

New Zealand Gabel

TWENTY-THIRD YEAR OF PUBLICATION.

VOL. XXIII.—No. 42. DUNEDIN: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14 1896 PRICE 6D.

Current Topics

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

THE OLD, OLD STORY. UNDER the heading of "A much-married man," the *Otago Daily Times* has the following particulars of a rev gentleman who made some noise in Dunedin and elsewhere a few years ago. Recent exposures of several notorious characters already chronicled in these columns has well nigh extinguished the no-popery lecturing business in the States. Even the rabid A.M.P. will have nothing to do with ex-priests and so-called escaped nuns. In the colonies, speaking generally, respectable citizens now hold aloof from people of the Hammond class. The lives of our priests and religious and laity give the lie to monstrous assertions of itinerant vilifiers. Sensible people, as a rule, take people as they find them, and not as others find them for them. Even those who are prepared to swallow the filthy mouthings of cunning scoundrels must experience some disgust and feel that they have been more than once "taken in" when they read the paragraph to which we refer. Here it is. Some of our readers will, no doubt, cut it out and keep it by them:—"American papers to hand," says the *Otago Daily Times*, "chronicle the arrest at St Louis (La), on December 11, of the Rev William Hammond, who, in 1888, held the position of evangelist at the Tabernacle in Dunedin, and who was not only well known here and in Oamaru, but also in other parts of New Zealand and Australia. The man appears to have had a very chequered career, and, according to the *Globe Democrat*, he is now charged with having committed almost every crime in the calendar. Born at La Chute, Canada, he was brought up as a farmer, but his wife dying he married a Mrs Brockway, the widow of a wealthy physician of Franklyn Falls (N.H.). He was made the pastor of the Freewill Baptist Church, and after swindling his wife out of 3000dols, and the people of the town out of several thousands more, he took to wandering all over the globe. He was married in California, twice married in Melbourne, and twice in New Zealand, all of his wives dying. He practised alternately as a preacher of the Gospel and as a physician, and rendered himself notorious by his attacks on the Catholic Church, giving out that at one time he was a priest. He was succeeded at the Tabernacle here by Mr Floyd. His last wife was a Dunedin girl, whom he met in Melbourne, and recognised as one of his former congregation. This wife died in Jamaica, and the two children which were born are also believed to be dead.

A MISSIONARY PRISONER. MANY stories are told about the late Cardinal Melchers. For instance, he obtained from the Pope the extraordinary privilege of attaching the indulgences of the Via Comcia to a cross, to be gained at any time, even in the case of those in perfect health, by the recitation of certain prayers. Few stories about this Christian hero of our own times are more interesting and touching than the account of his life in the prison of the Klingelpütz. Archbishop Melchers, of Cologne, who, after his death, has been honoured, by Imperial permission, with a public funeral was taken from his palace and imprisoned in 1874. His people, in thousands, reciting the mass and other prayers, accompanied their Father as Commissary Klose and his soldiers led him to the common gaol. The distinguished prisoner had to consort with convicts of all kinds, who slept and worked together. The general occupation was the making of straw-bottomed chairs. In the official list of prisoners to this day is the name, "Paul Melchers, straw-plaiter." The Archbishop, however, had little manual labour to perform. His fellow-prisoners voluntarily divided his allotted task of work between them, and in return received from the saintly Archbishop instruction and spiritual consolation. His eight months incarceration became a fruitful and lasting eight months' mission. Numerous conversions resulted from the imprisonment of this modern Confessor of the Faith.

THE DEEPEST WATER IN THE WORLD. THE Atlantic had to give way to the North Pacific, and now the North Pacific gives way to the South Pacific. A deep sea sounding North of Porto Rico registered 27,336 feet. A sounding in the ocean near the Japanese coast reached 27,930 feet. The Penguin which, according to the *Naval and Military Record*, has

completed a surveying cruise, made a sounding south of the Friendly Islands which attained the depth of 29,400 feet! The wire snapped, before the bottom was reached, at a depth of five and a half miles less three hundred and sixty feet. To give our readers an idea of the ocean at this point, if Mt Cook, our highest New Zealand mountain, were placed on the floor of the ocean bed and another Mount Cook piled on top, a hill of over a thousand yards could be placed above the two mountains and a ship could still pass over the spot in safety.

A LITERARY BUFFOON. THE Dunedin *Evening Star* gives an extract from the London *Telegraph* concerning the health of the Pope, which, for far-fetched absurdity, indeed, down-right stupidity, cannot be surpassed. The Pope, we are told, has the "sincerest sympathy" of this London friend of our Dunedin contemporary. His Holiness caught a cold and suffered from hoarseness. This hoarseness was caused by the difficulty of holding converse with Irish bishops on their visit *ad limina*! He said Irish Bishops did not understand Italian, the Pope did not speak Hibernian, recourse had, therefore, to be had to Latin! In the attempt to get his stubborn Italian lips to pronounce the classic language with a brogue Leo XIII. got hoarse—hence a Consistory had to be postponed. Want of copy does not excuse patent asinity. Leo XIII. never repeats himself, as the *Telegraph* asserted. He is a most deliberate speaker, easily followed, and readily understood. The literary buffoon whose utterly puerile effort is reproduced at the antipodes, made an unwise selection when he directed his shaft against the most elegant Latinist of the age, and an able body of men who are in the very forefront of classicists.

THE BLIND CHAPLAIN'S PRAYER. MANY prayers have been offered in Europe and the colonies for peace in connection with the Venezuela difficulty. Few in brevity and impressiveness nearly equal the opening prayer of the blind chaplain of the United States Congress. "Grant," he said, "we beseech Thee, that we may be saved from imbuing our hands in each other's blood. Let the spirit of justice and magnanimity prevail among the rulers of both nations, and among the kindred people of the two lands." The chaplain well deserved the congratulation of the senators and the unusual distinction of having the full invocation inscribed on the record of the House.

SPELLING REFORM. IN the short letter of "Tax" to the editor in last issue reference was made to misspelled words in some of the competition anecdotes. Those who fear they were guilty culprits in the eyes of "Tax" may take comfort in the thought that Professor Earle believes a lot of time is wasted in acquiring a habit of conventional spelling. He would allow a man to spell in any way so long as he made himself understood. Difference in spelling should, in his idea, amount to about as much as difference in handwriting. So long as writing is readily intelligible, it matters little how the letters are formed and blended. Spelling, according to Earle and Dr Abbot also, should be allowed moderate latitude and a certain liberty of individual tact.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS. THE well-written, very interesting, altogether carefully compiled bi-annual *Alma Mater*, gives the reader an idea of the completeness of staff, and excellence of arrangements of the Jesuit College at Riverview, Sydney. The "Public and University Examination Record," shows the excellent results of wisely directed training. Not only did all the candidates for March and November junior and senior public examination pass, but in no instance did a Riverview boy secure a mere pass. "First class Honours," "Second class Honours," "University Medals, Cooper Scholarship, Watt Exhibition—These are distinctions to be found up and down the detailed report. One of the candidates, Mr E. H. Kelly—the winner of the Watt (three years) Exhibition (1st year £30, 2nd year £40, 3rd year £50)—obtained A's or First Class Honours in five out of his ten subjects. Mr B. P. McEvoy won the Cooper Scholarship for classics (£50). The 14 lads presented for junior public exam. all passed, generally

COMPARE SIZE AND WEIGHT OF STICKS.

Smoke T. C. Williams' JUNO. Smoke.

with high honours. Seven of the 14 also qualified for matriculation. Two obtained University Medals for first places in Latin and Greek. We have mentioned a few of the many distinctions obtained by the students. Uniformly excellent results presuppose thoroughness in system. It is gratifying to note the continued progress of Catholic colleges in Australasia. Effective teaching as shown by brilliant public results is a decided protest against the general injustice to Catholics in the matter of education.

A CORRESPONDENT in Australia is desirous of ODDS AND ENDS, obtaining items in connection with ex-priests.

Here is an extract from the Boston *Pilot* that will give him pleasure:—"Father Leon Bouland, a priest well known in New England, who left the Church seven years ago for the Protestant Episcopal communion, made his retraction of heresy and profession of faith in the hands of the Very Rev William O'Brien, S. J., Provincial of the Jesuits. He is now making a retreat, and hopes thereafter to be restored to the exercise of his priestly powers, and to minister to American Catholics of French origin, repairing by his zeal and virtue the scandal which his defection had caused. While separated from the Church, Father Bouland was made much of by Episcopalians, and employed in various positions of trust. His experience of the dissensions among Protestants seems to have rectified his mind, convincing him of the need of a supreme, infallible teaching voice in the Church. A few weeks ago, 'stricken with remorse,' as he puts it, 'for the rash and unintelligible step' he had taken, he applied to Mgr Satolli to be received back to the bosom of the Church. His Excellency gave the case into the hands of Father Pardow, and satisfied with the distinguished Jesuit's report, authorised him to receive Father Bouland's retraction, and admit him to the Sacraments. Father Bouland, in his statement of the case, says:—"It had been stated that after leaving the Church I married. This I declare to be absolutely false. I retract fully and unreservedly the letter I wrote to the Sovereign Pontiff, Leo XIII., on April 12, 1888, in which I stated my so-called 'Reasons for leaving the Church of Rome.' These reasons were all false. I have met with great kindness on the part of Episcopalians, Congregationalists, and other non-Catholics, and I hope that my return to the Church will cause some of them, at least, to consider the ground on which they stand and their adherence to a Church which I have tested practically for seven years and found wanting."

Mr John Morley, at a meeting in Newcastle-on-Tyne, said:—"The Irish cause has nine lives and more." A defeat, with Mr Morley, does not spell ruin.

The hero of the 310 mile sick call ride turns up again. A writer in the *Antigonish* (N.S.) *Casket*, referring to the famous ride of Father Begley across the Texas prairies, says:—"We have heard of the actual riding only; we know nothing of its after effects upon brave Father Begley. A friend of mine tells me he once, a great many years ago, rode 70 miles for a doctor. Up to that time he thought he never could get enough riding, but he has never cared to sit in a saddle since. His feet were sore for 12 months afterwards. After hearing his story I can better appreciate the magnitude of Father Begley's performance."

A number of the colliers were discussing trade prospects in a Yorkshire inn when one of their number, known to his pals as the Cockney, with a scowl at his *vis à vis*, "a man free Greece," thus delivered himself: "Tell you what, mates, we'd ave plenty work and good wages in this Englan if less Scotchmen cum'd south." To this the Glaswegian made a ringing retort. The men sprang to their feet, and once more the Thistle and the Rose wrestled. At length, during a pause in the fight, the Cockney remarked, "Well, I be a great fool to be foightin' on this ere subject, for I'm Irish I am." "Are you?" replied his opponent. "That bates all, for I'm Irish, too."

Most of the churches in Paris were crowded long before the hour or the midnight Mass last Christmas. At St Eustache, St Roch, and a few old churches the familiar strains of Adams's 'Nû.' were heard; but for these had been substituted in many other churches a new Christmas hymn composed by M. Roussau, organist of St Clotilde, in the Faubourg St Germain. This is a very simple song, set to plain music, and is intended to illustrate better than more elaborate compositions of the kind the story of Bethlehem. On Christmas Day the churches of the Madeleine, St Augustin, the Trinité and St Roch, as well as Notre Dame, were well attended.

The picturesque and historic Church of Notre Dame des Victoires, in the Rue de la Légence, Brussels, is about to be restored. It was founded early in the fourteenth century by the Guild of Crossbowmen, and contains several ancient monuments, notably those of Counts Egmont and Hoorn, who are represented on their way to execution. The statues of these patriotic noblemen are still to be seen on the square opposite the Hotel de Ville, the very site of the spot where they were done to death.

Here is a profitable item for the "new woman's" consideration:—"The Queen of Portugal is setting a noble example to her subjects by devoting herself to the study of medicine. She is skilled in botany and familiar with the marvels of the microscope, and is confident that her appearance as a careful student, and no more fastidious than a Sister of Charity, will widen the sphere of usefulness of her sex. She is a better educated woman than most of the upper class in her kingdom, and speaks fluently French, English, Spanish and Italian."

A shrewd old farmer, full of fun and mischief, once overreached a jeweller in some transaction, and the jeweller complained of the way in which he had been treated. "Well, I'll tell you what I'll do with you," said the farmer; "I'll sell you my live stock at half-a-crown a head, and I'll let you come and count them yourself." The bargain was struck, and the day was appointed to count and hand over the stock. The grasping jeweller and his assistants in due course arrived at the farm. They totalled up horses, cattle, sheep, hogs and the rest. The jeweller then asked when he would remove the stock. "Bide a wee, bide a wee," said the keen old farmer. "You haven't seen them all yet." He then led the party close up to a dozen beehives, overturned one of the hives with his foot and, amid the yells of the flying party, the farmer was heard shouting:—"Count now, you rascals."

The new Rector of the American College, Rome, is the Rev William H. O'Connell, one of the younger priests of the Arch-diocese of Boston. He was an alumnus of the College where he is now Rector. Father O'Connell was ordained in 1884. After his return to America he did parochial work in a couple of parishes. His masterly lectures last year at the Plattsburg Summer School gave him great prominence. He is a polished speaker and an enthusiast in educational matters.

Mr Thomas Alva Edison, with a view to coming war, has turned his attention to the manufacture of new life-destroying machines. The object, of course, is to play an important part in the new inventions. He can, with a few men, control a machine by which water, charged with 5000 volts, can be made more deadly than bullets. Report has it that he has invented electric cables to draw round a beleaguered city, dealing death to all who touch them; also guns for firing dynamite, balloons for dropping infernal machines, and other destructive appliances which will revolutionize modern warfare.

Ridiculous answers to easy questions are frequently to be met with in newspapers. Readers, amused for the moment, have generally a feeling that the ben trovato element is not wanting. "Decidedly amusing, but really too good to be true," is often the verdict. One sometimes, however, comes across answers that illustrate the saying that truth is occasionally stranger than fiction. The *Western Mail* of England, as we learn from the London *Tablet*, gives its readers a case in point:—"Boys were advertised for as if to fill a certain post, and out of the deluge of replies, all in the handwriting of the applicants, eight were selected for an examination by a Government official. The ages of the lads ranged from 13½ years to 15 years 11 months; not one had been to school for less than eight years; one was in the sixth standard on leaving school, five in the seventh; the others are not specified; all of them were bright looking, intelligent lads. The examination was merely a simple test of elementary knowledge in the four subjects of handwriting, spelling, arithmetic and geography. One was marked "fairly good" in handwriting, three were "good" in spelling, all were "weak" or with "practically no knowledge" in arithmetic; the best in geography was "fairly good." But it may be argued (says the *Western Mail*) that the questions were too far advanced for boys of the above age. In reply we may say that we have seen both the questions and the answers, and can vouch for the simplicity of the former, not in some, but in all cases. Indeed, the absolutely elementary character of the examination may be inferred from the fact that the candidates were examined only in four subjects. The fact is, incredible as it may appear, the boys showed a want of knowledge and training simply astounding in lads of their age and advantages. Below are given two of the questions set in geography, with the answers of one of the boys, which are a fair specimen of most of the others:—

Describe the position of the following seaports:

Question	Answer
New York	In West of England
Hamburg	In South of Scotland.
Melbourne	In South America.
Alexandria	Lies near the coast of England

Of what country is each of the following the capital:

Question	Answer
Belgrade	Russia
Madrid	Italy.
Athens	New Zealand or France.
Amsterdam	America.
Brussels	Ireland.

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The other questions were quite on a level. For instance, in arithmetic a simple sum in reduction of so many tons to pounds proved too hard for these lads; and as to the orthography or spelling of most of them, it was in a shocking state."

His Eminence Cardinal Vaughan was celebrant at the Nuptial Mass on the occasion of the marriage of Mr John Dillon, M.P., and Miss Mathew at the Brompton Oratory.

The *Irish Catholic*, December 21, announces that Mr Elias Lekove, a young Dublin Jew, has been received into the Church by Rev Father Farthago Begley O.P., at Mount Argus, Harold's Cross.

There is another vacancy in the Sacred College. The death is announced of Paul Melchers, Cardinal, and formerly Archbishop of Cologne, in his eighty-second year. His Eminence deceased was one of the victims of the Kulturkampf, having opposed the laws, in 1874, and having been sent to imprisonment for his resistance. On his release the resolute prelate continued in his course of defiance, and at length the German Court for Ecclesiastical Affairs resorted to the extreme measure of deposing him from his see. But, in the meantime, Archbishop Melchers had left his country and maintained his attitude at Limburg, in Holland, close to the Prussian frontier. He persisted in conducting the business of his diocese from that place of self-chosen banishment, and drew down upon himself a further sentence of thirty days imprisonment. This, of course, the Prussian Government could not carry out as he was beyond its jurisdiction, but the police inserted the judgment in the *Hue and Cry* as if he were an ordinary criminal. Subsequently, when the Kulturkampf lost some of its fury, negotiations were opened for his recall or the appointment of another prelate in his place, but the Archbishop quietly treated the proceeding as an attempt to carry out a *brutum fulmen*, refusing to look upon his see as vacant. In 1885, at the express desire of his Holiness Leo XIII he resigned the archbishopric and in the Consistory of the 27th of July of that year was elevated to

the faculty of blessing crucifixes with the Papal blessing in articulo mortis, and with the indulgences of the Stations of the Cross, with the provision that the latter might be gained at all times and places. Pius IX, misunderstanding his petition had granted it, but when informed of its real nature did not revoke it." The late Bishop of Dunedin, Dr Moran, we may add, during his long illness had one of those specially blessed crucifixes constantly by him. It was blessed and indulgenced by Cardinal Melchers, and brought from Rome by Rev Father O'Neill, of Milton.

The body of the late Cardinal Melchers was received by the whole of the Catholic clergy and a vast crowd at Cologne, where it was buried in accordance with the Cardinal's wish and by permission of the Emperor.

A good story is told in a north country paper of a Lancashire factory-inspector's visit to a mill. The manager telephoned through the mill, and all children illegally employed were bidden in various out-of-the-way places. While crossing the yard the inspector happened to observe some fingers protruding from a case, and, on raising the lid, he saw a curly-headed lad crouching down. He asked him why he was there; upon which the fellow replied: "Shut th' mouth, mon, and put t'lid down. Doesn't a know th' inspector's about?"

