

educated people. Justice and common sense would soon put an end to cram, but unfortunately neither justice nor common sense exist here in reference to education.

If a house is to be built, an architect is employed; engineers are sought for when a railroad is to be made; if one is sick, a medical doctor is called in: but there are two subjects with which, it appears, all men, without exception, are thoroughly conversant—and these are religion and education. In fact, according to modern ideas, the only people who are thoroughly incompetent to deal with these are the experts,—people who have made them the study and occupation of their lives. Everybody else is perfectly qualified to pronounce upon them an infallible opinion!

OUR Auckland correspondent writes as follows:—I regret to announce to you the death of Lord Abbott Alcock, O.S.B. This holy prelate had been suffering for some time past, and now he has answered the call of the Almighty. The obsequies were terminated on Sunday last, 13th inst., at the usual hour of mass, and were very impressive. A catafalque was erected outside the sanctuary, the coffin containing the remains of the deceased being placed upon it. This was visited all day during Saturday by those belonging to the Church. The Rev. Father Downey, O.S.B., during the requiem service preached a sermon of an extremely touching and tear-producing nature. He had known the Lord Abbot when a boy, and knew him all through his career. He spoke of the deceased prelate in terms of the highest encomium, and asked the prayers of all for his soul. The procession formed and crossed over into the cemetery, where the body will be temporarily interred in a vault behind St. Francis de Sales Church, it being intended to remove it to a crypt about to be built under the new church in the construction of which building the Lord Abbot took such a great interest and did so much. The number present was estimated at about 3000. The service during the procession was chanted by the Benedictine Order and the other priests whilst the requiem service was officiated as follows: The Very Reverend Father Fynes, Vicar Capitular, was celebrant of the mass, being assisted by the Rev. Father Walter Macdonald and Rev. Father Fox, O.S.B., as deacons, Rev. Fathers Luck, Downey, O'Garra, and O'Sullivan, O.S.B., were also in the sanctuary. The solemn service, the character and rendering of the music, brought tears to many eyes, and reflection to many a mind. May the memory of that day live with all those who were present. *R.I.P.*

A MAN named James Luckey was killed in Dunedin on Wednesday by a kick from a dray-horse, which had been struck by a piece of timber hanging over the shafts. The unfortunate man was hit in the chest, and died instantaneously.

A FARMER named Sheppard was killed at North Rakaiia on Saturday by the capsizing of a dray which fell upon him.

A MAN has been lost in the bush near Stratford. It is conjectured that he had crawled into a hollow log for shelter and been unable to get out again.

AT a preliminary meeting held in the Catholic boys school Timaru, on Thursday the 17th inst., the Rev. Father Devoy, S.M., in the chair, it was resolved to form a literary association for the benefit of the young men in the congregation. The first meeting was held on last Monday evening when it was decided to name it the Timaru Catholic Young Men's Literary Society, and the following officers were elected; spiritual director, Rev. Father Devoy, S.M., president, M. de H. Duval, esq., vice-president, Mr. T. Timmonds, treasurer, Mr. T. F. Dillon, hon. secretary, Mr. M. Denehy, junr. Thirty-three members were enrolled, and the regular weekly meetings will be held on Monday evenings at half past seven, and at the meeting to be held next Monday an inaugural address will be delivered by the president. As the Society will have the use of the schoolroom, which will be lighted by gas, and as there will also be a useful library in addition it should prove very beneficial to the members of the Timaru community.

FRIDAY last, being the anniversary of the religious profession of the Very Rev. Mother Prioress of the Dominican Convent, Dunedin, was celebrated by the pupils of the convent schools—many of the former pupils also taking part in the celebration. The festivities commenced with a musical entertainment, in St. Joseph's School, of a most charming nature, and which was very smoothly and pleasantly carried through. An afternoon tea-party was next held and went off with much cheerfulness. For the evening a few scenes of Molière's *Femmes Savantes* had been prepared, and were given with spirit—the fluency and correctness of pronunciation with which the French of the various parts was spoken by the performers being especially remarkable. An amusing charade was also gone through with. The chief event of the day, however, was the surprise-presentation made to the Mother Prioress by the young ladies, who had for some time devoted themselves to their needles, and produced a large quantity of work of the most skilful and beautiful kind, and of a great variety, which they had laid out in one of the rooms, and offered, as they knew it would be most pleasing to the Rev. Mother,

as a gift to the approaching bazaars. This was an acknowledgement of her care and constant anxiety for their welfare that was most agreeable to the lady in question, and which gratified her even more than the various personal gifts presented to her.

