

was years ago, when he was attached to St Patrick's Church. Father Kirk intends remaining about three weeks in Sydney. He will, of course, be the guest of the Marists at St Patrick's. On Sunday week he is to preach from his old pulpit at the High Mass.

MISS ROSE BLANEY returned to Dunedin on Tuesday night after a very successful concert tour in Southland. Miss Blaney caught a severe cold a few days before her return and was unable, in consequence, to sing at the concert in Lawrence on St Patrick's night.

THE necessity of a Catholic paper in the Catholic home is everywhere realised in Australasia. The bookstalls teem with literature of pernicious tendency. What a priest (as we learn from the *Brisbane Age*, March 7) said recently of Australia can be said of many a place in New Zealand. "When Father Ryan, the popular young Gundagai priest, enters the pulpit," says our contemporary, "some home truths may be expected. There are few men who know the country and the people better than he. On Sunday, says the *Gundagai (N.S.W.) Times*, he dealt with the life of the rising generation in Gundagai and district, described their lazy and thriftless habits, their disregard for all that is high and noble, and their utter indifference to religion. Father Ryan also condemned the new woman novels, and said no parents should allow Du Maurier's 'Trilby' into the hands of their daughters, as it painted in attractive colours the immoral life of the Latin Quarter in Paris. The preacher treating of 'Education,' attributed a great deal of the depravity of youth to the fact that parents neglected to have Catholic books and a good Catholic paper in their homes."

It is said that there are 1,300,000 Irish in Australia.

8000 people at the Hibernian Society's sports in Auckland—that is something like a success. The patriotic Irishmen of Auckland have reason for self-congratulation.

FAEMPEH, King of Ashanti (says the *London Universe*), has been deposed and conveyed to Cape Coast Castle, where he will have an opportunity of gazing upon the sea. He was very drunk when he made his submission, and grovelled at the feet of the conqueror after a bloodless victory. Yet we venture to think the idiot who sat unworthily on a stool of sovereignty and basked under a big umbrella of majesty, acquired his taste for strong liquor from the pale-faced invader. Five shillings or forty-eight hours' imprisonment would seem to have been an adequate penalty for his crime, not to have abashed and banished him and condemned his subjects to pay an almost impossible fine in gold-dust for the expenses of an expedition they did not need nor desire. King Khama, the blue-ribboned chieftain lately praised by Mr Chamberlain for his teetotalism, should be sent from the borders of Kaffirland to replace him.

"Canst the English people be made to understand that Jesus Christ founded one true Church, whose Vicar is St Peter and his successors?" Thus Leo XIII to the Rev Father Fletcher, Master of the Guild of Our Lady of Bansom, during an audience on January 24.

HERE is advice with regard to fruit eating worth considering:—"The caution should be often repeated that all fruit must be carefully washed before serving. An authority claims that grapes should be sprinkled with salt, and have very hot water poured over them, to be quickly poured off, and a bath of cold water follows. Apples and peaches should be wiped with a clean cloth and the skin never eaten; the same treatment applies to plums, pears, and apricots. The tender surface of ripe fruit offers peculiar facilities for the harbouring of microbes, and their exposure in the open stands of the grocers and fruiterers is offering this fertile ground to abundant culture."

A GRAND profession of faith was made by the Catholic men of Dunedin on last Sunday morning. The church, at a High Mass celebrated at 7 a.m., was well filled by men who came from all parts of the city and suburbs, and who all approached Holy Communion. The occasion was the Mass of Exposition and beginning the "Forty Hours' Adoration." For some years the "Forty Hours" has formed part of the religious celebration of the feast of St Patrick. All the men in the church last Sunday took part in the procession and a unique sight was witnessed as the Hibernians, men of the Holy Family and others with distinctive regalia walked around the sacred building. The altar was lavishly decorated by the Dominican Nuns who also supplied the music of the Solemn High Mass. Father Lynch was celebrant Father Murphy, deacon. Father Howard, sub-deacon. The officers of the H.A.C.B.S. had the honor and privilege of carrying the canopy over the Most Holy.

