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## Current Topics

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

It is a mouldy, moth-eaten old grievance. We have scarcely time to fling it into the lumber-room of things to be forgotten, when, lo! another of our great and petty wars furbishes it up and marches it out again. Newspapers, magazines, histories, glorify "English" generals, "English" soldiers, the "English" army, for deeds of valour

"ENGLISH,"  
"BRITISH,"  
"IRISH":  
WHAT'S IN A  
NAME?

that have been, in a great number of cases, directed by Irish and Scottish brains, and carried out by Irish and Scottish bone and sinew. It reminds one of good old George III., who claimed to have personally won the battle of Waterloo. So did a private of the Louth Militia. So likewise did one Bill Adams. All the world and his wife and children know that the three conquering heroes were at the time safe at home, making, perhaps, short work of sundry glasses of old dry gin, or mountain dew, or pewters of small beer. But the grievance of Sandy and Pat is not a merely sentimental one. They rightly object to see their bravery lightly and systematically ignored, and credit given to Englishmen for the Empire building which Scotchmen and Irishmen have done. In defence of the national name and credit, Scotland has entered a magnificent protest, in the shape of a petition to the Queen. It is of splendid dimensions—1,430 yards long—and contains 104,647 signatures, praying for the substitution of the word "British" for "English" in referring to the deeds of the Imperial army, etc. The proposed substitution would scarcely remedy the grievance as far as it concerns the valorous deeds of Irish soldiers. None the less, we are in hearty accord with the principle which underlies the great petition-protest of our Scottish cousins.

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No part of the Imperial army has suffered so much from the use of the word "English" in army reports and histories as have the Irish soldiers. Even Bonnie Scotland wears many a gay laurel for deeds of valour that Irish brawn has helped to win. Irish recruits have taken kindly to Scottish, and even English, regiments ever since the days when, in 1800, they were admitted to the army without forfeiting their rights of conscience. General Sir W. F. Butler says, in his *Far-out Ravings*:—"Not only did they wholly fill the regiments which bore titles associated with their native land, but the English and Scotch regiments held them in great numbers. Between 1801 and 1811, more than 400 Irish were in the ranks of the 71st Highlanders. In 1803, 433 men of the 74th Highlanders, out of a total of 956, were Irish. The 91th Highlanders held, in 1809, 666 out of a total of 1300 strong. In a record of 1987 names in the Royal Scots during the Peninsular War, 464 are registered as Irish." The same predilection of Irish recruits for the tartan and kilt is maintained to the present day. In his recent lecture on Irish character, Rear-Admiral Lord Charles Beresford told the students and professors of Trinity College, Dublin, of the gallant action fought by the Gordon Highlanders against the western hill tribes in India; but on calling at the War Office, he found among the killed and wounded many such high Milesian names as Patrick Hogan, Timothy Byrne, Denis Hickey, and last, but not least, the gallant piper, Patrick Findlater, who, when both legs were shot through by the tribesmen's bullets, put his back against a boulder, and played away to encourage his comrades in the fight.

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The British army has been fortunate in the Irish blood in its ranks. Wellington was an Irishman. His ancestors had been so long settled in the country that they could fairly claim to be indigenous to the soil. And much of his success in the Peninsular war depended on the fighting power of his Irish troops. In the work quoted above, General Butler says, that "in the fourteen years of the war following the year 1800, not less than 100,000 Irish recruits offered for the army. These 100,000 Irish peasants

redeemed the honour of the English army, and saved the Empire." In a speech delivered at Sydney in March, 1896, General Hutton said that "in all the campaigns he had had—and certainly in all those which he had had the honour of commanding—one of the most important features of success had been the Irish element in the regiments. An Irishman would always go on if you got him on the impulse of the moment, but a Scotchman, with his natural characteristic caution, might stop and say: 'Who is the man?' The last part of this sentence is, perhaps, not altogether fair to the gallant sons of "Caledonia stern and wild."

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In 1895—we have not later figures to hand—the army returns showed a total of 26,200 men of Irish birth in the army. The Irish of Great Britain furnish a large proportion of recruits. The number of Catholics in the army in that year was 35,700. Of the 75,000 militia men in England, fully 15,000 were Catholics, while 19,000 out of the 23,000 militiamen in Ireland belong to the same old faith. Lord Wolseley, Lord Roberts, Generals Sir W. F. Butler, Sir Herbert Kitchener, Sir George White, Admirals Beresford and Seymour, are all Irishmen. The three great divisors of the British army—in England, in India, and in Ireland—have Irishmen at their head. The Secretary of State for War, Lord Lansdowne, is also a son of the Emerald Isle. Lord Wolseley's picked troops have been so frequently Irishmen that he has been accused of favouring his countrymen. But the dash and valour of "Wolseley's gang," as they were called, proved the wisdom of his choice. And yet we find such a magazine as the *Windsor* speaking of Lord Charles Beresford as "a plucky Englishman," and others refer to Lords Wolseley and Roberts as "English" generals. Dempster stole—or tried to steal—our Irish saints. Magazines, newspapers, and war histories have been conspiring to steal our military heroes. Perhaps the Scottish protest may be followed by an Irish one. Who knows?

"THE  
BATHLESS  
AGES."

"PATIENCE," says the old proverb, "is a plaster for all sores." We can possess our souls in patience when we hear the Middle Ages labelled dark. For the hobgoblins with which ill-informed scribblers people them are disappearing fast before the light of research, and the Church and the Middle Ages are the gainers thereby. But it tries even our editorial patience to find one of our most valued Catholic exchanges dubbing that much-bemired period "the bathless ages." The designation is as offensive in manner as it is untrue in fact. Our contemporary apparently goes out of its way to reproduce the mouldy slander uttered by Dr. (now Sir) Lyon Playfair, M.P., when speaking on sanitary reform at Glasgow in 1874:—"For a thousand years," quoth he, "there was not a man or woman in Europe that ever took a bath." And he laid the blame of this melancholy state of things at the door of the Catholic Church. Sir Lyon Playfair may have been a good doctor or politician. He was emphatically a bad historian. His words are merely the echo of a statement made years beforehand by the violently anti-Catholic French writer, Michelet, in his *Sorciers*. We might dismiss the charge against the Church by merely remarking that, considered merely in themselves, cleanliness and the opposite are merely indifferent matters: that the Church did much for the barbarian and semi-barbarian tribes of Europe when she converted them, tamed their wild fury, civilised them, trained them in letters, in agriculture, and, generally, in the other arts of peace. It is no part of the functions of the Church of Christ to act likewise as a grandmotherly barber, *baigneuse*, or washerwoman-in-ordinary to the hordes to whom she preaches the Gospel. If the Saviour of the world meant His Church to supply the world at large with Pears' soap and bath towels and tooth-picks, He would probably have said so. But He did not.

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A little knowledge of history should have taught our contemporary that Sir Lyon's—or rather Michelet's—statement is both antecedently improbable and in open quarrel with known facts

The European Catholic nations of the Middle Ages were mainly composed of the descendants of the Roman and the Germanic races. Every tyro in Roman history or archaeology is aware that the former were notoriously given to the practice of bathing. As for the Germanic races, Tacitus tells us in his *Germania* that, even in his day, they were addicted to a daily warm bath. It is *à priori* improbable that such habits were completely abandoned by those races, as Sir Lyon would have us believe, after their conversion. Moreover, there is not in all Church history a trace of legislation against it. Not a scrap of evidence has been adduced to support Sir Lyon's parrot-cry, beyond the fact that this or that particular saint or hermit neglected his hair, or feet, or clothes, or finger-nails—a state of things that is not quite unknown among sinners as well as saints, among Protestants as well as Catholics, within easy distance of Sir Lyon's door, despite the prevalent worship of the morning tub.

A brief glance down some of the by-paths of English and Continental history would have made Sir Lyon Playfair wipe out the words he had chalked up so bravely. Wright, for instance, in his *Domestic Manners and Customs in England*, speaks of the extreme frequency of warm baths "in all classes of society" among the Catholic Saxons. Venerable Bede (A.D. 734), Henry of Huntingdon (A.D. 1146), and Alexander Neckham (A.D. 1200) dwell upon the benefits received by the people from bathing in the waters of Bath and other places. The numerous Lady wells and holy wells were also much frequented—one of these last, St. Winifred's, in North Wales, being to this day a place of great resort for Catholics and Protestants alike. The rules of Benedictine monks prescribed periodical warm baths, as did also those of St. Isidore, St. Augustine, St. Dominic, St. Norbert, and various other religious of both sexes; and this during "the bathless ages," too. During the same soapless period, Bishop Wulfstan and his abbots bound themselves to bathe, feed and shoe one hundred poor people annually. Public baths for the poor were established in France by Queen St. Rade-gund (who had become a nun). Another was opened in the abbey of St. Savine, in the Pyrenees. Others still were established at Aix-la-Chapelle, on a magnificent scale, by Charlemagne, as Alcuin tells us. St. Gregory of Tours, Venantius Fortunatus, and St. Sidonius speak in praise of private, public, or monastic baths in France; and a writer of the tenth or eleventh century records how the Catholic Bretons of his day bathed and changed their clothes every Sunday morning in honour of Christ's Resurrection. The evidence of these and of many other such eye-witnesses as might be quoted are worth more than the hap-hazard guesses of Michelet or his echoes. Mr. Viollet le Duc, who is one of the greatest authorities on medieval subjects, says that private and public baths were very common and commodious during the middle ages; that the use of them was very extensive, but that "during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries [during and after the Reformation period] it was much less common than it had been before that period, and was confined almost exclusively to the higher classes." Let us, in the name of common sense, hear no more of the fabled thousand years when "not a man or woman in Europe ever took a bath."

SOMEBODY once asked good old Hobbes why he did not read more. "Read more!" he exclaimed "if I had read as many books as other men I would have been as ignorant as other men." The saying may seem a paradox; but it is particularly true of the readers of at least two large classes of the works of fiction of our day—to wit, the namby-pamby and the sensational. They pass through the mind without leaving any impression behind "if they are namby-pamby," says Dr. Pryde, "reading them is like sipping jelly-water. If they are sensational, they are like Mrs. Squeers' posset of brimstone and treacle. In both cases they destroy the mental appetite, and make it loathe all solid food." It is safe to say that a vast percentage of the novels that issue from the flood-gates of the Press belong to one or other of the condemned categories. The great mass of the novel-reading public are fainal about their beer or beef or tobacco; but they seem to have no standard by which to judge of the quality of the books on which they feast their minds. The difficulty of making a good choice is increased by the overwhelming number of volumes of fiction that come tumbling from the Press. It is enhanced by the prevailing habit of, not reading, but devouring novels—eating up circulating libraries to speak, and then, like Oliver Twist, coming up serenely for more. For many, novel-reading is not so much a recreation as a passion—akin to the taste of toppers for strong drinks, or of Anglo-Indians for hot condiments. If they cannot get their favourite authors, they seize any that come to hand and devour them. Tests might be prescribed to secure a better choice. But how many are there who would apply them? The tendency would be, we fear, to read the, perhaps, pernicious trash first, and apply the test afterwards. A glance at the shelves of book-shops and circulating libraries would

seem to indicate that the prevailing taste is in favour of leaving the interesting, but highly "proper," Scott and Dickens and Thackeray—like ancient maidens—on the shelf, and to cluster around the yellow-backed agonies that are brimful of mystery, intrigue, and murder.

We do not now refer to works of fiction that are openly and flagrantly coarse, such as the malodorous writings of certain French novelists and their English imitators. Such things are to the healthy mind what a whiff of *assafoetida* is to the sense of smell. People who use soap and water will not touch them even with a pair of tongs and disinfectants. But we fear that a percentage of even our Catholic novel-readers find a charm in fiction of the "risky" order—which treats of certain social or life problems that approach the dizzy edge of the farthest verge of propriety. When a Catholic "young person" comes to "see no harm" in such works of fiction, we sorrowfully accept her statement as an indication that her naturally fine sense of propriety has been dulled by constant familiarity with them. Despite the ever-growing pile of worthless or injurious works of fiction, there are sufficient good, or at least harmless novels, to make it unnecessary to recur to the namby-pamby, the merely sensational, or the risky. The mere name-list of Catholic authors who could be recommended would be a lengthy one. Here is a short selection:—

Manzoni, Venillot, Conscience, Caballero, Mrs. Craven (foreign writers whose works have been translated); Cardinals Wiseman and Newman (*Fabiola* and *Callista*), Lady Georgiana Fullerton, Marion Crawford, Lady Herbert, Mrs. Cashel Hoey, Cecilia Caddell, Rosa and Clara Mulholland, Miss Drane, Julia Kavanagh, Mrs. Martin, Fanny Taylor, Theo. Gift (Miss Havers), Miss Laffan, Frances Noble, Kate O'Meara (Grace Ramsay), Fanny Gallagher, Miss Owens Blackburne, Miss Tinckler ("M.A.T."), Christian Reid (Miss Fanny Fisher), Gerald Griffin, the Banims, C. J. Kickham, R. Dowling, Percy Fitzgerald, J. H. McCarthy, Maurice F. Egan, John Boyle O'Reilly, and all the authors of the *Ave Maria* series of works of fact and fiction not already included in this list.

"Be as careful of the books you read," says Paxton Hood, "as of the company you keep; for your habits and character will be as much influenced by the former as the latter."

THE poet Heine was the very spirit of contradiction. ANOTHER BOLD DENIAL. Marion Crawford makes him say: "In Germany I was a Frenchman, in France I was a German, among Jews a Christian, among Christians a Jew, with Catholics a Protestant, with Protestants a Catholic. I was always in contradiction with my surroundings." We remember a lawyer who, some twenty years ago, wrote a pamphlet to prove that the earth was flat. Heine and the lawyer are but types of a small class of people who are ever ready to dash their mostly wooden heads against facts—especially distasteful facts—be they as hard as adamant and as bulky as the pyramids of Egypt. One of the big facts of English ecclesiastical life, is the Romeward movement from the Anglican communion. It faces you full square at every turn. It is a trial to the Evangelical organ, the *Rack*, and various Welsh papers. It is the despair of the Protestant Alliance, and a cross to the Ritualists. Cardinal Vaughan's announcement, made in last October, that converts were being received into the Church in England at the rate of seven hundred per month, led first to one, and quite recently to another, bold denial of the very existence of the Romeward movement. Each was based on sham statistics. Both went the rounds of the Protestant Press. Rev. E. S. Hughes opened in the *Melbourne Argus*, and, by the aid of figures evolved from his inner consciousness, endeavoured to show that Catholics in Great Britain had fallen from being 26 per cent of the population in 1811 to 16 per cent in 1891. Father O'Doherty donned his war-paint and was promptly on the trail of the figure-juggler. At one fell stroke he scattered the pretty house of cards raised by Mr Hughes; exposed the unreliability of his figures; pointed out that the reverend statistician had committed the amusing blunder of including Ireland under Great Britain, and had crowned all this by taking no account of the phenomenal depopulation of Ireland since 1841, through famine and emigration. The eminent statistician, Mulhall, has shown that over a million persons died of famine in Ireland between 1856 and 1859, and that fully 4,661,000 persons emigrated from that "most distressful country" between 1840 and 1888. This would sufficiently account for any alteration in the relative proportion of Catholics to the total population in the British Isles. But the Cardinal's figures referred to England alone. Mr Hughes discreetly declined to accept Father O'Doherty's challenge for a count of heads, and so the matter dropped. Mr Hughes had failed to score.

Another effort has been quite recently made to refute, in an indirect way, the progress of the Catholic Church in England.

TIGER BLEND TEAS HAVE NO EQUAL.

Figures were published in the Protestant Press of England and the Continent, which, on the face of them, pointed to a steady decrease in the proportion of Catholic marriages in England. The inference was made to tell against the Romeward movement, and our non-Catholic friends found much comfort therein. But our last English exchanges contain statistics obtained from official sources which scatter the bogus figures to the four winds of heaven.

"For every five years," says the *Tablet*, "since 1869 the proportion of Catholic marriages has been: 1873, 41 per 1,000 population; 1874, 40 per 1,000; 1879, 41 per 1,000; 1884, 43 per 1,000; 1889, 42 per 1,000; 1894, 42 per 1,000. Is this a decrease? On the other hand, the proportion of Church of England marriages for the same period is this: For 1869, 763 per 1,000; in 1884, 747 per 1,000; in 1879, 723 per 1,000; in 1884, 707 per 1,000; in 1889, 698 per 1,000; in 1894, 686 per 1,000. Thus we see a steady and considerable decrease for every quinquennial period, and to seek to explain it by saying that large numbers of Protestants are now married at the Registrar's office instead of at Church only shows that if these still belong to the Anglican communion, they have lost their faith in the superiority of religious marriage to civil marriage. This was the natural consequence of denying marriage to be a sacrament."

LORD BEACONSFIELD once wrote:—"Confiscation is a blunder that destroys public credit; taxation, ROME: THEN AND NOW, on the contrary, improves it; and both came to the same thing." The Italian Government tried confiscation on a vast scale, under the euphemistic title of "annexation." In our two last issues we quoted facts and figures to show that it has long since pushed taxation far into the region of confiscation. Evictions for non-payment of impossible imposts have been as frequent during the past twenty-three years as they were in Munster, Connaught, or "ould Donegal," when ejection notices—*alias* "death-warrants"—had fallen thick as autumn leaves in Vallombrosa, and the crowbar or emergency brigade were off for an outing. One result of the Italian tax-collecting campaign is this: that the bone and sinew of the country, the number of the small proprietors—especially in Sicily and Sardinia—is fast diminishing towards the vanishing point. The Boston *Pilot* publishes statistics which, by way of contrast, show how the Roman States steadily increased in population and prosperity under the benign and easy rule of the Popes. There was an average increase in the public treasury, without an increase of taxation. In 1831 the surplus had reached the sum of 3,550,000 scudi (a scudo is about four shillings). This was to have been employed in reducing the burden of taxation, which already weighed so lightly on Tonio and Beppo; but the revolutionary movement of 1832 left an annual deficit of 6,500,000 scudi. Things were soon turned right side up again, and the yearly deficit was speedily reduced to 500,000 scudi. During the troubles of 1848-1849, when Pius IX. narrowly escaped from Rome, the revolutionists managed the finances according to their own sweet will, borrowed 1,100,000 scudi, issued 6,500,000 scudi in paper money, and an immense amount of base coin of nominal value, and raised the deficit to 10,000,000 scudi. When Pius IX. returned to the city, amidst the acclamations of his people, he relieved their fears by promptly setting about paying face value for the worthless paper and coin they had been compelled to receive. So well did he succeed that, at the close of 1855, there was a deficit of a little more than 1,000,000 scudi. In 1848, the total number of laymen in the Papal Public Service was 5,059; there were only 213 ecclesiastics. Of this number, 131 were chaplains in prisons or houses of corruption. In eight of the chief Departments of the State there were 1,824 laymen, and only one ecclesiastic—the latter being in the Census Department, with a modest salary of £240 a year. "It would require the aid of a Wall street syndicate," says the *Pilot*, "to say what some future Pope will feel called upon to redeem of the worthless paper and false coin of the present robber Government, when he shall be restored to his own in the year of grace not yet absolutely defined."

When God puts a burden upon us He puts His hand underneath so that the burden may not be too heavy.

In a letter to a young nephew in Canada Thomas Carlyle wrote: "A very small lot of books will serve to nourish a man's mind if he handles them well, and I have known innumerable people whose minds had gone all to ruin by reading carelessly too many books. It is like omnivorous feeding. The books in Scotland in plenteous seasons, are said to 'eat themselves out of play'—they become thoroughly uneatable by too much eating."

Like the sound of bells at night, breaking the silence only to lead the spirit into deeper peace; like a leaded cloud at rising in grey twilight to hang as a golden mist before the furnace of the sun; like the dull, deep pain of one who sits in an empty room watching the shadows of the firelight full of memories; like the plaint of souls that are wasted with sighing; like paeons of exalted praise; like sudden songs from the opening gates of Paradise—so is music.

## A VISIT TO THE WEST COAST SOUNDS.

(Written for the N. Z. TABLET, by REV. W. GANLEY.)

I HAD read, from time to time, such glowing descriptions of the scenery of the West Coast Sounds that I came prepared to discount a good percentage of the encomiums which have been so profusely lavished upon them. After my visit, however, I have no hesitation in saying that the accounts in question were not only not exaggerated, but that they fall far short of doing justice to the reality. And this is the result, not of want of ability in the writers, but from the very nature of things. The Sounds belong to a class of objects of which it may be said with truth that language is incapable of presenting to the mind an adequate conception of the perfection of their distinctive characteristics. To fully appreciate the nature of the landscape, it must be seen. Any effort to pourtray the gorgeous profusion of scenic magnificence which meets the eye in every direction would be as useless as

"To paint the lily,  
To gild refined gold,  
Or throw a new perfume on the violet."

The Sounds Excursion has been described as an Alpine trip made by steamer. But it is more. It is a tour in which the lover of nature may admire all the grandeur of the Alps, the sublimity of the fiords of Norway, and the beauties of the Rhine, on board a veritable floating palace, fitted up with all the luxuries and refinements of the 19th century.

The "Waikare" left Dunedin at 5 p.m. on Thursday, the 20th of January, and after a short stay at the Bluff—which seems to be the home of the storm king—reached Preservation Inlet, the first of the Sounds, on the afternoon of the following day. This Sound runs 20 miles into the land. It winds in and out through a labyrinth of islands, many of which resembled models for a geographical exhibition, and which were covered with luxuriant vegetation. On both sides the mountains rise up vertically from the water's edge, and sometimes attain an altitude of 4000 feet. These huge precipices are clothed to the very top with lovely trees, whose emerald hues contrast with the wreaths of perpetual snow which lie in little hollows or are perched, like white nightcaps, on the summits. As the "Waikare" wound her way along, the effect was rendered magical by the echoes of the steam whistle, which reverberated from cliff to cliff, until at last it died away faintly on the ear, like the distant wailing of a mountain spirit expelled from his home.

The contrast between the soft, euphonious, and appropriate nomenclature of places discovered by the early Spanish and Portuguese voyagers, and the commonplace, often ludicrous titles given by the English and Dutch discoverers has frequently been commented upon. To the Portuguese, De Quiros, we are indebted for the poetic and appropriate name of Australia. Holland itself and its little, sunless island, province, Zealand, no more resemble the places named after them than a jelly fish resembles a whale. With some notable exceptions, the English explorers were lamentably wanting in this respect. Who can tell the reason for naming this beautiful sound Preservation Inlet? Our steamer was anchored during the whole of Saturday in a beautiful sheet of water, whose shores were bordered by such a profusion of trees, shrubs and flowering plants as would make it a veritable paradise to the botanist. And yet it bears the high sounding title of Cuttle Cove!

That the Union Company left nothing undone to cater for the entertainment of their excursionists was evident in all the arrangements. Besides concerts every night in the saloon, the provision made for their enjoyment during the day was shown by a whole fleet of boats and a steam launch with which the steamer was supplied. As the sounds abound with fish—blue cod, red and rook cod, bream, maori king, butter fish, etc., the fishing boats were always filled. Three sharks, measuring about three feet each, were caught. One of the monsters was hooked by a lady, who almost fainted with fright when she found that the creature which had so vigorously tugged at her line was one of the most dreaded denizens of the deep. When the animal was eviscerated it was found to contain several young ones which were quickly despatched by the sailors.