What became of Henry VIII's bequest for Mass. A cor dent in a Home paper writes: "Henry VIII, the English King, who proclaimed himself the head of the Church by law, established, in his last will and Testament left £600 per annum for Masses to be said for his soul, as recorded in Miss Agnes Strickland's history. Six hundred pounds of old Harry's time was of greater value than the same is now; but be that as it may, the question I desire to ask is, what has been done with the trust funds of the self-appointed head of the Church? The present Archbishop of Canterbury, the Hon and Most Rev Edward White Benson, receives £15,000 sterling per annum for his services. He is pretty well paid, and no doubt will leave a handsome sum to be disposed of by his executors, but it is not probable

OUR WORD FOR IT.

The tide is setting strongly in the direction of a Prosperous Season. Yet, some will complain. There is no use in complaining. If we were to sell people common Boots and charge a big price for them they would not return. We sell Boots that fit well, look well, and wear a reasonable time, and customers are anchored thereby. They are "ours," so to speak. They come a second and a third time, and steadily on. Our profits are squeezed down to the lowest point, so don't fear on that score.

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the purple, taking the title of St Stephen of the Coeran Mount. He was a member of the Ecclesiastical Congregations of the Propaganda, of the Propaganda for the Affairs of the Oriental Rite, of the Index, of Sacred Rites, and of Indulgences and Sacred Relics. He was Protector of the Church and Confraternity of St Maria in Camposanto of the Germans and Flemings. He was born at Munster on the 6th of January, 1873, and Mgr Philip Kremenetz, Bishop of Treves, succeeded him in his old diocese in 1885. His residence has since been in Rome, where he passed away regretted — R. I. P.

Sheridan Le Fanu's poem of "Shamus O'Brien," the brave boy of '98, who escaped from the gallows to be so often murdered at recitations, has been adopted for operatic treatment by Dr Villiers Stanford, and will be produced early in the ensuing spring. Among the *artistes* engaged to appear in it is Mr Ludwig, than whom none can better render "The boys of Wexford."

Rider Haggard's improbable South African yarns stand a chance of being eclipsed by a strange story told by Reuter's correspondent at Cape Coast:—An extraordinary story has been brought from the Keranza country by Captain H. D. Larymore, of the Gold Coast Constabulary, who has just returned from service there. The region beyond the Koranzas to the north-east is as yet unexplored by white men; but the native caravans are constantly passing through the district, which is declared by those who have visited it to be inhabited by a race of white men living in caves. All accounts agree in stating that these cave-dwellers have light hair and blue eyes; and a Mohammedan priest and Hadji, who had seen them, told Captain Larymore that they were a strong and fearless but exclusive race, and did all in their power to prevent strangers from passing through their territory.

The late Cardinal Melchers," says the Roman correspondent of the *London Tablet*, "was well-known abroad for the special faculty of blessing crucifixes which he possessed. He had asked Pius IX for

that he will imitate the 'Defender of the Faith,' Does Henry's bequest form part of the £15,000 paid annually to his Grace, or what has been done with it?"

THE EDUCATION QUESTION AT HOME.

WHAT THE *SPECTATOR* HAS TO SAY.

A LEADING article which lately appeared in the *Spectator* in connection with the resolutions on education in Ireland issued by the Irish bishops, will be read with great interest by Catholics in New Zealand:—

"That it will be necessary for the Unionist Government to come to close quarters with the Irish education question if not in the next session, at least in the earlier part of the new Parliament's life, is a fact which will be admitted on all hands. But dealing with the question of Irish education—elementary, intermediate, and academic—means dealing with the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland, that is, with the Irish Hierarchy. It is no sort of good to reconstitute or rehandle Irish educational problems on abstract grounds, or for politicians and officials, sitting at their desks, to say such and such a system is the best fitted for a country divided like Ireland, between conflicting sects, or to insist, because a suggested scheme is in the abstract fair and reasonable, that therefore the Irish Catholic Church ought to be able to accept it—must, indeed, ultimately accept it with gratitude, because it is so obviously fair and reasonable. For minute theoretical injustices or apparent partialities we care nothing. As long as the State can and does prevent individual and practical unfairness, it must not worry about what is after all, only political symmetry. The great object is to find out exactly what the Irish bishops and priests want, and what they regard as the scheme that will satisfy them and give them not their abstract rights perhaps, or what an impartial third person would call their rights, but what they themselves consider to be their right. This having been discovered, it should be the duty of the Government to try to meet the views of

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GEORGE STREET. DUNEDIN.

the Catholic Church as liberally and as completely as they can, without, however, doing anything to infringe the true principles of religious liberty.

Under these circumstances it is most fortunate that the Irish Bishops should have just now formulated their views in regard to the various branches of the Irish education question, and most important that all who are interested in the Irish question as a whole should study these views in detail. Now we are bound to say that in our opinion there is nothing in these demands to which honest objection may be taken. Personally, we think that Roman Catholics, like other people, are better for a wide and liberal education, and that such a wide and liberal education can be more satisfactorily obtained in educational establishments like those of Oxford or Cambridge, where all creeds are welcomed and treated with fairness and with due respect for their special religious views than in close and confined colleges where Roman Catholics will be in immediate contact with none but their co-religionists. But if the spiritual leaders of the Irish Catholics think otherwise, that is their affair, not ours, and the responsibility for the mistake, if mistake there is, will be theirs. When they say clearly: "We will be satisfied with nothing less than the educational segregation of Catholics," it is our duty to bow, for there is no sort of infringement of the true principles of religious liberty. No Protestant or Agnostic is injured by the establishment of a Catholic university, and by the Catholics having the educational system they like when he has the university which he prefers. The notion that the Protestant is injured because part of the Queen's taxes which he pays will go to the Catholic university, is futile and absurd. If he is injured, how much more the Quaker when a new ironclad is launched, or the materialist who regards all religion as degrading superstition, when the chaplains' salaries are voted in the army and navy estimates, or when the House of Commons pays for its own prayers. In our opinion, then, the Government may grant to the full demand of the Bishops as regards a Catholic university, without doing any injury to the Protestants. What the Bishops say as to intermediate education, it seems to us, is a reasonable demand. Provided that there is an appeal to the Irish Education Office, it seems only fair that a board which deals with more Catholic schools than Protestant ones, should have a majority of Catholics. The question is clearly one on which the Government could make a reasonable settlement. The question of primary education is, of course, far more complicated. In regard to the main contention, however, we have no hesitation.

We see no sort of reason why, in a school attended exclusively by Catholic children, a Catholic atmosphere should not prevail. We can pretend to no special sympathy with those who think that the minds of the young cannot be influenced for good without the display of symbols; but if the Roman Catholics think so, we are dead against any attempt to prevent them acting on their belief. We should, of course, protect Protestant children from proselytism at all costs; but it is both ridiculous and ungenerous to say that what are purely Catholic schools shall not be conducted in the only way in which Catholics consider schools can be properly conducted, because in theory a State school ought to be always in a condition which would make it at any moment theoretically acceptable to a Protestant parent. By no means will we keep up the theory of a neutral atmosphere when it merely worries the Catholics and does not protect anybody. Mr Morley, we know, had not the courage or the inclination to remedy this grievance as the Bishops suggest, but we hope and trust that Mr Gerald Balfour will show that he has both more sympathy and more boldness in attacking the problem.

Taking the Irish education question as a whole, it seems to us that the Bishop's resolutions have very greatly advanced its solution. What they ask is, in our opinion, quite capable of being granted with perfect fairness to Irish Protestants; and, therefore, we desire most strongly to press on the Government the need for thorough, timely, and generous action.

CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own Correspondent.)

BROTHER DANIEL.

BROTHER DANIEL and five other Brothers have returned from Wellington, where they went some weeks ago to assist at the retreat, which is annually observed in that city by the Marist Brothers throughout the Colony. There were present forty Brothers, who assembled at their house in Wellington from their seven other houses situated in Auckland, Napier, Wanganni, Stoke Orphanage, Nelson, Greymouth, Timaru and Christchurch. The retreat, which was ably preached by the Very Rev Father Le Bennet S.M., parish priest of St Patrick's, Sydney, lasted eight days, and when concluded, Brother Dunstan (Timaru) made his final religious profession, and Brother Angelo (Christchurch) Brother Colman (Wellington) Brother Walstan (Wellington) and Brother Borgia (Auckland) made their first vows. Soon after the return of Brother Daniel and the Brothers their labours began for another term, and when their school opened 230

pupils were present. The proceeds of the very successful dramatic entertainment, which took place in the school-room when the school broke up for the Christmas vacation, have been expended in repairing the school floor, which was in a bad condition. It is reported that the Very Rev Father Cummings intends shortly to repeat the entertainment and to advance many other much needed repairs in connection with the school.

BROTHER JOSEPH.

Mr M. Nolan, of this city, has, with the cordial sanction of the Right Rev Dr Grimes, successfully inaugurated a very laudable movement, whose object is to erect a suitable monument and tombstone over the grave of the late Brother Joseph. The monument will cost £80, which will be raised by the voluntary and private contributions of the friends of the deceased Brother in Christchurch, Napier and Auckland. The remains of Brother Joseph are interred in a very pretty and private Catholic cemetery at Panmure, eight miles from Auckland, and in a plot of ground, which was especially bestowed for the purpose by Monsigneur McDonald. Near the grave of the lamented Brother are the graves of late Fathers McDonald and Downey.

FABOCHIAL.

The Right Rev Dr Grimes returned from Auckland on Saturday last, and on Wednesday, next a Pontifical *Requiem* Mass will be celebrated in the pro-Cathedral for the repose of the soul of the late Bishop Luck of Auckland. The Mass will begin at 10 a.m., and the faithful are requested to attend in large numbers.

On Shrove Tuesday, February 18, a grand entertainment will be given in the Hibernian Hall in aid of the Addington School. A very good programme will be provided, and a large attendance is expected.

Quite recently the sanctuary boys at the pro-Cathedral were given their annual picnic, and it took place at the grounds of the Deaf and Dumb Institute, Sumner. The Very Rev Father Cummings and the Very Rev Father Maher, also the Rev Fathers Binsfeld, Salvador and Galerne were present, and the Marist Brothers were represented. A special tram conveyed the juveniles to Sumner, where they occupied themselves in games till mid-day, when they partook of luncheon. A programme of races was subsequently gone through, and there were also races for the visitors. Valuable prizes in money or kind were won by Father Galerne, Brother Edgar, and Messrs Barrett, O'Connell, Shanly and Slattery. The most attentive and efficient of the acolytes during the past year were rewarded with valuable gifts. The names of those rewarded are:—Frank Geoghagan, J McAuliffe, M. O'Reilly, J. Petersen, P. O'Connell, J. Gardiner, W. Fox, E. Barrett, E. Shanly, J. Shanly, D. Edmonds, J. Gill, T. Pender and P. B. O'Connor. Mrs Buttle, the ma'ron of the Deaf and Dumb Institute, Miss Fitzgerald, Mesdames Stratz, Courtney, and Young, who were ably assisted by other ladies, supplied the eatables as well as several prizes, and in many ways contributed towards the day's enjoyment. The boys appreciated all that was done for them, and Mr McAuliffe, on the part of his companions, thanked, in a very nice little speech, their kind entertainers. After giving three cheers for Mrs Buttle, Miss Fitzgerald, Mesdames Stratz, Young and Courtney, and the other lady benefactors, the genial Vicar-General, the clergy and visitors, the party left for home.

The Rev Father Lewis, from Meanees, Napier, preached at the pro-Cathedral, on Sunday last, at High Mass, a splendid sermon on the Gospel of the day, which was the parable of the seed, and he preached on the same subject at Vespers at St Mary's. At Vespers at the pro-Cathedral the Rev Father C. M. Brown preached, and his discourse, which was mainly upon the Sacrament of Penance, was most instructive. Father Brown has recently arrived from America.

Why suffer when you can be cured by P.P.P. To be had from all chemists—ADVT.

Convincing evidence.—No doubt you have heard the argument advanced by unbelievers to prove the Bible account of the deluge untrue. They say the ark was not of sufficient capacity to hold the animals that the Bible speaks of and the provisions necessary to their sustenance. Bishop Herne, in his introduction to the Study of the Bible, answers this objection in this satisfactory way: "The ark was 300 cubits in length, 50 cubits in width and 30 cubits in height, with 3 stories of floors, which would be equal to 42,413 tons burthen. A first-class man-of-war is about 2,200 tons burthen, and the ark, therefore, had the capacity of eighteen such ships, and would carry 20,000 men, with six months' provisions, besides the weight of 1,800 canon and all military stores. Can we doubt of its capacity to carry eight persons, 250 pairs of animals, fowls, etc., for one year?"

P.P.P.—Pacific Pain Palliative cures all Sprains, Neuralgia, Rheumatic, and similar ills. To be had from all chemists.—ADVT.

It is said that there are 1,200 lepers at Molokai.

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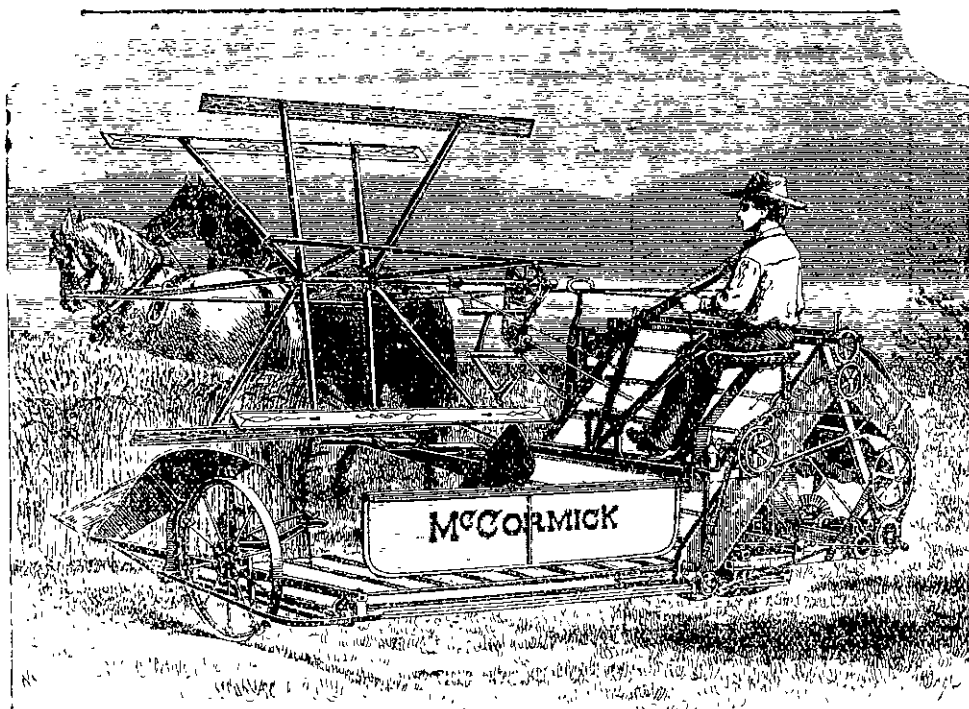
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Correspondence invited

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Suites of rooms for Families. Terms strictly moderate.
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Irish News.

(From contemporaries.)

Armagh.—OBANGE RUFFIANISM IN THE NORTH.—At Armagh Presentment Sessions a Catholic millowner named William M'Bride applied for £5 compensation for a number of panes of glass and a window pane, his property which were unlawfully and maliciously destroyed. Applicant deposed that he was going home on the night in question with three friends, when they were attacked at the Barrack Hill, Armagh, by a mob, who threatened to "take their lives for Fenians." Witness and his friends, who had given no provocation for this attack, were obliged to take refuge in the military barracks. When applicant was in barracks the mob proceeded to his house at a short distance away from where the attack was made and wrecked the same. The Court held that the injury was malicious, and allowed a sum of £4 to be levied off the townland and Corporation.

Cavan.—RAILWAY EXTENSION.—There is a good prospect that railway lines will be extended from Carrickmacross and Kilmashnamwood or Kingscourt to Bailieborough. The Irish Government has engineers engaged at present in mapping a line.

Dublin.—DEATH OF THE SHAM SQUIRE.—The death is announced at Dublin of Mr W. G. Fitzpatrick, commonly called "The Sham Squire," after his best-known book. He had been ailing for weeks from heart disease. His studies of Irish historical subjects, although somewhat scrappy and sketchy, are capital materials for picture writers—in fact, what the French term *memoirs pour servir*. He wrote lives of Dr Doyle, Lever; the wit, Father Healy, and the great Dominican, the Rev Thomas Burke, and selections from the correspondence of O'Connell. He was an M.R.I.A. and an LL.D. *causa honoris* of the Royal University of Dublin.

DEATH OF MONSIGNOR KENNEDY.—Mgr. Edward Kennedy P.P., Dean of the Chapter of Dublin, is dead. He was over 80 years old, and was in the 59th year of his priesthood, 39 of which he has spent in St James's parish. He was largely identified with the erection of schools and churches in and about the parish, and for a great number of years was chaplain to Kilmainsham Prison. He filled that office at the time when General Burke was there under sentence of death, and was the first conveyer to the news that to the prisoner had been reprieved and that the gallows, which had already been erected, was being taken down. During Mr Parnell's imprisonment in 1881 Father Kennedy was brought into contact with him, and a long and intimate friendship arose between them. As chaplain of Kilmainsham it was also his duty to prepare the Phoenix Park murderers for their execution. In the year 1882 Dean Kennedy was appointed Domestic Prelate to the Pope and obtained the title of Monsignor. His death is deeply regretted especially by the poor.—*R.I.P.*

Kildare.—VOTING FOR COADJUTOR BISHOP.—A solemn high Mass of the Holy Ghost was celebrated in Carlow Cathedral preparatory to the parish priests of the diocese proceeding to the selection of three names for the office of Coadjutor to the venerable Lord Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin, and in succession to the lamented Most Rev Dr Omerford. On the conclusion of the ceremonies, and as soon as the congregation had dispersed the doors of the cathedral were locked and the assembled parish priests, under the presidency of the Most Rev Dr Lynch, proceeded to the selection of three names for the office of coadjutor bishop of the diocese of Kildare and Leighlin. The result was as follows:—The Very Rev Patrick Foley, president Carlow College, and the Very Rev Dr Michael J. Murphy, P.P., V.G., Kildare, *ex aequo dignissimi*—14 votes each. The Very Rev Andrew Phelan, P.P., V.F., Maryborough, *dignior*—12 votes.

