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(Copy of a Letter received from Bishop Redwood.)

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TO MISSING FRIENDS.

DAN BLACK, late of Maledavin, County Antrim, Ireland, is requested to communicate with his brother, Denis Black.

Harper street, Sydenham,

Christchurch.

SUBSCRIPTIONS IN AID OF THE IRISH NATIONAL LAND LEAGUE.

COLLECTED IN ARROW.

Felix Gorman, £2. The following gave £1 each:—Rev. John Mackay, Patrick Kerrin, Thomas McIntyre, James Whelan, E. Fitzgibbon, Michael Moran, Daniel Enright, Philip Kelly, James McChestney, Timothy Callanan. The following gave 10s each:—Patrick Cosgrove, Thomas Fitzgibbon, William Crowley, Peter Lutel, Edward Power, Thomas Condon, Mrs John McBride, Mrs Richardt, Matthew Dwyer, James McCormick, Patrick Cleary, Francis Cosgrove, John Matheison, Flint and Wedlock, John Reach, Thomas McDonnell, James Costello, Mr Lynch, Patrick Enright, Francis McBride, 6s 6d. The following gave 5s each:—Daniel Shannahan, John Breen, Michael Nolan, Patrick Barron, Thomas Tobin, E. Fitzgerald, John Hayes, Michael Murray, William McWhirter, Robert Williams, James Begbie, William Welsh, Richard Cotter, John Shannahan, E. Mullins.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO TABLET FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 12, 1881.

Messrs John Boyle, £2 11s; Peter McGrath, £3 2s 6d; Thomas Hall, £1; J. D. Kett, £1; W. Morris, 10s; Thomas Nester, £1; J. Fitzpatrick, £1 5s; Wm. Connolly, 12s 6d; J. Sharkey, 12s 6d; E. Fitzgibbon, £1 5s; P. Clinton, £2 4s; W. Gillespie, 9s; B. McGrath, £1 11s 6d — Rush, £3; C. Dalton, £1; Master Hickson, £1 5s.

CATHEDRAL FUND.

I BEG to acknowledge, on behalf of the Most Rev. Dr. Moran, the following subscriptions towards the Cathedral Fund:—

WEEKLY SUBSCRIPTIONS.

		£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.
Per Rev W. Newport		10	3	6	Per Mr. J. Griffin		0	16	6
" Mr. W. J. Hall		2	13	0	" " W. Cunningham		1	15	0
" " J. Brennan		0	14	0	" " J. Dillon		0	15	0
" " C. McAllister		0	15	0	" " T. B. Conway		0	9	0
" " D. McGirr		0	12	0	" " D. W. Woods		0	15	0
" " J. Daly		1	6	0	" " B. A. Dunne		1	2	0
" " N. Smith		0	12	0					

M. WALSH.

DEATHS.

On the 7th inst., at Dunedin, in his 7th year, Gabriel Maurice, son of John F. and Laura Perrin.—*R.I.P.*
On 28th July, at his residence, South Dunedin, after a long and painful illness, Mr. Patrick Scanlan; aged 57 years.—*R.I.P.*

The New Zealand Tablet.

FIAT JUSTITIA.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12, 1881.

A MEASURE OF DEFENCE.

SINCE it would appear that the movement for the introduction of Bible reading into the State schools is gaining an attention in the legislature of the colony which might have been thought impossible, it is time that Catholics should begin to think of taking steps to defend themselves, so far as possible, from evil results; especially from the snares of the proselytisers in the event of the open Bible carrying the day.

That the measure proposed is intended with a view towards proselytism there can be little doubt. If it were not so, for instance, it would not be proposed to make it necessary that parents and guardians should object in writing to Bible-reading for their children; it would be considered enough for them to express their unwillingness in any way. Writing materials, we know, or the time, or skill, to use them, are not always at hand in the labourer's cottage; and this the advocates of Bible-reading know also, and endeavour to profit by their knowledge.

What we propose, then, is that Catholic Committees of Defence should be formed in every district, whose duty it would be to keep a strict watch on the Bible-reading schools. The school inspectors are as little to be trusted as the most pious teachers themselves, or, in some instances, vastly less so than them, as we have, again, clearly learned from a recent report of a dictation lesson chosen for a certain scholarship examination, and to which we alluded in a former issue.

Members of these committees should be appointed to go round to the houses of Catholic parents obliged to send their children to the State Schools, and offer them the easy means of giving the necessary written directions to the school-masters.—Visitors should also be appointed to go from time to time to the schools during the Bible-reading hour, and see, with a view to reporting the matter to the committee, if the written directions of Catholic parents and guardians were being openly infringed, or if Catholic children, exempted from the Scripture lesson, were still placed, by a pious ruse, within hearing of it, as we know it to have frequently been the case. The public, we believe, can visit the schools at any time, provided no interruption to business be caused by their visit, and there would be nothing irregular in a couple of gentlemen's strolling in now and then and proposing to stand quietly by while the Bible lesson went on. All this might be done, with no doubt additional precautions taught by experience,