On our return to the Waikare our party had the good fortune to witness a most beautiful rainbow. The proximity of the arch to the surface of the earth, and the dazzling brilliancy of the colours, made it appear unlike any other such phenomenon I had ever witnessed. It extended from the shore of one island to another, forming a gorgeous triumphal arch, designed, no doubt, by the hands of some benevolent fairies, to give us a *coud mile faillie* to their charming home. The imaginative members of our party accepted the ideal weather which greeted us on Sunday, the 23rd, as a realisation of what they asserted to be a happy augury in the incident of the rainbow. It was a day for poets to dream of. The

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sun shone out brilliantly, converting the waters of Dusky Sound into a mass of sparkling silver. The little cascades which trickled down the sides of the mountains looked like so many elongated bridal veils. The gigantic cliffs stood out in bold outline—the fleecy clouds which passed over them giving a dignity and a depth of colouring to the huge masses.

We anchored for the day at a beautiful inlet called by the euphonious name of Wet Jacket Arm. Let us recapitulate: Preservation Inlet, Cuttle Cove, Wet Jacket Arm! This can compare with Victoria, where such names as Blanket Flat, Digger's Rest, Riddell's Creek, Bacchus Marsh, constitute some of the gems of the geographical nomenclature of that colony. Compare these with San Salvador, Sancta Lucia, St. Helena, Puntas Arenas, Buenos Ayres, Monte Video. But comparisons are proverbially odious. At Wet Jacket Arm we were favoured by an unexpected and most interesting visit from Mr. Henry, who lives among these primeval wilds. While quietly admiring the scenery after luncheon, the excursionists were surprised to see a tiny craft bearing down on the "Waikare," and when at a convenient distance dropping her anchor with as much importance as if she was one of her Majesty's first-class battle-ships. After some time the occupants came on board our steamer. They were father and son, and, like the Wise Men of the East, they came with presents to the captain. These consisted of two native New Zealand birds—a kiwi and a katipo. Neither of the creatures could fly. One of them was altogether destitute of wings, and although the other was adorned with what bore a resemblance to these useful appendages, it could not use them for the purpose of aerial locomotion.

(To be continued.)

### ANGELS OF THE BATTLEFIELD.

MANY books have been written about the beneficial work of women during the war in hospitals and on battlefields. But these books, at least those we have seen of them, are strangely silent about the labours of the Catholic sisterhoods in the same good cause. Some years ago we called the attention of Mr George Farton of Philadelphia to this fact, and suggested that the work of the Sisters in field and post hospitals during the war would afford ample material for a most interesting and edifying book. He saw the matter in the same light we did, and set himself to the task. The result is the admirable book, *Angels of the Battlefields*, just issued by the Catholic Art Publishing Company of Philadelphia.

Four of the sisterhoods are known to have taken part in the work of mercy during the war. These are the Sisters of Charity, the Sisters of Mercy, the Sisters of St Joseph, and the Sisters of the Holy Cross. The labours of these Sisters are given in this charming book in detail, and in chronological order. Several touching incidents of Sisters who became martyrs to duty are told in an interesting manner. One of these is particularly pathetic. Sister Mary Lucy, member of the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth, richly endowed by nature, was the music teacher in St Mary's Academy, Paducah, Ky. When the exigencies of war compelled the temporary abandonment of this institution, Sister Mary Lucy volunteered as one of the hospital nurses. She was assigned to some of the severest typhoid fever cases, and the manner in which she nursed these patients won for her the unqualified praise of the hospital doctors and attendants.

The post of honour in this instance became the post of danger. The Sister contracted the fever from one of her patients who was convalescent. This was in the latter part of December, during the first year of the war. Despite the best medical attention she rapidly grew worse until December 29, when she expired as calmly and heroically as she had lived. Her death cast a gloom over the entire hospital, and the soldiers of both armies were filled with admiration and awe at the martyrdom of this gentle soul. They determined that her obsequies should be of a character befitting her great merits.

Several files of soldiers marched with muffled drums and noiseless tread from the central hospital to the Ohio River, bearing the remains in their midst. There the coffin was placed on a gunboat in waiting, which had been especially designated for this service. Then the boat slowly steamed away, bearing its honoured burden under a flag of truce to Uniontown, Ky. On landing the remains were borne to St Vincent's Academy, some miles distant, where the Sisters own a considerable tract of land, and where they have a last resting place for their dead. Father Powers, at that time pastor of the Catholic Church at Paducah, said Mass and accompanied the body to the grave and recited over it the last offices of the Church of which the deceased had been such an exemplary member. A guard of devoted soldiers watched by the coffin day and night from the time it left the central hospital until the earth covered it from mortal view. At night the tender-hearted warriors kept their vigil around the coffin with blazing torches made of pine knots. Sister Mary Lucy was born in the vicinity of the spot where she was buried. This is the short but brilliant life history of one heroic woman. The book is filled with many incidents of this kind.—*Boston Pilot*.

He who does not appreciate does not possess.—Abbé Roux.  
Vulgar natures alone suffer vanity.—Owen Meredith.  
Many a man's tongue has broken his nose.—Gaelic proverb.  
I should say sincerity—a deep, genuine sincerity—is the first characteristic of all men who are in any way heroic.—Carlyle.

## Correspondence.

[We are not responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

### THE '98 CENTENARY.

[By the inadvertent omission of the word "and," the meaning of a sentence in the letter of our correspondent "T. Mc" was slightly altered. The sentence should have read as follows:—

"To us is given to decide whether it is meet to assist in the celebration—whether we shall join our countrymen in other lands in honouring the memory of the men who "rose in dark and evil days," fought, and died nobly in what they deemed our country's cause; or whether we shall hold coldly aloof, because forsooth we are colonists of New Zealand, and men like Mr. P. J. O'Regan think it expedient for us so to do."]

TO THE EDITOR N.Z. TABLET.

SIR,—Those who in your columns have dealt with Mr. P. J. O'Regan's letter in your issue of the 14th inst. have let him down too easily. Permit me to say at once that I have not the least animus towards him. But I do dislike his letter, which I read for the first time last Tuesday.

He regrets that the Cardinal was not more pronounced in disapproving the celebration of the centenary of '98. He would have done his Eminence justice had he said he regretted "The Cardinal had strongly favoured a commemoration in which we may honour the valour and the patriotism of the men who struggled and suffered in a good cause, and do reverence to their memory." This is what the TABLET of the 24th December, 1897, reported the Cardinal as having said. Mr. O'Regan's letter may be divided into two parts: a dissertation on the Church and objections to celebrate the centenary of '98. I consider his Church dissertation an incoherent conglomerate of contradictory statements. I refer my readers to his lengthy statements on nationalism, patriotism, and the Church.

It is an important point to note that nationalism and patriotism are in his letter synonymous terms. He uses one for the other. He maintains that nationalism or patriotism had in the past been one of the greatest enemies to religion. I reply: The greatest enemy which religion and the Church have ever had was the blind and wicked obstinacy of faddists. Take Aranism, Iconoclism, Photianism, Protestantism, Jansenism, take any heresy you will, and it began by the obstinacy of a faddist, not by the voice of a patriot, or of a nation. Hence the Church had to fight, not patriots, but brawling demagogues, who by fraud and intrigue obtained very often a numerous following. Next he says: "The Church is not national, and never can be, unless it be possible for her to cease to be Catholic," and so on. True, the Church is not confined to any one nation. To be so would be opposed to her note of universality. She is instituted for all times and nations. She is suited to the wants of all peoples. Under certain conditions, however, she is a national church. In support and explanation of this let me quote from the essays of the learned Jesuit, Dr O'Reilly (p. 155):—"We have parishes and dioceses and ecclesiastical provinces—shall I say national churches? The phrase must be guardedly used in the present context. If we understand it in a merely popular sense, there are, of course, national churches very dear to the Catholics of the nation whereof they are the churches. A national church in this acceptance is that portion of the universal Church which exists in a particular country, and is made up of all the dioceses of the country." It is therefore evident that a portion of the universal Church is very often a national Church. Is not the universal church made up of national churches, which, as the same learned author says, have strict ecclesiastical unity and completeness, and which are subject to the Holy See, and are recognised by it as a part or parts of the one vineyard? Has it not always been the policy of the Church to encourage what Dr O'Reilly calls national churches, and to foster a native priesthood? Has she ever interfered with the national aspirations or sentiments of the people or priesthood of any particular country, provided, of course, those sentiments are not in opposition to faith or morals? His Eminence, whom Mr P. J. O'Regan would wish to direct and guard from error, has been engaged almost since his arrival in the colonies, in creating a native or national priesthood. Hence, while the Church is universal, she can also be, and *de facto* is, national in the sense explained above.

Well, Sir, it seems to me that Mr. O'Regan's dogmatic dissertation is in some places ridiculous, as, for instance, where he says: "It was the universality of the Church in times past made her sway unpopular in more countries than one." I reply:—Her Divine Founder was possessed of infinite wisdom. Did He then attach to her a note which made her unpopular? Did He, on the one hand, found her for the salvation of men, and, on the other, give her universality in order that men would reject her? This is the inevitable conclusion that would follow from Mr. O'Regan's contention—a conclusion that would be an awful absurdity, if not indeed a terrible blasphemy.

I will pass on to the next sentence in this great dissertation, viz.: "In England, for instance, Henry VIII and his parasites did not hesitate to make use of the patriotism of the people to carry out their policy of plunder and murder." Had Mr. O'Regan said that when Henry VIII. allowed himself to become saturated with carnal passion and avarice, and surrounded by weak-kneed ecclesiastics, he threw off the allegiance of Rome and plundered the monasteries, he would have merely stated historical facts. The Blessed Sir Thomas Moore and men of his stamp—all true patriots—were Henry's steadfast opponents. It has ever been so. Patriotism, or those possessed of it, could not oppose the Church; faddist, noisy brawlers, and ambitious demagogues, have ever been and ever will be her enemies. I pass over what he says about Ireland, and come to where he says: "The history of the world since

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the Christian era shows that nearly all the persecutors of the Church have sheltered themselves under the sacred mantle of patriotism." This is only another way of saying that in all ages the Church's persecutors were thorough hypocrites, and hence they were not patriots. But in the whole dissertation Mr. O'Regan confounds patriotism with atrocious tyranny. Next, he says the Church "has had continual warfare with nationalism," *i.e.*, with patriotism. Nothing of the kind. She has had a continual warfare with plunderers, hypocrites, and tyrants. The remaining two sentences in the dissertation make the confusion thoroughly confounded. The first of the two runs thus:—"Of course this does not necessarily prove anything against patriotism in itself." I reply: If it were at all times and everywhere the cause of the Church's persecution, it must be at all times and everywhere bad. Hence, it must be essentially bad. I think to push this argument to the end would be to laud Mr. O'Regan in Manicheism, surely he is not a Manichean. But mark the next "The love of their native land is implanted by Almighty God in the breasts of every people." This is what no one denies. But patriotism was implanted by God in the human breast. If it be opposed to His Church, did not Almighty God, when he gave that quality to men, give them a thing which would be always and in all places (except Ireland) opposing the interests of His Church on earth? Again, this is an awful conclusion. Evidently Mr. O'Regan would do well to study history, philosophy and logic. And yet this is the man who would lecture Cardinal Moran, and is feebly forcible in opposing the celebration of the centenary of '98.

Among other things he says: "It will be impossible in the minds of any non-Catholic fellow-colonist to separate the celebration from the Catholic religion." What Irishman need care two straws if all the Englishmen in the colony regarded it as a religious celebration? What harm can such conviction on the part of non-Catholics bring to the Catholic Church, or to Englishmen themselves, or to Irishmen? If non-Catholics be so unreasonable as to get into the sulks because we Irishmen do what the British Constitution gives us a perfect right to do, that is their own affair. *Ipsi videant*. But it is absurd to suppose that non-Catholic Englishmen would, or could, confound the celebration of '98 with a Catholic movement. Well, whether they do or not should not in the least concern any Irishman, unless, indeed, he be what, in your article of 12th November, 1897, you designated a "jelly-fish Irishman."

Your correspondent makes one insidious objection. He says: "I fail to see what good purpose can possibly be effected by reviving the bitter memories of '98." Reply; We will not celebrate the centenary of '98 in order to revive bitter memories. But, in the words of Cardinal Moran, we do so in order "To honour the valour and patriotism of the men who struggled and suffered in a good cause, and to reverence their memory." Where is the country that is guilty of the ingratitude of not honouring its heroes? Why not we Irishmen honour our heroic fathers? The men of '98 were heroic. They were goaded into rebellion. They faced terrible odds. They gained victories. To censure them for not gaining all would ill become their posterity. To celebrate the centenary of '98 will have the effect of inducing the young colonial Irish to study the history of that eventful period in Ireland. It will give a stimulus to the study of Irish history generally. It would make Ireland better known, better loved. There are unfortunately some weak-kneed and unnatural Irishmen and children of Irishmen who actually make an apology for being of Irish birth or descent. If they knew the history of their race and nation they would not blush at the Irish blood in their veins.

I will notice one other objection in which Mr. O'Regan sets himself up as a prophet of evil—namely, of organised opposition. Let me say this is the old stock-in-trade argument put forward by bigots who refuse Home Rule to Ireland. This frothy argument is a great insult to Irishmen. They should make him clearly understand that the "organised opposition" he advises to offer to the celebration would, in place of being a "consolidated power," be nothing more than a pigmy exhibition of infantile presumption. I am, etc.,—

P. PATTON.

Queenstown, January 31, 1898.

Friends must be preserved with good deeds, and enemies reclaimed with fair words.

Do not judge your friend; according as we begin to judge, our love begins to weaken.

"He who rises late," writes old Fuller, as wisely as quaintly, "must trot all day, and shall scarcely overtake his business at night." Laziness, on the other hand, travels so slowly that poverty soon overtakes her.

Love is the salt that pre-serves affections and actions from the corruptions of life.—Eugénie de Guérin.

Before God can deliver us from ourselves we must undeceive ourselves.—St. Augustine.

To put man and woman upon an equality is not to elevate woman, but to degrade her. I trust that the womanhood of England, to say nothing of the Christian conscience which yet remains, will resist by a stern moral refusal the immodesty which would thrust women from their private life of duty and supremacy into the public conflicts of men.—Cardinal Manning.

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## Diocesan News.

### ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON.

(From our own correspondent.)

January 29.

THE annual retreat of the clergy of the archdiocese commenced at St Patrick's College on Wednesday last, and is conducted by the Very Rev Father Aubrey, S.M., of Sydney.

The Rector and professors of St. Patrick's college, who had been away from Wellington during the vacation, have returned to town. The Very Rev. Dr. Watters came up from the south on Wednesday. Rev. Fathers Bower and Bowden, who had been staying at the hot lakes, arrived on the same day. The "Monowai" from Sydney on Wednesday evening brought back Rev. Father Herbert, and earlier in the week the Rev. Fathers Mahoney and O'Reilly returned from a cycling tour from Nelson to Christchurch.

His Grace Archbishop Redwood, who had been making a visitation of the northern portion of the archdiocese, came back to Wellington in time for the retreat.

At the meeting of the Benevolent Trustees on Tuesday, the very prevalent disregard of the young colonials of their parental responsibilities was severely adverted on. The Rev. J. K. Elliott, Presbyterian minister, and member of the body, remarking on the indifference with which young people, in apparently comfortable circumstances, in this Colony, treated their indigent parents, said where he came from (Ireland) the children would share their last crust with their parents rather than the latter should have to go to the workhouse. The Rev. Van Staveren supplemented his brother trustee's remarks by saying that in this Colony the children would go to the theatre while their fathers and mothers begged for food. Now it is evident from the remarks of these gentlemen that, notwithstanding their many years' residence in this Colony, they are still prejudiced by old world ideas. We, or at least a majority of us, look to the State for everything. It provides a nursery for our children in their infantile day, in the form of infant schools; then in after years it trains them in a State-made groove, ignoring the most necessary portion of education—namely, the spiritual or religious. You can not implant reverence or respect for authority in the youthful mind without some form of religious teaching; therefore, it is not to be wondered at that when the average colonial boy or girl leaves school, his bumps of reverence are at an abnormally low state of development. He has had a better secular training than his parents very probably, and being taught that everything in these new countries is so far better than in the old, he comes to look with contempt on the ways of his parents, and having neither respect for age nor paternal affection—both of which are essentially Christian virtues—he is only forced to perform his filial duties by the strong arm of the law. The majority of the parents believe in the training which their children receive from the State, mainly because they have not to pay directly for it, and, therefore, if their children grow up without respect or affection for them it is their own fault, and if, in after years, their offspring ignore their responsibilities, and compel the parents to go to the State for bread, when they are no longer able to work, then the latter should blame themselves just as much as their undutiful children, for the old adage fits the case admirably, "As the twig is bent so is the tree inclined."

Mr. J. O'Dea, our well-known architect, is inviting tenders for the erection of a select school, for the Sisters of Mercy, adjoining their present primary school in Dixon Street. This will supply a long-felt want at this end of the city, and will no doubt receive that support and patronage which the self-sacrificing and devoted Sisters deserve.

A telegram from the ever-courteous rector of St. Patrick's College, Wellington, informs us that the College scholarships have been won by Master Arthur Quigley, of the Catholic school, Oamaru, and Master Thomas Walshe, of Reefton. We tender our hearty congratulations to the successful students and to the teaching staffs of the schools on which their victory reflects such high credit.

The fitting-up of St. Patrick's College with the electric light is now completed, so that when the students commence the new year of studies they will find one more addition provided for their comfort and convenience. St. Joseph's Church has had the electric light also installed there during the past week.

The Very Rev. Father Dawson, Administrator of St. Mary's Cathedral parish, gave a detailed account of the financial position of the parish on Sunday last. The finances were shown to be in a very satisfactory condition, especially when we take into account the position when Father Dawson took charge, and also the work which has been since carried out. Pretty close upon £2,000 has been paid within a few years in the way of improvements and in paying off mortgage, so that the total indebtedness now is only some £300 odd on some property, the income from which will liquidate the amount in a few years. The rev. administrator is to be sincerely congratulated on the wise and prudent manner in which he has managed the finances of the parish, and the parishioners should be very pleased at their almost total freedom from debt, a result due to the able administration of the Very Rev. Father Dawson and to their own generosity.

Aspirants for political life were on the *qui vive* during the week, as it was bruited abroad that there would be a vacancy very soon for a Wellington seat. I am in a position to state that there is no likelihood of any such vacancy occurring, so that we shall be happily spared the turmoil of a bye-election.

From a Nelson exchange we learn that the annual picnic in connection with St. Mary's Orphanage was held recently at Maori Bush, Wakapuaka. The children were taken out by Mr. R. Thomas in his palace car and several other conveyances. A very pleasant



day was spent, and before the gathering dispersed cheers were given for the Very Rev. Father Mahoney, the Sisters of the Convent, the subscribers to the picnic fund, and to Mr. T. Hunt, who kindly acted as collector. The late Mr. M. Hunt, who collected the subscriptions for many years, was always a prominent figure at the picnic, and his kindly countenance was much missed by the children. Sympathetic reference was made to the death of the late Mr. Hunt by Father Mahoney, who also thanked the public for subscribing so generously to the picnic.

(From our WESTPORT correspondent.)

MR SEDDON arrived here on Sunday from Greymouth. He has been banqueted here, and also at Deniston and Seddonville, and had a most enthusiastic welcome at all places in the district. Last night he lectured at the Victorian Theatre, and spoke for two-and-a-half hours. His defence of Mr Ward's conduct, and that of his company, was admirable, and at the conclusion he was heartily applauded by the large audience assembled, who made no secret of their sympathy for Mr Ward. Mr Seddon is accompanied by Mr O'Regan, who is credited with having delivered the best speech at the banquet. Some of your correspondents are particularly hard on this gentleman for his outspoken remarks on the '98 celebration. Cardinal Moran's remarks on the '98 celebration, as cabled to New Zealand, were similar to those of Mr O'Regan.

Our choir have decided on purchasing a new organ.

Steps are being taken to call tenders for the erection of a new presbytery. The site chosen is a very suitable one, being close to the church, and in a dry and healthy position.

## DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND.

(From an occasional correspondent.)

MR. P. J. O'REGAN, M.H.R., AND THE '98 CENTENARY CELEBRATION.

AT a meeting of the Auckland Branch of the Irish National Federation, held last evening in St. Patrick's Hall, the following resolution was carried and directed to be forwarded to the N. Z. TABLET for insertion:—"That we, the members of the Auckland Branch of the Irish National Federation, desire to express publicly our dissatisfaction with the views of P. J. O'Regan on the '98 Centenary."

We notice with pleasure that the Rev. Father O'Reilly is a member of the Thames Hospital Committee, and that the chairman, in recently apologising for the rev. gentleman's absence on church duties, paid a high and well-merited tribute to his zeal and practical interest in the working of the institution.

## DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

ON Sunday afternoon week a meeting of the parishioners of the Pro-Cathedral was held in St. Joseph's Schoolroom. The Vicar-General presided and the object of the meeting was to consider the question of erecting a Catholic hall. A report submitted from the executive committee pointed out that a hall was greatly needed for the use of the Catholics of Christchurch. They had hitherto to use the school or to hire a hall, both of which courses were open to objection. A move was made by the Vicar-General to establish a hall near the usual parochial buildings, and a preliminary meeting of members of the various societies was held to discuss ways and means as to how a suitable hall could be obtained. The committee, formed to go into details and to report, made inquiries as to the desirability of removing St. Aloysius' Hall to the Pro-Cathedral grounds. It was found on inquiry that for some years past £92 per annum had been paid in interest and principal with respect to the hall, leaving at present an amount of £120 to pay off to clear the hall. When this was done the hall would become the property of the parish. If the hall were removed there would be a saving of the £92 annually paid. This sum would be nearly sufficient to provide for two more priests to assist in the parish, and very much assistance is now wanted. To accomplish this project three schemes were suggested to the executive—(1) A limited liability company; (2) an art-union; (3) voluntary subscriptions. After considerable discussion the first and second proposals were rejected and a suggestion was made embodying the advantages of the second and third propositions. The scheme is as follows.—It is proposed to issue subscription cards to the members of the parish or to anyone willing to collect, and, as an incentive, a certain amount of prizes will be given to those who obtain the highest amounts. The Vicar-General promised to give a silver watch each to the girl or boy under sixteen who collects the most, and for adults there will be given a framed oil painting, valued at £5, and a framed prize photo of lake scenery. The executive were pleased to be able to report that already subscriptions had been promised to the amount of £30, and they feel confident that the amount necessary for extinguishing the debt and removing the building (£250) will be collected without difficulty if the parishioners co-operate heartily. The executive mentioned that offers had been received from Halswell and Addington to purchase the hall, but they considered it would be a mistake to allow the hall to go out of the parish. The possession of such a building would enable inducements to be given to the young men of the parish, of whom there was a good number at the meeting, to assemble therein for a variety of laudable purposes, and the hall would thus form a parish meeting-place. The report was adopted, and it was decided that efforts should be at once made to carry the suggestion into effect. Subscription cards were forthwith issued, and it is confidently expected that the object will be attained.