Louth.—NEW CHURCH IN ST BRIGID'S OWN PARISH.—A splendid start has been made by the parishioners in the parish of Faughart to raise a building fund for the new Church of St Brigid. They had promised subscriptions, to be paid in three instalments, and the first of these was handed in recently, when the very handsome sum was realised of over £200, the best testimony in the world that the people of her own parish mean to be first in honour to their great patroness. His Eminence Cardinal Logue, in a letter to Father Segrave, says: "When I appointed you to the parish of Faughart I told you that one of the first works which should claim your attention was the erection of a new church."

Sligo.—EASILY GULLED DOWAGERS OF ENGLAND.—At a meeting of the inhabitants of Sligo on Monday, under the presidency of the Mayor, Mr McHugh, M.P., to "protest against the Protestant street preachers," a letter from the Most Rev Dr Clancy the Bishop, was read, expressing approval of the meeting, and action of the Catholics "in resenting the insult offered to them by this latest gyration of the weathercock of Protestantism—this latest exhibition of fatuity of the disintegrated and decadent heretical sect." His Grace goes on to say: "A sum of £35,000 subscribed by the easily-gulled dowagers of England is annually forthcoming to subsidise this latest effort at galvanising into new life an effete heretical system. We are expected to remain passive because English law has not declared street-preaching unlawful; but there is a higher law than the law of England, and more important interest than liberty of speech. The wisest course would be to leave these hireling missionaries severely alone; but if this may not be done, then by available means within the limits of the law, we must frustrate their fiendish efforts to undermine our people's faith."

Waterford.—THE DIOCESE SENDS £825 TO THE HOLY FATHER.—The Most Rev Dr Sheehan having forwarded the amount of the Peter's Pence collection of the diocese of Waterford and Lismore recently made, together with the diocesan contributions for the holy places in the East, to Monsignor Kelly, Rector of the Irish College, Rome, for presentation to the Holy Father, has received a reply dated December 9th, 1895, from which the following extract is taken—"Our Holy Father has commanded me to communicate to your lordship his grateful acknowledgment of your contribution of Peter's Pence, and of your devotion to his own person and office. The amount of your cheque, £825, and the warmth of the sentiments expressed in your lordship's letter were, indeed, highly appreciated by his Holiness, and in sending to your Lordship, your clergy, and good people the Apostolic blessing he manifested very notably the emotion of his affection."

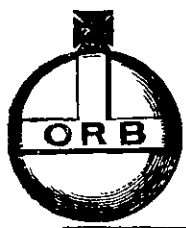
MYERS AND CO., Dentists, Octagon, corner of George street. The guarantee highest class work at moderate fees. Their artificial teeth give general satisfaction, and the fact of them supplying a temporary denture while the gums are healing does away with the inconvenience of being months without teeth. They manufacture a single artificial tooth for Ten Shillings, and sets equally moderate. The administration of nitrous oxide gas is also a great boon to those needing the extraction of a tooth. Read—[ADVT.]

A Remarkable Brick.—Professor Woolskoff has discovered, by means of a microscope, many interesting details connected with the life of the ancient Egyptians, in a brick taken from the ruins of the Pyramid of Dashour. The brick itself is made of mud from the Nile, chopped straw, and sand, thus confirming what the Bible and Herodotus have handed down to us as the Egyptian method of brickmaking. Besides these materials, there were found the debris of river shells, of fish, and of insects, seeds of wild and cultivated flowers, corn and barley, the field pea, and the common flax, cultivated probably both for food and textile purposes.

The longest bridge in the world is the Lion Bridge, near Sangang China. It extends five and one-fourth miles over an arm of the Yellow Sea, and it is supported by 300 huge stone arches. The roadway is seventy feet above the water and is enclosed in an iron network.

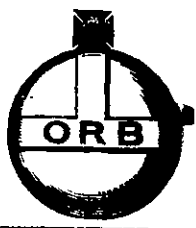
The following absolutely genuine specimen of Anglo-Indian "Style-blossom," says the London *Tablet*, is from an advertisement which we clip from a South Indian newspaper that is to hand as we write. It is not obvious whether the ingenious writer attributes her cure to her "faith in God," or to the wonderful hair-restorer, with the advertisement of which she "came in contact." But let her speak for herself:—"A Christian school mistress writes: 'From about two or three years my hairs were falling off owing to burning sensation and dandruff in my head. I have tried many hair oils about which so many advertisements appear in newspapers; but they did me no good. The more I applied them my hairs began to fall off the more and turned red. I was very sorry for the falling off of what little hairs I had. After all, a few days ago, a friend of mine came to visit me. She brought with her a journal, entitled *The Christian Patriot*. I took it from her hand and on reading it I came in contact with your advertisement regarding hair-restorer with a testimonial given by a lady. So I put my faith in God and sent for two bottles of your hair-restorer. On applying the same I got rid of the burning sensation I had in my head, my hairs turned black and increased in growth, and I feel my eyes also are very cool, for which I tender you my best thanks. Please send two more bottles. I shall also send for many more bottles for my friends.'

COMPARE SIZE AND WEIGHT OF STICKS.
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One gallon makes 100 gals. wash,

POWDER (Poisonous).

Price, in kegs or cases, 50s per cwt.

One cwt. makes make 100 gals.

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PAPER RULING,
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ALEXANDER SLIGO,
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Importer of Magazines and Periodicals of every kind.
BOOKSELLER AND STATIONER

GO to the WEST END HAIR-DRESSING SALOON for a comfortable Shave and neat Hair Cut. Best brands of Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes always in Stock. Address—Opposite Zetland Arms, Cashel street. E. P. JERMAN, Proprietor.

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ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.
FIRE AND MARINE.

Capital £2,500,000
Losses paid to date £16,000,000
One of the Largest Fire Offices in the World

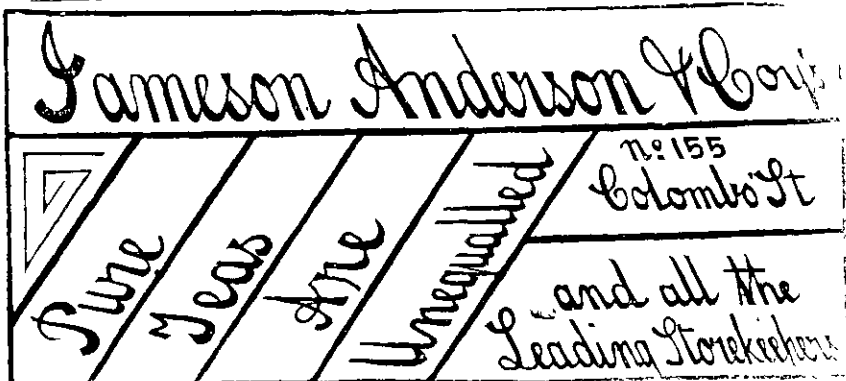
General Manager for New Zealand,
F ALLEN, J.P.

ALL FIRE AND MARINE RISKS AT
LOWEST CURRENT RATES.

LOSSES MET PROMPTLY AND FAIRLY

Wellington Branch, G. H. Harbroe, Manager
Canterbury " Cuff and Gramham "
Auckland " Graham and Walker "
Dunedin " R. E. Doyly, Agent "

The Commercial Union also has Agents and Sub-agents in all principal Towns throughout the Colony.



HENRY HUGHES, INTERNATIONAL PATENT & TRADE MARKS OFFICE, Chamber of Commerce, 42 LAMBTON QUAY, WELLINGTON, Consulting Engineer and Patent Agent,
Fel. Aust. Inst. P. A., For. Memb. Chart. Inst. P. A. London. Also at 71 Cathedral Square, Christchurch; corner Manse street, Dunedin; Victoria Arcade Auckland; Tennyson street, Napier. Patents and Trade Marks secured in all countries.

N.Z. LOAN & MERCANTILE AGENCY COMPANY, LIMITED, DUNEDIN.

WOOL.

The Company have pleasure in intimating that WOOL SALES will be conducted as usual at their Commodious, Convenient and Well Lighted DUNEDIN Stores throughout the Season the principal Sales being held on following dates:—

THURSDAY, 19th DECEMBER, 1895

THURSDAY, 9th JANUARY, 1896

FRIDAY, 31st January, 1896

THURSDAY, 27th FEBRUARY, 1896

NO CHARGE

is made for Cataloguing, Advertising and Fire Insurance. The only Selling Charges are as under:—

Receiving and Classifying ... 1/1 per lb
Commission ... 2 1/2 per cent on first L200 and 1 1/2 per cent on balance

FAT STOCK.

Sales conducted every WEDNESDAY at Burnside Yards.

OUR COMMISSION CHARGE IS NOW REDUCED TO 2 1/2 PER CENT.

ANDREW TODD, Manager.

Commercial.

THE NEW ZEALAND LOAN AND MERCANTILE AGENCY COMPANY LIMITED, report for the week ended February 11 as follows:—

Wheat—There is no business of any consequence being done quotations for prime milling, Tuscan and velvet, 3s 9d to 3s 10 1/2; extra prime, 1d more; medium to good, 3s 6d to 3s 8 1/2; inferior to medium, 2s 3d to 3s 3d (ex store, sacks weighed in).

Oats—These are lower again this week, best milling, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; best bright feed, 1s 7 1/2d to 1s 8 1/2d; medium, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; inferior 1s 4d to 1s 6d (ex store, sacks extra, net).

Barley—All offered with a ready sale. Quotations for prime malting, 3s to 3s 3d; medium to good, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; feed and milling, 2s 3d to 2s 5d (ex store, sacks extra, net).

Grass Seeds—A moderate amount of business is passing in ryegrass seed. Quotations—For best dressed perennial, 3s 9d to 4s; extra prime, 4s 3d to 4s 6d; medium, 3s 3d to 3s 6d; best undressed, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; extra prime, 3s; medium, 1s 9d to 2s 3d (ex store, sacks extra, net). Cocksfoot—Market quiet. Best, 4d to 5d; medium, 2 1/2d to 3 1/2d per lb (ex store, sacks extra, net).

Potatoes—Market fully supplied. Quotations—For best, L2 17s 6d to L3 2s 6d; medium, L2 2s 6d to 2s 15s per ton (ex store, sacks weighed in, net).

Chaff—The supply being ample for requirements, prices are unaltered. Quotations—For prime old, L2 17s 6d to L3; medium and best new, L2 10s to L2 15s; inferior, L2 to L2 7s 6d per ton (ex truck sacks returned, net).

Sheepskins—Market firm. Best green crossbred pelts, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; extra large, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; medium, 1s to 1s 2d; green lambskins, best, 2s to 2s 6d; medium, 1s 3d to 1s 9d; best dry crossbred, 4 1/2d to 5 1/2d; medium, 3d to 4d; best dry merinos, 4d to 4 1/2d; medium, 2 1/2d to 3 1/2d per lb.

Rabbitekins—Only small sales of these; market bare. Best spring greys are fetching 7 1/2d to 9d; medium, 6d to 7d; summer, 3d to 5d; sockers and inferior, 1d to 2 1/2d per lb.

Hides—Market steady at late rates, say for best 2 1/2d to 3d; extra heavy, 3 1/2d to 3 3/4d; light, 1 1/2d to 2 1/4d; inferior, 1d to 1 1/2d per lb.

Tallow and Fat—Market quiet. Best rendered mutton, fit for export, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; medium to good, 14s 6d to 16s 6d, inferior to medium, 10s 6d to 13s; best fresh mutton caul fat, 11s to 11s 6d; medium to good, 10s to 10s 6d; inferior to medium, 8s 6d to 9s 6d per cwt (ex store).

LARRY AND CO, LIMITED, Wellington, report as follows:—

Wheat—Prime milling, 3s 7d to 3s 10d f.o.b. Southern ports, prime whole fowl wheat, 4s; medium quality, 3s (ex stores, Wellington).

Oats—Prime short, 2s 4d to 2s 6 1/2d; Duns, 2s 6 1/2d; Danish, 2s 6d to 2s 3 1/2d.

Barley—Best feed is worth nominally 2s 7 1/2d to 2s 8 1/2d; prime malting, 3s to 3s 6d; Cape, 2s 8 1/2d per bushel.

Coff—We quote: Prime bright heavy 80s; medium to good, 60s per ton.

Cocksfoot—We quote:—Prime bright machine dressed nominally, 4d; bright heavy undressed, 3d to 3 1/2d; rough heavy undressed, 2 1/2d to 2 3/4d; medium and inferior, 1 1/2d to 2 1/4d per lb.

Ryegrass—We quote: Prime bright machine dressed, 4s 3d to 4s 9d; medium, 3s 6d to 4s per bushel.

New Potatoes—In moderate demand at 50s to 60s per ton, according to quality.

DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS. WEEKLY REPORT.

MESSRS WRIGHT, STEPHENSON, AND CO. report as follows:—

A moderately large entry of horses was offered at our sale on Saturday, a good number of which changed hands. The demand for draughts was fairly active, more especially for good young sorbs, which are in short supply. There were no really good harness horses offered, those which came under the hammer being only of medium or inferior description, and for these sorts the demand was very quiet. We quote: Heavy draughts, four to six years, L22 to L27; do, eight to ten years, L15 to L20; light

and small do, L8 to L12; aged and inferior do, L4 to L7; upstanding spring-cart horses, young and sound, L12 to L16; well-bred upstanding hacks and harness horses, L16 to L20; upstanding hacks and harness horses, L10 to L14; aged and inferior L2 to L5

MR F. MEKNAN, King street, reports:—Wholesale price only—Oats, feed: 1s 5d to 1s 7 1/2d; milling, 1s 9d; demand quiet. Wheat: Fowls' 2s 7d to 3s 6 1/2; Fair demand. Milling, 3s 10 1/2 to 4s 1d; Chaff: new now in, £2 10s to £2 15; old, £2 12s 6d to £3 2s 6d; market well supplied. Hay, oaten: None in market. Ryegrass, new, £3. The quality is good this season. Straw: 32s 6d to 35s, pressed and loose. Potatoes: kidneys, £2 17s 6d to £3 2s 6d; derwents, not in market. Flour: sacks, £10, £10 10s; Roller, stone, £9 to £9 10s; Oatmeal: in 25lbs. £10; butter, dairy, 6d to 8d; Factory, 9d to 10d. Eggs, 1s. Onions, 8s per cwt. Melbourne bran, L3 10s.

N A P I E R.

(From an occasional Correspondent.)

I DON'T know how it is in other districts but here in Napier the political atmosphere is already much troubled with the heat of the coming general election. True to old traditions the two camps are forming, and from all appearance a hard contest is inevitable. Over the name of an old warrior (F. Sutton) on the Conservative side appears a letter in this morning's *Hawke's Bay Herald*, calling on the present member to give an account of his stewardship, asking him to show from *Hansard* or otherwise what he has done either for Napier or the Colony during the past year. Mr Carnell is not a speaker it is true, but his works will compare favourably with those of some of the famous speakers of the present honourable body. The Liberals, too, are determined, at all hazards, to keep the laurels they won at last election, with the hope that the days of Toryism in Hawke's Bay are over. It is not yet certain which side the Prohibitionists will take. I should not be surprised, seeing their efforts, if they form a third party.

SERMON BY VERY REV FATHER GROGAN, S.M.

The priests of this district have all returned from Wellington where they have been attending the annual ecclesiastical retreat. The Very Rev Father Grogan preached at last Mass in St Patrick's on Sunday. Amongst other things, he said the retreat of the clergy of the arch-diocese was particularly good this year, as the Archbishop himself conducted it, and the only drawback was the sad news of the death of the Bishop of Auckland. Father Grogan spoke in eulogistic terms of the saintly life of the late prelate, as well as of his scholarly abilities which, during most of his episcopal career in Auckland, owing to ill health, he was physically unable to manifest as he wished or as his people should have expected. The Catholics of Napier, he said, should remember him with feelings of gratitude in their prayers, as the dedication of St Patrick's was one of the last public ceremonies in which he took part. Though the late prelate, continued the Rev Father, left behind him a very excellent body of priests, who will see to the interests of the diocese, yet we should all pray fervently that Divine Providence may direct the appointment of a successor in every way worthy of the position, for never before did the Church in these colonies stand more in need of good bishops than at present, as error is boldly lifting its head in every possible form, and strange to say the one common enemy to it is the Catholic Church—the Catholic doctrine. Father Grogan also spoke very kindly of Father Lewis, who laboured so faithfully amongst them, and regretted that his superiors could not have him still with them.

HEART DISEASE, INDIGESTION.

RAINBOW & SONS' INVIGORATOR for New Life. Try it and be your own judge. RAINBOW'S INVIGORATOR is the best all-round medicine in the World, and cannot be beaten by any skill in existence as a Blood Purifier. DIRECTIONS—Take a half to one teaspoonful after meals, in a little sugar and water. To act as a purgative take one and a half to two teaspoonfuls at bedtime.

LAW & ANDRELL

wish to inform the General Public that they have opened as HAIRDRESSERS & TOBACCONISTS, at No. 17 Willis Street, Wellington. All kinds of Hairwork done on the shortest notice. Country Orders promptly attended to.

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

DUNEDIN, SYDNEY, or MELBOURNE to LONDON.
Overland from MARSEILLES via PARIS, Steamers under Postal Contract with the Government of France.
Calling at MELEBOURNE, ADELAIDE, KING GEORGE'S SOUND, MAHE, SUEZ, and PORT SAID.
Passengers Booked to BOMBAY, REUNION, MAURITIUS, & EAST COAST of AFRICA

Steamers	Tons	Leave Melbourne	Leave Sydney	Leave Adelaide
Polynesian	5500	Mar 2	Feb 27	Mar 4
Armand Behic	2500	Mar 31	Mar 27	April 2

PASSENGERS BOOKED THROUGH FROM DUNEDIN.

Rates of passage money to Marseilles, from £24 to £65, including table wines and Suez Canal dues on passengers.

RETURN TICKETS issued at the following rates:—

	1st Class	2nd Class	3rd Class
Available nine months	£105	£70	£42

Saloon Passengers booked through to London, via Paris. Best railway accommodation, luggage conveyed free, and a fortnight allowed from Marseilles en route. First-class, £70; Second-class, £50

By special arrangement an ENGLISH INTERPRETER will attend on board upon arrival of steamer at Marseilles, to give passengers every assistance in disembarking, passing their luggage through the Customs, etc. He will also accompany them in the train to Paris and Calais.