THE solemn beatification of Blessed Leofilo di Corte, of the Order of Minors, took place in the Vatican on January 17.

five thousand tickets of admission (says the Roman correspondent of the *Liverpool Catholic Times*) were forged by swindlers, who found ready sale for them among innocent strangers in the hotels. The scene which ensued can easily be imagined by those who have visited Rome. When the crowd became too great the gendarmes came to the rescue, and all who were not provided with an official ticket were politely conducted away from the doors. Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was given by Monsignore Caseta, during which some beautifully executed music was heard. The Holy Father looked remarkably well, and showed no signs of fatigue throughout the long ceremony, although the heat was so great that several persons fainted.

ON Tuesday, the Feast of St Patrick, there was solemn high Mass at 11 a.m., at the church of St Patrick, South Dunedin. The Very Rev Father Lynch was celebrant, Rev Father Murphy, deacon; Rev Father Howard, sub-deacon; Rev Father Hunt, director of ceremonies. The choir rendered the music of the Mass in an effective manner. The church was nicely decorated and there was a large congregation. Father Murphy preached an eloquent panegyric on the Apostle of Ireland.

A NEW passion play has been written by an English priest and very favourably received. The author, Rev J. F. Downes, St Patrick's, Bradford, had the play performed by a number of excellent trained children.

LATEST reports from Vienna convey the sad news that there is no hope of the recovery of the heir presumptive to the Austrian throne, the Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Est, the disease from which he suffers being incurable.

JULES VERNE, the great novelist, is known among his neighbours and friends at Amiens, France, as a devout member of the Catholic Church.

DURING the recent visit of the French warship Scoff to Port Chalmers, the Catholic men attended Mass at St Mary's Church, where the pastor, Rev Father Newport, delivered a sermon in their native language, to the visitors.

THERE were fine congregations at the Masses on St Patrick's Day in St Joseph's Cathedral. High Mass was celebrated at 9 a.m. Rev Fathers Murphy, celebrant; Lynch, deacon; Howard, sub-deacon. The closing ceremonies of a most successful "Forty hours" were gone through, and Benediction of the Most Holy Sacrament concluded the function. Father Lynch, in the course of the occasional sermon, alluded to the fact that on last St Patrick's Day their late Bishop, Dr Moran, was present, for the last time, in his cathedral. He expressed the confidence that their late Bishop and father, who, on many a St Patrick's Day, had addressed soul-stirring words to his congregation, would never be forgotten, in their prayers, by his people.

Musical Examination—St Joseph's Convent of Mercy, Lyttelton, has been fixed as a centre for the music examination of the Trinity College, London. Lyttelton candidates can obtain the usual forms on application to the Lady Superior of the Convent.

"SCHOOL excursion to Erin" was the title on the admission card to a St Patrick's Day entertainment of the children of the Dunedin Catholic schools, which was given on Monday—the eve of the festival. A large number of views of Ireland were shown by limelight in St Joseph's school, and thoroughly enjoyed by the children. At the conclusion of the entertainment a fine picture of Monsignor Vardon, Bishop-Designate of Dunedin, was shown. The slide was kindly given by Mr E. Dunne, bookseller, Dunedin.

WE beg to acknowledge, with thanks, a finely executed photo of the new Bishop of Dunedin from Mr E. Dunne, bookseller, George street, Dunedin.

MESSRS Pricer and Ormsby, Dunedin, have sent us the seventh number of Stoddard's Art Series. The pictures are very artistic. The whole collection is both cheap and beautiful.

THERE is a good deal of curiosity among concert-goers to hear Middle Trebelli, who is highly spoken of as a singer, and who makes her first appearance in Dunedin at the Garrison Hall this (Wednesday) evening.

WE learn from the *Tuapeka Times*, just to hand as we go to press that the St Patrick's Day sports in Lawrence, were a pronounced success. The weather was fine, and the usually large number of visitors from all parts of Tuapeka County thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The committee of management were indefatigable in their efforts to make the gathering successful. Mr James Kelleher

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