The following very much condensed portion of our esteemed correspondent's letter reached us as were going to press:—On Monday evening week the half-yearly meeting of the St. Patrick's Branch of the H.A.C.B.S. was held in the Hibernian Hall. Brother Gresham presided. There was a large number of members present. The balance-sheet and auditors' report were read and adopted, being considered of a very satisfactory nature. A very pleasing feature of the evening was the presentation by P.D.P. Brother J. G. Sellars, on behalf of the district executive, of a handsomely-framed picture of the District officers as a memento of the second annual movable meeting held in Christchurch. Correspondence from the Ivy of Linwood Druid's Lodge and I.M.B. Association were read and dealt with. Reports of the management and finance committees were read and approved. The business paper for the forthcoming annual meeting of the district was discussed and necessary instructions ordered to be handed to the delegates. The election of officers was then proceeded with, as follows:—President, Brother T. Gresham (re-elected); vice-president, Brother C. Courtney (re-elected); secretary, Brother G. J. Sellars (re-elected); assistant secretary, Brother J. Steele (re-elected); treasurer, Brother J. McCormick; warden, Brother F. J. Doolan; guardian, Brother James Hendron; sick-visitors, Brothers, F. J. O'Connell and W. Smith; auditors, Brothers D. Steinmetz and J. Contayne; medical attendants, Drs. G. E. and J. H. Deamer, and Dr. Bolger; delegates to District A.M., Brothers P. Foley and James Hendron. The incoming officers were then installed by P.P. Brother J. R. Hayward. After the newly-elected officers had taken their places, votes of thanks were passed to the retiring officers and duly responded to. The meeting was then closed in the usual manner.

The Very Rev. Dr. Watters, returned to the Empire City on Tuesday last.—The Very Rev. Father Pestre, S.M., returned to Wellington from Christchurch on Wednesday.—The diocesan Retreat of the clergy was commenced on Wednesday last and closed on the following Monday morning. The Rev. Father Barry, C.S.S.R., has preached the Retreat.

In a series of very interesting articles, which are appearing in a local paper, on the West Coast, the writer of them gives, among others, the following particulars about Greymouth. "The Catholic Church is the most prominent and the most substantial building in Greymouth. It is of brick, is larger than the Catholic cathedral in Wellington, and is usually filled with people at the ordinary times of worship. The Hibernian Celt constitutes the basis of the population of the West Coast, and if any prejudiced Saxon wishes to have his ideas corrected regarding the capabilities of "those Irish," he has but to come here and witness what they have done, under free conditions, in the way of taming the wilderness, exploiting Nature's treasures, and making happy homes for themselves and their children."

(From our TIMARU Correspondent.)

THE first annual meeting of the St. Patrick's Day Sport's Association came to a conclusion on Friday last, the 27th inst., having been adjourned from the previous week. Mr. Daniel Mahoney, the President, occupied the chair, and a large number of members were present. The first annual balance-sheet and report was read by the hon. secretary (Mr. M. Dennehy), showing the association to be in a very satisfactory position, 132 members being on the roll, also showing the net profit of the inaugural meeting and national concert last year to be over £46. The election of officers for the ensuing term resulted as follows:—Patron, Hon. W. Hall-Jones; President, Mr. D. Mahoney (Mr. Mahoney wished to retire but the meeting would not hear of it); vice-presidents, His Worship the Mayor (J. J. Grandi, Esq.), Messrs. Gunn, Gearey and Burns; hon. treasurer, Mr. M. Mullin; hon. secretary, Mr. M. F. Dennehy. A strong working committee was elected, including representatives of the different surrounding districts. The names are as follow:—His Worship the Mayor, Rev. Father Lewis, Messrs. J. Eagan, Sergeant-Major Jones, G. Strachan, Shepherd, O'Rourke, M. Driscoll (Levels), P. Kane, W. Ingram, D. Stuart, J.P.; T. McAuliffe, P. Rielly, Stapleton, McGettigan, D. McGuinness, Cranitch, R. Chute (Temuka), Emil Hall, M. Fitzgerald, F. Cameron, J. Hole, J. Sullivan (Fairlie), W. England (Point), Jno. Fitzgerald (Arowhenua), J. Whelan, F. Palliser, W. Fitzgerald (Levels), M. Quinn, J.P. (Temuka), T. Cronin, W. Priest, D. Shea, H. Roshwell, N. McK. Thompson, J.P.; James Sullivan (Levels), D. Murphy, M. Samuel (Temuka) and Lawson. Twelve new members were duly elected, and the various committees, judges, etc., were also appointed. A sub-committee submitted a draft programme of sports, totalling for all events about £110. The prizes were distributed something on the same lines as last year. Irish national games, music, and dancing being a prominent feature. The Association has made a bit of a stir in the cycling world by deciding to run their events for cash. Hitherto all bicycle races in Timaru were run under the Alliance rules for amateur performers; but public opinion has been gradually drifting towards cash riding. The Association has taken the initiative, and expect considerable support from cash riders at their forthcoming meeting. Last year the inaugural meeting was a decided success, and there is every reason to believe that the management and members will show as much enthusiasm this year, and celebrate St. Patrick's Day festival in a manner worthy of the day.

The local clergy are at present in Christchurch on their annual retreat. The Rev. Father Lynch, S.J., celebrated Mass on Sunday, and preached both morning and evening to large congregations. The Rev. Father has just concluded a retreat given by him to the ladies of the Convent of the Sacred Heart. Father Lynch is an eloquent and impressive preacher, and has won golden opinions during his stay in Timaru.

He that studieth revenge keepeth his own wounds green.—Bacon.

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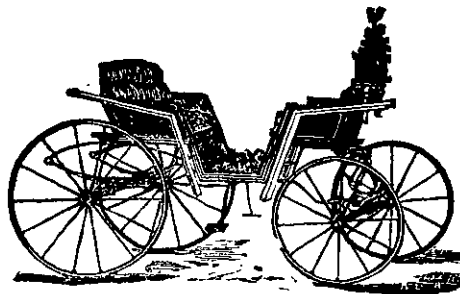
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## Irish News.

**BELFAST.**—Michael Dwyer '98 Centenary Club.—A very successful meeting of the above club was held (says the *Belfast Irish Weekly*, December 4) in their club rooms, Peel street, on Sunday last. Mr. Hugh Campbell presided, and 100 members were present. As the club has only been in existence for three weeks, this speaks well for its success. It was proposed to have a reunion on Christmas night, and a committee was appointed. The business of the meeting having been concluded, songs were rendered by Messrs P. Byrnes, James Donnelly, Edward McCormick, and D. Cullen.

**CLARE.**—Death of Father T. Kelly.—The death of Rev. Thomas Kelly, Doora, County Clare, has caused deep regret. The sad event took place in December in the Mater Misericordiae Hospital, to which institution he had been removed in order to be placed under the care of Sir Christopher Nixon. The rev. gentleman, who was only 42 years of age, and who succumbed after a brief illness, studied in the Diocesan College, Ennis, from 1872 to 1875, and entered Maynooth in the latter year. His ordination took place in 1881, when he was appointed to the parish of Clonmeen. Having laboured there for five years he was transferred to the parish of Doora.—*R.L.P.*

**DUBLIN.**—The Most Rev. Dr. Grimes.—From Dublin comes the news that his Lordship the Bishop of Christchurch has been successful in obtaining a fresh supply of priests for his diocese. His Lordship has been on a visit to Dublin, and two young priests were ordained early in December, at the Catholic Church, Rathmines, for the diocese of Christchurch.

**The Pro-cathedral.**—The beautiful Pro-cathedral has been recently renovated and decorated at considerable expense by the Rev. Daniel Downing, who deserves to be warmly congratulated on the success which attended his efforts to beautify the sacred edifice, endeared by so many ties to the citizens of Dublin.

**The Archbishop of Montreal on Dublin.**—Archbishop Bruchesi, of Montreal, visited Dublin on his way to Rome, and wrote his impressions of the Irish capital to Father Quinlivan, of Montreal: "I have visited the capital of Ireland," says his Grace, "which I had not seen before. I very much admired St. Patrick's Cathedral, and Christ Church, of which your fathers were robbed by the Reformation; but on entering them profound sadness took possession of me; I felt that I stood in holy places that were profaned. The magnificent stained glass windows still tell us that it was Catholic hands in an age of faith which raised these monuments of religious architecture; they remind us of the prayers which once rose heavenwards from these holy precincts. Death now replaces life, and the heart no longer finds anything here to attract it. In the sanctuary I noticed a table, but the altar of sacrifice was gone; and the tabernacle, where the Sacred Victim once reposed, was broken; hence, I felt deep sadness take possession of my soul. But in spite of all this, God has never been without His faithful servants here. My companions and myself visited also the tomb of O'Connell. Our hand was laid on his coffin; together we prayed for Ireland and her immortal liberator. Near the spot where he reposes I gathered a few sprigs of shamrock, which I send you. I am penning you these lines on the day following that on which Leo XIII. called Irishmen 'his well beloved sons, and the most Catholic people in the world.'"

**GALWAY.**—The Distress.—At a public meeting held on Sunday at Tully, Spiddal, which is situated on the sea-board about twenty miles from Galway, evidence was brought forward by various speakers as to the distressful outlook for the winter. Resolutions were passed calling on the Government to provide labour or relief works, and begging the landlords to deal forbearingly with their tenants. The Rev. M. D. Conroy, P.P., Spiddal, said the people were living practically on what they got from friends in America, and the fruits of a little fishing now and then. He called upon the Government to come to the relief of the people. He called on the parliamentary representatives of the people to bring pressure to bear on the Government in Parliament and outside Parliament to compel them to do their duty, and he called on the Press of Ireland to do their duty by proclaiming to the world the deplorable condition of the people. The Rev. John Healy, P.P., Carra, said that for the past two months or more the other priests and himself had adopted every means to bring the starving condition of the people in their respective parishes under the notice of the Government, and with what results? That none of them was in a position to state with certainty that the Government contemplated giving them relief works in the near future. The potato crop in his parish last year was not one-third. One shopkeeper told him that until he got paid for a portion of what he gave out during the spring and summer he could give no more credit. Dr. McCormack said the potato crop had been a complete failure. What there was of it was not fit for human food.

**KING'S COUNTY.**—Three Old Women who Remember '98.—A correspondent, writing from Birr to the *Irish Times*, gives a lengthy account of three venerable women, whose united ages come to 336 years, or an average of 112 years each. The first of the trio is probably Ireland's oldest woman. Mrs. Anne Armstrong, maiden name Bracken, was born at Florence Court, Enniskillen, early in 1781, is now living at Spanish Point, Miltownmalbay, and is consequently in her 117th year. This venerable lady is carefully looked after by her rector, the Rev. Dr. Bonyngue. She requires, however, but little aid, dresses smartly, is quite erect, can carry her water-supply from the well, over 300 yards distant from her neat little cottage, and is fairly well able to take care of herself. She possesses the use of her faculties perfectly unimpaired. Her memory is good, and stored with tales of '98, which she recollects clearly, having

then been seventeen years old. Ninety years ago she, then a married woman, went to Miltownmalbay with her husband, a constable, whom she has outlived by half a century.

The next case is still more interesting from the fact that the old lady is absolutely free from any traces of mental or physical infirmity. She is Miss Margaret Halloran, born in 1784, and a veritable queen of old maids. Her birthplace was Coolock, near Clonaslee, on the Queen's County slope of Slievebloom. Her father was a soldier, who in the year of her birth went to America with his regiment, and was never heard of by her afterwards. She had a brother a year older than herself, who enlisted in 1800, and fought at Waterloo, where he was killed. Of the '98 incidents, of which she has a distinct recollection, the outbreak of the rebellion on May 23 is vividly remembered. Her mother had then been six years dead, and she was adopted and brought up by kind people—respectable farmers—in the neighbourhood. With these people she remembers having to take refuge in a graveyard on the night of the outbreak. On that memorable night she carried six large pewter dishes and three dozen of pewter plates from her protector's house to a distant bog where the treasure was safely secreted until the troublesome times were over. Pewter-ware of this kind was then in use among the strong farmers, and specimens of it are frequently found in the bogs. Next to firearms the pewter was the most valued spoil that the fighting men desired for making bullets. Miss Halloran was then, she says, a tall, strong girl of thirteen or fourteen. She is now about five feet three inches, and mentions that she was several inches taller than that in her prime. After the rebellion her friend's home was broken up, and she was sent to service, in which she remained until in the forties. She met with a serious accident that disfigured her fingers and disqualified her for service. With her savings she supported herself until forty-three years ago, when, at the age of seventy, she entered the Birr Union Workhouse, where she has remained off and on ever since. She is very chatty, and when asked why she never changed her name, she naively replied that "It is not but I was often asked—and had plenty of time to think about it." All her relatives and friends are dead since before the famine. Seen amid a group of seventy-year-old women, she is many grades their superior in brightness of disposition. The nuns and the officials are very kind to her, and she is supplied with every comfort, but declines anything but the simplest fare.

The last of the three is Mrs. Margaret Toohey, born March 17, 1793, and living in this town. She has lost the use of her limbs, but is quite sound in mind, and remembers all the incidents of public life from the rebellion to Waterloo. In '98 she was herding cattle for her father in a good-sized farm near this when she heard that the "boys had risen." She was then a little over five years. There are nonagenarians living in the neighbour hood who, when children, remember Mrs. Toohey as a dashing, handsome young woman, and her great age is fully authenticated in other ways. She is tenderly cared for by a devoted daughter, who is herself advanced in years and very poor. On each recurring Patrick's Day Mrs. Toohey celebrates her birthday. She has done so uninterruptedly since 1798, and should she survive the interval until March 17 next, she will have remembered 101 birthday anniversaries. On these occasions she has an extra draw of the pipe, and a fruit cake graces the table in the spotless little cottage.

All three of these ancient women have blue eyes, are from three to five inches shorter than they were in their earlier years, and do not discard a snuff or a smoke.

**LIMERICK.**—Politics and Religion.—In the course of the first of a series of sermons at St. Michael's, Limerick, the Most Rev. Dr. O'Dwyer, Bishop of the diocese, said there were people who affected to believe that they could separate their politics from their duty to God and His Church, and men wrote to the newspapers trying to undermine the principles of religion and bring discredit on the clergy. Would such men dare to say on the judgment day that politics had nothing to do with religion? He warned parents against allowing such papers into their homes or the hands of their children in which it was sought to corrupt the principles which they had loved and revered all their lives.

**LOUTH.**—An Irish Giant.—The 83rd Regimental District is said to have given to the army the tallest recruit in the United Kingdom, a young fellow of 6 feet 9½ inches being enlisted in County Louth for the Royal Horse Guards, better known as "The Blues." This Guardsman is an inch taller than Captain Ames, 2nd Life Guards, who headed the late Jubilee procession in London.

**MAYO.**—Distress in the West.—From the seaboard counties in the West and South of Ireland gloomy accounts of the pitiable condition of the small farmers and cottiers continue to arrive. Correspondents who have personally investigated the state of affairs on the spot all agree that there are numbers on the verge of starvation, yet the Government makes no move to relieve the hunger-stricken people. If things continue in their present state much longer, "Died of Starvation" will soon be a familiar heading in the daily papers. It is only in keeping with the traditions of Irish landlordism that such a time should be selected to serve ejection notices broadcast. This is being done in the County Mayo where the suffering of the people is most acute.

**SLIGO.**—A Giant's Bones Unearthed.—After all Finn McCool and the Galway giant seem not to have been the only mighty men of Ireland. Sligo, like Louth, can now claim to have produced an Irish giant, although his history is forgotten. His bones have been discovered at the Market Cross, Sligo. Several men were engaged in digging a drain across the street when they succeeded, much to their astonishment, in unearthing a skull, jaw-bone (with teeth in good condition), and various other parts of the human anatomy. The bones were exceptionally large, and show that the man who in the long ago was laid to rest there must have been of giant stature. The discovery created quite a sensation in the town, and much speculation was indulged in as to the supposed age

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of the remains. Colonel Wood Martin, the eminent Sligo historian, has given it as his opinion that the body must have been buried over 250 years ago, and that the "giant" may probably have met his death in battle in those stirring times. The remains were taken in charge by the police, and interred in Sligo cemetery.

**TIPPERARY.—Success of Tipperary Men in New York.**—Detailed news has come from New York regarding the results of the recent municipal elections in that city. The Mayor of the Greater City of New York will have power under the New Charter only second to that of President of the U.S.A., and his patronage goes away up in the hundreds of millions. It is interesting to know that the stout-hearted sons of gallant Tipperary took a very prominent part in the late political struggle. Thomas J. Dunne, a true-hearted son of the premier county, has been honoured by his fellow-citizens making him the first sheriff of Greater New York. Then Thomas M. Lynch, who hails from the Slate Quarries, near Portroe, one of the most popular men in the city, has been elected to the important office of coroner. There are several other Tipperary men elected to minor positions in this and the neighbouring city of Yonkers. Amongst the successful candidates in the latter municipality are Mr. Thomas Costello, from the neighbourhood of Ballycapple. Tom is a right good fellow. If he were not, he (a Dem.) would not be elected, in the rank Republican ward, to the office of alderman. Another promising Tip. holding office in Yonkers is Mr. Renahan, son of Mr. John Renahan, formerly of Nenagh. We also find a fine Tipperary man, Mr. John Broderick, defeated by a very small margin for sheriff of Westchester City, N.Y., by a Birr man, William Molloy. On the whole, Tipperary should feel proud of the showing made by her sons in the late political campaign. While Judge Van Wyck won the Mayoralty of Greater New York by \$6,931, Mr. Dunne's majority as sheriff was 90,000.

"Am I elected sheriff?" Thomas J. Dunne asked on the night after election.

"Yes," he was told; "beyond all question."

"Where is the office?" he asked.

"Well, it is in the vicinity of the City Hall."

"All right," Mr. Dunne replied. "I knew there was such an office, and I knew I started to run for it a few weeks ago, but I didn't know but that Tamsen had moved it so that I couldn't find it."

are not priests who proudly point to St. John's College as their fond and memorable *Alma Mater*. Dr. Sheehy feelingly replied.

### GENERAL.

**Bravo, Mr. Lipton!**—The Congested Districts Board, Ireland, sent an instructor recently through certain districts of the country to teach the people scientific honey culture. The Board, to ensure the success of the bee-keeping, became itself the purchaser of the honey produced. At last meeting it was agreed to write to Mr. Lipton asking him to purchase the honey which the Board had thus acquired. He agreed to do so, provided the samples and the packing satisfied his buyers. These proving excellent, he purchased the Board's whole stock by a single transaction. Mr. Lipton goes in for "big things," but he seldom manages to combine a good commercial stroke with a proceeding of the most practical patriotism as in this case he has done. The friends of Ireland owe him their gratitude—and their custom, for honey at all events.

**The Flag of Ireland.**—In reply to a correspondent, the *Chicago Citizen* publishes the following:—The national flag of Ireland, adopted by the United Irishmen and carried by them in fifty pitched battles in 1798, makes the green flag with the uncrowned harp the national standard of Ireland, and it is so recognised the world over. There is evidence that this flag was carried by Irish merchantmen about the middle of the seventeenth century, and there is a tradition that it floated from Dublin Castle beside the Royal flag when James II. occupied that city before the battle of the Boyne. The green flag with the crownless harp was carried by Meagher's Brigade of the Army of the Potomac during the American Civil War.

**A Queer Will.**—Lord Trevor, whose wife died in 1895 is engaged to Rosamond Lady Bantry, who has been a widow for six years. By the late Lord Trevor's will, any of his descendants who might marry a Catholic were absolutely excluded from all participation in the trust fund created by him in favour of his widow and children. These provisions cannot affect the present peer, who succeeded to the entailed estates on the death of his father, for many years the life and soul of the Orange movement. The wedding is fixed for the 7th December, and will probably take place at the Brompton Oratory. Lord and Lady Trevor will spend their honeymoon in Paris.

## THE MASSIVE PLATE

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J. M'KAY

"You can't tell," Mr. Dunne continued. "My mother has a strange idea of the sheriff's duties. I wrote to her a few weeks ago, telling her I was nominated for the shrievalty. She wrote back and said, 'Tommy, my boy, don't take it if there's any hanging in it.' I bore that in mind, and I cabled to her to-day:

"Mother, I'm elected sheriff of New York; but, mother, there's no hanging in it.—TOMMY."

"Faith, I don't want mother to have any uneasy nights on my account," said the sheriff-elect. "Where does she live? Why, in Clonmel, Tipperary, a mighty good county, equaled only by Greater New York. I don't tell a fib to mother, either, for the electric chair has taken the place of the gallows."

**The Oldest Irishman.**—Death has just removed the oldest, if not the very oldest, Irishman of the present day in the person of an inhabitant of Nenagh, named Laurence McCarthy, who has passed away in the Nenagh Workhouse Hospital in the 115th year of his age. That McCarthy had lived through this extraordinary length of years is not merely a matter of conjecture, it is an authenticated fact (says the *Dublin Freeman*), and is vouched for by more than one incontrovertible proof. The workhouse infirmary records bear testimony, in the first instance, to his remarkable longevity, of which there is even still more conclusive evidence in the documents which he had himself carefully preserved. His life illustrates many peculiar traits of character, and a remarkable, though somewhat chequered, career. Born in Nenagh in the early part of the year 1782, he had attained the age of sixteen when Irishmen sought the realisation of their hopes of National independence in '98, and he remembered distinctly many of the stirring incidents of that eventful period. He carried with him to his grave memories of the battle of Waterloo in the shape of a number of severe wounds which he sustained in action.

**WATERFORD.—Presentation to Dr. Sheehy.**—The students of St. John's College, Waterford, have presented the Very Rev. Dr. Sheehy, the president, with a beautiful illuminated address on his return in renewed health after a sojourn in South America. Father Walsh, Vice-President, delivered a felicitous speech when the illuminated address was presented, which after paying a high tribute to Dr. Sheehy, set forth how under his fostering care at the present moment there is scarcely a country in the world where there

**Mr. Gladstone.**—Readers interested in the cause of Home Rule will be sorry to learn that the friend of Ireland, the "Grand Old Man," is showing signs of breaking up. Many had hoped that the veteran statesman would have lived to witness the accomplishment of his grand purpose, but the unhappy dissensions among the Irish party put off, at least for a time, the day when Ireland will again legislate for herself from the old house in College Green. Meanwhile, it will be remembered that in '92 Mr. Gladstone had a majority of 200,000 in the country, but only secured a majority of forty in the House of Commons. In '95 Lord Salisbury had 100,000 of a majority in the country, yet he secured 150 of a majority in the House of Commons. If the cumulative vote could do worse than this we should like to see an illustration.

