

ground; it is unable to soar aloft in the heavens. A system which ignores God and bans the name of CHRIST and insists on mere human motives, is earthly and keeps the soul from tending heavenwards and attaining its true destiny. Education which does not touch the heart changes the form of crime perhaps, but it certainly does not destroy vice. "Of what use is it to a commonwealth," said Fox, the founder of the first reformatory, "that its rogues should learn how to read, write and cypher? These acquirements are only so many master-keys put into their hands to break into the sanctuary of human society." We commend these words to the secularists pure and simple who continue to keep the heel of oppression on the Catholic people.

As to the reading of the Bible in the public schools of the Colony, we are convinced that the mere reading of the Scriptures by, in many cases, an agnostic teacher will not tend to make the people Christian, or reverence the Sacred Word. To quote the words of an eminent ecclesiastic: "Merely reading the Bible without explanation or comment is not instruction. What would be said of a military school where the professors only read a chapter or two on military tactics, but gave no lessons, made no comments, required no drill? How can they expect mere reading the Bible to the young will make Christian men and women." Again we commend to the consideration of the Evangelicals who advocate the reading of the Scriptures without comment in the public schools the words of a Prussian visitor to America: "I came to your country to study its geography, its laws, its institutions, and I find 2000 religions and nobody believing in God."

If Protestants want Bible-reading, let them have it, provided we get our money back and justice for our own children. The recognition of revealed religion in the so-called national system would be something. We greatly fear that a similar state of things would prevail here as in Rome, where the people complain bitterly that in the Italian schools, where the priests may not direct the instruction, the catechism is taught compulsorily by Liberal teachers—sometimes Jews—who are avowed unbelievers, and who after school hours openly laugh at Christianity and ridicule its practices.

As we go to press the condition of the Most Rev Dr Moran remains unaltered. The Bishop repeats his expression of thanks for the kind sympathy shown towards him, and the prayers offered and inquiries made.

THE time for holding the bazaar in aid of the school building fund of the Dominican nuns, owing to circumstances, still remains uncertain. Preparations for the event, nevertheless, are going busily on. All, therefore, who are inclined to give a helping hand in the good work can find an opportunity of doing so.

THE Rev Fathers O'Doherty and O'Connor visited Dunedin last week en route from Melbourne to Auckland. Father O'Connor is parish priest of Namurkah in the diocese of Sandhurst. Father O'Doherty hails from the famous town of Derry, having come out to Australia some months ago in search of restored health. The rev gentleman had suffered from a trouble of the throat. It may be remembered that some little time since we reviewed in these columns a very able lecture delivered in Melbourne by Father O'Doherty on the condition of things in Ulster. He is a high authority on everything connected with the National movement, in which he takes a lively interest. Our like-minded friends in Auckland, no doubt, will find out the rev father's capabilities during his stay among them, and turn them to good account. We trust that for his part he may have as good an account to give of the health restoring qualities of the hot springs.

THE Sydney *Freeman's Journal* of the 10th inst. reports a view of Catholic matters in the diocese of Dunedin, given by the Very Rev Dr Gallagher, who had recently visited this city:—"Dr Gallagher is enthusiastic in his praise of the diocese of Dunedin. 'The good bishop may be spared yet a little longer,' he says, 'but if he is called to his reward he will leave the memory of a splendid episcopate. All over the diocese are to be found evidences of Bishop Moran's zeal, solicitude and enthusiasm. Taking into consideration the number of Catholics and the conditions under which the work of religion and education has been carried on, no diocese in Australia has a better record of progress.' The Dunedin Cathedral struck Dr Gallagher as being a model of solidity and architectural taste, and in many respects it may be described as the finest structure of its kind in the colonies. Bishop Moran's name would be for ever associated with the erection of the Cathedral, which in its noble design and imposing proportions was typical of the bishop's spiritual work in the diocese."