NEILL & CO., LIMITED,
Agents, Dunedin.

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SYDNEY, MELBOURNE and ADELAIDE to SOUTHAMPTON, ANTWERP, and BREMEN,

Via Colombo and Suez Canal, Taking Passengers for London, Connecting from Alexandria by Direct Mail and Passenger Line To BRINDISI and GENOA.

Will be despatched as follows (if practicable):—

Steamers	Tons	Commander	Leave Melbourne
Oldenburg	5318	R. Heintze	Feb 1
Gera	5319	W. von Schuckmann	Feb 29
Darmstadt	5300	M. Eichel	April 1

And thereafter every four weeks. Passage from Dunedin to Southampton, Antwerp, and Bremen ... £18 to £67 10s.

SPECIAL RETURN TICKETS TO EUROPE Passages from Europe can be prepaid in the colonies

For freight or passage apply to NEILL & CO., LIMITED, Agents, Dunedin.

LANGLEY (Late Oxford Terrace). MILITARY HAIRDRESSER and TOBACCONIST, 126 Colombo street (near Nason Struthers and Co), Christchurch.

HOTELS FOR SALE

Hotel in Wellington, trade £100 weekly. Price £2000.

Hotel, Wellington; trade £30. Price £350.

Hotel, Napier; trade £60

Hotel, Palmerston North, trade £80. Cash required £800.

Hotel, country; trade £45. Cash £400.

Hotel, Christchurch; one of the best in Canterbury, free house and doing an excellent business.

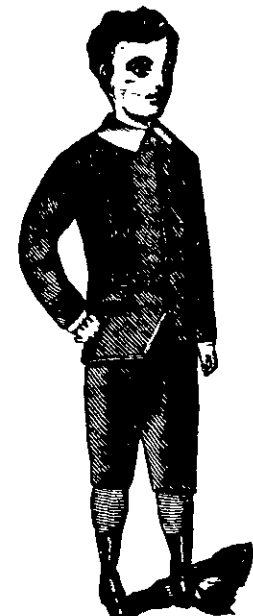
Hotels in all parts of North Island where we can place reliable tenants with capital from £100 and upwards.

DWAN BROS.
(Hotel Brokers and Valuers)
WELLINGTON.

H. G. PARSONS & CO.,

30 LICHFIELD STREET EAST, CHRISTCHURCH
(Opposite J. Lamb and Son),
UPHOLSTERS, CABINETMAKERS,
FITTERS AND POLISHERS,
Furniture Packed and Removed.
TERMS CASH.
Private Residence: 23 Armagh Street.

W. A. TRIBE AND CO.



Manufacturers of all Classes of MEN'S, BOYS' AND JUVENILE CLOTHING.

A GOOD SOLID TWEED SUIT

Made to Measure, 42s 6d.

TROUSERS, 14s 6d.

TROUSERS AND VEST, 22s 6d.

219 HIGH STREET

(Next to Ashley, Berg and Co, Ironmongers) CHRISTCHURCH.

THE BEST CEMENT EXHIBITED—MAORI BRAND.

Wide Jurors' Report N.Z. Exhibition. The above was given, with TWO FIRST-CLASS AWARDS, after most thorough tests by experts, proving our Cement to be equal to the best the world can produce.

Having recently erected extensive works, supplied with the most modern plant obtainable, which is supervised by a Skilled Cement Maker from England, with confidence we request Engineers, Architects, and others to test our Cement side by side with the best English obtainable.

Milburn Lime at Lowest Rates. MILBURN LIME AND CEMENT COMPANY (LIMITED) Dunedin. BRANK OAKDEN, Manager.

VICTORIA IRON WORKS, LATTRAY STREET WHARF, DUNEDIN.

JOSEPH SPABOW, ENGINEER, BOILERMAKER, SHIPSMITH, ETC.

Wrought Iron Fluming Manufactured by Special Machinery. Agent for Hadfield's Manganese Steel (a large quantity always on hand;) special for Dredge Pins, Baskets, etc.

A Variety of Machinery always on hand.

Repairs Done by Experienced Workmen.

Sole Maker of Donald's Patent Rabbit-Poison Mixing Machines.

Sole Agent for Wormad's Non-conducting Boiler Composition.

AYER'S Hair Vigor

RESTORES COLOR —AND— PROMOTES Abundant Growth OF THE HAIR.

It cures itching humors, and keeps the scalp cool, moist, healthy, and free from dandruff.



A lady writes: "I feel compelled to state, for the benefit of others, that six years ago I lost nearly half of my hair, and what was left turned gray. After using Ayer's Hair Vigor several months, my hair began to grow again, and with the natural color restored."

Ayer's Hair Vigor

PREPARED BY DR. J. C. AYER & CO., LOWELL, MASS., U.S.A.

Beware of cheap imitations. The name Ayer is prominent on the wrapper, and is blown in the glass of each of our bottles.

HUGH GOURLEY

desires to inform the public he still continues the Undertaking Business as formerly at the Establishment, corner Clark and Maciagan street, Dunedin.

Funerals attended in Town or Country with promptness and economy

UNION STEAMSHIP COMPANY OF NEW ZEALAND, LIMITED.

SPECIALLY REDUCED EXCURSION FARES IN FORCE BY ALL STEAMERS OVER ALL THE COMPANY'S LINES.

Steamers will be despatched as under:

LYTTELTON and WELLINGTON—

Flora	Mon, Feb 17	3 pm D'din
Moraroa	Wed, Feb 19	2 30 pm train
Taluna	Thurs, Feb 20	2 30 pm train

NAPIER, GISBOBNE, and AUCKLAND—

Talune	Thurs, Feb 20	2 30 pm train
Manapouri	Tours, Feb 20	3 pm D'din

SYDNEY, via WELLINGTON—

Marara	Wed, Feb 19	2 30 pm train
Hauroto	Tues, Feb 25	2 pm D'din

SYDNEY, via AUCKLAND—

Marapouri	Thurs, Feb 27	3 pm D'd
Tarawera	Monday, Mar 16	2 30 pm trn

MELBOURNE, via BLUFF and HOBART—

Waihora	Mon, Feb 17	3 35 pm train
hotomabara	Mon, Feb 24	3 35 pm train

WESTPORT, via TIMABU, AKAROA, LYTTELTON, WELLINGTON and NELSON—

Omapere	Frid, Feb 21	5 p.m. D'din
Branner	Frid, Feb 28	5 pm D'din

* calls New Plymouth
GREYMOUTH, via OAMARU, TIMABU, LYTTELTON and WELLINGTON—

Herald about Wed, Feb 19 10 pm D'din
NAPIER WHARF, via OAMARU, and TIMABU—

Steamer early
TONGA, SAMOA, FIJI, and SYDNEY—
Ovalau About Mar 11 From Auckland
FIJI (SUVA and LEVUKA)—
Upolu Fri, Feb 27 From Auckland

RINK STABLES

Carriages, Cabs, Landaus, Broughams, Dog Carts, Buggies, Daisy Carts, &c., always ON HIRE at the Shortest Notice. Horses Bought and Sold on Commission, and Broken to Single and Double Harness. Satisfaction Guaranteed. Vehicles and Harness of every description Bought, Sold, Exchanged or Stored.

OUR NEW CURATE.

Father Herbert, of St Patrick's College, is now permanently appointed to take his place, and he (Father Grogan) hoped that, with their kind efforts and prayers, a young priest like Father Herbert, with good health and much talent, would, please God, do much good in the parish during the coming year. Father Herbert preached in the evening on "Prayer," and from the way in which he treated the subject there is little doubt but he will be a practical and able preacher.

GENERAL.

Father Le Renneville, of St Patrick's, Sydney, is now paying a visit to Hawke's Bay, and is at present employed in giving a retreat to the scholastics at Meanee. It seems he intends visiting the hot springs of Taupo and Rotorua next week on his way back to Sydney.

The weather is still warm in this district, and the hills in the distance seem in need of rain, yet no appearance, whilst the temperature in the shade is still up to 80.

TIMARU.

(From an occasional Correspondent.)

AN old acquaintance is going from amongst us. One of the well-known landmarks in the vicinity of the church of the Sacred Heart is being obliterated by the removal of the old presbytery. Since the acquisition of the new presbytery, "the Priory," the old house has been unused, and is now being removed. It was built by the Rev Father Chataigner, the pioneer priest of this parish, about thirty years ago, and in these days, before the erection of a church, holy Mass was celebrated in one of its rooms to the then small congregation. Unlike old wine, old houses do not improve with age, and time gradually sealed the doom of the old presbytery. The ground on which it is erected has recently been acquired by the ladies of the Convent of the Sacred Heart and added to their beautiful grounds, and no doubt in a year or so a few well kept flower beds will mark the spot where so many of the labourers in God's vineyard have rested after their daily toil.

It is with very great regret that I have to mention that the health of the Rev Father Hurlin has been such of late as to cause his parishioners and many friends considerable anxiety. The Rev Father is about to take a trip to Sydney, where he hopes by complete rest and change of air to regain his strength. That he may do so and return thoroughly convalescent to resume his duty amongst us is, I am sure, the earnest wish of his congregation. This parish owes a debt to Father Hurlin which it would be hard to repay. Coming here in the prime of health he went to work with a will in the execution of his multifarious parochial duties, and there is no doubt but that his present illness is due to over-exertion and anxiety. In administering financial matters Father Hurlin has done excellent work, and it is not too much to say that a few years more under his management will see the parish free from debt.

One of the chief anxieties to which our parish priest is subjected is to make both ends meet in supporting the boy's school. The end of each quarter produces the invariable result—a deficit. Here we are specially well provided for, with a school well appointed and taught excellently by the Marist Brothers and yet there are some parents who seem quite unable to appreciate the advantages at their door and will not endeavour to give the smallest financial aid to the support of the school. It is the same old story in almost all parishes. The same few always pay for the many, and it is invariably from the ranks of the latter these financial geniuses arise, who, while they pay nothing themselves are always enquiring where all the money goes to, and who are ever ready to suggest "a something crooked." Perhaps it would be wiser if they asked themselves that question as to their own money and in working out the problem they would find out that under the heading "Support to schools" they would be obliged to write down "nil."

In reference to the girls parish school under the guidance of the Nuns of the Sacred Heart too much cannot be said. If, as is very probable, the same difficulty is experienced in receiving dues as in the boy's school, nothing is heard of it, and the good Nuns work on assiduously from year to year as if in the receipt of handsome fees, and unlike Oliver Twist never ask for more.

At the last meeting of the local branch of the Hibernian Society, a resolution was adopted conveying a vote of sympathy and condolence to St Patrick's branch, Coristchurch, on the death of the late Brother William O'Shaughnessy. Brother Denehy, in moving the resolution referred to the loss the Hibernian Society as a whole had sustained by the death of the late Brother and spoke highly of his many services and his untiring efforts in forwarding Hibernianism.

The officers of the Timaru Branch for the ensuing term are:—President, P. Kane; vice-president, James Feeley; treasurer, J. McKenna; secretary, Thomas Sheehy; guardian, F. Kane; sick visitor, J. Feeley.

I learn that preliminary steps are being made towards the formation of a branch of the Hibernian Society in Temuka and that the movement meets with the full approval and support of the Rev Father Faavel. In such a district as Temuka there should be very little difficulty in establishing a very strong branch. The Catholics in the district are numerous enough to form a couple of branches if necessary and the advantages to be derived from membership are such as to wipe out all hesitation or objections as to becoming a member. A futile effort was made some years back in the same direction, but the matter is in capital hands this time and the iron will be struck while it is hot.

INVERCARGILL.

(From an occasional Correspondent.)

THE Catholic schools of the town have re-opened after the Christmas holidays, and are once again in full swing. The Rev Father Vereker strongly exhorted parents to send their children regularly, and read the declaration of the clergy assembled at the late Plenary Council of Sydney on the subject of Catholic education.

The Irish Athletic Society of Southland are vigorously following the spirited policy of past years. This year the principal event, the Sheffield Handicap, has been raised to the value of £12 10s; to the chopping contest, £10 has been assigned; to the sawing, £7; to the mile race, £8 10s; to the half-mile race, £8 10. There are also two bicycle races, one for amateurs and the other for cash riders. One of the items on the programme is an Irish jig. This is as it should be. But it is earnestly to be hoped that those who have charge of the affair will see that none of the competitors parades himself in the ridiculous costume in which the jig is accustomed to be danced, and which is a libel on, and gross insult to, every Irishman. It should be the aim of every society of the kind to banish the ignorant prejudice prevailing in regard to our countrymen, and to show them in their true colours. Irishmen ask for no more, and do not fear the result. For the rest, the directors are to be commended for their spirited policy, and it is to be hoped that a large attendance of the public and numerous entries for the various events will reward them for the responsibility they have taken on their shoulders. That the responsibility is no light one will be evident when it is known that about £110 will be given in prizes this year. The sports will be held on Wednesday, 18th March. On the nights of the 17th and 18th March the Irish Dramatic Society, in conjunction with the Athletic Society, will stage Dion Boucicault's famous Irish drama, "Inshavogue." The name of the author is a sufficient guarantee that the Irish character will not be held up to ridicule in the way we have often seen in the "stage" Irishman, and as the management of the drama is in the experienced hands of Mr T. J. Anthony, a faithful and appreciative rendering can confidently be looked for.

A concert is to be held at West Plains on next Wednesday, in aid of the building fund of the Catholic Church, now being erected there, and which the residents are making strong efforts to have opened free of debt. I hope soon to have the pleasure of recording the opening of this monument to the ceaseless activity of the Rev Father Vereker.

Mr A. J. Barth and Signor Squarise have arranged a complimentary concert to Miss Blanche Joel, which takes place at the Choral Hall on the 14th inst. All the local favourites including Miss Rose Blaney, Miss Kitty Blaney, Mrs Wakefield Holmes, Mrs J. Coombe, Miss Cooper, Mr Harry Smith, Mr Jago and others will contribute. Miss Joel, who has always been recognised as one of our sweetest and most artistic singers, will sing her old favourite, "Daddy," and also play as a piano solo, the "Schiller March," by Meyerbeer-Liszt. There should be a capital house.

Messrs Dwan Bros, the well known hotel brokers of Willis street, Wellington, report having sold Mr B. Oxner's interest in the Metropolitan Hotel, Molesworth street, Wellington, to Mr M. Lahman, late of the Post Office Hotel, Palmerston North; Mr J. Couchman's interest in the Mount Egmont Hotel, Midhurst, to Mr John Theobald, late of the Railway Hotel, Johnsonville; Mr William Ryan's interest in the Empire Hotel, Palmerston North, to Mr Thos a Proctor, late of Foxton; Mr Albert White's interest in the Commercial Hotel, Kaponga, Taranaki, to Mr William Farquhar, of Wellington; and Mr George Dennis' interest in the Te Aro Hotel, Upper Willis street, Wellington, to Mr George Ryland, an old Wellington resident, recently returned from Sydney. As Messrs Dwan Bros' business is very extensive in this line, intending purchasers of hotels can always rely on getting the soundest and fullest information. In our advertising columns will be found some hotel properties for sale.

Bland Holt's Dramatic Company commence a return farewell season at the Princess Theatre on Tuesday evening next the 18th inst., when the powerful drama "Saved from the Sea," will be produced. The well known merits of Bland Holt and his splendid company have been recognised throughout the Colony and this coupled with the fact that the prices have been lowered on account of this being a return season, crowded houses may with safety be anticipated. We would strongly recommend our country friends who wish a genuine night's amusement to patronise this entertainment.

P.P.P.—The great remedy for Sciatica, Sprains, Neuralgia. To be had from all chemists.—ADVT.

Mr A. Morrison, family butcher, Frederick street, has commenced business, and can supply meat of first-class quality, and at lowest prices, for cash. We would advise our subscribers, in Dunedin and suburbs, to give him a trial. Mr Morrison will be happy to wait on families for orders, and, it is needless to say, that they will be punctually attended to.

We would call attention to the bargains offered by Messrs Strang and Co, Christchurch, on page 5 of this issue.

Fitzgerald's Circus Company, after a successful tour through the Colony, will open in Dunedin on the 18th inst. The show contains many new novelties recently imported. The principal being Madame Adelina Antonio, an aerial gymnast, who turns a double somersault from the top of the tent into a net; Professor Charles Peart, from the Indian Exhibition, who will dive from a height of 115ft into a tank 6ft square. The Alton troupe of acrobats; K. gollia, a gymnast; and Ted Leonard, a celebrated clown, are included among the novelties. There is also the talking horse, Mahomet, a perfect equine wonder. Mahomet's feats include telling the numbers put on a slate by members of the audience, and answering questions put by his trainer, Mr E. L. Probasco.

PROSPECTUS OF
ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE, WELLINGTON,
NEW ZEALAND.

CONDUCTED BY THE MARIST FATHERS.

Under the special patronage of his Grace the Most Rev Francis Bedwood, S.M., D.D., Archbishop of Wellington.
President, the Most Rev Dr. Redwood, S.M.; Rector, the Very Rev Dr. Watters, S.M.

St. Patrick's College is intended to afford the youth of New Zealand a sound liberal education, while furnishing all those safeguards of religion, without which education ceases to be an advantage.

The course of education, classical, scientific, and mercantile, is traced in the programme of studies.

A special course is provided, in which students are taught everything needful for mercantile pursuits.

Students are prepared for Civil Service, Law, University, and Musical Examinations.

A large and well appointed gymnasium has been added to the College, giving the students facility for developing muscular power.

A select library is at the disposal of the students during the hours set apart for reading.

Vacation is given twice a year, in June and December.

One term's notice is required before the withdrawal of a student.

The religious education of the students will be attended to as a matter of the first and greatest importance.

Non-Catholic students are required to attend the common exercises of religion, and conform to the ordinary rules of the College.

OUTFIT FOR BOARDERS.

Each Intern Student requires the following outfit:—

Two ordinary suits of clothing for week days, one dark suit for Sundays, six day shirts, three night shirts, six pairs socks, six pocket handkerchiefs, three table napkins, two pairs boots, one pair slippers, two pairs of sheets, four pillow cases, six towels, combs, brushes, and other dressing articles, one silver spoon, knife, fork, and napkin ring.

TERMS.

BOARDERS—All Intern Pupils, 40 Guineas per annum, Entrance Fee (payable once only), 3 Guineas.

DAY SCHOLARS—Preparatory School, 6 Guineas per annum. College, 9 Guineas per annum.