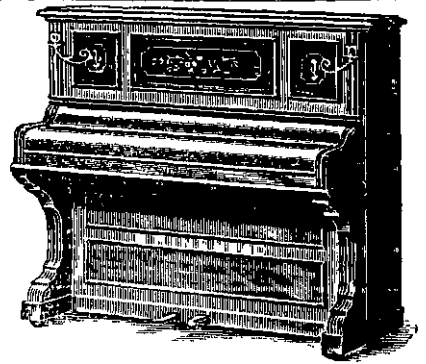
**The Railway Crisis.**—The threatened strikes on the Great Northern and the Midland Great Western Railways will not take place. The questions at issue between the railway companies and the railway men, are to be submitted to amicable discussion instead of being fought fiercely out in a strike. In a railway strike it may, with considerable truth, be said the public bears the blows. A largely attended meeting of the Great Northern Railway men was held in Dublin on December 6th, at which the following resolution was proposed and carried with acclamation:—"That inasmuch as the cessation of work on the Great Northern Railway system by an organised body of over two thousand trained and efficient workmen would cause a total dislocation of traffic, a great public inconvenience, and a probable loss of life and property, we hereby waive the claim officially made on the Great Northern Board of Directors asking for a free recognition of our Society, and that as the directors have officially refused to grant such a recognition, we as employes of the Great Northern Railway, instruct our secretary, Mr. William Branagan, to withdraw on our behalf the strike notices served on the Company by Mr. P. J. Tevahan, and we respectfully request our fellow-workmen to support this action." "That we also instruct our secretary to forward this and the foregoing resolution to Mr. T. Morrison, secretary of the Great Northern Railway Company, with the request that the Board of Directors will arrange as soon as possible to meet the appointed deputations for the discussion of the claims presented to the Board on behalf of all the grades mentioned in the programme of wages, etc." In accordance with this resolution the strike notices have been withdrawn.

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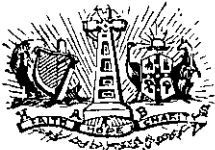
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A FULL Benefit Member, on payment of a weekly contribution of from 1s to 1s 3d (graduated according to age), is entitled to Medical Attendance and Medicine for himself and family (children to be under the age of 18 years) immediately on joining. Also 20s per week for 26 weeks, 15s per week for the next 13 weeks, and 10s per week for a further period of 13 weeks, in case of sickness, and should there be a continuance of illness, 5s per week is allowed during incapacity as superannuation, provided he has been a member of the Society for 7 years previous to the commencement of such incapacity. On the death of wife, £10; at his own death relatives receive £20.

A Reduced Benefit Member, on payment of a weekly contribution of from 7d to 8d (graduated according to age), is entitled to Medical Attendance and Medicine for himself immediately on joining and a Sick Allowance of 10s per week for 26 weeks, 5s per week for the succeeding 13 weeks, when, if he be still unable to follow any employment, he shall be entitled to 2s 6d per week for another 13 weeks, and in case of additional illness, 2s 6d during incapacity, under the same proviso as in the case of full benefit members. On the death of a reduced benefit member his representative is entitled to the sum of £10.

Members of female branches contribute weekly (graduated according to age) from 7d to 9½d, and receive benefits as follows:—Medical Attendance and Medicine immediately on joining, in case of sickness 10s per week for 26 weeks, 7s 6d for the succeeding 13 weeks, and 5s per week for another 13 weeks if still unable to follow any employment. On the death of a female benefit member her representative is entitled (if single) to £20, (if married) on the death of her husband she is entitled to £10. Should she die before him her representative is entitled to £20. Provided in all cases the Rules of the Society and the requirements of the Friendly Societies' Act are adhered to.

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SEASON 1897—98.

TO THE WOOL GROWERS OF OTAGO AND SOUTHLAND.

GENTLEMEN.—The near approach of another Wool Season induces us to again tender you our services as Brokers for the sale of your Clip in this market, or for shipment thereof to our London agents, making Liberal Cash Advances thereon, if required.

Our Wool Exchange is now being cleared and prepared for the reception of the ensuing Clip, and being commodious, brilliantly lighted, and specially designed and arranged for the best display of the wool, it offers unequalled advantages to growers. Ample space being available, there is room for the fullest display of sample bales, and in the case of small lots, the entire Clip is shown.

As our Exchange is connected by private siding to rail and wharves, we are enabled to give buyers special facilities in getting their purchases rapidly cleared and shipped, and trucks containing growers' consignments are delivered direct into store without unloading.

The Dunedin Market is now fully accredited as the best selling centre. There is a strong force of Local and Provincial Buyers, and also a large number of buyers from England, the Continent, and America, who regularly attend our Sales, and in addition to the healthy competition thus secured, the yearly increasing requirements of our local Woollen Factories, which have to be supplied here, have an important effect in regulating and maintaining values at our Dunedin Sales. We can, therefore, strongly recommend growers to submit their wools at our Dunedin Sales, as we feel convinced in will be to their advantage to do so. The yearly increasing quantity sold here proves that this is the best selling market, and we feel assured that if a comparison were made, it would be found that better results have been secured by selling here than by shipping to London.

Our Sales will be held as usual at the auction rooms of the Wool Broker's Association, where (as large catalogues will be offered) a full attendance of buyers, and the best competition will be assured. The Sales have been fixed to be held as follows:—

First Sale, Tuesday, 21st December, 1897.

Second Sale, Monday, 10th January, 1898.

Third Sale, Friday, 4th February, 1898.

Fourth Sale, Thursday, 24th February, 1898.

## DONALD REID AND CO.

YOURS HEALTHFULLY

A WONDERFUL HEALER



"It rubs them all out"

Specific for Sore Eyes, Ulcers, Wounds, Cuts, Burns, Scalds, Sprains, Bruises, Ringworm, Cracked Hands, Chilblains, Eczema, Skin Disease etc.

Price, One Shilling per Pot.

N.B.—Should your chemist or store not stock these Medicines, send direct to the Proprietor—

J. J. F. WALKER,

HIGH AND TUAM STREETS,  
CHRISTCHURCH, N.Z.,

And they will be sent to you by mail, securely packed, postage paid, on receipt of stamps or P.O. order.

## VICTORIA IRON WORKS RATRAY STREET WHARF, DUNEDIN.

JOSEPH SPARROW,  
Engineer, Boilermaker, Shipsmith, etc.

Wrought Iron Fluming and all kinds of Mining Plant manufactured by Special Machinery. Agent for Hadfield's Manganese Steel (a large quantity always on hand); special for Dredge Pins, Bushes and Lips.

A Variety of Machinery always on hand.

Repairs Done by Experienced Workmen.

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

Pickering Governors, Simple Boiler Injector.

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

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT.

J. T. CARTER,  
IRONMONGER, CROCKERY AND  
GLASSWARE MERCHANT,  
45 GEORGE STREET (late Little Dust Pan).

The Proprietor has pleasure in announcing that he has opened this day (Saturday) with a well-assorted stock of the above goods.

As Mr. A. B. DAVIE has full charge of the Crockery Department, the public may rest assured that they will receive every courtesy and prompt attention.

## MONUMENTAL WORKS, STAFFORD ST., TIMARU.

W. H. CAIN, having purchased the late James Jones, is prepared to execute in First-Class Style all work entrusted to him at very greatly reduced rates and guarantees satisfaction.

All Kinds of Cemetery Railings and Kerbing Supplied, and Inscriptions cut in Cemeteries.

The Finest Stock in South Canterbury to select from. Designs and Estimates forwarded on application.

## HUGH GOURLEY

desires to inform the public he still continues the Undertaking Business as formerly at the Establishment, corner Clarke and MacLaggan streets, Dunedin.

Funerals attended in Town or Country with promptness and economy.

## THE BEST CEMENT EXHIBITED—MAORI BRAND.

Vide 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.

FRANK OAKDEN, Manager.

## W. GREGG AND CO DUNEDIN.

Established 1861.

Proprietors of the Celebrated  
CLUB BRAND COFFEE.

also

ARABIAN, EXHIBITION, ELEPHANT,  
and other Brands, Unsurpassed for Value

MANUFACTURERS OF EAGLE BRAND STARCH (equal to, and rapidly displacing, the best imported), also CORN PINK, HELIOTROPE, and other COLOURED STARCHES; SODA CRYSTALS, FLAVOURING ESSENCES, GENUINE MADRAS CURRY POWDER, PURE PEPPERS AND SPICES, GUARANTEED.

Ask your Grocer for above Brands, and you will get Good Value for your money.

W. GREGG & CO., DUNEDIN.

**O**NTALGIC Extract gives instant relief from Toothache. 1s bottle.

**N**EURANODYNE cures most virulent Neuralgia or Faceache. 2s 6d per bottle. Kempson, Chemist, 99 George street.

## SPRING BLOSSOM OINTMENT.

**F**OUND.—Worth its weight in gold for healing everything it touches. "SPRING BLOSSOM OINTMENT." Sold everywhere.

**F**OUND.—"Spring Blossom Ointment" cures sore legs, sore nipples and broken breasts; 6d and 1s everywhere.

**L**OST.—Irritating eruptions, sunburns, chapped hands and chilblains by using "Spring Blossom Ointment"; 6d and 1s. Sold everywhere.

**F**OUND.—"Spring Blossom Ointment" cures sore legs, sore eyes, old wounds; only 6d and 1s everywhere.

**L**OST.—Burns, bruises, boils, cuts and smarting rashes, by using "Spring Blossom Ointment"; 6d and 1s everywhere.

**F**OUND.—The great Twin Remedies; used by all in search of health; "SPRING BLOSSOM OINTMENT AND PILLS."  
Sold by Chemists and Storekeepers.

**ONLY 6<sup>d</sup> AND 1<sup>s</sup>**  
Storekeepers and Chemists Order from  
KEMPTHORNE, PROSSER & CO.,  
Dunedin, Christchurch, Wellington and  
Auckland.

**SEE**  
**THAT YOUR BOOTS**  
**ARE BRANDED ON THE HEEL**

**STANDARD**

**FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS**

**FIRST.**  
Boots with this Brand on the heel are Guaranteed to Fit and Wear Well.

**SECOND.**  
On this Brand only the Very Best of Workmen are employed.

**THIRD.**  
Only the Very Best of Materials are used in this Brand of Boots and Shoes.

**FOURTH.**  
Farmers, Miners, and all who want to keep their feet dry, try this Brand.

**FIFTH.**  
The "STANDARD" Brand Boots and Shoes are known from Auckland to the Bluff for sterling quality.

## Commercial.

NEW ZEALAND LOAN AND MERCANTILE AGENCY COMPANY report for week ending February 1, as follows:

**Wheat**—The market remains quiet. No business of any consequence will be done before the new crop is available. Quotations for prime milling velvet, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; medium and best Tuscan, 4s 3d to 4s 5d; best red wheat, 4s 2d to 4s 5d; nominally, 3s 8d to 4s; inferior, 2s 9d to 3s 7d (ex store, sacks weighed in, terms).

**Oats**—The market continues very firm, and a good many changing hands, but no further improvement in price. Quotations for prime milling, 2s 1d to 2s 2d; best short bright feed, 2s to 2s 1d; inferior to medium, 1s 10d to 1s 11½d (ex store, sacks extra, net).

**Barley**—None offering.

**Grass Seeds**—A few samples of the new ryegrass seed are now coming forward, and that with offers about on a par with those ruling last season, say 2s 8d to 2s 10d for clean, shotty seed from the mill; a shade more for extra prime; machine dressed, prime, 3s 4d to 4s 3d; extra prime, 4s 6d; medium, 2s 9d to 3s 6d (ex store, sacks extra, net). Cook-foot, best dressed, 4½d to 5½d; medium, 4d to 4½d per lb (sacks extra, net).

**Chaff**—Prices have again receded 5s per ton this week owing to heavy consignments. Best on Monday brought £3 10s to £3 15s; extra prime, £3 17s 6d; medium, £2 10s to £3 2s 6d per ton (ex truck, sacks extra, net).

**Potatoes**—Best kidneys are fetching £5 10s to £6; medium, £4 10s to £5 (ex store, sacks weighed in, net).

**Sheepskins**—A steady demand continues to exist for these and prices will be maintained. Best dry crossbreds fetch 4d to 4½d; medium, 2d to 3½d; dry merinos, 2½ to 1½d per lb; green crossbred pelts, 8d to 1s 3d; green lambskins, 9d to 1s 9d each.

**Rabbitskins**—Very few now offering. Prices range from 2d to 9d per lb.

**Hides**—Market unchanged. Best heavy fetch 3d to 3½d; medium, 2d to 2½d; inferior, 1d to 1½d per lb.

**Tallow and Fat**—Best rendered from the country fetches 13s 6d to 14s 6d; medium, 10s 6d to 13s; rough fat best mutton caul, 9s 6d to 10s; medium, 8s 9d to 9s 3d; inferior, 8s to 8s 6d per cwt (ex store, net).

MESSRS. DONALD REID AND Co. report that prices ruled as under at their weekly auction sale:—

**Oats**—The market is unchanged. To-day we offered only good to prime sparrowbills, which were sold for 2s to 2s 1d per bushel (sacks extra).

**Wheat**—Fair fowl wheat sold at 3s to 3s 3d; good to 3s 7d per bushel (sacks in). In milling lines the demand is chiefly for choice samples of velvet.

**Potatoes**—Prime, freshly-dug kidneys, 5s to 6s; medium, 4s to 5s per cwt (sacks in).

**Chaff**—Large supplies forward, and in consequence values have suffered a slight decline. Best oaten sheaf sold at £3 12s 6d to £3 15s; good, £3 10s; medium, £3 5s to £3 7s 6d per ton (bags extra).

MESSRS. STRONACH BROS. AND MORRIS report as follows:—

**Fat Cattle**—156 yarded. Bidding was dull and prices were slightly lower than those ruling last week. Best bullocks sold at £7 10s to £8 15s; medium, £5 17s 6d to £7 5s; light, £4 10s to £5 15s; best cows, £5 10s to £6 10s; medium, £3 15s to £5; others, £1 10s to £3 10s.

**Fat Sheep**—1954 penned. There was a poor demand and prices were again 1s lower. Best crossbred wethers sold at 9s to 9s 9d; medium, 7s 9d to 8s 9d; inferior, 3s to 5s 9d.

**Lambs**—1212 penned. The demand was fair but prices were, if anything, lower than last week's. Extra prime lambs sold at 10s to 10s 9d; good, 9s to 9s 9d; others, 5s 3d to 8s 9d.

**Pigs**—97 penned. The demand was keen for all sorts and late prices were well maintained. Suckers sold at 10s 6d to 13s 6d;

elips, 15s 6d to 16s 6d; stores, 20s to 26s 6d; porders, 28s 6d to 32s; baconers, 34s to 46s; heavy do, to 54s.

**Rabbitskins**—There are not many coming forward at this time of the year, but all offering meet with keen competition; springs selling at up to 10½d per lb.

**Sheepskins**—There was a good attendance at Tuesday's sale, and last week's prices were fully maintained. Best dry crossbreds sold at 4s to 5s 6d; medium, 2s 6d to 3s 9d; best dry merinos, 3s 3d to 4s 6d; medium, 2s to 3s; green pelts, 7d to 1s 4d; lambskins, 9d to 1s 8d.

**Wool**—There is nothing doing at present locally, pending the third sale of the season, which takes place on Friday next.

**Hides**—Market firm. Prime heavy ox, 3½d to 3¾d, medium, 2½d to 3d; light and inferior, 1½d to 2½d per lb.

**Tallow**—Market dull. Best rendered, 12s to 13s; medium, 10s 6d to 11s 6d; rough fat, 8s to 10s per cwt.

**Wheat**—There is not much offering, and prices remain firm. Quotations: Prime milling velvet, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; medium, 4s 4d to 4s 5d; prime Tuscan, etc, 4s 4d to 4s 5d; medium, 4s 2d to 4s 3½d; fowl wheat, 3s to 3s 8d per bushel (sacks in).

**Oats**—The market has remained firm during the week and prices are unaltered. Quotations: Prime milling, 2s 1½d to 2s 3d; good to best feed, 2s to 2s 1d; medium, 1s 11d to 1s 11½d; inferior and discoloured, 1s 8½d to 1s 10½d per bushel (sacks extra).

**Barley**—There is very little offering at present, and prices remain unchanged. Prime malting, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; medium, 3s 9d to 4s 1d; feed and milling, 2s 9d to 3s 6d per bushel (sacks extra).

**Chaff**—Owing to large supplies coming forward prices have again suffered a slight decline. Prime oaten sheaf, £3 12s 6d to £3 15s; medium, £3 5s to £3 10s per ton (bags extra).

**Potatoes**—Prime kidneys, 5s to 6s per cwt.

MESSRS SAMUEL ORR AND Co., Stafford street, report as follows:—

Harvesting operations are now in full swing in the north, and have, up to yesterday, been favoured with good weather. It is still cold unseasonable weather in the south.

Wheat on the spot seemingly keeps its price, and small lots of milling quality and fowl wheat find purchaser.

Oats—These are not so firm or demand so keen as last week or the week before, and can be accounted for by the fact of sales and offerings in Canterbury of both feed and duns. Shippers only buy to suit requirements, while millers wants are easily satisfied, as this is an off season for oatmeal. We quote—Bright heavy feed, up to 2s 1d; ordinary, 1s 10½d to 2s; inferior, 1s 9d.

Chaff—Supply in excess of demand, and a further drop took place. £3 12s 6d is our top price for heavy, well cut, oaten sheaf quality.

Potatoes—Freshly-dug kidneys are selling at 5s to 6s, and good demand.

Seeds—We ask farmers who have ryegrass for sale to send us their samples, as we have special facilities for placing it, and our personal supervision and through knowledge of the seed itself place us in the position of getting growers full value for their product.

### DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS.

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

There was a very meagre supply of horses for this week's sale, and only one draught amongst them worthy of the name. For draughts there were several purchasers in the yard, all of whom were much disappointed at being unable to satisfy their requirements. We have also private inquiries for serviceable young draught mares and geldings for harvest work, and could place several teams at full market rates. We can strongly recommend consignments of this class of horses for the Dunedin market at the present time, and we are confident sellers will not be disappointed if they give it a trial; and the sooner the better, as harvest operations in this locality will shortly be in full swing. Sound, active, young horses are the class most wanted, although there are always buyers in this market for extra heavy and powerful shafters for the town carriers and others. We have placed three or four very ordi-





**THE FIRST SIGN OF A COLD**

**SHOULD** remind you that the best time to commence taking something is at the beginning. It should also remind you that the best remedy to head off a spell of sneezing, coughing and general unpleasantness is

**Benjamin Gum.**



Men start at my statements about **BENJAMIN GUM!**

Thousands of bottles have been sold, and universal praise of its curative qualities is the result.

Note the Name:

**SPENCER VINCENT'S Great BENJAMIN GUM EXTRACT.**

PRICE 1s 6d.

Take no other Remedy, but insist on having

**BENJAMIN GUM.**

**DON'T TAKE "JUST AS GOOD."**

**TESTIMONIALS.**

Woolston, August 10, 1897.

To **SPENCER VINCENT, Christchurch.**

Dear Sir,—For some time past I have been suffering from a most painful cough. I had quite given up hope of its ever leaving me, at least for the remainder of the winter, and feared that it had become chronic; seeing that other remedies failed to give me relief, much less cure. The pain became so intense that I was afraid of injuring my throat and head, especially the latter. I procured one bottle of your **BENJAMIN GUM**, and I may say that I hadn't an atom of faith in its curative properties, but felt that I must take something to ease the pain. I drank contents of first bottle very freely, and am thankful to say in less than twelve hours I was wholly free from cough.

**E. W. SEARS.**

28th April, 1897.

**MR. SPENCER VINCENT.**

Dear Sir,—I have pleasure in testifying to the merits of your Cough Cure with the strange name **BENJAMIN GUM**. I caught a very severe cold in Wellington whilst we were there on a tour, and had tried a dozen different cures with very little good. **BENJAMIN GUM**, I am glad to say, has succeeded where all the others failed. Several members of our Company have been very much benefited by its use, as it dispels hoarseness and huskiness very quickly. Thanking you, am, faithfully yours,  
**W. O'SULLIVAN**  
Treasurer Pollard's Opera Company.

**JAMES NISBET,**  
PAINTER AND PAPERHANGER,  
Begs to intimate to the General Public that he has just landed a new stock of **PAINTS, OILS AND WALL PAPERS** Of the **VERY LATEST PATTERNS.** Estimates given for all classes of Painting Works etc.

Note Address:—

**ST. ANDREW STREET (near George street) DUNEDIN.**

Telephone No. 467.

**SUTTON'S**

**SEEDS,**

**TOTHILL, WATSON AND CO.,**  
CRAWFORD STREET,  
DUNEDIN  
SOLE AGENTS.



**10 YEARS!**

With an increasing demand **PROVES** beyond the possibility of a **DOUBT** that we have the **ONLY** genuine Electric Belts, which will cure all **NERVOUS WEAKNESSES** in all stages, however caused, and restore the wearer to **ROBUST HEALTH.** Our Marvellous Electric Belts give a steady soothing current that can be felt by the wearer through all **WEAK PARTS.** **REMEMBER,** we give a written guarantee with each Electric Belt that it will permanently cure you. If it does not we will promptly return the full amount paid. We mean exactly what we say, and do precisely what we promise.

Address:—

**GERMAN ELECTRIC APPLIANCE AGENCY,**

63, Elizabeth street, Sydney.

**NOTICE.**—Before purchasing we prefer that you send for our **ELECTRIC ERA** and Price List (post free), giving illustrations of different appliances for **BOTH SEXES,** also **TESTIMONY** which will convince the most sceptical.

**HOTELS FOR SALE.**

Hotel, Wellington; trade, £70; rent, after sublets, £4; cash required, £1000.  
Hotel, freehold, country; trade averages £90 weekly. Free House. Cash required, £2500. Splendid property.  
Hotel, country district; ingoing, £250; trade averages £31 weekly. Rent, £5 per week.  
Hotel, country; rent, £2; trade averages £20; cash required, £250.  
Hotel, Napier district; rent, after sublets, £2 2s 6d; trade, £35 to £40; cash required, £600.  
Also hotels in different parts of the district. Easy terms.

**DWAN BROS.,**

WILLIS STREET, WELLINGTON.

