormous majority of the population, who were compelled to pay taxes to support schools which they did not want. M. Floquet's turgid eloquence cannot, however, influence any impartial mind of either the justice or necessity of the steps that the Government has taken, in face of the educational statistics for the year 1887-88, which have just been published. 698 schools were laicised in the twelve months from November, 1887, to October of the following year. In place of 296 of these the Catholics raised three schools. These latter have 2746 pupils, while the 698 laicised schools can count only 39,556 scholars. The proportion is not in favour of the advocates of secular education.