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## Sunday Corner.

CALENDAR.—APRIL 12—18.

Sunday, 12.—Low Sunday.  
Monday, 13.—St Hermenegildus, king, martyr.  
Tuesday, 14.—St Justin, martyr.  
Wednesday, 15.—St John Damascene, confessor, doctor.  
Thursday, 16.—St Benedict Joseph Latre, confessor.  
Friday, 17.—St Anicetus, martyr.  
Saturday, 18.—St Isidore, bishop, confessor, doctor.

### THE PRIEST.

A babe on the breast of its mother  
Reclines in the valley of love,  
And smiles like a beautiful lily  
Cared for by the rays above.

A child at the knee of his mother,  
Who is counting her decades of prayer,  
Discovers the cross of her chaplet,  
And kisses the Sufferer there.

A boy with a rosary kneeling  
Alone in the temple of God,  
And begging the wonderful favour  
To walk where the Crucified trod.

A student alone in his study,  
With pallid and innocent face,  
He raises his head from the pages  
And lists to the murmur of grace.

A cleric with mortified features,  
Studious, humble, and still,  
In every motion a meaning,  
In every action a will.

A man at the foot of an altar—  
A Christ at the foot of the cross,  
Where every loss is a profit,  
And every gain is a loss.

A Deified man on a mountain,  
His arms uplifted and spread—  
With one He is raising the living,  
With one He is loosing the dead.

—Irish Monthly.

### DEATH.

O'CONNOR.—Of your charity pray for the soul of Bridget O'Connor, wife of Thomas O'Connor, Shantalla Road, Galway, Ireland, who died 16th February, 1896, in her eightieth year; fortified by the rites of Holy Church.—R.I.P.

# The New Zealand Tablet.

FIAT JUSTITIA.

FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 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.

## NEW ZEALANDERS AND CRIME.

**N** excerpt on "New Zealanders and Crime" from the *Wellington Post* has been copied into other secular papers and merits more than passing notice. From a Parliamentary return ordered last year on the motion of Mr LAWRY it seems out of 4465 convictions for drunkenness in 1894 only 943 per cent. are to be credited to New Zealand youth. Another statistical item is also recorded to show the comparative immunity from crime of natives of European descent. On June 30, 1895, there were 125 "New Zealanders" in gaol out of 565—24 per cent. The paragraphist notes that at the last census in 1891 the percentage of those born in this country was 33.89 per cent. These premises justify, in his own opinion, the *Post* in saying:

"Our young New Zealanders, therefore, stow well in these statistics, and it would be interesting to know how this comparative immunity from drunkenness and crime is to be explained. May it not, at any rate, be said that the pupils trained in our secular schools compare favourably with those who have been reared elsewhere? Our young people are no disgrace to us—they are neither so drunken nor so criminal as those reared in other lands. These are facts that become doubly interesting when ecclesiastics are attacking our secular system as a thing of evil, and the Government of the day is guilty of the cowardice of remaining silent when the national schools are being openly assailed."

We note in the extract that "drunkenness" is more than once repeated. The arrests for drunkenness show clearly what everyone admits—that this vice is not the pet vice of the young colonial. It has to be borne in mind when crime statistics are considered that convictions for drunkenness loom largely in the police record. When we bear in mind the higher percentage of cases of inebriety among those born in other countries, and the fact that young New Zealand contributes 24 per cent., and remember that young Zealand with its 33.89 per cent. at last census meant young New Zealand over fifteen years of age—we do not find the picture so roseate or the *Post's* conclusions so warranted. Our contemporary must know, too, that drunkenness, the fruitful source, indeed, of many evils, is, however, only one crime. Young New Zealand over fifteen is not immaculate in other respects. Who can wonder that so many of our young men and young women fall from the path of honesty and morality when the heart is left untrained. Drunkenness is one crime. Gambling, immorality, and fast life are not to be excluded from the category of crimes to be taken into account when the progress of a nation is in question. There are crimes piled up in a lifetime which are never chronicled in the Gazette. Is our young country advancing with leaps and bounds in the course of commercial morality or social morality? We find, indeed, among our young people men and women able to hold their own anywhere, and of whom we can feel justly proud. Is, however, young New Zealand, in a comparison, so conspicuously free from crime that credit is to be given to the secular system? The prevailing lack of reverence, and of obedience, the increasing