**UNION STEAMSHIP COMPANY OF NEW ZEALAND LIMITED.**

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

Steamers will be despatched as under: **LYTTELTON and WELLINGTON—**

Te Anau	Feb. 6	3 p.m. D'din
Mararoa	Tues., Feb. 8	5 p.m. D'din
Wakatipu	Thurs., Feb. 10	2.30 p.m. trn
Flora	Frid., Feb. 11	3 p.m. D'din
<b>NAPIER, GISBORNE and AUCKLAND—</b>		
Te Anau	Feb. 6	4 p.m. D'din
Mararoa	Tues., Feb. 8	2.30 p.m. trn
Flora	Frid., Feb. 11	3 p.m. D'din

**SYDNEY, via WELLINGTON—**

Wakatipu	Thurs., Feb. 10	2.30 p.m. trn
Monowai	Thurs., Feb. 17	2.30 p.m. trn

**SYDNEY via AUCKLAND—**

Mararoa	Tues., Feb. 8	3 p.m. D'din
Waihora	Tues., Feb. 22	4 p.m. D'din
<b>MELBOURNE via BLUFF and HOBART—</b>		
Waikare	Mon., Feb. 7	5.15 p.m. trn
Talune	Mon., Feb. 14	3.35 p.m. trn
<b>WESTPORT, via TIMARU, AKAROA, LYTTELTON WELLINGTON, PICTON and NELSON—</b>		

Brunner *	Feb. 6	5 p.m. D'din
Corinna	Frid., Feb. 11	5 p.m. D'din

\* Tranship Wellington for Picton and Nelson. And calls New Plymouth and Greymouth. **GREYMOUTH, via OAMARU, TIMARU, LYTTELTON, WELLINGTON, and NEW PLYMOUTH—**

Herald	Wed., Feb. 9	5 p.m. D'din
<b>TONGA, SAMOA, FIJI and SYDNEY—</b>		
Tavinui	Wed., Feb. 9	From Auckland
<b>FIJI (SUVA and LEVUKA)—</b>		
Flora	Wed., Feb. 23	From Auckland
<b>TAHITI and RAROTONGA—</b>		
Upolu	Wed., Feb. 15	From Auckland

**F. POBAR AND SON** (from Cashel street Christchurch), Umbrella Manufacturers, have opened a Branch Shop, 113 **GEORGE STREET, DUNEDIN.** Numerous designs in Handles and Fittings. All work guaranteed. Pobar's Price List: Strong Italian Cloth from 2s 6d; Satin de Chene (Italian), 4s 6d; Levantine from 5s 6d; best Twill Silk, 6s 6d; Sticks from 1s; Scissors ground and set, 3d.

**JAMES SAMSON AND CO.**

Auctioneers, Commission, House and Land Agents, Valuators,  
**DOWLING STREET, DUNEDIN.**

**GEO. M' CARTER, JUN.,**

ACCOUNTANT AND AGENT,  
**MUTUAL LIFE CHAMBERS,**  
79 PRINCES STREET.  
Telephone No. 666.

All descriptions of **ACCOUNTANCY WORK** undertaken.

**TRADESMEN'S BOOKS** opened, written up, and audited.

Accounts and Balance Sheets prepared  
Book Debts, Rents, and Interest collected  
Properties purchased, sold, let, and managed  
Loans negotiated. Insurances effected.  
Agencies accepted.

Sub-Agent

**ROYAL EXCHANGE ASSURANCE**  
(Accumulated Funds exceed £4,000,000)

**MONEY TO LEND ON FREEHOLD SECURITY**

From 4½ per cent.



nary draught geldings privately during the week at from L25 to L30 per head. Strong light harness horses for the trams are also in demand and sell well, but other descriptions of light horses are not much sought after. We quote:—First-class young draught mares and geldings, L35 to L40; good do, L28 to L33; medium draught mares and geldings, L20 to L25; aged do, L12 to L18; first-class hack and light harness horses, L18 to L25; good do, L12 to L17; medium do, L7 to L10; aged and inferior, L2 to L5.

MR. F. MEENAN, King street, reports:—Wholesale price only—Oats: Good demand; feed, medium to good, 1s 10d to 2s; milling, 2s to 2s 2d; fowls' wheat, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; milling, 4s 3d to 4s 6d; chaff, L3 to L3 15s, easier. Ryegrass, hay, L2 10s to L3. Straw, 21s per ton; loose, 28s. Potatoes: new, Auckland, none in market; Peninsula, L6. Flour: Roller, L11 to L11 10s; Oatmeal: L11 10s in 25lbs. Butter: Dairy, 5d to 8d; factory, 10d. Eggs, 9d. Bran, L3. Pollard, L3 15s. Onions, Melbourne, L5 10s per ton.

London, January 30, 1898.

Mutton—Crossbred wethers and maiden ewes: Canterbury, 3 3-16d per lb; Dunedin and Southland, 2½d: North Island, 2 11-16d.

Lamb is not quoted.

River Plate crossbreds or merino wethers.—Heavy, 2½d; light, 2½d.

Rabbitskins—At the sales of rabbitskins colonial had brisk competition. Prices advanced ½d to 1d per lb.

Messrs Dalgety and Co., Limited, are in receipt of the following cable from their London office:—"There is a brisk demand for rabbitskins. Prices for prime winters are 1d per lb higher, and for all other descriptions ½d per lb higher. American buyers are the principal operators."

The roots of the rhea grass or ramie plant which the New Zealand Department of Agriculture obtained last year from New South Wales are doing fairly well at the experimental farm at Momohaki. In due course the Department hopes to be able to distribute roots to all who desire to cultivate the plant. A quantity of the seeds are being sent out to the Colony by the Agent-General for general distribution. The fibre is worth about L30 a ton at present. The average cost of cultivation is about L4 per ton, and the yield is about 2800lb per acre.

There was a considerable increase in the area of land sown in wheat in North Canterbury this season, and the total return of grain is expected to be up to that of last year. The samples are turning out very well, but the yields are uneven.

The following are the total areas in the Colony under wheat, oats and barley for threshing this season:—Wheat—322,393, acres, and expected to yield 6,770,253 bushels; estimated area for chaffing or feeding down, 20,000 acres. Oats—356,385 acres, expected to yield 10,691,550 bushels; estimated area for chaffing or feeding down, 20,000 acres. Barley—28,393 acres, expected to yield 709,950 bushels. The quantity of wheat available for the period 15th November, 1897, to 15th November, 1898, may be estimated as follows:—On hand on the 15th November, 1897, 1,112,682 bushels; harvest of 1898, 6,770,253 bushels;—total, 7,882,935 bushels.

In the Winchester district harvest is now in full swing. The crops range from fair to good all over, but on some of the damp land between Winchester and the sea some magnificent crops of wheat are to be seen, but the latter are rather late. A good many farmers are threshing their oats out of the stock on account of the dry season. The turnips have made a good start in most places.

#### DUNEDIN STOCK EXCHANGE.

QUOTATIONS—FRIDAY, JANUARY, 28.

BANKS.—National (ex div.), Buyers, 2/3/6; Sellers, 2/4/6. New South Wales, B., 3/4/-; S., 3/10/-. Union of Australia, Ltd., B., 2/7/-; S., 28/-.

INSURANCE.—National, B., 16/3; S., 17/-. New Zealand, B., 3/7/6; S., 3/9/-. South British, B., 2/10/-; S., 2/11/-. Standard, B., 13/-; S., 13/6.

SHIPPING.—New Zealand Shipping, B., 4/-; S., 4/5/-. Union Steam, B., 8/17/6; S., 9/2/6.

LOAN AND AGENCY.—Commercial Property Company (10/-), B., 4/9; S., 5/6. National Mortgage, B., 10/6; S., 11/-. Perpetual Trustees, B., 10/6; S., 11/-. Trustees and Executors, B., 1/11/-; S., 1/13/-.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Kaiapoi Woollen Co., B., 6/-; S., 6/5/-. Milburn Lime and Cement, B., (ex rights) 1/5/-; S., 1/6/-; do, new issue, B., 1/9; S., 2/6. Mornington Tramway, B., 15/-; S., 16/6. Mosgiel Woollen, B., 4/5/-; S., 4/7/-. New Zealand Drug (2/- paid), B., 2/7/-; S., 2/7/6. New Zealand Drug (30/- paid), B., 1/14/6; S., 1/15/6. Otago Daily Times, B., 10/17/6; S., 11/2/6. Emu Bay Railway, B., 9/6; S., 10/-.

GOLDFIELDS.—Reefton: Big River Extended, B., 12/-; S., 13/-. Keep-it-Dark, B., 16/-; S., 17/-. Alpine Extended, B., 6/-; S., 7/6. Cresus (Paparua), B., 11/-; S., 12/-. Otago—Alpha (contrib.), B., 2/-; S., premium. Morning Star (A issue), B., 17/-; S., 18/-.

COAL.—Kaitangata (old), B., 19/17/6; S., 20/5/-. Kaitangata (new), B., 1/12/-; S., 1/13/-. Westport, B., 2/16/-; S., 2/17/-.

DREDDING COMPANIES.—Buller, B., 3/-; S., 4/-. Clyde, B., 2/11/0; S., 2/15/-. Enterprise, B., 2/5/-; S., 2/10/-. Etrick (contrib.), B., 17/-; S., 17/6. Golden Beach (par.), B., —; S., —. Golden Gate, B., 1/7/-; S., 1/7/6. Golden Run, B., 1/1/-; S., 1/2/-. Golden Treasure, B., 2/16/-; S., 2/18/-. Golden Terrace, B., 13/-; S., 14/-. Jutland Flat (paid), B., 6/-; S., 6/6. Magnetic, B., 2/-; S., 3/-. Molyneux Hydraulic Co. Dredge (B issue), B., 1/5/-; S., 1/7/-. Otago, B., 1/9/6; S., 1/11/-. Upper Waipori (contrib.), B., 2/3; S., 2/9.

SLICING COMPANIES.—Moonlight Slicing B., 1/16/-; S., 1/19/- Roxburgh Amalgamated (contrib.), B., 5/9; S., 6/6. Waipori Deep Lead, B., 10d; S., 1/3. Deep Stream, B., 1/0/-; S., 1/0/6. Bakery Flat, B., 14/-; S., 14/9.

#### BANK RETURNS.

Wellington, January 27.

The following are the bank returns for the quarter ended the 31st December, 1897:—

	Paid up.	Reserve.	Liabilities in N.Z.	Assets in N.Z.
	£	£	£	£
Bank of New Zealand—Capital 4 per cent, stock guaranteed by Government .. .. .	2,000,000			
Preferred shares subscribed for by the Government of New Zealand .. .. .	500,000	23,474	6,862,910	8,094,947
Capital payable by shareholders .. .. .	500,000			
Union Bank of Australia .. .. .	1,500,000	812,067	2,392,210	2,127,824
Bank of New South Wales .. .. .	1,950,000	1,200,000	2,351,201	2,761,500
Bank of Australasia .. .. .	1,600,000	817,997	1,200,931	1,970,188
National Bank of New Zealand (Limited) .. .. .	250,000	33,657	2,126,957	2,267,895
Totals .. .. .	...	...	14,934,211	17,222,415

#### RAILWAY RETURNS.

An approximate statement drawn up by the Railway Department shows that for the four weeks ending January 8th the revenue derived from the North Island railways was L54,100, as against L48,375, for the corresponding period of last year, or an increase of L5725. The South Island revenue was L77,800 for the same period, as against L75,000 last year, or an increase of L2700; the total increase therefore being L8425. On the Wellington-Napier-New Plymouth section the total for the four weeks (embracing the holiday season) was L37,800, as compared with L32,200 for the same period last year, or an increase of L5500. Allowance must, of course, be made for the fact that the line between Newman and Woodville was not completed last year. The total increase in revenue over both islands for the nine months ended 8th January was L83,400 over and above the amount received during the corresponding period last year; so that the returns for the twelve months are expected to prove of an eminently satisfactory character.

#### WELLINGTON HARBOUR BOARD.

The past year has been highly successful with the Wellington Harbour Board. The profit and loss account shows that after payment of all charges, including interest, maintenance, and depreciation, there is a credit margin for 1897 of L8260, which makes the surplus for the year's working. The assets have increased by L11,803. The amount paid for interest on loans was L10,617. The total receipts for 1897 were L67,824, as against L59,661 for 1896. This gives an increase of L8163, or 13 2-3 per cent. In 1895 the total was L55,496. The working expenditure (L48,604) shows an increase over that of 1896 (L45,559) of L3045, or 6 2-3 per cent.

The quantity of cargo handled by the Board for 1897 shows an increase, as compared with the previous year, of 8253 tons, or 15 per cent. Wool represented an increase of 8½ per cent. The tonnage of vessels arriving during the year also showed a substantial increase.

Mr. Thomas Johnstone, pharmaceutical chemist, advertises his great corn cure. Callosine is we believe one of the very best remedies for corns to be procured. One bottle will remove the most troublesome corn. [ADVT.]

Messrs. Laidlaw and Gray, Rattray St., Dnnedin, have just opened up their new large and commodious stores next to Messrs. P. Hayman and Co.'s warehouse. Their stock of general ironmongery is equal to if not better than any other in the town, and the prices they sell at cannot be looked at by other firms. All their goods are of the very best quality and from the best English and Continental houses. The firm have also in hand a splendid stock of first-class American organs suitable for church music. The instruments are of the very best make, and are all artistically finished. In order to dispose of them Messrs. Laidlaw and Grey intend to reduce them to a very low price. Anyone in search of a good instrument should call and inspect the firm's stock of American organs and pianos.—ADVT.

More marvellous records for the Sterling and Newhaven bicycles at Wellington, January 23. Barker, from scratch, won his heat in the Half-mile. In the One-mile First Class Barker won the race from scratch. At the Cash Cycling Club's Sports, held at Wellington on January 26, Sutherland won the Two-mile Wheel Race, Barker and Sutherland on a Sterling tandem won the Multicycle Race (two miles) from scratch. At Wellington, on Saturday 29th, Barker, from Scratch, won the New Zealand Natives' Association Wheel race (two miles), £25. The Five-mile Scratch Race was won by Barker. The Sterlings are always to the front in scratch races and all the big handicaps. They have won every scratch race this season and all the most important handicaps, including every wheel race, and only lost one multicycle race by 2in. since they started. Truly a wonderful record.—ADVT.

# SIMPSON & HART,

Brewers, Malsters and Bottlers,  
Black Horse Brewery, LAWRENCE.

THE BEST ALE AND STOUT IN THE MARKET. IN BULK AND BOTTLE.

ORDERS RECEIVE PROMPT ATTENTION.

V.



R.

## CROWN LANDS AUCTION SALE

AT THE  
CROWN LANDS OFFICE

ON

FRIDAY, THE 25TH OF FEBRUARY, AT NOON.

### TOWN LANDS.

**ALEXANDRA TOWN.**—Sections 1 to 7 and 22, Block V.; 17 to 20, Block VI.; 19 to 22, Block VII.; 1 to 4 and 16 to 19, Block VIII.; 1 to 13 and 16 to 22, Block IX.; 1 to 5, 8, 16 and 17, Block X.; 3 to 9, Block XIII.; 4, 5 and 7, Block XXVIII.

**HAVELOCK TOWN.**—Sections 6, 7 and 8, Block XXXII.

**HYDE TOWN.**—Sections 1 and 2, Block VII.

### SUBURBAN LANDS.

**ALEXANDRA.**—Sections 5 to 10, Block XXII.; 1 to 9 and 11, Block XXIII.; 1, 3, 4, Block XXIV.; and 1 and 2, Block XXVII.

Posters containing Plans, Areas, etc., will shortly be ready for Distribution, and may be seen at the various Railway Stations, Post Offices, etc.

**TERMS.**—One-fifth of Purchase Money at the fall of the hammer, balance with Crown Grant Fee (£1), within 30 days from sale.

Full information can be obtained at this Office.

J. P. MAITLAND,  
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

Crown Lands Office,  
Dunedin, 28th January, 1898.

V.



R.

## CROWN LANDS AUCTION SALE.

At the

CROWN LANDS OFFICE,

On the

25TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1898. AT 11 A.M.

Section 14, Block V., L. Hawea district; area, 40 acres 8 poles. Upset price, £1 15s per acre.

Section 39, Block I., Pomahaka district; area, 4 acres. Upset price, £2 per acre.

Section 11, Block VIII., Warepa district; area 2 acres. Upset price, 2s per acre.

Section 54, Block III., Oamaru district; area, 3 roods and 33 poles. Total upset price, £15.

Section 69, Block XVIII., Tuapeka East district; area, 2 acres and 27 poles. Total upset price, £3. Valuation for improvements, £5.

Section 83, Block XVIII., Tuapeka East district; area, 2 roods and 8 poles. Total upset price, £2. Valuation for improvements, £2 10s.

Section 124, Block XIX., Tuapeka East district; area, 1 rood 30 poles. Total upset price, £3. Valuation for improvements, £65.

### TERMS OF SALE.

One-fifth purchase money to be paid at the fall of the hammer and the balance with Crown Grant Fee within 30 days of sale, otherwise the part of purchase money paid by way of deposit shall be forfeited and the contract for the sale null and void.

The title to section 54, Block III., Oamaru district, will be by conveyance at the purchaser's expense.

Full particulars to be obtained at this office.

J. P. MAITLAND,  
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

Crown Lands Office,  
Dunedin, January 28, 1898.

CALEDONIAN GROUNDS, DUNEDIN,

SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 1898.

# ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION SPORTS CARNIVAL

UNDER DISTINGUISHED PATRONAGE.

All Cycling Races to be Run under League of New Zealand Wheelmen Rules.

### PROGRAMME OF EVENTS:

- |  |              |       |     |
|--|--------------|-------|-----|
| 1. Hurling Match (No Entry) ...  | Valuable Cup |       |     |
| 2. Wrestling—Cumberland Style (Entry 2s) ...   | £6           | £2    | £1  |
| 3. Half-Mile Bicycle Handicap, Cash (Entry 2s. Winners of Heats, 10s) ...  | 2            | 1     |     |
| 4. Boys' Handicap Flat Race, under 14—100yds. (Entry, 6d). Trophies ...  | 1            | 10s   | 5s  |
| 5. Tug-o'-War—10 men aside (Entry 10s a team) ...  | 10           | 50s   |     |
| 6. One Mile Bicycle Race, Amateur. Trophies. (Entry 2s) ...  | 2            | 1     |     |
| 7. Irish Jig (Entry 1s) ...  | 2            | 1     |     |
| 8. Hibernian Wheel Race, 2 Miles, Handicap (Entry 10s; acceptance, 2s 6d. Winners of heats, 10s) ...   | 20           | 5     | 2   |
|  |              | and 1 |     |
| 9. Putting the 16lb Ball (Entry 2s) ...  | 2            | 1     |     |
| 10. One Mile Handicap Walk, Open (Entry 2s) ...  | 3            | 2     | 1   |
| 11. One and a Half Miles Ladies' Bracelet Bicycle Race (Entry, 2s 6d; acceptance, 1s. Winners of heats, 10s) ...   | 4            | 2     | 1   |
| 12. Best Puck—Confined to Competitors in Hurling Teams. Trophy ...   | 1            |       |     |
| 13. 220yds. Amateur Race (Entry 1s). Trophies value ...  | 2            | 1     |     |
| 14. St. Patrick's Handicap of ...  | £17          | 5s    |     |
| Two Distances, 220 and 440yds (Entry 3s. 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each distance receive £3, £2, and £1. Points to be given to 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each distance, winner of highest aggregate points to receive a Trophy, valued at £5 5s) |              |       |     |
| 15. Wrestling—Irish Style, Collar and Elbow (Entry 2s. 1st and 2nd to receive Medals in addition to Prizes) ...  | 6            | 2     | 1   |
| 16. One Mile Bicycle Handicap, Open (Entry, 2s; acceptance, 1s. Winners of heats, 10) ...  | 3            | 2     | 1   |
| 17. Dancing Highland Fling, in Costume (Entry, 1s) ...   | 2            | 1     |     |
| 18. Youth's Handicap Flat Race, under 16—220yds (Entry, 6d). Trophies ...  | 1            | 10s   | 5s  |
| 19. Three Mile Scratch Bicycle Race (Entry, 2s 6d; acceptance, 1s). Pacing will be permitted in this Event. ...  | 3            | 2     | 1   |
| 20. Half Mile Youth's Handicap Walk, under 16 Entry, 1s. Trophies ...  | 2            | 1     | 10s |
| 21. 440yds Amateur Flat Race (Entry, 1s). Trophies ...   | 2            | 1     |     |
| 22. Multicycle Handicap Race (Entry, 2s 6d per team) ...   | 3            | 2     |     |

Entries by Post received at any time by the Secretary, MR. HARRY MCCORMACK, George street, Dunedin, or personally at the Society's Rooms, TABLET OFFICE, between the hours of 3 and 10 p.m. on the 12th March.

**LOVELY AKAROA.**—Spend your Holidays at Akaroa! It cannot be equalled for Boating, Fishing, etc.

MRS. CULLEN. Board and Lodgings. Terms Moderate.

V.



R.

## CROWN LANDS OPEN FOR APPLICATION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Crown Lands in the under-mentioned Districts will be Open For Sale or Selection in terms of Section 136 of "The Land Act, 1892" either for Cash, for Occupation-with-Right-of-Purchase or for Lease-in-Perpetuity, at the option of the selector, on WEDNESDAY, the 23rd day of FEBRUARY, 1898:—

AKATORE, Block I. UPPER WAKATIPU, Block I.  
 GLENOAMARU, Blocks V. and X. WOODLAND, Blocks I., VI., VIII.  
 TARRAS, Block VII. CATLINS, Block I.

Posters containing plans and particulars will shortly be ready for distribution, and will be exhibited at the various Post Offices, Railway Stations, etc.

Rentals, Lease and Registration Fees, and valuation for improvement (if any) must be lodged with applications or paid immediately after the result of the ballot is declared.

Forms of application and full particulars can be obtained at this office.

J. P. MAITLAND,  
 Commissioner of Crown Lands.

Crown Lands Office,  
 Dunedin, December 31, 1897.

## ST. PATRICK'S COLLEGE, WELLINGTON.

THE COLLEGE WILL RE-OPEN

ON

SATURDAY, 5th FEBRUARY, 1898.

CLASSES will be formed on MONDAY, 7th FEBRUARY.

PUNCTUAL ATTENDANCE of all PUPILS is desired on MONDAY 7th FEBRUARY, 1898.

## THE CATHOLIC BOOK DEPOT

(Opposite Pro-Cathedral)  
 BARBADOES STREET, CHRISTCHURCH.

ESTABLISHED 1880.

Fresh Supplies of New Works and Prize Books by Standard Authors, from Messrs. W. H. Gill and Son, James Duffy and Co. Burns and Oats, The Catholic Truth Society, The Oxford University Press, Ward Lock and Co., etc., etc., also from America.  
 Wax Candles and Tin Floats, Statuary, Beads, Crucifixes, and a large assortment of Religious Prints and Pictures.

N.B.—Milner's End of Religious Controversy. New edition by Rev. Luke Rivington, M.A. Price, 1s 6d; Post Free, 2s.

E. O'CONNOR,  
 Proprietor.

### 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.

All communications connected with the literary department, reports, correspondence, newspaper cuttings, etc., should be addressed to the Editor.

Correspondents are particularly requested to bear in mind that to insure publication in any particular issue of the paper communications must reach this Office not later than Tuesday morning.

Correspondents forwarding obituary and marriage notices are particularly requested to be as concise as possible.

### ANSWER TO CORRESPONDENT.

"PAT."—You probably mean Michael Dwyer, the Wicklow insurgent (not Rapparee) leader. He was deported to New South Wales, where he received an appointment in the police. He died in 1815. The Rapparees appeared first under the title of "Wood kerns" after the confiscations, and afterwards, under the titles of "Tories" and "Rapparees," from about 1795 to 1799. Michael Dwyer was not born till 1771.