EXTRAS (per annum):—Music, 8 Guineas; Drawing, 3 Guineas; Shorthand, 3 Guineas; Washing, 1 Guinea; Stationery, comprising use of copy books, exercises, letter paper, etc. 1 Guinea.

A charge of Nine Guineas per annum extra is made for day scholars who dine at the College.

A reduction of 10 per cent is made in favour of brothers, whether boarders or day scholars.

No reduction may be expected in the case of absence or withdrawal before the end of a term.

For further particulars, application may be made to the President, the Rector of the College, the Marist Fathers, and the Local Clergy.

N.B.—Payments are required in ADVANCE at the beginning of each term:—1st February, middle of May, and 1st September.

F. J. WATTERS, S.M., D.D., Rector.

PRINCESS THEATRE.

TUESDAY, 18TH FEBRUARY,

Return Farewell Visit of New Zealand's
Popular Favourite.

BLAND HOLT

And his

PREMIER DRAMATIC ORGANISATION

Will Inaugurate

A SHORT FAREWELL SEASON,

On which occasion Mr HOLT will submit his

latest dramatic purchase,

The Great Marine Spectacle

"SAVED FROM THE SEA,"

By Messrs Arthur Shirley and Benjamin Landeck.

A SERIES OF BEAUTIFUL SPECTACLES,

Illustrated by Mr W. B. Spong.

The interpretation of the drama will be entrusted
to the Full Strength of the
MOST POWERFUL AND MOST POPULAR ORGANISATION
Of its kind in Australasia.

"SAVED FROM THE SEA."

As the Season is Limited to a Few Nights, there can only be
Three Representations of this Powerful Drama.

OUR POPULAR PRICES:

3s, 2s, and ONE SHILLING.

R. F. KEATING,

Touring Manager.

ASK YOUR GROCER FOR

NASH'S BAKING POWDER AND
SELF-RAISING FLOUR. Perfectly Free from Alum
Once Used Always Used. Manufactured by
T. A. NASH, CHRISTCHURCH.

MRS W. WHITLEY
UNDERCLOTHING MANUFACTURER,
145 ARMAGH STREET, CHRISTCHURCH.
Gents' Shirts Re-cuffed and Re-collared. Babies and Children
Clothing a Speciality, Ladies' own Materials made up.
Dressmaking at Moderate Charges.

FITZGERALD BROTHERS'
NEW
LONDON
COMPANY.

HUGE CIRCUS AND MONSTER WILD
BEAST SHOW.

At Dunedin

FOR SEVEN NIGHTS,

And

THREE AFTERNOON PERFORMANCES,

Opening

TUESDAY NEXT (FEBRUARY 18).

After their recent trip round the world, the Messrs
Fitzgerald have much pleasure in intro-
ducing the following new London
artists in connection with
their Circus and
Menagerie:

MDLLE. ANTONIO

(From the London Aquarium),

The Most Graceful and Daring Artiste ever witnessed.

LES FRERES ECLAIRS

(From Nouveau Cirque, Paris),

The Human Contortionists (Crocodile and Demon),
are simply indescribable.

"MAHOMET,"

The Talking Horse—A Marvel. The sagacity
of this animal is almost human.

SIMONSTEIN

(Direct from London, from Koster and Biel's Roof Garden,
New York),

The Greatest Acrobatic Tumbler and Dummy Clown of the age.

TED LEONARD

(From Hengler's Circus, London),

The Great English Clown, with his Educated
Animals. Screams from start to finish.

CHARLES BURCHALL,

The New Rider. The Cleverest yet seen.

FRANK JONES.

The Champion Leaper.

PROFESSOR CHARLES PEART

(From Earl's Court, London),

The Highest Diver in the World.
Dives 100ft Head First from the Top of the
Tent into 3ft of Water.

Another wonder is

HERR VON DER MEHDEN,

The Champion Solo Cornet Player, who
Leads the Band.

THE MOST GIGANTIC ORGANISATION

Which has Ever Visited Australasia.

PRICES 1s, 3s, 2s, and ONE SHILLING.
MOBBIS.

DRINK ONLY "SPRING BLOSSOM" TEA.

Packed in 4lb, 1lb, 5lb and 10lb first-class (net weight) Tins.
RICH AND DELICIOUS IN LIQUOR.

C H O R A L H A L L,
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14.

GRAND COMPLIMENTARY CONCERT.

To, and Farewell of
MIS^S BLANCHE JOEL.

Tendered by the leading Musicians and Vocalists of Dunedin.
PRICES 3s, 2s, and 1s.

A. M O R R I S O N,
FAMILY BUTCHER,
FREDERICK STREET, DUNEDIN.

The Cheapest Shop in Dunedin for First-class Beef, Mutton, Dairy
Fed Pork, Beautiful Lamb.
Small Goods of the Best Description Fresh Daily.
Ham, Mince or Ox Tongues always on hand.
Families waited on for Orders.
A Trial Solicited.

PRINCESS THEATRE.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1896.

G R A N D C O N C E R T
AND COMEDIETTA,

In aid of the Convent Building Fund, by Convent Ex-pupils.

PROGRAMME — PART I.

- Concerted Duet "Belisario" (Goria)
Vocal Solo "Peacefully Slumber" (Bandegger) Miss Jennie West and F. Irwin
Grand Aria "Lend me your Aid" (Gounod) Miss Kitty Blaney
Piano Solo "Valse Caprice" (C. Chaminade) Mr Burns-Walker
Vocal Solo "Love's Garden" (C. Chaminade) Miss Jennie West
Vocal Solo "The Distant Shore" (Sullivan) Miss Rose Blaney
Vocal Solo "Valley by the Sea" (Stephen Adams) Mr Harry Smith
Duet From the 4th Act of "Trovatore" (Verdi) Miss Mongradien
Miss Rose Blaney and Mr Burns-Walker

PART II.

COMEDIETTA,—"AS COOL AS A CUCUMBER,"

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Miss Honiton | Miss Rose Blaney |
| Wiggins | Miss Kitty Blaney |
| Plumper | Mr O. Mount |
| Barkins, Senr | Mr Sincock |
| Frederick Barkins (his son) | Mr Wilcox |

Prices of Admission: Dress Circle, 2s; Downstairs, 1s.
Doors open 7.15. Commence at 8.
Carriages 10 1s.

THE LATE BISHOP MORAN.

SPECIAL NOTICE

ANY ONE becoming a SUBSCRIBER TO THE NEW ZEALAND TABLET for 12 MONTHS will be presented with a copy of the BEAUTIFUL CHROMO LITHOGRAPH PICTURE of the late MOST REV. DR. MORAN recently presented to our SUBSCRIBERS.

NOTICE.

All communications connected with the Commercial Department of the N.Z. TABLET Newspaper are to be addressed to John Murray, Secretary, to whom also Post Office Orders and Cheques are in all instances to be made payable.

To insure publication in any particular issue of the paper communications must reach this office not later than Tuesday morning.

The New Zealand Tablet.

FIAT JUSTITIA.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1896.

PROGRESS AND JUSTICE IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

The Catholics of New Zealand provide, at their own sole expense, an excellent education for their own children. Yet such is the sense of justice and policy in the New Zealand Legislature that it compels these Catholics, after having manfully provided for their own children, to contribute largely towards the free and godless education of other people's children!!! This is tyranny, oppression, and plunder.

BISHOP MORAN'S SUCCESSOR.



E desire to respectfully felicitate the New Zealand Hierarchy on the accession to its ranks of a distinguished ecclesiastic, and to heartily congratulate the diocese of Dunedin on obtaining as successor to the late revered Bishop a man after Dr MORAN's own heart. The bishop-elect was for many years a warm personal friend of the late saintly Bishop, who deservedly held Monsignor VERDON in high esteem both on account of his personal worth and eminent services in the Church. For over a quarter of a century Dr VERDON has occupied prominent positions in connection with the education of the secular clergy in Ireland, Rome, and Australia. The very latest appointment which he received, at the close of the past year, showed in a marked manner the appreciation of his ability and tact by the Australian prelates. It was decided to have an accredited representative of the Australian Church in residence at Rome. Yielding to the pressing request to take up this very important duty, Dr VERDON made arrangements to leave Sydney on February 10 by the Oratava. He has probably received the news of his appointment to Dunedin either in Melbourne or Adelaide. It will be interesting to our readers to learn that some months ago he had contemplated a visit to New Zealand during the college summer vacation. The appointment made by the bishops at the close of the Plenary Council came as a surprise, and he expressed regret that in all probability he should never have the opportunity of seeing and enjoying the scenery of our Wonderland. *Roma locuta est.* The decision of Rome brings him to our Colony. New Zealand will welcome a distinguished man and quickly learn to respect an ecclesiastic who is eminently worthy of respect. The following particulars briefly summarise the life of Bishop MORAN's successor:—The Very Rev Monsignor MICHAEL VERDON, D.D., was born in County Kildare, Ireland, and is a little over 50 years of age. He made his preliminary studies at the College of the Vincentian Fathers, Castleknock, Dublin, where also Dr MORAN spent several years, and went through the courses of philosophy and theology at the Propaganda, Rome. After ordination he returned to Ireland, became professor, and later on rector of Holy Cross College, Clonliffe, Dublin. At the request of the Irish bishops Dr VERDON went in 1880 to Rome to assist the late Archbishop KIRBY in the direction of the Irish College of which he formerly had been a student. His Holiness Pope LEO XIII., in recognition of his ability and merit, conferred upon him the dignity of domestic prelate and the title of Monsignor. In 1889, at the invitation of Cardinal MORAN, he came to Australia as first Rector of the new ecclesiastical college, which, at a cost of £65,000, was erected by his Eminence at Manly, Sydney. Conspicuous success has everywhere marked the administration of the Bishop-elect of Dunedin, and, we doubt not, great success will characterise his future work in New Zealand. Apart from the personal elements of tact, firmness, and the sense of justice, which go to make a strong and prudent ruler, Dr VERDON will take possession of a cathedral free from debt, and a diocese well organised and stocked with churches, schools, and religious houses. The new Bishop will meet a devoted body of priests, of whom Dr MORAN was deservedly proud, and who will ably, under a new leader, continue the glorious work done in Otago for holy religion and Catholic education.

MR THOMAS SEXTON, M. P., has been offered and has accepted the position of leader of the Irish Party. The Tory Press still strive to accentuate the difference between McCarthyites, and Redmondites and Healyites. We are confident that all will quickly rally under one leader, and present a united phalanx to the enemy. Mr Sexton has high reputation on all sides of the House, as an able man and an eloquent speaker.

The joint administrators of the diocese of Dunedin desire to intimate, through our columns, to the clergy and laity of the diocese that the Lenten regulations, contained in the Lenten Pastoral of last year are to be observed during the Lent of this year.

It was a happy thought for the ex-pupils to give a grand concert in celebration of the silver jubilee of the Dominican Nuns of Dunedin. The Princess Theatre next Monday evening will witness a brilliant musical, and, we hope, a great financial success.

By Special Appointment to His Excellency Lord Onslow.



R. R. TUCKER,

SHOEING SMITH, begs to inform his numerous Customers and the Public that he has removed from his late premises, Montreal street, to more central premises in MANCHESTER ST., CHRISTCHURCH, opposite the Union Steamship Co's Office.

THE Very Rev Father O'Reilly has been again appointed chairman of the Thames Hospital Committee. This speaks well for his business tact, administrative ability, and general popularity.

JUST as we go to Press we find that our competition anecdote notice and other matter has been crushed out of this week's issue. Young people will watch next week.

THE Missionary Retreat in Dunedin, conducted by the Very Rev Father Maher, C.M., has been a pronounced success. The mission for women concluded on Sunday last. The retreat for men of the congregation is progressing most satisfactorily. In hearing confessions the very rev missionary had the assistance, at different times, in addition to the clergy of the mission, of the Very Rev Father Dawson (Wellington), Rev Fathers Nealon (Essendon), Gallivan (Gisborne), both of the archdiocese of Melbourne; also, Father Mackay, Newport, and Hunt.

THERE was High Mass on last Sunday in St Joseph's Cathedral. Very Rev Father Dawson, Adm, St Mary's Cathedral, was celebrant, Father Murphy deacon, and Father Howard sub-deacon. The Very Rev Father Maher delivered an excellent sermon on the Gospel of the day which was much appreciated by a crowded congregation. Dr O'Hara, Melbourne, president of the surgical section of the Medical Congress, sang "Pro peccatis" as an offertory piece. Miss Rose Blaney rendered Rossiter's "O Saintanis." In the evening when Father Ryan preached the Cathedral was simply packed.

THE Rev Father Binsfield, S.M., has paid a visit to his old friends at Bangiora. He was the guest of Father O'Connor, and preached on the Sunday morning and evening.

THE hon sec of the Wellington Branch I.N.F. informs us that Mr Martin Kennedy has been appointed to represent the Branch at the forthcoming great conference of the Irish race. A more worthy or capable representative could not have been chosen.

AN old and respected resident of Gore, Mrs Heherr, passed away on February 3rd, after bearing, with Christian fortitude, an illness of a month's duration. She was the wife of Mr Joseph Heherr, a well-known business man in that locality. She was remarkable, during life, for the broadness of her charity, and was especially ever foremost in any good work that was being done for the Holy Church.—May she rest in peace.

ON Tuesday, February 3 (writes a Christchurch correspondent), the local branch of the Hibernian Society held their fortnightly meeting, which was adjourned from Monday, January 28, owing to the death of their late esteemed secretary, Bro William O'Shaughnessy. There was a good attendance of members, the president, Bro P. Burke in the chair. The chief business of the meeting was to nominate a secretary, and to find ways and means of celebrating St Patrick's Day this year in a proper and fitting manner. It was proposed and decided that it should be celebrated with a banquet. It is to be hoped this will be followed up throughout the length and breadth of New Zealand and the objectionable stage characters which bring ridicule upon the Irish people for a paltry few pounds done away with. There is only one day in the year that Irish Catholics lay claim to—that is St Patrick's Day. I think they and their priests should spend at least this day in each other's company, while all the year round they do almost everything that is going and work hard for every charitable object and entertainment. It is to be hoped that their fellow Catholics of other nationalities will rally round them and make this day a success. If our people would follow the example of his Eminence Cardinal Moran, mentioned by you in your issue of Jan 31, and your own advice, much good would be done. There is no doubt the Hibernian Society have sustained a severe loss in the death of Brother William O'Shaughnessy. He was an ardent supporter of everything Catholic and Irish. As soon as the sad news of his death was heard the green flag was hoisted half-mast over the Hibernian Hall. A telegram was received from the district president, Auckland, conveying sympathy and condolence to the widow and relatives of the deceased, and also to the members of the Society. A letter of condolence was also received from Mr M. J. Sheehan, J.P., Auckland, and one from Mr Sheehy, secretary of the Timaru branch, which branch Brother O'Shaughnessy always represented at the Friendly Societies' conference.

WESTPORT NOTES AND COMMENTS.

(By OLD IDENTITY)

ST CANICE'S SCHOOL

re-opened on Monday last after the Christmas vacation. It is to be hoped that the pupils will resume their studies with renewed vigour, in order that the school might bear favourable comparison with other schools in the district when examined by the Government Inspector at the end of the year.

THE CONVENT HIGH SCHOOL

also re-opened on Monday last. Both Catholic and Protestant parents living in town are taking advantage of the excellent education afforded young ladies by this school, but unfortunately those residing in the country are to a certain extent debarred, there being no accommodation for boarders in the convent. However, I have not the least doubt but that this necessity will be provided for as soon as the present debt on the convent building is liquidated. The art-union, organised to raise the needful towards this end, will be

drawn at Easter. Your correspondent has been shown some of the prizes and he can assure the readers of the TABLET that the investment of the modest sum of one shilling in a ticket is money well spent. Some necessary outside improvements have been made at the convent during the past year, the most expensive of which was a new corrugated iron fence and the laying out of the grounds.

ST PATRICK'S CHURCH.

The tender of Mr John Dennehy has been accepted for repairs to St Patrick's Church, Charleston.

ACCIDENTS.

There is quite a chapter of accidents to record, and I regret to say some of them were attended with most serious consequences. Mr John Moriarty, a well-known and highly respected miner of Addison's Flat, met with a terrible accident whilst engaged blasting in his claim on Monday last. The charge exploded, striking him full in the face, and it was feared at first the poor fellow would permanently lose his sight. He was immediately conveyed to the district hospital, and is recovering. Mr Moriarty is a brother of Mrs Still, of the Club Hotel, and a nephew of Mr Patrick Sullivan, of this town, and Mr Michael Sullivan, farmer, of Patea, North Island. George Bull, miner, was drowned in Main Creek, Mokihinui, last week by the upsetting of a boat. His two mates, Peter Jansen and Reuben Williamson, managed to save their lives. Bull's body was cast up on the beach yesterday, three miles north of Mokihinui. Mrs Gramatica, injured on the Lyell Bridge a fortnight ago by a runaway horse, attached to a drag, died in the Westport District Hospital. Mr Martin Carroll and Master D. Ryan, who were also injured by the same refractory animal, are progressing favourably. The former had one of his legs and arms broken, and otherwise lacerated about the head. Carroll is under treatment at the district hospital. Master Ryan was internally injured by the wheel of the drag passing over his stomach. He remained under the care of his parents at Lyell. Much sympathy is expressed for the sufferers, particularly for Mr and Mrs Ryan, it being only a short time since they were bereaved of their eldest son, an ex-pupil of St Patrick's College, Wellington, and a promising young man.

OBITUARY.

