

## CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own Correspondent.)

December 21, 1880.

THE thirtieth anniversary of Canterbury was commenced on Thursday, December 16, by sports held at Hagley Park, which were witnessed, it is thought, by 11,000 persons. This is an increase on last year, and has led some people to believe that it is a sign that the movement has increased in public favour. The amount of money taken at the gate, £85, does not speak well of the liberality of the attendants. The managing committee receive general praise for the manner they carried out their onerous duties, though, of course, there are many dissatisfied. Akaroa and Lyttelton also commemorated the event, the former by a regatta, comprising events of the ordinary nature.

The half-yearly meeting of the Christchurch branch of the H.A.C.B. Society was held on the 16th inst. The balance sheet was received and adopted, and the following were elected officers for the ensuing term:—Brothers F. McSherry, President; D. O. Sullivan, Vice-President; E. O'Connor, Secretary; P. Donnelly, Treasurer; J. Slattery, Warden; W. Power, Guardian; James Nelson and James McAdams, Sick Visitors, whilst Bros. P. Pope and F. McSherry were appointed delegates for District Meeting of Officers and Delegates, to be held at Christchurch on Thursday, January 20.

Rev. Father Devoy returned to Christchurch last week only to be removed still further away. He is appointed for Kumara, whither he went this morning. Few men could be met with who possessed qualities similar to this good priest, and never has there been a priest in Christchurch who was better liked by his people. He had a kind word for all, and never appeared angry. He was especially loved by the children, for whom he has done so much. He leaves here regretted by all, and the only consolation his friends have is to know that where he is going to, he is likely to meet with a warm reception from his countrymen and others, for whose spiritual good he is disposed to labour.

## BASUTO CHARACTER.

SAYS the *Burghersdorp Gazette*:—"It is singular that any surprise should be expressed at the Basutos having deliberately slaughtered Lieut. Clarke and cut out and eaten his heart when he fell into their hands, unhorsed and helpless, while in the heroic act of rescuing a wounded comrade. The Basuto character is not a whit altered now to what it was in the time of the campaign under General Cathcart, when poor Lieut. Faunse, coming upon a party of them disguised in the uniform of the Lancers, whom they had just butchered, and discovering his mistake and believing the representations that were made to him of the Basutos being semi-civilized and generous enemies, tamely surrendered his sword as the soldier's sign of submission. They took it and laid him down, and with it severed his throat with all the deliberate and brutal cruelty that it is their wont to kill a sheep with, and, years after, the scalp used to be sported by old Mosesh in his dances. Those who were with us in the commando of 1858 will not have forgotten the fate which two of the Free State Burghers met with, who unhappily had fallen into Basuto hands in the surprise at Hell-poort. After the engagement they were missed, and no account could be rendered of them till about a week after, till the Chief Letsea's town, which was then at Morija, had been taken. A patrol, out foraging, came upon the bodies of these unfortunate wretches in a cavity in a rock, within a stone's throw of the mission buildings. The remains indicated that the poor wretches had been skinned, their skin being peeled off in long stripes; and, what was worse, the bespattered blood upon the rocks, as well as the condition of the floor, showed that the victims had been flayed alive, and in their excruciating agony must have made a terrible struggle. Subsequent evidence that was taken proved this, and also that the hearts and other parts of the captives had been cut out and cooked, with barbarous ceremonies, and eaten by the warriors present. Even now, just before the outbreak of hostilities, we hear of the like ceremony being repeated by David Masupha, only that, in place of the victim being a human foe, it was a bull, because the former could not with safety be had. The treatment, however, of Lieutenant Clarke's body supplies invincible evidence that in the preservation of this barbarous usage the Basutos of to-day are the same as they were a few years ago. To us the only marvel is, upon what precedents the better expectations of the Basutos can be founded."

Mr. C. Lennon, 54, George street, has on hand a very fine stock of Gentlemen's and boys' clothing of all descriptions. The various articles are of the best possible qualities, and fashionable make. The scale of charges is extremely moderate.

Messrs Bertinsshaw & Co., Princes street, Dunedin, supply their customers and patrons generally with hats of a superior make and of all descriptions.

Messrs Stavely, Austin & Co., Dunedin, have increased their wine merchants' business by the addition of a bottle department, where wines and spirits of the very purest qualities may be obtained in quantities suited to the requirements of families. This will be found a great boon to families to whom the well-known reputation of the firm affords the best possible guarantee. The advertisement of the firm will be found in another column. Special attention is directed to their tea and station-stores departments.

Messrs Vere & Co., 51, George street, Dunedin, have attained a high reputation for their blended teas. Their stock of groceries generally is remarkably good, and extremely moderate in price.

Mr. Kerr, George-street, Dunedin, offers to the public choice, at low prices, a large and most excellent stock of gentlemen's and boys' clothing.