# The New Zealand Tablet.

FIAT JUSTITIA.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1898.

## THE ARENA AND THE PRIZE RING.



WE have been set a-moralising by the reports of the *Spectator* and the *Saturday Review* regarding a recent barbarous exhibition of pugilism, which cost one of the principals his life. A historian has not yet arisen to tell us an adequate tale of the arena, the prize ring, and their many counterparts. He will need to be philosopher, historian, moralist: three in one. When he comes he will unfold a curious chapter in human history, with its retrogressions, revivals, survivals, and analogies. One curious—we might say mysterious—phase of his subject will be the great percentage of such amusements that derive their charm from the sight of human or brute suffering, merely for its own sake, or, at best, for the sake of the reflex excitement caused by witnessing vital struggles that involve notable physical anguish. The average natural man, of any age or country, who is unaccustomed to such things, feels an instinctive shock at witnessing even a dog in agony. He would experience a feeling of strong revulsion even at the sight of a serious surgical operation performed painlessly, under chloroform, upon a fellow-man.

But pity is a shy bird, and flies fast and far when flushed. Such things become, by custom, to some extent matters of absolute or relative indifference. Your highly sensitive EDWIN, who would weep over the broken leg of his water spaniel, would, when enlisted, shoot down Afridis with the delight of a schoolboy knocking over stray cats or wild rabbits with his new pea-rifle. When an effort was made to introduce into Athens the barbarous gladiatorial exhibitions, the old cynic, DRAGONAX, exclaimed: "You must first overthrow the altar of Pity." Yet Athenians learned to at least tolerate the sight of gladiators, slaves, and prisoners of war being "butchered to make a Roman holiday." The Syrians were at first terrified by the games, after their introduction by ANTIOCHUS EPIPHANES. Yet they had learned to break into a delirium of applause at the sight of carnage by the time that AGRIPPA compelled 1400 men to fight for life in their midst, at the amphitheatre of Berytus. FOURNIEU loved his tame squirrels. MARAT fed and stroked his pet doves. Yet both came to gloat over human suffering and bloodshed during the throes of the great French Revolution. To all alike—Christian, pagan, and agnostic—habit may, and ordinarily does, diminish the instinctive sense of shock which the unaccustomed sight of suffering should produce. But here comes the parting of the roads. Rightly directed education should, at the same time, widen and deepen the sense of sympathy. Here the true Christian has scored, and the pagan—ancient or modern—has ever failed. It makes the difference between the Sister of Charity in the hospital and on the battlefield, and, say, the Emperor CLAUDIUS, whose keenest pleasure lay in watching the play of expression on the countenances of his dying captives or gladiators.

When the blue-gums in our gardens get their new greenish-silvery bark, fragments of the old still hang like rags—often for years—upon their limbs. Some tatters of our old paganism still cling thus to us long ages after we have been clothed in the spotless new garb of the Christian faith. This fact is conspicuous in the history of our games and sports. These are things that change slowly, live long, and die hard. The suppression of the gladiatorial games was one of the biggest revolutions that the Church ever wrought in the external habits of the people. They were carried out on a gigantic scale over practically all the vast area of the mighty Roman Empire. Men and women—emperors,

nobles, vestral virgins—made the sight of carnage their chief amusement. Vast amphitheatres (that of the Coliseum is said to have held 80,000 spectators) were filled with a populace watching, with delirious joy, the butchery of gladiators, slaves, criminals, prisoners of war, Christians, and wild beasts. At AURELIAN'S triumph 1,600 gladiators fought in the arena; at the games of Trojan, 10,000. Even the graves of the dead were desecrated by human blood. The Church had a long battle against ancient custom. popular passion, political needs, vested interests, and pagan sentiment. It was the battle of humanity against an atrocious evil that had gone on unchecked and without protest for centuries. The abolition of the gladiatorial shows was the work of the Catholic Church.

\* \* \*

Some fragments of the old gladiatorial atrocities remain. Boxing—prize-ring fashion—formed part of the old combats of the arena—in honour of POLUX, who is said to have been the world's champion in his time, and to have become a god through his skill at fisticuffs. The prize-ring is with us still. It is one of the relics of paganism that cling to us—like belief in fortune-tellers, clairvoyants, mediums, lucky and unlucky days and numbers, etc. We have survived the taste for bear-baiting, of which Queen ELIZABETH was inordinately fond. Cock-fighting—in which JAMES I. delighted—has gone out of fashion, and, in any case, is rather risky. Many of our greybeards will remember the sport of bull-baiting, which in England continued far into the present century. WYNDHAM and CANNING stoutly defended the brutal sport in the House of Commons, and in 1824 Mr. (afterwards Sir) ROBERT PEEL raised a loud voice of protest against its prohibition. Bull and bear-baiting and cock-fighting might in time have died a natural death, if left to take their course. But they might also have become more popular. *De facto*, the law stepped in and gave them the happy despatch—like JACK KETCH with a criminal. And Christian sentiment may well applaud.

\* \* \*

In England the prize ring was a revival, not a survival. We first hear of it about 1740, in the days when religious feeling had, perhaps, touched bottom among the people. Hitherto HODGE was content to settle his differences at Smithfield and the other markets by brute force and endurance rather than skill in fisticuffs. One BROUGHTON introduced the prize-ring, boxing-gloves, and fights to a finish. A hard-hitting slogger named JACKSON followed him in 1795, and established what are substantially the present rules of the game. The craze caught a violent hold on the public fancy, and JACKSON became as great a hero as a brilliant Spanish *matador*, or as WELLINGTON after Waterloo. The high nobility became his pupils—GEORGE IV., the Dukes of York and Clarence, Lord BYRON, and the rest; and for half a century "the fancy" sparred and countered and drew blood from "claret-jugs," and teeth from "potato-traps," until the game became too "crooked" even for the roughs and pickpockets, and it died at last by its own rottenness. The last thirty years have witnessed a fresh revival. As before, the nobility—and even royalty—have taken the prize-ring under their high patronage. The brutal exhibition in which the hireling CROOK met his death a few weeks ago was a "select affair," which was witnessed by many titled Englishmen and a large body of the wealthy patrons of this revival of a pagan custom. Matters were so arranged as to provide for a maximum of barbarity. It was practically a fight to a finish; yet, despite its tragic ending, one of the titled witnesses at the subsequent inquiry declared in disgust that "it was one of the worst exhibition spars he had ever seen, except for science." A good deal of the spirit of the Coliseum clings round the prize-ring even still.

\* \* \*

The *Saturday Review*, writing with knowledge upon the subject, has the following:—"We cannot help recalling how we were attacked in the so-called sporting papers some two years ago for insisting that a glove-fight to a finish—and that is practically what a contest of twenty rounds means—was more barbarous, more cruel, and more dangerous than the old-fashioned fight with bare knuckles. In the prize-fight, if a man is knocked down, he has to get on his feet again and resume the contest in ten seconds, and this difference makes the fighting with gloves far severer

than the fighting with fists of fifty years ago. Furthermore, we showed that a blow with a four-ounce glove was just as heavy and just as punishing as a blow with the naked fist, but judges ignorant of the art are easily cozened into believing that a glove-fight under the present rules is a harmless athletic display. Perhaps they will now come tardily to their senses, and prohibit a form of sport more degrading to humanity than the Spanish bull-fight." A knock-out blow, says the same paper, is well known in boxing circles. "The favourite and most certain stroke is that blow on the point of the chin. The shock is communicated directly along the jaw-bone and the base of the skull to the brain, and it produces concussion of the brain and instantaneous insensibility as certainly as the accurately placed hangman's knot ensures dislocation of the neck and rupture of the spinal cord. In the present instance (that of CROOK), it was the *causa causans* of a fracture of the base of the skull more than an inch long." Yet the twelve good men and true who viewed CROOK'S body found a verdict, not of manslaughter, but of accidental death, and the surviving principal and the high-placed officials of the Sporting Club escaped molestation from either the law or from public opinion.

\* \* \*

There is no doubt that the cultured classes, rich or poor, view such exhibitions with undisguised disgust. We have little hesitation in saying that the brutalised section of the wealthy classes, as well as their counterparts at the other end of the social scale, would welcome a still further revival of the gladiatorial shows. There is, we fear, at least a modicum of truth in MARION CRAWFORD'S sweeping words in *Doctor Claudius*: "Were it not for the tremendous power of modern law, there is not the slightest doubt that the mass of Londoners or New Yorkers would flock to-day to see a gladiatorial show, or to watch a pack of lions tearing, limb from limb, a dozen unarmed convicts." Railers may say that people are not made virtuous by Act of Parliament. It is not the direct function of civil law to teach virtue. One of its chief duties is merely to prevent crime. And inhumanity in every shape is a crime. The suppression of those disgraceful exhibitions of the prize-ring would remove a stumbling block from many a weakling, and give habits of humanity a chance to acquire the force of custom.

## DUNEDIN AND DISTRICT.

THE St. Patrick's Day Sports Committee meeting held last Thursday was very largely attended, and the whole proceedings were marked by an amount of enthusiasm seldom displayed at meetings of this kind. The programme committee brought forward their programme, which met with unanimous approval. The committee received great kudos for their work, one gentleman stating that evidently the committee had the right men in the right place, the evidence of which was in the splendid bill of fare provided. The committee desire us to state that their task has been doubly lightened by the gratifying manner in which the project has been received by the Irishmen of Dunedin. They show in every way that the project to make the St. Patrick's Day Celebration an annual one has their heartiest approval. So pronounced has been this feeling and it has taken such a tangible form, that the committee feel justified in giving one of the most valuable prize lists ever given for an afternoon's sport in Dunedin. They have much pleasure in stating that the programme has already attracted considerable attention in athletic circles, with the result that the general public may expect to see an array of talent seldom seen at any sports meeting in New Zealand.

THE programme of sports in connection with St. Patrick's Day celebration has now been issued, and judging by the variety and number of events the gathering promises to be the most successful that has yet been held here. The prizes amount in the aggregate to over £100, exclusive of trophies, which are numerous and valuable. The principal events are the Hibernian Two Mile Wheel Race, the first prize for which is £20; St. Patrick's Day Handicap (two distances—220 and 440yds.), £12, and a trophy valued £5 5s for the aggregate number of points in the two distances; wrestling (Cumberland style), £6, £2 and £1; wrestling (Irish style), £6, £2 and £1; and a hurling match, in which a valuable cup is to be competed for. The cycling races, which are eight in number, will be run under the N.Z. League of Wheelmen's rules, and as there will be a great many visiting wheelmen in Dunedin about the 17th of March, in view of the Championship meeting, the

**"FLAG" BRAND Pickles and Sauces**

Have gained 28 FIRST AWARDS. This is sufficient proof of the quality. **HAYWARD BROS., Manufacturers.**

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entries for the various events will doubtless be very large. We are pleased to see that the cycling contests include a multicycle race, which created so much interest when they were introduced here for the first time a few weeks back, and as the Christchurch Club are sending a number of "crews" to Dunedin, the unusual spectacle of a well-contested multicycle race should prove specially attractive to country visitors. Altogether the committee to whom has been allotted the task of preparing the programme has succeeded in providing a capital series of events, and as we have already stated the St. Patrick's Day's sports of 1898 will eclipse all previous gatherings of the kind, so that those who propose to attend may look forward to having an excellent day's sport.

THE Rev. W. Ganly, whose charming description of the trip to the West Coast Sounds appears elsewhere in our columns this week, preached at St. Joseph's Cathedral to a large congregation on Sunday evening. The preacher, who selected Faith as his subject, said that the Epistle of the day contained striking allusion to two of those great virtues—Faith and Charity—which, with Hope, constitute the foundation of the Christian life. Charity is the greatest of these virtues. But without Faith there can be no true Charity. Faith is the tree; Charity the fruit. "Without Faith it is impossible to please God." There was never, perhaps, any age of the world when Catholics were more urgently called upon to cultivate this great virtue than at the present day. The world outside Catholicity is going back to paganism. There is no stronger argument for this assertion than the lamentable increase in the number of suicides in non-Catholic and freethinking countries. An able editorial in the TABLET of last week showed conclusively that the increase in the awful crime of self-destruction in any country is in proportion to the advance of scepticism and the relaxation of religious teaching. The preacher, in applying to his subject the words of St. Paul, said that we believe in the mysteries of Faith because God, the essential truth, has revealed them to us. St. Paul calls Faith "the substance of things to be hoped for," to denote the stability of the basis on which our belief rests. Even natural reason teaches the existence of some of these mysteries. The Psalmist tells us that "the heavens proclaim the glory of God and the firmament declares the work of his hands." We cannot behold the works of creation without tracing the footprints of the great Cause. But unaided reason could never attain to a knowledge of all the mysteries of religion. He has therefore revealed Himself to mankind. He first made Himself known to our first parents, then to the patriarchs and prophets, and finally came the Redeemer Himself. The Book which contains the history of these communications has always occupied a place of honour in the Catholic Church. She has always taught that the inspired word of God cannot contain any errors regarding questions of faith and morals or essential facts. We are often told that the Bible is full of contradictions, errors and inaccuracies. But the apparent contradictions are due to the fact that the dogmas of faith are not expounded and understood according to the mind of the Church, or they are due to mere opinions and theories being taken for the verdict of reason. Whenever any alleged scientific discovery conflicts with acknowledged truths of revelation we may rest assured that the supposed scientific facts are merely groundless assumptions. The Catholic Church possesses the whole body of doctrines taught by Christ; for in the first place He made a definite promise that the Church established by Him would never fail; and secondly, because she is the only Church which bears upon her brow the four great marks of truth—unity, sanctity, and apostolicity. After explaining each of these marks and applying them to the Church, the preacher concluded by exhorting all to pray that all may be brought into Christ's sheepfold under one Head and one Shepherd.

WE beg to acknowledge the receipt of a quantity of used postage stamps for Father Kreyenberg's mission from Miss Katie Houlahan, of Hawthorne, N.E. Valley.

FATHER BUCKERIDGE, S.J., preached at St. Patrick's on Sunday 23rd at last Mass on the Epistles, and at Vespers on the Divine Infancy. Last Sunday he again preached in the morning on Christian Education and in the evening on the Sacred Heart. Next Sunday he will address the same congregation on appropriate subjects.

WE have received from the publishers the Otago and Southland A.B.C. monthly guide and diary for February. It is replete with the usual mass of railway, post-office, coach, shipping, and other news, in handy form for waistcoat pocket use.

The Crown Lands Department advertise in this issue sales on Friday, February 25, a list of properties to be sold in the Alexandra, Havelock Town, and Hyde Town districts. Full particulars can be obtained at the Crown Lands Office, Dunedin. [ADVT.]

## NEW ZEALAND: GENERAL.

WE learn from our Christchurch correspondent that on Tuesday next Miss Buckley will receive the holy habit of the Sisters of Mercy. These Sisters have a convent in St. Mary's parish, and the ceremony, which will be performed by the Very Rev. Dean Martin, will take place in the parochial church. The Vicar-General will preach a suitable sermon on the occasion.

It is always a pleasure to us to record every evidence of the progress of our Catholic educational institutions. This week we are glad to record the following successes that have been scored by the pupils of the Sisters of Mercy at Colombo street, Christchurch, and Greymouth:—At the recent New Zealand University examinations Miss Rose Barker passed Matriculation. This young lady is only 16 years of age. At the practical music examinations held by Dr. Vincent last October, as representative of Trinity College, Miss Florrie Heard, prepared by the Sisters of Mercy, Christchurch, and Miss Nellie McDonnell, prepared by the Sisters in Greymouth, were successful. We congratulate the Sisters on this evidence of the high efficiency which their schools have attained.

ARROWTOWN.—The juvenile entertainment by the pupils of the Sisters of St. Joseph, took place recently in the Athenaeum Hall, Arrowtown. The house was literally packed, and the proceeds of the entertainment amounted to the very substantial sum of £25. The Rev. Fathers O'Donnell and Keenan were present. The performance reflected credit on the Sisters, and we observe with pleasure the appreciative way the audience acknowledged the efforts of the children. From first to last not a hitch could be detected. Considering the limited number of children at the disposal of the Sisters, and the short period for rehearsing, the performance was most creditable indeed. The following took a leading part in the programme:—Misses C. and N. Baker (piano duets), Miss N. Philp and Master J. Quinn (comic dialogue), Miss N. Fitzgibbon, Masters T. Cosgrove and J. Nolan (comic scene), Master H. Oldfield (recitation). The scarf drill, action songs, senior girls' songs and *tableaux* took a great hold on the fancy of the audience. The Sisters displayed great pluck and enterprise in putting on two plays, which were rendered in first-class style. In the first, "Mrs. Warder's Will," the following took part:—Miss J. Fitzgibbon, Misses N. Baker, M. Philp, Quinn, and J. Cosgrove. The second play was entitled "Tambo's Blunders," and was creditably performed by the following pupils:—Master D. Cosgrove, Miss M. Fitzgibbon, Miss J. Cosgrove, Master T. Cosgrove, Master J. Kerin, Master W. Quinn. In both plays the children acquitted themselves exceedingly well, and the audience showed their appreciation of the efforts by frequent plaudits. Altogether it was decidedly one of the best performances given by juveniles in Arrowtown.

THE marriage rate in New Zealand last year reached its highest point in the last decade (7.07 per 1000), while the birth rate in 1897 was at its lowest ebb within the same ten years (25.96 per 1000). The death rate was 9.14 per 1000, the second lowest in the decade.

The arrivals in the Colony during 1897 numbered 18,572 and the departures 15,840. The estimated population of the Colony on the 31st December was 768,910. This includes 3,585 Chinese. Excluding Maoris, the population of the Colony increased by 11,891, or at the rate of 2.09 per cent. during the year 1897. To this increase the excess of births over deaths contributed 12,124, and the excess of arrivals over departures 2752. The balance in favour of the Colony, as disclosed by the immigration and emigration returns, is larger than in any years since 1893.

The birth rate for the Colony in 1897 was 25.96 per thousand of mean population, and the death rate 9.14, as against 26.33 and 9.10 respectively in 1896. The number of marriages (excluding those contracted between Maoris) solemnised in 1897 is estimated at 5,100, giving a rate of 7.07 per thousand of the mean population, as against 4.813 and 6.85, the actual number and rate respectively in 1896.

THE *Pahiatua Herald* publishes a list showing that 41 houses, one church, and one creamery were burned during the bush fires in that locality recently.

A NEW lake has been discovered inland from Preservation Inlet. The sheet of water has been named Lake Henry, after a prospector at Cuttle Cove. The Henry here referred to was at one time a photographer in Oamaru. He has, he told one of the Rotorua's excursionists to the Sounds, turned his back on civilisation, and like Leatherstockings in Fenimore Cooper's tale, resolved to lead a life of seclusion from the world. The prospectors at Cuttle Cove are quite satisfied with their lot. They make a living, have no "fourths" to prepare for, and although their comforts are few, their necessities are fewer still.

**CLOSE YOUR EYES** to Quality and the world is full of Cheap Things. Low Prices get Customer, but it is Quality that keeps them. This is proved by the Enormous Sale of **TIGER BLEND TEAS**. They are old in popularity, but ever young in memory. If you do not use them begin at once.



THERE is trouble in store for the grass grub, according to what appears in the *Auckland Weekly News*. A correspondent of that paper tells that Captain Broun, who has been studying the habits of the *Odontria* beetle during the last two or three months, has succeeded in finding a natural enemy to prey upon this beetle pest. The Captain followed up his first success and on the afternoon of New Year's Day was rewarded by the appearance of two of the much-wished-for flies. By Sunday he had reared about 20 more in his bedroom—that, it seems, being his only work-hop at present. The Captain told our correspondent that he had obtained the natural enemy, or parasite, in all its different stages, and that the insect is a small but active two-winged fly. The real importance of the discovery lies in the probability of this fly being made serviceable for checking the dreadful ravages of the grass grub (*Odontria Zealandica*), which has hitherto, we believe, defied the efforts of the pastoralists in Canterbury and elsewhere. In Canterbury alone this "grass grub," as it is called, causes a yearly loss of thousands of pounds' worth of pasture to farmers, whilst another kind of *Odontria* beetle has been known to devour in a wholesale fashion the foliage of many kinds of trees and vegetables in Otago. Our readers will remember that it is only a few months since Captain Broun made the important discovery of natural parasites for the detested mealy bug, and recently-published letters and notices in our columns show that these parasitical flies have effectually got rid of the mealy bug pest in some places already. In the discovery of the *Odontria* parasitic fly we have further proof of Captain Broun's scientific skill and his devotion to duty. It is only by intelligently setting one force of Nature which is not harmful to man in opposition to one that is hurtful that we will ever successfully do battle against the hosts of insect enemies which prey upon all cultivated crops in a moist, warm climate such as New Zealand possesses; and to discover and arrange those natural forces in battle array requires not only a high degree of skill—accurate scientific knowledge—but a degree of perseverance which is far too rare even in the ranks of the scientific workers. It is to be hoped that the discovery which Captain Broun has made will soon be turned to practical account in all parts of this Colony where pastures and gardens are infested with the dreaded "grass grub."

### INTERCOLONIAL.

The gifted and genial Father T. Moriarty has succeeded the Rev. H. W. Clary (editor, *N.Z. Tablet*) at Aranui, Victoria. Father Moriarty, on his departure from Casterton, was made the recipient of a splendid pair of dapple-brown ponies by his many admirers in that mission.

A meeting of Catholics was held on Sunday evening, January 15, at St. Joseph's Church, Hobart, to take steps for preventing the Rev. Philip Hennebery, administrator of the church, with an address and testimonial on the eve of his departure on a visit to Europe. Mr. J. P. O'Brien occupied the chair and Mr. Sheehy, solicitor, was appointed secretary. Mr. Humphrey Page, P.H.A., in moving the first resolution, referred to the great, varied and successful labour of Father Hennebery since he first came to Tasmania thirty-two years ago. He was followed by Mr. J. Davin and Mr. John Madden both of whom supported the proposal to present a suitable address and testimonial to Father Hennebery. Father Kelsh referred in feeling terms to the unbroken happiness of his relations with Father Hennebery as fellow-labourers in the vineyard. Fathers Gillern, O'Reilly and others also spoke, and the large sum subscribed on the spot evidenced the great popularity of Father Hennebery.