Mrs Byrne, after a lingering illness from cancer, died at her residence Back Lead, Charleston, last week. Mr William Thompson, of "Thompson's Corner" fame, Charleston, died in the Hokitika Hospital a few days ago. The sad intelligence is to be band of the death of Thomas Cantwell, a former resident of this district, from thirst in Western Australia. His mate, Jerry O'Conlan, an ex-Reeftonite, shared the same fate. According to the *Hannan's Herald* the unfortunate men were on their way from Dundas to Coolgardie to receive the purchase money for a reef they had sold. Constable Brown and a black tracker, who were despatched in search of the missing men, found the two bodies close together on Christmas Eve, and it was found necessary to inter them on the spot. From all appearances the poor fellows had wandered about the trackless plain in a state of delirium, searching for water, and it was further ascertained that they passed within 150 yards of the precious fluid that might have saved both their lives. By the way, I notice the Press agent at Perth studiously suppresses the harrowing particulars of misery and death endured by those seeking for the "marvellous finds" we hear so much about in Western Australia.—The many friends of Mr T. A. Peterkin, district railway manager here, will regret to learn of the death of his eldest daughter (Julia). The deceased, who was 24 years of age, not feeling very well, went to Christchurch for a change of air, where she died last Friday week. Miss Peterkin's sunny nature had endeared her to all with whom she came in contact, and her untimely end is deeply deplored by all who had the pleasure of her acquaintance. Mr and Mrs Peterkin and family formerly lived in Dunedin.—It is with feelings of unfeigned sorrow that I am called upon to chronicle the death of Mr William Nahr, brewer, of this town, which sad event took place at his residence this afternoon at 4.30 o'clock. The deceased had been confined to bed since Tuesday last, having caught a chill the previous day coming from Denniston. His complaint developed into inflammation of the kidneys and despite the attentive nursing of his devoted wife and daughter (Mrs Douglass) and the united medical skill of Doctors Willis, Macdonnell and Simpson, Mr Nahr passed away peacefully at the hour mentioned, in the presence of the family and Mr Charles Lemperl. The deceased was universally respected, and when the melancholy news became generally known that the warm heart of "Bill" Nahr—as he was familiarly called—had ceased to throb, and he was no more, quite a gloom was cast over the town and district. Being a man of sound business principles, good tact, and full of enterprise, Mr Nahr was the mainspring of the commercial life of Westport, and his loss is really a calamitous one to the welfare of this district. His acts of charity, irrespective of creed or colour, were proverbial, and his friends and well-wishers legion. Heartfelt sympathy is felt for Mrs Nahr and family in their irreparable loss. The late Mr Nahr was a native of Hamburg, Germany, and was 59 years of age; 39 years of which he lived in the colonies. Coming to Charleston in 1868, thence on to Westport a

The Westport Cardiff Coal Co., Ltd., supply the Best House and Steam Coal in the Colony. Burns brightly with strong heat. No dust or dirt, and Less Ash than Any Other Coal. Send orders to H. E. HARGREAVES, secretary, 69 Cathedral Square, CHRISTCHURCH

NOW READY!

KIRKPATRICK'S

GOLD MEDAL

BRAND "K" BRAND

NEW SEASON'S JAM.

APRICOT CONSERVE, in glass jars (2lb nett weight) | RASPBERRY JAM, in glass jars (2lb nett weight)
 NECTARINE " PEACH CONSERVE, in glass jars (2lb nett weight) | RED CURRANT JELLY, in stone jars (1lb nett weight)

The above are made with this Season's FRESH Fruit and boiled within a few hours after being gathered and retain the FULL FLAVOUR and COLOUR of the Fruit. They are the MOST DELICIOUS and WHOLESOME Preserves in the market.

S. KIRKPATRICK & CO., Manufacturers, NELSON.

ew years later, when he established the extensive brewery business which he has carried on up to the time of his death. In concluding this obituary notice, I think it would not be out of place to acknowledge the generosity of the late Mr Nahr towards Catholic institutions generally, although not a member of that community.

WELLINGTON.

(From our own Correspondent.)

February 8.

At the recent sitting of the Archdiocesan Synod in Wellington the district of Masterton was created a parish, the administrator, the Rev Father McKenna, being named parish priest. When the Rev Father McKenna was appointed to Masterton eight years ago, there was a debt of £1000 on the district, but this has now been completely wiped off. This would have been a good record for, comparatively speaking, a poor district, but beside this there has been £250 spent on St Patrick's Church, Masterton, in the meantime, and about £1000 on the schools attached thereto, including salaries, etc. The presbytery has been renovated at a cost of £360. Over £200 have been expended on the Carterton Church property, and a new church erected at Pahiatua, which, with incidental items, cost about £400. The new church at Martonborough was erected at an expenditure of nearly £480, whilst the amounts expended on church buildings at Greytown Featherston, and Tenui, were respectively £80, £25, £30, making a total of over £3,700. Besides this there was collected in the district a sum of £120 towards the propagation of the faith, Peter's Pence, and missions. This is a position which reflects the highest credit on the administrative capacity of Father McKenna, on the generosity of his people, and is a good indication of the progress which the Church is making in the Colony. The parish is large and the population scattered, and not the wealthiest section of the community, still, when we learn that the only debt now unpaid is a small sum on the presbytery, we can well understand how zeal and true liberality can accomplish more than the mere possession of this world's goods.

Two pupils of St Mary's Convent, Hill street, were successful in passing the Matriculation examination. These were Miss Blake and Miss Slowey. In the musical examinations, conducted by Mr M. Birket Foster, the following results are reported:—Singing, senior division.—honours—Miss Brady; pass—Miss Solomon. Junior division.—honours—Misses Sullivan and Gallagher; pass—Misses Long and Hennab. Piano, senior division.—honours—Miss Brady; pass—Miss Sullivan. Junior division.—honours—Miss Long; pass—Misses Falconer and Waldegrave. Primary division—Miss Shapter. Besides the above it will be remembered that 19 pupils, whose names were published at the time, passed in the theory examinations. In pianoforte playing Miss Rosalinda Brady was easily first in senior honours with 90 per cent of marks, the same talented young lady having also taken senior honours in solo singing with 91 marks out of a possible 100. In fact, the pupils of the convent swept the board in solo singing as far as local passes were concerned. Out of the 27 passes secured by Wellington 12 are to be credited to the convent. This is a very fine record, and reflects alike credit on the good Sisters, and on the industry and ability of the pupils.

A sad accident occurred at the Masterton Catholic school during the week when a boy, aged 11 years, son of Mr F. H. Brittain, of the stock department, fell from a swing and broke his arm in two places. I am pleased to hear that the sufferer is progressing very favourably.

The Wellington branch of the Irish National Federation held a meeting at St Patrick's Hall, on Monday night, the chair being occupied by Mr E. Carrigan, J.P. It was reported that the net proceeds

of the Hon E Blake's lecture would be something over £20, but all the returns had not been received. The members of the branch intend to work strenuously to increase the membership, so that in the future still better results may be achieved than even in the past. Reference was made to the forthcoming conference of Irishmen in Dublin, at which it was expected the branch would be represented, and from which results were anticipated.

Our volunteers had a real good time of it, as the Salvationists say, on Saturday and Sunday last. They went to Mount Crawford to repel an imaginary army, who was supposed to be making an attack from the rear on the forts. It is needless to say that, under the circumstances, they were highly successful. Officers and men covered themselves with mud and glory. Colonel Fox complimented the men on the alacrity and soldier-like manner in which they went through the programme under trying circumstances, for the weather and commissariat were not all that could be wished for. It is astonishing what a change has been effected in the opinions held by the gallant Colonel on his arrival. His fine imperial ideas have been considerably modified by intercourse with the people of the Colony. His idea then was that he was to run the Colony on military lines, and that every adult male of a certain age would don a uniform. He got at loggerheads with the Government, and, mistaking the opinions of the Opposition Press for the expression of the majority of the colonists, he imagined he was able to force the Premier and his colleagues to carry out his behests. He reckoned without his host, for the Hon R. Seddon is not a man to be bounced, and the new commandant had to cave in. Having had a more intimate acquaintance since then with colonial people, he has been able to form a more correct estimate of their independence, and disinclination to be ruled by horse guard methods, and as a result he understands more accurately the many sacrifices our local forces are prepared to make in order to be prepared for the defence of the Colony, without being expected to come up to the requirements, in the matter of outward display, of regular troops. It is to be hoped that the occasion will not arrive in our day, when a hostile fleet shall make an attempt to land on the New Zealand shores. But if it should ever occur, I have no doubt that the volunteers of the Colony will receive them with a warmth, the very reverse to hospitable.

Miss Agnes Malone, of Stratford, was recently presented with an illuminated address in recognition of her work on behalf of the church and school in the township. Miss Malone, her sisters and mother, have left on a year's visit to the home countries, having decided to make the trip *via* Sydney and Suz.

St Patrick's College reopened on Monday after the Christmas holidays, with an attendance above the average. Some changes have taken place in the staff since last year. The Rev Father Aubry has left for Canterbury in consequence of the state of his health, and the Rev Father Herbert has been transferred to Napier. The Rev Father Holley and the Rev Father O'Beilly have again joined the College faculty. It is gratifying to the friends and well-wishers of St Patrick's to know that all the students presented for the university examinations and the Trinity College musical examinations were successful. These results must be highly satisfactory to the College staff and reflect much credit on the institution. Master Leo S. Fanning passed with credit the examination for entrance scholarship of the New Zealand University, and Master Charles McDonald, Wellington; Eberhart W. Smith, Kaikoura; Francis Morrell, Christchurch; David Holland, Christchurch; and Francis Lynch, Reefton, matriculated. In the examination in the theory of music (Trinity College, London), Master Patrick Garvey, Wellington, was successful in intermediate honours, and Masters Charles McDonald, Wellington, and William Fitzgerald, Timaru, were successful in juniors, these being the only candidates presented.

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In the case of Wool offered for sale and not sold the charges are 1s per bale only.

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RE-UNION OF CHRISTENDOM.

(A Series of Lectures delivered in St Joseph's Church, Temuka, by the Very Rev Father LE MENANT DES CHESNAIS, S.M.)

LECTURE XVIII.—THE CHRISTIAN'S FLAG.

"We preach Jesus crucified" (I Col. i, 23)

EVERY well organised society has a sign, a standard, a banner, by which it may be known. This distinctive sign is what we call a flag. There is the royal standard or flag of Great Britain and the British ensign, the tricolour flag of France, the black eagle of Prussia, the yellow flag of India, the lion of Persia, the triple crescent of Egypt, the crescent and two crossed swords of Japan, the yellow crescent and star of Arabia, the white cross of Switzerland, the white crescent and white star of Turkey, etc. Not only has every nation its flag or standard, but also every army, every regiment, every ship. An admiral, in the navy flies his flag at the main top-gallant masthead; a vice-admiral, at the fore; and a rear-admiral at the mizzen. A black flag is a sign that no mercy will be shown the vanquished; a white flag is a flag of truce; a red flag is a sign of defiance; a flag hoisted half mast is a sign of mourning; to strike or lower a flag is a sign of respect or surrender. The Christian society has also its flag or royal standard. This flag is the cross of Jesus, of which I wish to entertain you this evening. The subject, as you will soon see, perhaps to your surprise, is most interesting and practical. Let us first briefly trace out the

ORIGIN OF THIS FLAG.

From all eternity God resolved to send His beloved Son on earth that He might redeem and save us by His sufferings and death on the Cross of Calvary. Jesus crucified is the model man, the ideal man. Tertullian informs us that when God fashioned the body of Adam He formed on the model of the Incarnate Word, Jesus Christ, Who was the prototype of the whole human race. "Quodcumque limus exprimebat, Christus cogitabatur homo futurus" (Tert. Lib. De Resurr. Carn.). But, because Jesus was to die extended on a cross for our salvation, to the end that man might never forget his crucified Saviour, He made him a living cross, for whenever man extends his hands he expresses the image of a cross. The sign of the cross was the sign of salvation from the beginning of the world. All the blessings granted to men from the commencement of the world have been granted through Jesus crucified. All those who lived before the death of the Son of God on the cross could be saved only by faith in this Saviour Who was to suffer and die for them. According to St Thomas many of the patriarchs and prophets had a clear idea of the mystery of redemption; for others it was enough to believe that God would save them as He had revealed it to these holy patriarchs and prophets. This holy doctor also thinks that many of the Gentiles knew Christ crucified by a special revelation. "Quantum ad Gentiles dicendum est quod multis Gentilium facta fuit revelatio de Christo, ut patet per ea quæ prælixerunt" (IIa, 2æ, Quest. 2). As to those who were saved without a special revelation they were not saved without an implicit faith in the Redeemer. "Credentes Deum esse liberatorem hominum a cunctis modis sibi placitis" (St Thomas Ubi supra). St Paul affirms the same when he says: "The world was made for man, man for Jesus Christ, and Jesus Christ for God" (I Cor. v, 2-3). Whence it is evident that from the commencement of the world Jesus crucified was the source of every blessing bestowed upon men, and that His cross was the ensign or emblem of salvation. This is why the Apostle of the Gentiles cried out: "God forbid that I should glory save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Gal. vi, 14). Among the Jews, whenever the supreme Pontiff blessed the people he spread out his arms in the shape of a cross and said: "May the God of Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob bless you and your children unto the third and fourth generation," because the supreme Pontiff among the Jews represented Christ the fountain of every supernatural blessing. Again, when a sacrifice was offered, the priest first raised the victim from the ground and lifted it on high; he next turned it towards the east, then to the west, that is, he formed with it the sign of the cross, to signify that all the victims of the old dispensation were only images and figures of Jesus, the Lamb of God, Who was to die on a cross for our redemption, and from Whom only the sacrifices of the Jewish Law derived all their virtue and efficacy. When the Amalekites opposed the passage of the children of Israel in the wilderness, Moses stood up on the top of Mount Horeb, having the rod of God in his hand. And when he lifted up his hands, Israel overcame; but if he let them down a little Amalec overcame. . . so Aaron and Hur stayed up his hands until the victory was won (Exodus, xvii, 9-14). Moses standing on the top of the Mount of Horeb is an image of Jesus crucified standing with both his hands spread out as a cross, through Whom alone we can obtain victory over the enemies of our salvation, by the merits of His sufferings and death on the Cross of Calvary, and enter one day the promised land of Paradise. Leaving the old dispensation let us come to the New Testament. Speaking without any figure we may say that Jesus Himself is the sign of the cross offered for the salvation of mankind.

By His sufferings and death on Mount Calvary or Golgotha He washed away our sins, and threw open to us the portals of Paradise. "Blotting out the handwriting of the decree that was against us, fastening it to the cross" (Col. ii, 14). The sign of the cross is the mysterious sign Tau, "T" spoken of by the prophet Ezechiel, preserving the followers of Christ from the sword of the destroying angel (Ezechiel, ix). It is for these reasons that the Apostles, guided by the Holy Ghost, made choice of the cross as the fit emblem to distinguish the true followers of Christ. If you were in the midst of pagans, Turks, or Jews you could distinguish a Christian from thousands of infidels and heretics by the sign of the cross. Every one who makes the sign of the cross is known all over the world as a Christian or follower of Christ. The sign of the cross is therefore the most natural and explicit manifestation of the Christian faith; to say it in one word, it is the standard or flag of the Christian, just as the Royal Standard is the flag of Great Britain, the tricolour flag that of France, the black eagle that of Prussia, the lion that of Persia, and crescent and two crossed swords that of Japan, etc. Let us now study the advantages of that flag.

ANTIQUITY OF THE SIGN OF THE CROSS.

It is a pious belief that Jesus Himself taught His Apostles the sign of the cross. When, on Ascension Day, He ascended to heaven by His Almighty Power, full of glory and majesty, with His arms spread out as a cross, it is thought that He imparted to them His last blessing by tracing over them the sign of the cross in the air. "Et elevatis manibus benedixit illis." "And lifting up His hands He blessed them" (Luke xxiv, 50). See: Tertul. De Cor Mil C. iii; Eusebius of Caesarea Demonstr. Evang. L. iv; Vita Const. L. iii; C. ii; St Cyprian of Jerusalem Catech. xiii, N. 36, etc. The Apostles themselves, as we are informed by Nicephorus, made use of the sign of the cross. Thus, St John the Evangelist traced upon himself that salutary sign before his death (Nicephorus Hist. l. ii; c. xlviii). Through it St Paul restored sight to a blind man (Surius ix, Oct.). St Augustine says that all Christians practised the sign of the cross from the days of the Apostles (St. Aug. De Bapt. l. iv; c. xxiv). The constant, uninterrupted tradition is that Jesus Christ Himself instructed the Apostles about the sign of the cross, the Apostles made use of it, and taught it to the early Christians, and from the commencement we find it established in all Christian churches, whether of the East or of the West. Besides the authorities we have already quoted, we might add, St Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch in his Epistle to Phil; Tertullian, who said:—"At every step and change of place, whenever we come in or go out, when we put on our sandals, or wash, or take our meals, or light our lamps; whether we are about to recline or sit down, or whenever we begin a conversation, we impress on our forehead the sign of the cross." "Ad omnes progressum atque promotum, ad omnem aditum et exitum, ad calcatum, ad lavacra, ad mensas, ad lumina, ad cubricula et rediit, quando cumque nos conversatio exercet frontem crucis signaculo terimus" (Tert. De Cor Mil C. iii, 4). The great doctor of the Western Church, St Jerome, writing to Rustochium, advised her, in imitation of the early Christians, to make frequently the sign of the cross. "Before every action," he said to her, "at every step, let your hand form the sign of the cross" (St Hier. Epist. xviii, ad Eust.). If the Jews had such veneration for the Ark of the Covenant, because it contained the tables of the law, a vessel of manna of the desert and the rod of Aaron, at greater veneration should Christians have for the cross of Jesus, which was the instrument of our redemption? The worship of the Catholic Church for the cross, whether it be the real cross on which our Lord was crucified, or a representation of it, in gold, silver, ivory, or any other material, is a relative worship of Latria. We do not adore the gold, silver, or ivory; we do not believe that in the image itself there is any virtue, that it can hear and help us. The object of our adoration is Christ crucified, made present to us through these holy images or crucifixes. Every Catholic child knows that it would be sinful and idolatrous to worship a piece of gold, silver, or wood, or any other material. However, we hold those objects in veneration, especially when they have been blessed, because they remind us of our crucified Lord, and we cannot think too much of Him, and because, when they are blessed, we promise to use them only as a help to pray to Him and to adore Him.

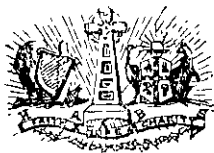
SIGNS—NATURAL, ARTIFICIAL, SACRED.

II. A sign is that which, besides the thing represented by it, conveys to our minds the idea of another. There are three kinds of signs:—(1) natural, (2) artificial, (3) sacred. (1) A natural sign is that which, by itself, apart from every agreement or previous understanding, brings to our mind the existence of a certain phenomenon or fact, e.g. You are travelling on the sandy deserts of Africa; you see a footprint on the sand, and you conclude that a lion, a tiger, an elephant, a camel, or a man has passed that way; the footprint is a natural sign to you of what has taken place, and brings to your mind the idea of the living creature which left it behind it. (2) An artificial sign is that which presupposes a previous agreement or understanding, e.g. It is Sunday morning; the church bells are ringing, and you say "It is time to go to Mass."