## San Francisco Mail News

[From our Exchanges.]

The Cardinal Archbishop of New York has ordered a collection in his diocese for the Sovereign Pontiff, appealing to the well-known charity of the diocese of New York for a liberal response. Such an appeal has never been made to the faithful in greater necessities of the Holy See, and such an appeal has never failed to win, from Catholic New York, a generous answer worthy of the country and of the cause.

The Hebrews of New York did honour to themselves and the magnificent civilization which they inherit, by voting for the Catholic who was a candidate for the Mayoralty of New York. That will be remembered for them, if ever a son of Israel is a candidate for a high office in New York.

The schools of the Society of Jesus in the Rue de Madrid reopened recently with one hundred more pupils than they had before their suppression by the Government. A new set of Catholic teachers have supplied the place of the exiled Jesuits, but the tone of the teaching will remain unaltered. The increase in the number of pupils in the schools which have been re-opened shows that many of the Catholic Frenchmen do not deserve the charge of supineness which has been fastened on the whole French by some thoughtless people. If the persecution of the Jesuits continues to produce such fruit, they will be the last persons to regret a measure which has only been a humiliation to their enemies.

A noble and venerable institution will soon die a natural death. The St. Gothard Hospice will be shut up eighteen months hence, the railway tunnel drawing all the traffic from the Pass.

The *Germania* denies that the Holy See is not in accord with the attitude of Catholics in the late celebration at Cologne. "It is in vain," the *Germania* says, "that the liberal organs offer us ironical condolences. There exists not the slightest trace of disagreement between the Holy Father and Catholic Germans."

The Police Commissioners at Rennes, France, have resigned in a body rather than enforce the decrees against the religious communities.

An Italian woman, Signora Adele Capei, has offered to the Municipal Council of Florence a silver box containing ashes taken from the tomb of Dante Alighieri, and asked that it may be kept in one of the Florentine museums. The council has accepted the gift, and proposes to keep the precious relic in the museum in course of preparation in the quarter called Leonora di Toledo, where all the ancient banners possessed by the city, are to be collected.

It is a pretty large contract that Gladstone and Co. have undertaken in preparing to prosecute the Land Leaguers. The *Dublin Freeman's Journal* says the indictment will include two hundred speeches and the testimony of three hundred and fifty witnesses. Lots of people who go to law wish they hadn't before they get through. Speaking of the proposed prosecution, the *New York Sun* says:—"It is natural enough that an English Ministry should find it almost impossible to keep hands off the leaders and propagators of the Land League. But they may find it even more difficult to let go."

An Irish witness in court lately, named Patrick Monday, who has lived in Montreal thirty-two years, could not speak a word of English. An interpreter of the Irish language had to be found before the proceedings could be proceeded with. The witness explained through the interpreter that his wife and family as well as his employer here all spoke Irish, and he had no need to learn English.

A society of Mormon girls, having for its object the securing of monogamic husbands, has been discovered and broken up at Salt Lake. The members took a vow to marry no man who would not pledge himself to be content with one wife. Five grand-daughters of Brigham Young had joined it.

The village of Oberammergau is indeed inhabited by people so religious, gay, and gentle that they hardly seem to be denizens of a world of strife and sin. No angry tone, no loud tone, even, is audible in the streets, and there are no sad faces to be seen. If it is 'rue that no repetition of the Play will take place, the world will sustain a great loss. There was nothing to suggest irreverence among any of the tourists, and the idlest amongst them seem to have been bettered by what they saw.

The Protestant pulpits of New York screamed with anger because a Catholic had been nominated for mayor of that city. Ah, gentlemen of the black cloth, how little fit you are for freedom!

On Sunday, October 10, during Mass in Gweedore Chapel, county Donegal, so lately the scene of a melancholy catastrophe by flooding, a sound like thunder was heard. The congregation, fearing it was the approach of another flood, became panic-stricken, and rushed *en masse* towards the doors. In the struggle that ensued about twenty persons were more or less injured. One poor girl is said to be in a dying state, and three aged females were almost trampled to death. The cause of the alarm is said to have been a slate from the top sliding down the roof.

Some good Catholics must have been praying hard, for to our unspeakable joy we read the following in the French papers:—"The Abbé Bichery, who for a while was vicar to Father Hyacinthe in his schismatical church in the Rue Rochechouart, and who quarrelled and went to law with him, has, after two months' probation at La Trappe, recanted his errors and submitted himself unreservedly to the Pope."

New York, Oct. 22.—Three weeks ago Mrs. Mary Mayer, of 462, First street, Jersey City, died of typhoid fever, and was buried. The body appeared lifelike, and the cheeks after death were highly coloured. This preyed upon the mind of a daughter of the deceased to such a degree that she caused the remains to be exhumed. It was then discovered that the woman had turned on her face in the coffin, and that in her struggles she had torn one ear almost off.