OPERATIONS in Egypt during the week have been confined to preparatory movements of the British fleet and forces—with a skirmish or two, in which Arabi's men were defeated. At a place called Chalouf, a strong position held by 600 men was taken, with a large quantity of supplies, ammunition, and guns. Arabi remains strongly entrenched, and in command of a numerous force at Kaftradwar, from which Sir Garnet Wolseley is actively engaged in preparations to dislodge him. The Suez Canal, now once more opened for traffic, is to form the basis of all proceedings. The British forces are also to dig a canal to supply Alexandria with water.

WE learn that it is the intention of the Dominican nuns to hold bazaars in aid of their newly-established convents both at Invercargill and Oamaru, that at the first named town to take place a week before Christmas, and that at Oamaru on January 1st. It is hoped, therefore, that the friends of the convents will exert themselves on their behalf, and so as to make these undertakings result in a success.

KING CETEWAYO is to be restored to his kingdom of Zululand forthwith. A British resident will, however, hold him in check, at least for a time.

A MAN named Kiddy committed suicide by cutting his throat at Waihenga, Wellington, on the 17th inst.

THE Imperial Parliament has been prorogued to October, when a special session will be held to deal with the new rules of procedure.

JUDGE LAWSON sentenced Mr. E. Dwyer Gray to a fine of £500 and three months imprisonment—with an additional three months, failing his furnishing two securities to the amount of £9000, that he would keep the peace for six months. This action against Mr. Gray's paper was grounded on an article reflecting on the conduct of the judges and jury in a recent agrarian trial. The sentence has provoked extreme indignation, and, we understand, is considered unduly severe, even in England.

SEVERE weather is reported to have injured the lambs in the Patea district.

THE new Coercion Bill appears to be producing the usual fruits of such measures in Ireland. Several serious outrages are again reported, and, to add another feature to the general state of disturbance, religious riots are said to have occurred at Portadown. At a banquet given by the Lord Mayor of Dublin the toast of the Queen was hissed. We learn, however, that fifty suspects have been released—possibly among them the remainder of those demanded by the American Government. We may add, to the credit of Lord Spencer, that it was a refusal on his part to agree to Colonel Brackenbury's time-honoured plan of employing the police as decoys and informers that led to the resignation of that functionary, which was lately reported here as that of the chief of the police force.

A CARGO of 250 tons of frozen mutton will be despatched by the New Zealand Refrigerating Company in November.—The number of sheep estimated to make up the required weight is about eight thousand.

AN extraordinary attempt to assassinate Archbishop Goold was made in Melbourne on Monday. As his Grace was riding along the Brighton road early in the evening he was twice fired at from a revolver—and slightly wounded in the finger by one of the balls. The would-be assassin, who fortunately believed that his second shot had taken effect, and ran off as soon as it was discharged, was captured after a long race, and proved to be a man named O'Farrell, a solicitor by profession, and brother of the unhappy man hanged at Sydney for wounding the Duke of Edinburgh in 1868. He was found to have fifty bullets in his pockets, and the other barrels of his pistol were still loaded. His Grace is, therefore, to be congratulated on the mistake made by him, and we are very happy to join our voice to those of the number who will rejoice in the failure of this lamentable attempt. The fact of the attempt's being made, nevertheless, by this man must go far to confirm the belief entertained in many quarters as to the lunacy of the poor wretch sacrificed to exuberant loyalty at Sydney. A strain of dangerous madness has all along lurked in the family, as is proved beyond controversy by these two notable attempts.

TREATIES made by the United States and Great Britain with the Corea are looked upon with interest as likely to throw open a hitherto inaccessible country. The French Catholic Missionaries, nevertheless, have for years past penetrated there, and endured indescribable hardships in the pursuit of their holy calling. The very interesting and edifying letter of Mgr. Lamaze, however, kindly translated by a distinguished patron, and forwarded to us for publication in our columns, and of which we give the conclusion in our present issue, will have made our readers acquainted with the nature of the missionaries in question, and prepared them to give credit to any acts of self-devotion reported of these wholly devoted fathers.

THE Chicago *Tribune* hardly encourages Irish emigration to America. Here is what it says of it:—"And what is the fate of