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The bell to you is an artificial sign, which reminds you of Holy Mass, because of the understanding of its being rung at stated times to invite the faithful to go to Mass or Vespers, or the Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament, etc. The bell of the fire brigade station is rung, and you say there is a conflagration, this fire bell is an artificial sign, supposing the previous understanding that whenever there will be a house or fire a bell will be sounded in a certain way to point out both the conflagration and the locality where it has taken place. (3) A sacred sign is that which by its nature, institution, its meaning, and the effects it produces is holy and the instrumental cause to us of many spiritual advantages; such, is the sign of the cross. It is holy and sacred, because it was instituted by Jesus Christ and His Apostles, instructed by Him and guided by the Holy Ghost; because we cannot make it without being reminded of our crucified Saviour. This sacred sign is an emblem of Catholicity, because in tracing it we point out to the four corners of the globe. By it we make an open profession of the three principal mysteries of our holy religion: (1) The Holy Trinity, (2) the Incarnation, and (3) the mystery of redemption. (1) We make a profession of the Holy Trinity, because, in making it, we call on the three Divine persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. (2) We profess our belief in the incarnation, because, in saying the word "Son," we touch our heart to be reminded that the Eternal Son of God, out of love for us, came down from heaven, and became a man, by the operation of the Holy Ghost, in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary. (3) We profess that it was by His sufferings and death on the cross that Jesus Christ was satisfied for our sins and threw open to us the gates of paradise, because in making it, we trace upon ourselves a representation of the cross on which he died.

THREE MANNERS OF MAKING THE SIGN OF THE CROSS.

There are three manners of making the sign of the cross:—(1) With the thumb of the right hand; (2) with the three middle fingers of the right hand, the palm of the hand spread out; (3) In the air. 1st.—The sign of the cross made with the thumb of the right hand on our foreheads, lips, or hearts was very common among the early Christians, as may be seen from the writings of the apostolic Fathers. This small sign of the cross is called the German or Greek sign of the cross, because it represents a German or Greek cross (Tert de cor Mil c, m) "We trace the sign of salvation on our foreheads, on our eyes, on our lips and hearts," says St Ephrem, "In frontibus, et in oculis, et in ore, et in pectore, et in omnibus membris nostris (St Ephrem, serm in ret, et viv erue)." Hear now St Ambrose: "Trace the sign of the cross continually on your heart, on your lips, on your forehead." (St Ambros, Sermon, xlviii). St Jerome relates of St Paula that when she was dying she made the sign of the cross on her lips (S Hier. ad Eust, de Epiaph Paulae). St Augustine declares that it is by the will of Christ that we trace His holy cross on our foreheads: "Signum suum Christus in fronte nobis figi voluit." (St Aug In Psal, cxxx). St Elith, daughter of King Edgard of England, was in the habit of frequently making the sign of the cross on her heart with the thumb of her right hand. One day that she was talking to St Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury, she made a little cross on her heart. St Dunstan noticed her, and said to her: "My child, mind what I am going to tell you. When you die your body shall crumble into dust, except that finger with which you have traced the sign of salvation." This prophecy was fulfilled. When the grave of St Edith was opened after her death all her body was found to have crumbled into dust, except her right thumb, which was as fresh as if she had been still alive. In the life of St Wolfgang, of the Order of St Dominic, it is recorded that he was, like St Edith of England, in the habit of making very often the sign of the cross on his heart, whenever he was tempted or wanted to obtain a special favour from God. When he was dead a most brilliant cross was found on his heart, which no one could efface. God had worked this miracle to show how He was pleased with this holy monk for his devotion to the sign of the cross, and also to give evidence of his enjoying heavenly bliss through Jesus crucified he had so much loved and honoured on earth. 2nd.—The other way of making the sign of the cross is called the solemn or Latin sign of the cross, because it represents a Latin cross. We trace it by keeping our right hand extended and touching our forehead, our heart, and our left and right shoulders with the three middle fingers of our extended palm, saying whilst touching the forehead, "In the name of the Father," because as the forehead is the first part of our body, so is the Father the first of the three Divine Persons. In touching our heart we say, "And of the Son," because as the heart is the second most noble part of our bodily frame, so the Son is the second person of the Blessed Trinity. Lastly, going from the left shoulder to the right we say, "And of the Holy Ghost," because as the distance from the forehead to the right and left shoulders, and likewise from the heart to the two same shoulders is equal, we thereby profess that the Holy Ghost proceeds from the mutual love of the Father and the Son, and is equal to them in all things, since all the three Divine Persons have the same essence and the same substance, that is, the same divine nature, which is common to them all. We should make the solemn or

Latin sign of the cross: (1) When we wake up in the morning; (2) Before going to bed; (3) before and after meals; (4) at the beginning and end of all our principal actions; (5) whenever we are in any danger for soul or body; lastly, at the moment of death. 3rd.—The sign of the cross in the air is an emblem of authority or jurisdiction. Only those who, as representative of God, exercise superior authority can bless by tracing a cross in the air. When the Pope gives his blessing to the whole world "Urbi and orbi" he makes the sign of the cross towards the four cardinal points, to signify his spiritual authority over all the bishops, priests, religious and faithful of the whole Christian world. When a bishop gives his blessing he makes three crosses, to express his authority over the priests, religious and faithful of his diocese, subject, however, to the supreme authority of the supreme Pontiff. When a priest blesses anyone or anything he forms but one cross, because he can bless only those over whom he has delegated or of ordinary jurisdiction. Thus a parish priest can bless all his parishioners, superiors of religious communities can bless those under their care, and parents their children. In every blessing imparted, whether by the Pope or a bishop or a priest, or anyone else having power to do so, it is Jesus alone who blesses us, and applies to us the merits of His sufferings and death, although He does it through the instrumentality of His legitimate representatives.

THE CROSS IN PROCESSION.

We carry the cross in procession (1) to remind us that we are followers of Christ and have no other master but Him. (2) Because the cross of Jesus is the standard of His soldiers; they must fight and, if necessary, die for it. (3) Because it is an impenetrable shield when protected by Jesus crucified represented on the cross, we have nothing to fear, if Jesus is for us who shall be against us? (4) To remind us that life is a journey from time to eternity, and that to reach the shores of the heavenly Jerusalem, we must follow Jesus as the Israelites in the desert followed the angel who walked before them. The cross carried in front of a bishop is a simple one, that of an archbishop is a double cross, and that of the Pope is a triple one.

THE CROSS IN ARCHITECTURE.

In architecture, there is the Greek cross, whose four arms are equal, and the Latin Cross whose perpendicular is longer than the transverse arms. The church of St Sophia in Constantinople is a Greek cross with a cupola in the centre. St Genevieve of Paris is another beautiful model of the same kind of architecture. Most Western churches, however are in the shape of a Latin cross. St Peter's in Rome is the most remarkable in all the world. Many of the Christian Churches are lively representations of Jesus crucified, they are indeed gigantic and artistic crucifixes. The sanctuary represents the head of our Saviour, the stained windows around it the crown of thorns, the nave, the body of our Saviour stretched on the cross; transept, his extended arms; the lateral doors, and the principal entrance door, the nails which pierced his hands and feet; the side chapels, the wounds of his lacerated body; and the side windows, the precious blood which flowed from those wounds; and the slight inclination of the sanctuary towards the right is a figure of the dying Christ with his head resting on his right shoulder. The entrance door divided into two parts is an image of the two feet of our Lord nailed to the cross. The pillars around the Church represent our Blessed Lady, St John and the holy women standing around our Saviour whilst he was being crucified. The altar with its rising steps is a representation of Mount Calvary, and the cross on the tabernacle portrays the never-to-be-forgotten scene of the crucifixion. It is also to remind us that the Mass is a mystical representation of the sacrifice of Calvary.

DEVOTION OF THE WAY OF THE CROSS.

Let me add a few words on the devotion of the way of the Cross. From the earliest times, Christians, from all parts of the world, were wont to go to Jerusalem and visit the Holy Places, especially the way trodden by our Saviour from Jerusalem to Calvary, with a heavy cross on his shoulders, to accomplish the work of our redemption. Later on, pictures were erected along the way of the cross, at which people stopped for some time, contemplating the mystery represented by it. When the Turks conquered the Holy Land, and pilgrims could not easily go to Jerusalem, pictures representing the various scenes of the Passion of our Lord, were erected in churches and other places, in order to give to the faithful an opportunity of contemplating the mysteries of the Passion of our Lord and meditating upon them. This custom was introduced by the Franciscans. It spread all over the world and was enriched with indulgences by several Popes: Innocent XII, Benedict XIII, Clement XII, etc. This is a most impressive devotion, which often draws tears from Christians who perform it with faith and fervour. Indeed, what can be more useful and profitable to us than the meditation of the Passion of Christ, and what can help us more to meditate upon it profitably than the contemplation of these statues or pictures which exhibit so forcibly to our view the various scenes of the drama of Calvary. Oh, what a pity our separated friends will not understand that in this there is no superstition, no idolatry, but a most sublime expression of our faith and love for our dying Saviour. (3) Having explained the nature

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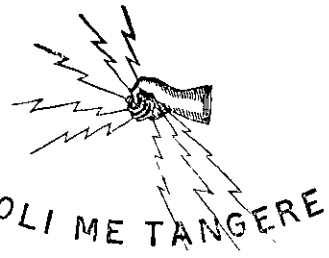
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and meaning of the Christian Flag, I have now to show you its advantages.

ADVANTAGES OF THIS CHRISTIAN FLAG.

The sign of the Cross is one of the principal weapons God has given us to fight the demon with. The first Christians taught by the Apostles knew it well, and had continually recourse to it. In our days, the power of the demon is very great, and we should resist him in the same manner as our ancestors. The sign of the cross is a token of victory against the power of the prince of darkness, who is terrified at the sight of it. The illustrious emperor, Constantine the Great, was travelling at the head of his army. It was about mid-day. Suddenly he, and all those who accompanied him, were dazzled by the sight of a brilliant cross in the sky. This cross was right above the sun. On the following night Jesus appeared to Constantine with the same sign. He told him to have a representation of it made, and to carry it at the head of his army as a standard in battle. The emperor did so. This imperial standard was called the Labarum. It consisted of a perpendicular pole plated with gold with a horizontal cross bar. At the summit was a crown of gold set with precious stones with the monogram of Christ. From the cross bar hung a purple veil studded with jewels with the image of the emperor and of his children. This standard was carried at the head of the army by fifty of the bravest men of the imperial guards. Every legion had a smaller standard of the same kind. The emperor had also the monogram of Christ engraven on his helmet in the shape of a cross. Full of confidence in the protection of Christ he marched against Maxentius, and gained a complete victory. Maxentius was drowned in the Tiber and his soldiers fled in disorder, and Constantine entered Rome in triumph (27th Oct. 312). Out of gratitude he raised in the eternal city a splendid triumphal arch to commemorate this victory. He had a magnificent cross erected in the principal square of Constantinople, and in the grandest hall of his imperial palace. The monogram of Christ used by Constantine consisted of the Greek word "Iktus" that is, Iaiouos Christos Teou Uios, Soter," in English, "Jesus Christ, Son of God, Saviour." This monogram is found frequently on the monuments of the first ages of Christianity. It was worn by the Neophytes preparing for baptism. It is also found in the catacombs of Rome. Around the cross was the inscription: "En touto nika," "By this sign thou shalt conquer," in letters of gold. How this faith of the first Christian emperor contrasts with the scepticism and indifference of so many would-be Christians of our age who are ashamed of the cross of Jesus; should they not fear that at the last day our Lord also will be ashamed of them and deny them? Having obtained the imperial crown through the protection of Jesus crucified,

FINDING OF THE TRUE CROSS.

Constantine was anxious to do something for the holy place which had been the scene of His sufferings and death. For this noble purpose he resolved to erect a magnificent basilica in Jerusalem. In the year 326, St Helena the emperor's mother, set out for Palestine, although she was an octogenarian at the time. She had a great desire to find out the true cross on which our Lord had been crucified. On mount Calvary a temple to Venus had been raised, in order to prevent the Christians to assemble there to pray. St Helena had this temple pulled down, and the statue of Venus broken in pieces. When the rubbish were removed, they discovered the holy sepulchre, three crosses, the nails and the title. The difficulty was to find out which of the three crosses was the one of our Lord. There was at that time a Christian lady who was very dangerously sick. St Macarius, Bishop of Jerusalem, had the three crosses carried to the house of that lady. As soon as the true cross was applied to her, she was immediately cured. St Helena built a grand church over the holy sepulchre and in it she put the cross of our Lord. A part of it was sent to Constantinople, and another to Rome, where a church was built to receive it, called the Church of the Holy Cross of Jerusalem.

POWER OF THE CHRISTIAN FLAG.

Where shall you find a more powerful flag than the Christian flag, the cross of Jesus crucified? The Catholic Church knows the virtue of that flag; she hoists it up everywhere. In all her ceremonies she makes use of the sign of the cross, following in that the custom established by the Apostles. Whenever she blesses anything she traces the sign of the cross over it. She engraves it on the pavement of her churches, on the pillars, on the altars, she places it on the summit of her spires and towers. When a Christian is baptised or anointed, it is with the sign of the cross. In the sacrament of Penance, our sins are taken away whilst the priest traces over us the sign of the cross. During Mass the sign of the cross is made forty-eight times. The sign of the cross is a treasure which enriches us. Through it we may obtain any favour from God. It is an electric telegraphic wire with which, at any time we may hold conversation with our blessed Lord and claim His powerful protection. He cannot refuse what we ask through His holy cross which was the instrument of our redemption. Satan knows it well; this is why when he is in power he always destroys crosses and the devotion to Jesus crucified. How many thousands of crosses and crucifixes did not the reformers destroy in Germany, Prussia, Saxony, Holland, Denmark,

Sweden, Norway, England, etc., in the sixteenth century? Ah! let us not abandon our flag; let us always fight under the banner of Jesus crucified, and we shall always come off victorious. St Martin, whilst travelling in the country, noticed a sacred pine which was worshipped as an idol by the inhabitants. He desired them to cut it down. They consented to do so on condition that he would remain under the tree, on the side that it was likely to fall. The saint assented. All the villagers gathered round the tree. St Martin was placed on the side of the tree which was bent. The tree was cut down. When it was about to crush him, St Martin made the sign of the cross, at once the tree was straightened and fell on the opposite side. Does not this show that Jesus approves of the devotion to His holy cross?

THE CROSS IN HISTORY.

The early Christians adorned the cross with precious stones to show that it is the principle of all our glory. They put on the cross a dove, from whose beak a stream of limpid water was flowing; the dove represented the Holy Ghost, and the flowing water sanctifying grace given us by Jesus Christ through the Holy Ghost. On the right hand side of the cross they had an image of our Blessed Lady, and on the left one of St John, the beloved disciple, a striking proof of their veneration of our Blessed Lady and of the saints. At the foot of the cross was a mystic lamb with five wounds, one in his heart and the others in his four feet. From those five wounds blood was flowing in abundance; this was a symbol of Jesus crucified; and, in order to show that the lamb represented Jesus, the Lamb of God, slain for our salvation, on the head of the lamb they generally put a little cross. The custom of thus representing Jesus crucified was preserved until the close of the seventh century, when Pope Agathon adopted the present form of the crucifix which is now in our churches. Around the cross the early Christians frequently put a sparkling fountain, with harts, deers, and lambs drinking at the fountain, whose waters gushed forth on every side; these represented faithful souls converted from Judaism, Gentilism, or born from Christian parents, coming to Jesus Christ in order to allay their spiritual thirst, and be refreshed by His heavenly graces and interior consolations. It was also customary to place around the cross twelve doves flying about; these were a symbol of the twelve Apostles who went all over the world to plant the standard of the cross. Lastly, on the summit of the cross they sometimes put a flowery crown set with gold, jewels and precious stones, to remind us that if we wish to be crowned with Jesus Christ we must carry His cross on earth, and be determined to suffer anything rather than offend Him. "Si quis vult post me venire, abneget semetipsum, et tollat crucem suam quotidie, et sequatur me." "If anyone will come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily, and follow Me" (Luke, ix, 23). On some ancient crosses Jesus Christ is not represented in a state of suffering, but as a victor and a conqueror, because He is now glorified, and His sacred wounds are shining more brilliant than the golden sun at mid-day. Fernando Cortez left in Tlascala, in Mexico, a large wooden cross standing on an elevated mound. The poor natives, though pagans, used to come and kneel before that cross. The priests of the idols tried in vain to persuade them to take it down and destroy it. They would never consent to it. It is said that for four years a luminous cloud was seen above the cross, imparting to it an exceedingly great brightness, so that all the natives were in admiration and looked upon it as a sign that God wanted them to revere it, as they had seen the Christians do. This miraculous cross greatly facilitated the conversion to Christianity of these poor benighted people. The crucifix is the compendium and memorial of the life of Christ. It was at the foot of the crucifix that the Angelic Doctor and the seraphic St Bonaventure received those heavenly inspirations, of which we find so many proofs in their admirable works. It was the crucifix which inspired Fra Angelico, the celebrated Dominican painter of the sixteenth century. It is with the crucifix in their hand that Peter the Hermit, St Bernard, St Francis Xavier, and others moved thousands of people to sacrifice all for Christ. The crucifix is the hidden spring of all the heroic deeds of our fathers in the faith. Ferocious Christians are proud to have a crucifix in their reception rooms, and to carry a little cross round their neck as an expression of their love for Jesus crucified. A soldier never goes to war without his flag; a true Christian carries everywhere with him his flag—the cross of Jesus crucified. This flag is the flag of salvation with which Jesus will come at the last day to judge all men. Let us be true to it, let us fight for it, and we shall obtain the crown of immortal glory.

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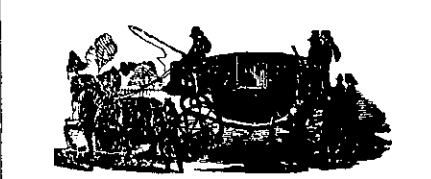
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 Grinding and Crushing done for the trade,

Dublin Notes.

(From Contemporaries.)

WIDOW OF THE COMPOSER OF MARITANA PENSIONED.