An Educational Congress was recently opened by the Bishop of Ballarat at Loretto Abbey, Mary's Mount. Representatives from all the convents of Loretto in Australia were present each day, and a good number of visitors attended. The nuns have held for many years past these conferences, with the view of considering and discussing the various systems of school organisation and the vast improvements that have been made of late years in school appliances and apparatus. Rev. Father Rogers read an interesting paper by the Right Rev. Dr. Delany, entitled "Our Future Progress." An inspection of the exhibits, consisting of school apparatus, books, etc. (which were nicely arranged on tables, or hung on the walls), was then made by the visitors, who expressed themselves as being greatly pleased. On Wednesday, the 12th inst., the congress opened with a paper, "Recommendation of Committee on Christian Doctrine and Sacred History," which was followed by a lecture on "The Importance of Christian Doctrine as an Educational Subject," by a member of the community. On Thursday a paper, "Recommendations of Committee on School Organisation," was read, followed by a lecture by one of the nuns. The programme for the following days comprised the following:—Paper, "Recommendations of Committee on School Discipline"; lecture, by Miss Bell, on "Discipline"; paper, "Recommendations of Committee on Methods of Teaching"; practical demonstrations of same; lecture, "Methods of Teaching," (by one of the nuns); lecture, "Voice Production," illustrated by splendid charts; lecture, "Hygiene," by Dr. Cussen; and in the evening lecture on "Chemistry," by Mr. D. Walker, B.Sc. The lecture on "Chemistry" was a treat, and the various experiments came off without a hitch. The following were amongst the exhibits:—Animal kingdom, picture of animals, models of animals, showing comparative size to scale; vegetable kingdom, charts and specimens; mineral kingdom, charts and cases of minerals; a splendid set of Cassell's historical charts; model of the crust of the earth; maps of the continents, in relief, executed by the Loretto pupils, Melbourne; "Analysis of

number charts," by the students of the Loretto Training College; and appliances for problems in physics, etc. Besides these, there was a large exhibit of the most approved school books and writing and drawing copy books from the firms of Blackie and Son, Cassell and Co., MacMillan and Co., and Heath, Chicago. Messrs. Ingram and Son, Beechworth, also supplied specimens of books and apparatus. An orrery, showing the motions of the earth and the other planets with their satellites, was also exhibited. These Educational Congresses are a move in the right direction, and their importance cannot be over-estimated. In connection with this matter we note that the foundation-stone for a fine new church has been laid at the Loretto Convent, St. Mary's Mount, by the Bishop of Ballarat.

SOME six months since it was decided to test the legality of Orange processions, which took place in Melbourne last July. Three months of that period (says the *Advocate*) were vainly spent in efforts to induce the Government to facilitate the prosecution in accordance with a promise that had been made to that effect by the Attorney-General. When it became clear that no assistance could be obtained in that quarter, the case was put into the hands of Messrs. Gaunson and Stewart, solicitors. But the law is usually slow-footed. Several efforts were made to induce expedition in this test question, but it was found impossible to urge the law out of its leisurely mode of proceeding. The delay in this case was not, however, altogether without cause. Many difficulties were experienced in arranging the preliminaries for the most careful consideration had to be given to these. The case has at last been fixed to come on at the Brunswick Court on the 9th of February next. Should the decision there be unfavourable, an application will be made to the Supreme Court for a grand jury, and if the application be successful, that will be a great point gained. There is no wish on the part of the prosecution that the defendants should be injured or even inconvenienced by the proceedings. If it would have answered the purpose as well to make John Doe or Richard Roe, those imaginary individuals whose existence is a fiction of law, defendants in the case, that would have been done.

No priest has, perhaps, ever left the shores of Victoria, that carried away with him such sincere and widespread respect as Rev. Philip O'Doherty, M.R.I.A., who has, within the past week, taken his departure for his native diocese of Derry. His departure is a loss to the colony, and to the Archdiocese of Melbourne, which it will be difficult to repair. Father O'Doherty has ever been a splendid type of the Irish *sugarth aroon*—a learned exponent and uncompromising defender of the people's rights, a man of deep piety and religious fervour, a ripe scholar, whose cultured mind was stored with a wondrous variety of knowledge, culled from every by-work and broadly beaten track of historical and ecclesiastical lore. In the matter of learning and research Father O'Doherty had few peers, whether among the clergy or laity of Australasia. The news of his return to the old land of his heart's love, in reply to a call from the Bishop of Derry, aroused sentiments of deep regret among the countless friends he has made during his stay of some eight years in Victoria. Steps were at once taken to give practical expression to the high esteem in which he was held. An immense gathering of clergy and laity filled the Hibernian Hall to overflowing on January 17th, to bid him farewell. Two flattering marks of public esteem were paid him—the one by the Archbishop and clergy of Melbourne, the other by the laity. Each took the practical shape of an address and a purse of sovereigns. The presentation was made by the Very Rev. Dean McKenna, on behalf of the clergy. The address, which was read by Rev. D. Murphy, was signed by the Archbishop of Melbourne, the Bishops of Ballarat and Bendigo, the Vicar-Generals of Bendigo and Goulburn, and about seventy of the Victorian clergy.

Mr. M. O. Jagers, on behalf of the laity, presented Father O'Doherty with a purse of sovereigns and a magnificent interlarded Irish cross of solid Victorian gold, studded with a diamond centre and four bosses of Queensland opal. Father O'Doherty left Melbourne on Tuesday, January 18, enroute for Brisbane, whence he travels to Europe by Torres Straits and Colombo. A large gathering of clergy and laity assembled to see him off, and gave three ringing cheers as the train moved off from the platform.

Compliments are the poetical touches which redeem the monotony of prosaic existence.

Mr. W. E. Shields, manager of the Massey-Harris Bicycle Company, has received the following cable from Melbourne:—"Australian Natives' Five Mile International Scratch Gold Plate, won by Hunt on a Massey-Harris wheel." This race, as our readers are doubtless aware, took place at Melbourne on the 26th of January.—ADVT.

The Black Horse beer has worked its way steadily up in the market, until now it is recognised as one of the very best brews. We heartily congratulate Messrs. Simpson and Hart on the success they have met with. The quality and flavour of their ale and stout is equal to the best English makers.—ADVT.

The Ashburton Drapery Company are now holding their annual stocktaking sale. For genuine bargains this is an opportunity that careful housewives should not let pass. Everything will be reduced to the lowest scale.—ADVT.

The well-known work *The Orange Society*, by the Rev. H. W. Clary, can now be obtained at Mr. E. W. Dunne's, George street, Dunedin. Price, 1s 3d; by post, 1s 6d.—ADVT.

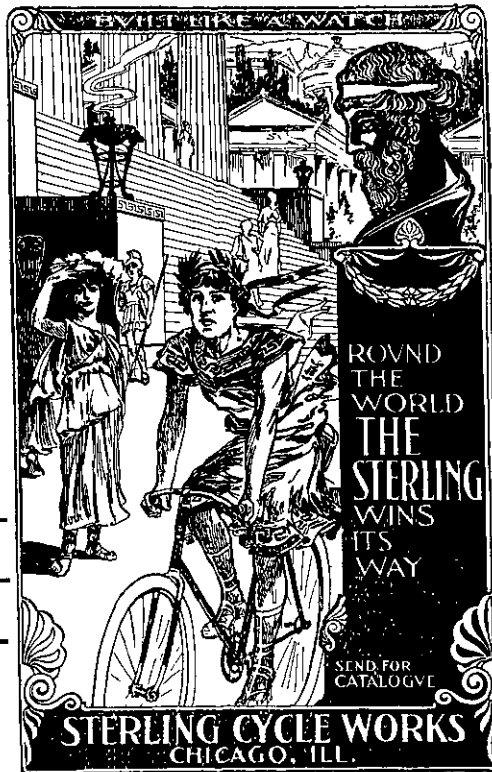
Mr. Gawne, of Dunedin (says the *Southland Times* of April 13, 1891), has just been on a visit to Invercargill to push business a little. Not that it wants much canvassing, for since he commenced the manufacture of his Worcestershire Sauce, the demand has kept pace with his capacity to supply it. He makes a really good thing, indistinguishable from the famous Lea and Perrin's, which he places upon one's table at a much lower price, and trusts to that to secure a steadily growing trade. Those who have not yet tried the colonial article should put their prejudice aside for a time and test the question with a bottle or two.—ADVT.



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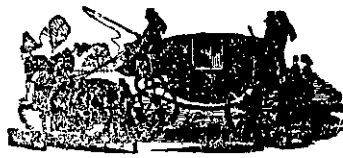
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Health Officers in many cities very properly refuse to accept "Heart Failure," as a cause of death. It is frequently, a sign of ignorance in the physician, or may be given to cover up the real cause.

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will remove the poisonous Uric Acid by putting the Kidneys in a healthy condition so that they will naturally eliminate it.

# The Storyteller.

## A FORTUNATE MEETING.

THE drawing-room car of the New York train for Boston, by way of Providence, was scarcely occupied on the morning of the 23rd of December, 18—. A commercial traveller engaged in conversation with one of his fraternity, a somnolent mother with a wakeful brood of children, a youthful looking priest saying his office, and, some half-a-dozen seats before him, a whole compartment occupied by herself, her maid and her handbags, was seated an old lady whose vacant gaze told that she was blind. These were all the passengers the car contained.

Snow was falling when the train left Providence, and the thrifty, comfortable towns on the route, that look so fresh and pretty in the summer, appeared bleak and desolate under the cold grey atmosphere of the winter day.

The priest had finished his office and was putting away his breviary in his valise, when a little commotion of tumbling bags aroused his attention. The noise was caused by the maid of the old lady, who, in a futile endeavour to close the blind of the compartment behind her mistress, had upset a portion of her travelling appurtenances. In an instant he was by her side to offer his assistance.

"You see, you must move this catch," he explained, and closed down the blind. The maid, red and heated from her previous exertions and her present discomposure, stammered out her confused thanks to the priest, who smiled pleasantly in return and went to resume the putting away of his book.

"What is it, Mary?" asked the old lady, laughing. "What a noise you are making!"

"I couldn't shut the blind, ma'am," replied the maid; "the priest"—pausing abruptly to mend her expression—"I mean the gentleman shut it for me."

"The priest! What priest?" asked her mistress in surprise.

"He is sitting behind us; I couldn't work the catch; I'm sure, ma'am, he meant no offence," answered the maid, and if her explanation was vague, her eagerness to shield the priest from blame was the cause of it.

The old lady made no response, but closing her eyes, nestled among the shawls the maid had arranged for her comfort.

The priest gazed out of the window at the white fields and villages the train was leaving behind, and thought how gloomy the day was, and of a journey he had taken in the opposite direction over this same road more than ten years before. As now he was journeying alone, so was he journeying then. In nothing else were the two journeys alike. Then it was summer weather and winter was in his heart. Now the conditions were reversed, though then he was a youth, while now he was a man.

He could remember every particular of his last hour at home before taking the journey.

The Japanese screen half open before the sitting-room window, to keep the draft from his mother, who sat in her great chair, laying down the law of her will; he listening to her with a sad heart; the window full of flowering plants and the tendrils of vines straying over it: the cat watching a bird that swung and hung on a branch of the pignut tree just outside the open door; all these he could see, and he could hear his mother bid him follow the lead he had chosen, and the sound of his own voice bidding her good-bye.

Then his mind reverted to other things in his life, the after-events of his journey. Scenes in the seminary where he had studied many years; scenes in the Roman College where he had been a student, and whence he was now coming, a priest, to assist in doing the work of a Boston parish. It had been a happy life all in all, he thought, though in early years it had been marked by lack of news from home.

Time changed that. Home came to be to him a thing of the past; only sometimes, as on this day, vivid remembrances of it returned to him, but with no hard feeling, only sorrow that he and all that was dearest to him, his belief and his vocation, had been so misunderstood.

The commercial traveller had gone to the smoking-car; the mother and her children were in various stages of sleep; the priest, with a note-book and pencil in his hand, figured up his accounts; only the blind old lady was restless and unoccupied. She very much disliked to travel; she could see nothing, she would tell her friends, when they urged her to go abroad for a change. Why should she leave her comfortable home, where she knew every inch of ground? As for change of air, she declared that for her there was no better air than Boston air.

And now, unurged, she had journeyed all the way from Boston to New York to find that the object of her trip would have been as well attained by her remaining at home. No wonder, then, that she felt restless and wished herself seated by her warm fireplace receiving the visits of her friends.

She had a great many friends, this old lady. Some who loved her for herself; others for the pleasant people always to be met with at her fine old house at Brookline; and she would have been very happy had it not been for her blindness and her family troubles.

Everyone said and thought it was hard that such a nice old lady should have had so much trouble with her children. Her eldest son had died with diphtheria, the doctors said, but the mother, who was an old-fashioned New England gentlewoman who never spared herself or her convictions, did not shrink giving his disease its Saxon name. There was a mystery attached to her younger son, and it was generally supposed that he ran away from home, and her daughter who had married a man in all things her inferior, had been dead many years.

None of the things had changed her in the least from the proud and thoroughly sincere woman she was. But when amaurosis set

in and she lost her sight, she lost with it her hard pride. Her sincerity, however, she kept with all her vigour.

She too, like the priest, had been meditating on the past.

Her thoughts, however, did not depict a peaceful repose on her countenance, such as now illumined the features of the priest absently viewing the falling snow. They only made her dissatisfied with herself, restless, and more anxious to reach home.

If her companion who read to her and wrote her letters had not been ill and unable to accompany her on her journey, she would have had someone to talk to, and the tedium of travelling would have been lessened, the rattle and rumble of the train less irksome to bear. She tried to converse with her maid, but Mary was too much in awe of her mistress to converse in anything but negative or affirmative monosyllables.

At last the old lady's nervous restlessness became more than she could bear, and she asked:—

"Mary, is the priest who closed the blind for you still in the car?"

"Yes, ma'am," replied Mary, staring first blankly at the back of the priest, now turned towards her, and then at her mistress.

"I wish then," said the old lady, "you would hand him one of my cards, and ask him to favour me with a few minutes' conversation; and you, Mary, may take another seat."

It was nothing unusual for her to do what she was doing. She had been petted and spoiled by her circle of acquaintances, to whom she was a great personage; she thought nothing of calling upon any one of them to help her while away an hour, and this was not the first time she had asked such a favour of a stranger, but never before without knowing something of the stranger's antecedents.

The priest received the message delivered by the maid, and read the name engraved on the card with a little start of astonishment and a quick glance at the old lady, whose vacant eyes gave no sign, but on whose face was a look of anxious expectancy.

Without a word to the maid he walked to where the owner of the card sat. Before he could speak her ears had made his presence known to her, and she said: "Pardon me for troubling you, but I wanted to speak to you so much. I am blind," she added, with a little laugh; "that will excuse me."

His face was very white, and he put his hand to his throat as if he was suffocating. "Have you been blind long?" he asked in a strained voice.

At the sound of his voice her face again assumed an expectant look, which subsided as she answered: "Three years ago amaurosis set in, and I have been entirely blind for about two; but won't you be seated?"—an uneasy movement of his feet having betrayed to her that he was still standing.

He seated himself opposite to her, and gazed at her with a troubled face, like to what one might wear who had been startled in his sleep. She did not speak, and he asked with a timid air, "Can I do anything for you?"

Not answering him directly she questioned: "You are a Catholic priest, are you not?"

He replied that he was, and again offered his services.

"I do not know that you can help me," she said, in a puzzled voice, and broke off abruptly, "I am a Protestant, not a bigoted one," she laughed.

If it were not for the pain manifested in his countenance, one would have said that a smile of amusement crossed his lips as she made this statement.

"I have a son who I believe is a priest," she continued, "and I am looking for him. I thought that perhaps you, a priest, could help me to find him. I have been to New York, where he went after he left home, and I have been told that one of his names has been ordered from Rome, to be stationed, I think they said, in Boston."

"And your son's name is —?" asked the priest, in a low voice. She heard his words, but could not see the little beseeching movement of his hands.

"Philip Penrose—do you know a priest or anyone who is a Catholic of that name?" she asked.

He did not answer her immediately, and she repeated her question.

"I certainly know a priest of that name," he said slowly; "but the man I know can scarcely be the same, for he never left his mother."

"Oh!" she exclaimed, and he was so occupied with the thought of what he was to say next that he did not perceive the anguish of her disappointment nor hear her murmur: "It is an uncommon name; it may be Philip."

The commercial travellers had returned to the car and to a renewed discussion of the respective merits of their respective goods; the maid had joined the mother and her brood in sleep, and her mistress waited, in trouble and expectancy, for the priest to speak. It was no easy task for him to decide what was best to say. He knew the truth about this Philip Penrose, but not whether it was the fittest thing to tell the mother now, or to wait until he had ascertained her real sentiments toward her son.

"You do not speak," she cried, interrupting his train of thought "I wish you would tell me all you know about the Philip Penrose with whom you say you are acquainted."

"The Philip Penrose I know," he said, and in his endeavour to repress his emotions his voice became harsh and unympathetic, "was baptised a Catholic while still a minor. His father was dead, and he was entirely under the control and charge of his mother—"

"I was a widow," she broke in, "I did all that a mother, more than a father, could do for Philip."

"He has acknowledged that a thousand times, with a heart full of love for you," answered the priest.

"Go on, go on," she pleaded, with tears streaming from her sightless eyes.

"His mother objected with all the force of her strong will to his becoming a Catholic, but her will gave way to what, in this instance, was a stronger will—"

## The Catholic World.

"But I was sincere to my honest convictions," she cried. "He has always revered your sincerity above all things," returned the priest.

"And I did not respect his," she groaned. "But continue; why do you stop?" she insisted, forgetting that she herself was the cause of the interruption.

"He became a Catholic, and when he reached his majority announced his intention to study for the priesthood, and his mother gave him the alternative to leave home or renounce a call he felt had come from God. This time neither will gave way; Philip left home—"

He paused, shocked at the change that had come over her. Her face was long-drawn and pinched, and the hand she raised to point words she now spoke trembled in the black-net mitt, like a withered leaf shaken by the wind.

"But my will, God broke it!" she cried. "Oh, reverend sir, look at me and make of me a moral for one of your sermons. Look at me, old and blind. Frank, my son Frank, died a drunkard's death, and his sister died little better than an outcast. I crushed and killed their wills, and when they went out from my care they had no wills of their own to fight the battle with the world."

She ceased to speak for a moment, overcome. When she spoke again to the priest, whose face glowed with love and pity, her manner was quiet and passionless.

"You have but told me what I know," she said. "What has become of Philip Penrose?"

The bell was tolling their approach to the Old Colony Depot, the terminus of their journey; and the few passengers in the car were gathering together their bags and parcels, and the maid was approaching to give such assistance as her mistress might need.

The priest waived her back. The sightless eyes of the expectant woman were upturned to his, and he bent over her and said in a voice that was thick with tears:

"Mother, don't you know me, Philip—your little boy, Philip?"

Her outstretched hands groped for him, and, unmindful of those who looked on in wonder, he rested in his mother's arms.

"You will come with me for a while?" she asked, smoothing his hand in hers.

"I will, mother," he replied.—ARTHUR COLT in *The Catholic Fireside*.

### BROTHER THEODORE.

SOME years ago, in one of the Trappist monasteries, there was a very good lay Brother, very old and sick and worn out, who was never seen without his beads. It was Brother Theodore. Yet in other days he had borne other arms.

In 1812 Brother Theodore was one of Napoleon's grand army, which was coming back from Russia, conquered by the cruel cold. They had walked for long hours in the snow when Brother Theodore's division, overcome with fatigue and hunger, suddenly found themselves in front of the enemy's batteries, attacking them in full face and stopping their way. Deadly discouragement took hold of all. Officers and soldiers in their fury threw their arms to the ground. It is well known to what a degree of utter discouragement entire brigades fell during this mournful campaign, on which they had set out so bravely and proudly. In a few months they were no more than a confused mass of demoralised men and walking skeletons.

In this state of things what was to be done? Go back they could not! But how should they advance? Hide themselves behind the rocks as a shelter from the bullets? They would thus condemn themselves to die of cold and hunger. All at once an officer stepped forward, sword in hand, and pointing to the battery, cried out to the weary men: "Follow me!"

A rare thing in the annals of the French wars then happened. Not a voice answered this appeal to honour. Yes, there was one. One man alone, he who was afterwards Brother Theodore, left the ranks, and offered himself in these words:—

"I will go alone if you desire it!"

Saying this, he threw down his knapsack and placed his rifle on the ground. Then, on his knees in the midst of the snow, he made a great sign of the cross before all his comrades in arms, who did not dream of smiling at him, and recited his "Our Father," "Hail Mary," "I believe in God," and the act of contrition with more fervour than he had ever done before. Now taking up his rifle, he advanced at double-quick pace towards the cannon, in the face of two discharges which did not slacken his run. With head down he still went on, with as much assurance as if there were ten thousand men behind him. He was on the point of reaching the battery. The astonished enemy suspected a stratagem, and credited the French with the design of turning their flank while they were occupied with a single man, and abandoning artillery and baggage, the whole battery took to flight.

Our hero was master of the field. But he only said, with wonderful frankness and a coolness which nothing could disturb: "Do you see? You have only to pray when you wish to get out of a scrape!"

The officer, in his enthusiasm, which was shared by all the others, ran forward, and, snatching his own Cross of Honour from his breast, placed it on that of the valiant young man, as he cried, with tears in his eyes: "My brave fellow, you deserve it more than I."

Brother Theodore simply replied: "Commander, I have only done my duty!"

It was exactly the same fifty years later, when, under the rough gown of the Trappist, and in the severest cold, he passed his half-days on his knees constantly reciting the beads—he only did his duty.—*Ave Maria*.

The world owes all its inward impulses to men ill at ease. The happy man inevitably confines himself within ancient limits.—*Flaxthorne*.

**BELGIUM.—A Priest's Good Work.**—A Belgian priest is doing among the fisher-folk of Ostend what the late lamented Father Davis did for the Munster fishermen in and about Skibbereen. To the zeal and intelligent activity of M. l'Abbé Pype, the numerous fishing population of Ostend are indebted for a technical school which has already conferred many benefits upon them, and which, owing to the improvements that will shortly be carried out, will be productive of still greater advantages to them. The good Abbé is the founder of the local fishery school, and to its direction he had devoted himself in the most whole-hearted fashion. Hitherto the more elementary training in connection with the fishing industry has been imparted in the school, but now it is proposed to extend the course by lessons on the methods adopted in various countries for the preservation of fish, the extraction of oils, etc., and the means of applying these products to industrial uses. Annexed to the establishment will be a factory for the manufacture of various oils, for which the necessary machinery has already been set up. Technical lessons are given weekly, and the admission to the course is gratuitous. The Abbé Pype's admirable work in behalf of the fisher-folk of Ostend is yet another example of the activity of the clergy for the social and material improvement of the toiling classes.

**ENGLAND.—The Cowley Fathers.**—The Anglican Monks or Brothers named the Cowley Fathers, who have given us Fathers Rivington, D.D., Huson, S.J., and more recently the Rev. Mr. Maturin, have decided to come to Westminster, where a house is being built for them close to St. James' Park. The "Fathers" come on the invitation of seventy beneficed Church of England clergy in London, and their proposal is to provide facilities for the giving of "retreats" (for Protestant gentlemen, just as is done for us in Catholic monasteries), and otherwise to pursue their work of Catholicising the Church of England. The Cowley brotherhood is known as the most advanced fraternity in the Church of England. They ought really to be Catholics, if they would only, at once, "come in out of the cold." Meantime, their work is a positive and integral good, and we trust it will do something to leaven with Christianity the Agnosticism into which educated Protestantism in London is fast sinking.