Our contemporary *Fair Play* is about to issue a supplement containing "speaking portraits" of all our Parliamentary representatives, including even the silent Member. The picture should be of interest, especially to political disciples of Lavater, who might delight to trace the legislator's principles in his features. Our contemporary also issues a challenge—like that attributed to John Gilpin, "his for a thousand pounds"—to any one who can prove that a recent number of the *New Zealand Times* was printed, not by a mixture of gas and electricity, as prompted by the office boy, but by electricity only. If that boy, meantime, has discovered a method of mixing electricity with anything Mr Edison might like to hear from him. However, it was, of course, very wrong of the *Times* to tell an unmixed "whopper." Better to print a paper even by hand and stick to the truth. As turned out by pure electricity, by the way, will the portraits of our legislators be much prettier? Unmixed gas, we fancy, is otherwise more in the line of some of the originals.

MR W. T. MONKMAN has been elected Captain of B. Battery, N.Z.R.A.V., *vice* Mr G. C. Proudfoot (resigned). The unanimity that distinguished Mr Monkman's election proves the esteem in which he is held by the corps.

THE Unionists—exclusive of the break-neck Tories—appear to be up to a thing or two. They are hanging back from the support given to the Lords. We may accredit them with knowing too well on which side their bread is buttered to commit themselves to a part in a contest with the people. They reject Lord Salisbury's leadership on any point except that of Home Rule.

A REPORT which we would fain hope may prove unfounded—but whose truth unfortunately seems too probable, is the following:—"His medical advisers report that a cataract has obliterated the sight of one of Mr Gladstone's eyes, and that a cataract is forming in the other. Mr Gladstone wished to undergo an operation, but the doctors refused to perform it."

WE have received from Auckland the first number of a paper started in the popular interests, under the title of "*The Weekly Standard*." The principles professed are "Government for the people and by the people, and the greatest good to the greatest number." A promise is made of unbiassed consideration for every shade of political, social, and religious opinion. Our new contemporary seems fair and moderate, and is creditably turned out.

THE House of Lords abide in their obstinacy, and have re-inserted in the Employer's Liability Bill the contracting out clause. Mr Gladstone has moved the final rejection of their amendments, but refuses to lead in an attack on the Lords themselves. Lord Rosebery and Sir William Harcourt are said to be supporting Messrs Acland and Asquith in advocating an aggressive movement. The more moderate members of the Cabinet agree with Mr Gladstone. The situation, however, needs to be elucidated.

THE death of Frank Byrne, who was accused of complicity in the conspiracy of the Invincibles, is reported from New York. Byrne's guilt was never proved, and always remained doubtful. His escape at the time, considering the temper of the Government, may have been a matter of prudence. The funeral took place on Monday, and—the cable informs us—was attended by 2000 representatives of secret societies. If there is not a flight of the imagination, we may add, the condition of the United States is not particularly enviable. The times, however, are favourable for exaggeration, and, no doubt, full advantage will be taken of them.

Messrs Smith and Smith, Octagon, Dunedin, may be called upon for estimates for everything connected with the trade of the painter, glazier, and paperhanger. Their work is the best of its kind, and their charges are very low.

Sufferers from corns should try Johnston's callosine. It is highly recommended.

Messrs M. Frazer and Sons, George street, Dunedin, invite inspection of their large and excellent stock of goods. Their dress-making and millinery departments will be found especially deserving of patronage. The firm's prices are notable for their cheapness.

Mr James Dealey's Railway Hotel, Thorndon Quay, Wellington, offers first-class accommodation to visitors and travellers. The situation is pleasant and convenient, the house is thoroughly well fitted up, and no pains are spared to insure the comfort of those who patronise it. Mr Dealey's well-known reputation is a certain guarantee for the good treatment of all who avail themselves of his services or seek the accommodation of his house.

Messrs Herbert Haynes and Co., Princes street, Dunedin, are showing a splendid variety of autumn and winter fashions. The goods have all the stamp of distinction that is insured alone by the taste and discrimination of a buyer in the Home markets especially qualified.