The Queen has been pleased, on the recommendation of the First Lord of the Treasury, to grant £200 a year out of the Royal Bounty Fund to the widow of the eminent Irish maestro, Vincent Wallace. Badly the aged lady needed it, and long it was coming.

ANCIENT IRISH CROSSES.

The Rev D. Murphy, B.J., delivered an interesting lecture on the above subject to the members of the debating Society of the Catholic Commercial Club, Dublin. The lecturer began with a description of what was known as the Celtic, but which should be the Irish style of ornamentation. In Britany and in Cornwall there was no trail of this style of ornamentation. Some of it was found in Wales, but that was due to the communication between Ireland and Wales in ancient times, and, as to Scotland, he quoted the opinion of an eminent Scotch authority, Dr Anderson, who, after an examination of the Celtic style of interlaced and intertwined ornament, wrote that "Ireland was the cradle of the art. He quoted from Ruskin and other authorities as to the artistic beauty of this distinctive Irish art.

THE BISHOP OF LIMERICK AND MR LECKY.

The rejoinder of the Bishop of Limerick to Mr Lecky, which was published in the *Times* is of a most convincing and crushing character. The Catholics of Ireland are undoubtedly handicapped in the matter of university education. Mr Lecky thinks that Trinity College, Dublin, is now sufficiently non-sectarian even for Catholics. The Bishop points out that, although professedly non-sectarian, and open to all creeds and classes, still that Trinity College is even now the principle training ground for the ministers of the Irish Protestant Church, and that the prayers and services gone through in the university are a Protestant in their framing and origin. What, the Bishop asks, would the Protestants of Ireland say if they were asked to send their sons to Maynooth, even though every possible guarantee was given that their rights would be respected? Why, there would be a howl at once all over the country against this act of intolerance, this infringement of religious liberty on the part of the Catholic authorities. The Bishop exhorts the present Government to settle, once and for all, the question of university education in Ireland, and points out that this is the best and surest way of fostering a spirit of conservatism amongst the Irish people.

WHAT CARDINAL RAMPOLLA SAID TO JOHN DILLON.

After the audience with the Pope, the prelates and the Dillon family were received most graciously by Cardinal Rampolla, Secretary of State, with whom they had the honour of a long audience. His Eminence, speaking of Irish affairs, expressed his concern for unity and friendship among Ireland's representatives. "I exhort you specially to promote unity, my dear Mr Dillon," said the Cardinal, "carrying in front the banner of Catholic truth, and giving the Church of God the great advantage of the united force of Irish Catholic support." His Eminence concluded by graciously saying he would be glad to welcome Mr Dillon often again to the Eternal City.

LEO XIII AND JOHN DILLON.

Dr O'Donnell and Monsignor Kelly had the pleasure of presenting to His Holiness Mr John Dillon, M.P., Mrs Dillon, and Father Dillon, of St Isidore's. The warmth of the reception and the many blessings accorded by His Holiness to this distinguished Irish family must have been gratifying to them beyond expression. Kneeling at the feet of His Holiness, Mr Dillon expressed, in a manner worthy of a devoted son, how he and his colleagues were ever ready to do their utmost to promote the interests of religion and vindicate the rights of the Holy See. The Pope blessed him tenderly for this declaration, and with pathetic appeal exhorted him to be a champion of Holy Church in the fulfilment of her divine mission. Special mention was made of the education question.

LEO XIII THE UNCHANGEABLE FRIEND OF IRELAND.

The tender message which the Holy Father conveyed to Ireland in his interview with the Most Rev Dr O'Donnell, Bishop of Raphoe, and subsequently with Mr John Dillon and his wife, will be received (says the *Dublin Freeman*) with respectful and earnest sympathy by the Catholics in Ireland. It is no wonder that the steadfast faith and the magnificent self-devotion of the Irish race has so strongly appealed to the heart of his Holiness. "He declared himself," our correspondent wires, "their unchangeable friend, and said the love of his paternal heart was poured out in blessings on the faithful race which, despite itself, could sympathise with a despoiled Pontiff." His Holiness realises that Ireland's demand for liberty has gone hand in hand with Ireland's fidelity to the faith. Her priests and

her people have ever been steadily united in patriotism as in religion, and the most savage violence and the most ingenious intrigues have failed and will ever fail to divide them.

AN IRISH-AMERICAN ARMY.

Our excellent contemporary, the *Boston Pilot*, thus refers to an announcement which was wired to these colonies:—"The startling news comes from New York that 'an Irish-American army' of formidable proportions has been organised, and will be drilled and armed with the best modern weapons—all in the deepest secrecy, of course. The members must all be 'Catholics and Clan-na-Gael men.' In order to avoid public notice and so preserve absolute secrecy as to their movements, they will wear a striking uniform, and will march in a body to attend Mass on St Patrick's Day! If these precautions should not suffice to conceal their identity, they may hold a secret convention in Central Park some afternoon. It looks very much as if somebody has been playing a practical joke on the newspapers, or possibly another La Caron or McDermott is trying to earn a fee from the British secret service fund by imagining the new army. When Clan-na-Gael men have a scheme to carry out they do not shriek in from the house-tops nor confide it to the reporters; but they would be heard from if 'England's difficulty' offered Ireland's opportunity to-morrow."

THE CATHEDRAL OF MESSINA.

STORY AND TEXT OF A LETTER OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN.

STRANGE LEGEND OF A GHOSTLY VISITANT.

The *Edinburgh Catholic Herald* publishes an interesting article on the famous cathedral. Our readers will of course take the ghost story for what it is worth.

Messina in Sicily, called by some the Queen of the Mediterranean, is a very ancient city. It is said to have been founded by a colony of Greeks, 530 years before the destruction of Troy, and about 1000 before Christ. It is in a charming position, and the long range of the Apennines on the neighbouring coast give a picturesque character to the view. The situation of the city, which lies between Etna on the one hand and Stromboli and Vesuvius on the other renders it peculiarly subject to earthquakes. The Messinesi are proud of their city and its history. They are said to have been converted by the preaching of St Paul, and tradition says that St Peter sent them their first bishop. Messina has about fifty churches, some of them extremely beautiful and of good architecture. The centre of interest, as in most Italian cities, is the cathedral not so much for its architectural beauty as for its interesting history, and more than all for the letter which is said to have been sent to them by our Blessed Lady, whose miraculous picture, supposed to have been painted by St Luke, hangs over the high altar, which is a fine specimen of the inland work of Florentine mosaic. At the back of the altar screen is the famous letter.

A MOST PRECIOUS RELIC,

a letter, written by the Mother of God herself. St Paul visited Messina, and having found the people well disposed, and eager to hear the Word of God from his lips, preached them two sermons, one on our Lord's Passion, the other on the perpetual virginity of our Blessed Lady. This latter had such an effect on the inhabitants that they cried out with one voice, "Our city must be placed under the protection of the Virgin Mother." The story goes on to say that an embassy at the head of which was St Paul himself was sent to Jerusalem, where the Blessed Virgin was then living, and that as soon as she received the embassy she sent a reply to the Messinesi in Hebrew, stating that she was willing to accede to their pious wishes. This letter was afterwards translated into Greek by St Paul, and deposited in the ancient church of Messina, whence in course of time it was removed to its present place in the high altar of the cathedral church. The following is

A COPY OF THIS SINGULAR DOCUMENT:—

"Mary Virgin, daughter of Joachim, most lowly handmaid of God, Mother of the Crucified Jesus Christ, of the tribe of Juda, from the race of David, to all the people of Messina salutation and blessing from God the Father Almighty. It is certified by public documents, that all of you have in great faith, sent emissaries and ambassadors to us. Led to know the way of the truth through the preaching of Paul, the Apostle, you confess that our Son, the Only-Begotten of God, is both God and man, and that He ascended into Heaven after His Resurrection. For this reason we, therefore, bless you and your city, whose perpetual Protectress we desire to become. Year of our S'n 42; Indiction I; iii, nones of June; xxvii of the moon; feria v from Jerusalem. Mary Virgin, who hath approved the banqueting above." To establish the genuineness of this letter, the learned Jesuit Father Melchior Inchofer, wrote a very learned Latin work entitled "Epistole B. Virginis Mariæ and Messinenses Ventas vindicata." "The truth of the Epistle of the Blessed Virgin

SMOKE "ROYAL COLORS" TOBACCO.

(IMPROVED AROMATIC.)

THE EVENT OF THE SEASON.

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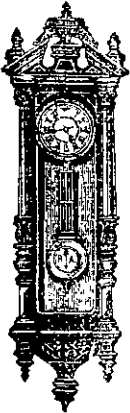
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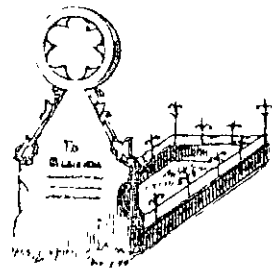
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Mary to the people of Messina vindicated." The Cathedral besides possessing this great relic is interesting in many ways from an historical point of view. One reads its history on its walls, in other words, one sees the effect of the many vicissitudes of the city from foreign invasion. Its northern doors are singularly rich in Norman carving and decoration. The Norman holy water-scoop tells its tale as it rests on inverted marble columns covered with Greek inscriptions. The monuments, too,

TELL THEIR TALE;

here we see one erected to an ancient Greek Bishop, another to a Spanish Archbishop of Cordova. Beneath the Cathedral is the Norman Crypt with its low marble column. Byzantine pictures and groined roof. Connected with the Cathedral is the celebrated Messinian

"GHOST STORY"

For those of our readers who may not know this legend, we here re-produce it. At the end of the last century, after the terrible earthquake which occurred in 1784, and which destroyed almost the whole city except the Cathedral, said to have been miraculously preserved by Our Lady, a distinguished French priest of noble family, visited Messina for the purpose of seeing the devastation and of making researches amongst the monuments and ruins. This priest, one of whose brothers was a general officer, and another a minister at Berlin, was himself of the order of the Knights of Malta, a man of high character, of cultivated intellect, and of great physical courage. He arrived at Messina on a summer day, and getting the key of the Cathedral from the custode—for it was after Vespers—commenced copying the inscriptions and examining the building. His researches occupied him so long that he did not see that the day was waning; and when he turned round to go out by the door, through which he had come in, he found it locked. He tried the other doors, but all were equally closed. The custode, having left him some long time before, concluded the priest had long since gone away, had thus locked up the building, and had gone home. The priest shouted in vain; the earthquake had destroyed all the houses in the neighbourhood. There was no one about to hear his cries. He determined to make himself comfortable for the night. The confessionals appeared about the most convenient spot to rest in, so there he settled himself for a sleep. Sleep, however, was not so easy. The strangeness of the situation, the increasing darkness, and the superstition which the strongest mind might be supposed to feel under the circumstances, effectually banished any feeling of drowsiness. There was a large clock in the tower of the cathedral, whose tones sounded more near and solemn within the building than without. The priest, with the intensity of hearing which sleeplessness gives, listened to

EVERY STROKE OF THE CLOCK.

First ten, then the quarters; eleven, then the quarters again; then twelve o'clock. As the last stroke of midnight died away, he perceived suddenly a light appearing at the high altar. The altar candles seemed suddenly to be lighted, and a figure in a monk's dress and cowl walked out from a niche at the back of the altar. Turning, when he reached the front of the altar, the figure exclaimed, in a deep and solemn voice. "Is there any priest here who will say a Mass for the repose of my soul?" No answer followed; and the monk slowly walked down the church, passing by the confessional where the priest was sitting. As he passed, his eyes being naturally riveted on the figure, he saw that the face under the cowl was that of a dead man. Entire darkness followed; but when the clock struck the half-hour, the same lights appeared, and the same figure; the same question was asked, and no answer returned; and the same monk, illuminated by the same unearthly light, walked slowly down the church. Now the priest was

A BOLD MAN;

and he resolved, if the same thing occurred again, that he would answer the question and say the Mass. As the clock struck one, the altar was again lighted, and the monk again appeared, and when he once more exclaimed: "Is there any Christian priest here who will say a Mass for the repose of my soul?" he boldly stepped out of the confessional, and replied in a firm voice, "I will!" He then walked up to the altar, where he found everything prepared for the celebration, and summoning up all his courage, celebrated the sacred rite. At its conclusion the monk spoke as follows: "For one hundred and forty years every night I have asked this question, and, until to-night, in vain. You have conferred upon me an inestimable benefit. There is nothing I would not do for you if I could in return; but there is only one thing in my power, and that is to give you notice when the hour of your own death approaches." The poor priest heard no more. He fell down in a swoon, and was found the next morning by the custode, very early, at the foot of the altar. After a time he recovered and went away. He returned to Venice, where he was then living, and wrote down the circumstances above related, which he also told to several of his intimate friends. He steadily asserted and maintained that he was never wider awake, or more completely in possession of his reasoning faculties than he was that night, until the moment when the monk had done speaking.

THREE YEARS AFTER

He called his friends together and took leave of them. They asked him if he were going on a journey. He said: "Yes; and one from which there is no return." He then told them that the night before, the Monk of Messina had appeared to him, and told him that he was to die in three days. His friends laughed at him, and told him, which was true, that he seemed perfectly well. But he persisted in his statements, made every preparation, and the third day was found dead in his bed. This story was well known to all his friends and contemporaries. Curiously enough, on the Cathedral of Messina being restored a few years after, the skeleton of a monk was found, walled up, in his monk's dress and cowl, and in the very place which the priest had always described as the one from which the spectre had emerged.

THE WORLD RUNS AWAY FROM US.

The other day we had a talk with a man who knew as little of the world around him as a baby. Yet he was a man of naturally fine intelligence. He had just been relieved from prison. Ten years ago he was incarcerated under a life sentence. Recently, however, circumstances had arisen which proved his innocence, and he obtained his freedom. But nothing seemed as before. He had been stationary while the world moved on. Many of his old friends were dead, and all were changed. A big slice of his career was lost, and worse than lost. Could he ever make it up? No, never. Besides, although he had committed no offence the mere fact that he had been convicted of one would always place him at a disadvantage.

Different as it is in all outward conditions long illness produced results which resembles those of enforced solitude. When confined to our homes by disease we are virtually out of the world. Friends may, and do, pity us; but they do not lie down by our side and suffer with us. Ah! no. They go their own ways and leave us alone. In the midst of company we are still alone. Enjoyment, food, sleep, fresh air, movement, work, etc.—those are for *them*, not for *us*. Alas! for the poor prisoner whose gaoler is some relentless disease. Who shall open the iron doors and set *him* free?

"I never had any rest or pleasure." So writes a man whose letter we have just finished reading. "In the early part of 1888," he says, "a strange feeling came over me. I felt heavy, drowsy, languid, and tired. Something appeared to be wrong with me, and I couldn't account for it. I had a foul taste in the mouth, my appetite failed, and what I did eat lay on me like a stone. Soon I became afraid to eat, as the act was always followed by pain and distress. Sometimes I had a sensation of choking in the throat as if I could not swallow. I was swollen, too, around the body, and got about with difficulty owing to increasing weakness.

"At the pit of my stomach was a hungry, craving sensation, as though I needed support from food; yet the little I took did not abate this feeling. My sleep was broken, and I awoke in the morning unrefreshed. For *four years* I continued in this wretched state before I found relief."

This letter is signed by Mr Charles H. Smith, of 19 New City Road, Glasgow, and dated February 15, 1893.

Before we hear how he was at last delivered from the slavery of illness, let us listen to the words of a lady on the same theme—Mrs Mary Ann Rusing, of Station Road, Misterton, near Gainsborough. In a brief note dated January 3, 1893, Mrs Rusing says she suffered in a similar way for *over fifteen years*. Her hands and feet were cold and clammy, and she was pale and bloodless. She had pain in the left side and palpitation, and her breathing was short and hurried. No medicines availed to help her until two years ago. "At that time," she says, "our minister, the late Rev Mr Watson, told me of Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup, and urged me to make a trial of it. I did so, and presently felt great relief. It was not long before the bad symptoms all left me, and I gradually got strong. I keep in good health, and have pleasure in making known to others the remedy which did so much for me."

Mr Smith was completely cured by the same remedy, and says had he known of it sooner he would have been saved years of misery.

The real ailment in both these cases was indigestion and dyspepsia, with its natural consequences. Throughout the civilised world its course is marked by a hundred forms of pain and suffering. Men and women are torn to pieces by it as vessels are torn by the rocks on which they are driven by tempests. So comprehensive and all-embracing is it that we may almost say that there is no other disease. It signifies life turned into death, bread turned into poison. Watch for its earliest signs—especially the feeling of weariness, languor and fatigue which announce its approach. Prevention is better than cure.

But, by the use of Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup, cure is always possible; and poor captives in the loathsome dungeons of illness are daily delivered as the hand of the good German nurse swings open the doors.

Footballers and Cricketers use nothing but P.P.P. To be had from all chemists.—ADVT.

The Home correspondent of the *Otago Witness* writes:—"A few days ago I heard an interesting story of the way New Zealand geography is taught in the best English high schools. My informant was an exceptionally clever schoolgirl. The girls of her class, she said, were instructed that the chief towns of South New Zealand were 'Blenheim, Oamaru, Timaru, and Dunedin.' But on another occasion the question was put as to 'What is Hokitika?' One girl said it was 'a lake,' another 'a volcano,' a third 'an extinct volcano,' a fourth 'a high mountain.' The teacher shook her head. 'Oh, dear, no!' she said, 'Hokitika is the principal town in New Zealand. It has very extensive manufactures and a church!'"

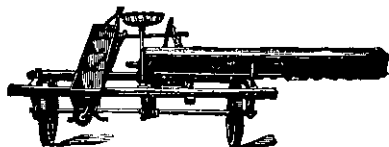
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TESTIMONIAL. Tapanui, January 11, 1895.

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pleased me. I have sown all manures and guanos known to my district, with Fison's Local
Superphosphates, Chesterfield and Malden Guanos. It will sow to a nicety with phosphates
and blood manure from 60lb up to 400lb; and in guanos, from 60lb to 600lb, and no trouble
—wet or dry all the same, the manure must go, and it goes properly in a regular stream as
it should, though I did not riddle my manures—five classes (5). I consider your drill as
supplied to me meets a long-felt want and it only requires to be known to those who wish a
sure and certain crop of turnips.

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Printed and published for the NEW ZEALAND TABLET
BY M. J. COWSON, at their Registered Printing
Office, Octagon, Dunedin this 14th day of February
1896

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