**Catholic Mayors.**—For the first time in the annals of the town (remarks the *Catholic Times*) Blackpool is represented by a Catholic Mayor, the Town Council having unanimously bestowed upon Councillor R. B. Mather, J.P., the highest honour in its power—that of Chief Magistrate. Mr. Mather is a Catholic, and his election has given general satisfaction in the town. On Sunday last his Worship, attended by the members of the Town Council, Corporation officials, the two bands of the town, etc., paid his state visit to the Church of the Sacred Heart, Blackpool. High Mass was sung by Rev. Father Splaine, S.J. (Preston). The pulpit was occupied by the Rev. Father Fanning, S.J., who made an appropriate reference to the Mayor's official visit. On behalf of the congregation and himself, he extended a hearty welcome to the Mayor and Corporation, and prayed that the coming year might be a prosperous one. Taking a retrospective view of the Victorian era, he said that the reign of her Majesty had been most remarkable for its spirit of toleration, religious freedom, and respect for conscience. Not very long ago, he continued, members of the Catholic Church and the dissenting bodies of this country could not serve their Queen and country in the way God had destined them to do. Now, however, all those things were changed, and with all fairness and respect it was possible for a Catholic to occupy the highest positions in the land. To our list of Catholic municipal dignitaries we are pleased to add the name of Mr. Hellier Gosselin, J.P. for Herts, of Bengoe Hall, near Hertford. Mr. Gosselin, who was elected as representative of the Bengoe Ward on the Hertford Town Council for the first time last year, was this year unanimously elected Mayor of Hertford by the Town Council. It is, we are informed, the first time that a Catholic has held this post since the Reformation.

**Mivart on Huxley.**—Dr St George Mivart in his recollections of Huxley in the *Nineteenth Century*, relates that Huxley thought the Pope and the Cardinals had the best of it in the controversy with Galileo. This opinion is expressed in a letter which Mr Mivart prints. He also tells how Huxley gravely defended Torquemada, on the ground that "vice and error ought to be extirpated by force." Huxley told him that on one occasion, after a lecture on the "Nervous System," a lady came to the table and said: "I am so much obliged for your charming lecture, so very interesting and so clear. But there was one point I did not quite understand." "Thank you, madam; I shall be very pleased if I can explain to you any point I may have insufficiently expressed." "Well," Professor Huxley, what I want to ask is about what you called the cerebellum. I did not quite gather whether it is inside the skull or outside."

**Cardinal Manning and Henry George.**—On one of his visits to London Henry George interviewed Cardinal Manning. "It was a Sunday afternoon," says a writer, describing the meeting. "I have a vision of the two profiles facing each other in the dim light of the growing dusk, and I recall the emotion of tone in which each man made frankly to the other a sort of profession of faith. They had travelled to the same goal from different directions. 'I loved the people,' said Henry George, 'and love brought me to Christ as their best Friend and Teacher.' 'And I,' said the Cardinal, 'loved Christ, and so learned to love the people for whom He died.'"

**Mr. Gladstone's Health.**—As stated elsewhere in our columns to-day—under the heading "Irish News"—Mr. Gladstone

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is beginning to show signs of coming dissolution. Insomnia and neuralgia are now his constant trouble. During the winter he visited Cannes in the hope of driving both away. Let us hope that he has succeeded. He had, of course, his failings, but take them all into consideration, the great ones and the small ones, and he was still a Grand Old Man. May his years be still more lengthened, and the passing of them without care or sorrow to him.

**FRANCE.—Paris and the '98 Centenary.**—The usual meeting of the Paris branch of the '98 Centenary Organisation met on the 12th inst., at the office of *L'Irlande Libre*, 6 Rue des Martyrs. The chair was taken by Count d'Alton O'Shee. The minutes of the preceding meeting having been read and signed, and other routine business transacted, the meeting expressed much pleasure at the splendid reception given to Miss Maud Gonne in America. The programme of the arrangements of the Executive Committee of the '98 centenary was read and approved of. It was hoped that all parties of whatever politics would unite with the Executive Committee in its praiseworthy efforts to celebrate the greatest event of Franco-Irish history. Correspondence was read from several French sympathisers who were unable to attend. The meeting then adjourned. Among those present were Mdlle. de Sainte Croix, Mr. Patrick MacManus, Miss M. Barry Delany, Mr. Casey, etc.

**Lourdes Cures Verified.**—A meeting took place recently at 8 Rue Francois-Premier which will cause more than a passing sensation when the full reports of it are published. Dr. Boissarie, the Lourdes physician, had assembled round him a number of well-known physicians from the hospitals of Paris to submit to them cases of cures at Lourdes, and ask them to see for themselves whether the cures were genuine or not. The patients who were cured would come forward with the reports of the physicians who attended them during their illness, and the doctors in attendance were asked to examine them and ascertain whether they were cured or not. Over fifty patients who claimed to be cured presented themselves, and expressions of astonishment from the doctors present were not scarce. The full report of their opinion, however, will be known only later, when a statement will be published recording their impressions of the cures.

**An Old Dreyfus Case.**—*Aprépos* of the Captain Dreyfus case (says the *Catholic Times*), it is related that in the middle of last century, the Abbé Prieur invented a kind of shorthand, which he thought should be of some use to the French ministry. The ministry "would none of it." The Abbé submitted his invention to the King of Prussia; but one of his letters was opened at the post-office by the Cabinet Noir, and the next morning Monsieur Abbé Prieur awoke in the dungeon of Vincennes. He enquired the reason, and in the course of months his letter to the King of Prussia was shown to him. "But I can explain that in a moment," said the Abbé. "Look, here is the translation." The hieroglyphs, in short, were as innocent as a verse of the Psalms, but the Abbé Prieur never quitted his dungeon. Many an innocent victim of *lettre de cachet* met with the fate of the Abbé Prieur in the dungeons of Vincennes. It is believed that a hundred and fifty thousand of these letters were issued during the reign of Louis XV.

**ITALY.—The Kirby Memorial Hall, Irish College, Rome.**—Many friends of the late saintly Archbishop of Ephesus, Most Rev. Dr. Kirby, desire to erect a memorial of his long and illustrious career as rector of the Irish College, Rome. A project has been approved which will associate his name with an academic hall in the college, ornamented with his bust and a commemorative inscription in marble. This hall would be of manifold advantage to the students on occasions of general lectures and scholastic disputations, whilst the long unused cortile and portico of St. Agatha's Church can be converted into an excellent hall and cloister, with improvements to the principal entrance, at moderate cost. The work towards both purposes, alike desirable, being already in hand, the co-operation of friends of the deceased, prelate and of the Irish College all over the world, is confidently requested.

**SPAIN.—Zorilla's Crown.**—The Queen-Regent of Spain has, it is said, herself advanced the £100 necessary for taking out of pawn the gold crown bestowed upon the late poet Zorilla, and has presented the relic to the museum at Valladolid, his native town.

**UNITED STATES.—A Catholic Mayor.**—Mr. James K. McGuire has been re-elected Mayor of Syracuse, N.Y. Mr. McGuire's victory is noteworthy from the fact that the opposition appealed to religious prejudice to defeat him. The religious issue was injected into the campaign by a despicable handful of bigots of the A.P.A. stripe, who oppose Catholic candidates on all tickets. The outrageous attacks made upon Mr. McGuire from this source made friends for him among those not of his political faith, and his re-election was a decided protest against the religious issue in politics. Mr. McGuire's administration has been a clean one, and his triumph was a victory for American fair play and a vindication of the constitution.

**Pontius Pilate's Letter.**—Rev. Dr. Shahan, professor of Church history at the University, contributed to the *Philadelphia Press* a lengthy article concerning the acts of Pilate. It was called forth by the publication of a document purporting to be the original letter of Pilate to Tiberius regarding the crucifixion of our Lord. Dr. Shahan's article explained quite fully the origin of the very early Christian belief in the existence of some letter or report of Pilate to Tiberius, as well as the later history of the Pilate legend in the Middle Ages, and the practical hopelessness of ever learning more about the correspondence, true or imaginary, between Pilate and Tiberius. In an editorial note the *Press* says that "Dr. Shahan's luminous discussion of the Pontius-Pilate legend and early literature referring to it gives the final blow to the recent forgery purporting to be the actual transcription of the report of Pilate on the crucifixion."

**A Jesuit Astronomer's Great Work.**—The Jesuit Order has distinguished itself by the great number of its scientific men. Foremost among these we must ever place the distinguished astronomers, Fathers Denza and Perry. Another distinguished son of St. Ignatius is Father Hagen. He has acted as director of the Georgetown University Observatory since November, 1888, and is about to publish his great work, a chart of the variable stars. The labours of Father Hagen were successfully brought to the assurance of full fruition through the generosity of a Brooklyn lady, Miss Catherine Wolfe Bruce, who advanced the large sum necessary to cover the expenses of publication. This object was brought to the attention of Miss Bruce by Professor E. C. Pickering, Director of the Harvard College Observatory, and it is due to this distinguished man of science that Father Hagen has been enabled to proceed with the publication. Miss Bruce is greatly interested in the advancement of science, and an appeal to her from Professor Pickering in behalf of the star atlas brought a ready response. The work comprises 250 charts, and will be issued in five series. The engraving requires skillful and delicate workmanship and will be executed in Germany. The important field of variable stars has hitherto been explored to a comparatively slight extent, and all publications in the way of charts are incomplete, no one having made a specialty of this work before Father Hagen's attention was directed to it. His atlas, therefore, will form a standard and classical work for reference for workers in this field of immense value. The opinion has been advanced by a Harvard professor that the charts will become indispensable, in certain lines of work, to astronomers. Its appearance will, therefore, mark an epoch in the methods of the study of this science. Father Hagen has been very successful in his astronomical works, and has become widely known on account of his researches. His original work has obtained for him considerable distinction, and he has been invited to appear before and address most of the important astronomical congresses of Europe and America in later years. He has acted as director of the Georgetown University observatory since November, 1888, and his greatest work has been accomplished at that place.

**Coadjutor-Bishop of Erie.**—Our latest American exchanges publish telegrams from Rome to the effect that Father Fitzmaurice has been appointed Coadjutor Bishop of Erie, Pa. Father Fitzmaurice is rector of the Seminary of St. Charles Borromeo, Overbrook, Pa. He was born in Leitrim, County Kerry, Ireland, about fifty-eight years ago. His parents were Mr. and Mrs. James Fitzmaurice. At the age of 16 years he went to Dublin, where he received an appointment as clerk in the "Four Courts." Five years later he came to America and entered St. Charles' Seminary. He was ordained at the cathedral in Philadelphia about thirty years ago by Archbishop Wood. After many years of successful parochial work he was appointed to Overbrook as Rector of the Theological Seminary. His splendid work at that institution has won him golden opinions, and led to his latest high promotion. He is a brother of Rev. Edmund W. Fitzmaurice, of St. Gabriel's Church, Hazleton; Rev. James J. Fitzmaurice, Rector of St. Michael's Church, Philadelphia, and Rev. Francis P. Fitzmaurice, Rector of St. Joachim's Church, at Frankford, Pa.]

**An Honest Man.**—The following paragraph, which we take from our esteemed contemporary, the *Boston Pilot*, will be read with interest:—While the newspapers reek day by day with stories of crime and meanness, it is refreshing to come upon one story that largely offsets them to the credit side of human nature. Amos F. Eno was head of the firm of Eno, Bueren and Valentine, when the Civil War broke out thirty-six years ago. The firm did business largely in the South, and the war ruined them. They compounded with their creditors and were legally freed of all obligations; but Mr. Eno did not consider himself morally released, and so, after all these years, he has undertaken to pay his share of the debts with interest at four per cent. per annum, the total amounting to about half a million dollars. He tried to do it secretly but some grateful creditor divulged the fact, and we are glad that he did. The world cannot afford to be ignorant of such an honest deed. One beneficiary said wisely: "We were so astounded that we seriously discussed keeping the check and framing it. We were not going to have it cashed, though it amounted to several thousand dollars. We thought that as an object lesson in honesty it was worth as much as the cash that it represented."

**A New Translation of the Gospels.**—Some of our readers may have perused a recent article in the *Australasian Ecclesiastical Record*, by the Most Rev. Dr. Delaney, Coadjutor-Bishop of Hobart, on the need of a new translation of the Rheims-Douay Bible. A beginning has evidently been made. Father Spencer, who is remembered as the most efficient Provincial the Dominicans have had lately, is now in New York superintending the publication of the translation of the four Gospels. We want a good idiomatic English version of the Scriptures badly. Let us hope that the Dominican Father's version of the Gospels will be the first contribution towards this work.

**ARGENTINA.—General O'Donovan.**—A distinguished citizen of Irish parentage passed away recently at Concordia, in the person of General O'Donovan. He was the son of Dr. Cornelius O'Donovan, an Irish physician, and was born in 1819. He entered the army as cadet at fourteen years old, and rose through all the grades, attaining the rank of general in 1886. He served with great distinction throughout the war with Paraguay, and during the revolution of 1874. He always spoke with pride of his Irish parentage and of the Irish blood that flowed in his veins. At our Irish banquets he was always in requisition, and was one of the merriest when the tables were drawn, and song and story went around. All the business houses in Concordia closed when the news of his death became known, as a tribute of respect to his memory. The remains were brought down to Buenos Ayres by order of the National Government, and he received the full military honours due to his rank. Solemn High Mass was offered up previous to the funeral. The attendance at the grave was enormous to honour the memory of a brave soldier and a good citizen.

## RETURNING TO THE FOLD.

MR. ROBERT E. DELL was received into the Catholic Church lately in the Birmingham Oratory. He is the eldest son of Rev. Robert Dell, Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, and of St. Peter's, Birmingham, and who was the editor of the *Surrey Mirror*, and organising secretary of the Committee for Church Defence and Church Instruction. He matriculated at University College, Oxford, in 1884, at the age of nineteen.

After many years, poor old Père Loyson is apparently receiving the grace of conversion. From the *Catholic Times* we learn that Prince Odescalchi, who has had some hand in arousing in the schismatic priest the desire to return to his allegiance, has now explained away many of the obscure points that were regarded as an obstacle to that return. When M. Loyson was in Rome no authoritative person made proposals for his conversion, or dealt with any conditions to be considered in the matter, but he himself expressed a desire to consult a theologian on his own position. The result of the interview was believed to be most satisfactory by M. Loyson's well-wishers. He himself admits that no insurmountable difficulty now exists, and it is accordingly to be hoped in his own interest that the step which his conscience is obviously dictating may be taken without an exaggerated self-esteem remaining further in the way.

The latest convert.—News is to hand of the reception of Lady Canterbury into the Catholic Church. Our readers will remember that Lord Canterbury was a former Governor of Victoria.

## PROGRESS OF CATHOLICITY.

THE New York *Freeman's Journal*, translates and publishes from the *Vera Roma* a number of interesting notes relative to the progress of Catholicity throughout the world. In the first place, a summary is given of gains made in the last twenty-five years. The *Journal* says:—

Previously no Catholic hierarchy existed in the Indies, Japan, Scotland, or the Danubian principalities. To-day the number of Catholics has increased, and the hierarchy has been established in these countries. The Catholic Church in these regions is in a most prosperous condition. Moreover, Leo XIII. has recently founded the hierarchy among the Copts.

In Africa apostolic men are penetrating farther and farther every day into the interior of the continent. Louanda, the Kongo, and Zambesi are evangelised. Australia now reckons twenty-four bishops and 600,000 Catholics; formerly there were only a few missionaries. In South America and Oceania missionaries continue to display their zeal. In the United States, under the pontificate of Leo XIII. twenty-three new dioceses has been created and 3,000 churches built. Baltimore has had a National Council, and Washington has become the seat of a university canonically erected. We are witnesses of an increase in conversions, of the abolition of the Kultur-Kampf in Germany, of the erection of a Catholic-spirited Government in Belgium, and of the nomination for the first time of a Russian representative to the Holy See.

The Catholic Church lives in a perpetual battle, in which every day she gains fresh victories. Many powerful influences may persecute her and combine for her destruction, but all persecution serves but to make her more faithful.

According to an estimate unfavourable to the Catholic Church, since it has been made by German Protestants, has increased from century to century has been as follows:—

First century, 500,000 Catholics.
Second century, 2,000,000 Catholics.
Third century, 5,000,000 Catholics.
Fourth century, 10,000,000 Catholics.
Fifth century, 15,000,000 Catholics.
Sixth century, 20,000,000 Catholics.
Seventh century, 25,000,000 Catholics.
Eighth century, 30,000,000 Catholics.
Ninth century, 40,000,000 Catholics.
Tenth century, 50,000,000 Catholics.
Eleventh century, 70,000,000 Catholics.
Twelfth century, 80,000,000 Catholics.
Thirteenth century, 85,000,000 Catholics.
Fourteenth century, 90,000,000 Catholics.
Fifteenth century, 100,000,000 Catholics.
Sixteenth century, 125,000,000 Catholics.
Seventeenth century, 185,000,000 Catholics.
Eighteenth century, 270,000,000 Catholics.
Nineteenth century (up to 1894), 280,000,000 Catholics.

The estimate admits, it must be observed, first, that the Catholic Church has made progress in every age, and, second, that in times of violent persecution she has made most progress.

It is not so much what you say as what you refrain from saying that will give you a character for wisdom.

Do good to your friend that he may be more wholly yours; to your enemy that he may become your friend.

MYERS AND CO., Dentists, Octagon, corner of George street. They 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.]

## GOLD AND BLOOD.

MANY years ago I knew a man who expended a great part of a large fortune in buying gold, in coin and in bars. This he melted, and with human blood and other unique ingredients, laboured secretly to prepare a mixture that should arrest all disease, renew vitality, and prolong life indefinitely. I need hardly say that he failed. Not only did he fail, but one day an explosion took place in his laboratory which destroyed the fruits of his toil and left him senseless and badly wounded amid the wreck. The rest of his days were passed in an asylum.

Yet he was not the first man who tried that same experiment, not by thousands. To find the elixir of life was one of the main purposes of the science of alchemy, the barbaric ancestor of the modern science of chemistry. But all that is now discredited. No doctor or student of healing even pretends to possess or to seek an essence of life.

What is undertaken, however, and successfully, is to ascertain the truth about nature's functions, and to help her perform them when they are impeded by disease.

Illustrations of what can be done on this line are plentiful. Here is one: "Twelve years ago," says Mrs. Eliza Matcham, of Armitage House Sutton-on-Hull, "I had an attack of rheumatic fever. At the same time I had a bad taste in the mouth, poor appetite, and pain and weight at the chest after eating. I frequently spat up a quantity of greasy, fatty matter. Later I was afflicted with rheumatism in my hands and feet. Then I fell into a state of debility which continued year after year. I spent a great deal of money in doctoring, all to no purpose. Finally I was induced to try your medicine. In a short time my food agreed with me, the sickness ceased, I grew stronger, and the rheumatism by degrees abated. Now by taking your remedy occasionally I keep in good health. (Signed) Mrs. Eliza Matcham, June 2nd, 1893."

"For some time previous to 1887," writes another, "I was troubled with a digestive disorder. In the autumn of that year (1887) I got a severe cold, which brought on rheumatism and lumbago. I had a great pain in the back and also in the joints. I consulted a doctor, who gave me medicines, and advised me to go to Buxton. I did so, but I am bound to say obtained little benefit from it.

"In January, 1888, I had another attack of rheumatic fever, which brought me down into a very low and feeble condition. For days and days together I was unable to eat or sleep. It was only by hardship and pain that I got about at all. Whilst on a visit to Little Downham, Cambridgeshire, some friends told me of the medicine furnished by you. I used it, and soon found relief, and gained strength. Cheered up and encouraged by this, I continued taking it, and now, by an occasional dose, I keep wholly free from rheumatism and other troubles. (Signed) Philip Hopkin, 20, Maude Street, Grimsby, November 14th, 1893."

The eccentric man alluded to in the first part of this article failed to cure any disease with his odd brew. It was costly too, as I said. Blood is cheap enough, but bars of gold come high. He was a fanatic and a fool.

But here we have two instances in which rheumatism, a common and dangerous ailment, was cured by Mother Siegel's Curative Syrup, a remedy made not from blood and gold, but from the healing herbs of the fields and forests. And why was it cured thus so speedily and with such seeming ease? Because rheumatism is not a disease of itself, but a symptom of indigestion and dyspepsia. It is *this* universal plague that the Syrup scatters and drives away, its children following after. Thus we keep our blood in our veins and our gold—if we have any—in our pockets.

How excellent it is to do good to our friends and at the same time to make friends of our enemies.

There is no slavery like idleness; the e is no burden like it. Every pound of it weighs twenty ounces.

However sweet a song may be, it is evanescent as a breath and survives as a divine memory only.

We who murmur and repine and chafe and fret all the day long if anything goes against us, call ourselves disciples of the Sacred Heart; and yet we have not so much as the will to bear the Cross, much less to love it.—Cardinal Manning.

Emerson, with a fine disregard of the petty things of life, says that the great man scarcely knows how he dines or how he dresses; heroism is almost ashamed of its body; "what shall it say, then," he exclaims, "to the sugar-plums and cats' cradles, compliments, quarrels, cards, and custard, which rack the wit of all human society!" Now, that is all very well, speaking esoterically, but if great men, in general, are indifferent about their dinners, they differ essentially from all the presumably great men of our acquaintance.

What Time Is.—Men of business are accustomed to quote the maxim that "Time is money," but it is much more; the proper improvement of it is self-culture, self-improvement, and growth of character. An hour wasted daily on trifles or in indolence, would, if devoted to self-improvement, make an ignorant man wise in a few years, and, employed in good works, would make his life fruitful, and death a harvest of worthy deeds. Fifteen minutes a day devoted to self-improvement will be felt at the end of the year. Good thoughts and carefully gathered experience take up no room, and are carried about with us as companions everywhere, without cost or incumbrance. Nothing is more heartfully stimulating than a genuine love for the pursuit in which one is engaged. Every gain in it is a fresh excitement. Each new method adopted, each new experience tried, each new tool tested, each new discovery made, is a means of present delight and spur to future effort. But he who drags along an uninteresting succession of days, in which his works are only compelled drudgery, is deprived alike of incentive and pleasure.

**CROWN LANDS FOR SETTLEMENT**

**AUCKLAND.**

Friday, 18th February. For sale by public auction for cash. 1 section, Opuawhanga Survey District, 230 acres; upset price, £540. Contains 1,160,000 feet kauri timber, easily worked. Distant nine miles from Otonga or Whakapara Railway Stations. 1 section, Ararimu Parish, 40 acres, 3 roads; upset price, £41. Land of fair quality, about four miles from Helensville. 1 section, Waiatahi Parish, 27 acres, 3 roads; upset price, £28. Open and swamp land of good quality at head of Ohiwa Harbour. 15 sections, Taupiri Village, about 2 roads each; upset price, from £9 to £12 per section.

Wednesday, 23rd February. For application for cash, for occupation, with right of purchase or for lease in perpetuity. First and second class surveyed land. 23 sections, Maungaru Survey district, Hobson County, from 31 acres to 386 acres; cash price, from 12s 6d to £1 2s 6d per acre. These sections are near Wairoa River and Tangiteroria wharf; soil good and well watered. Second class unsurveyed land. — 1,480 acres, Herikeri Survey District; cash price, 5s per acre. Open land at head of Kerikeri Inlet, Bay of Islands.

Friday, 25th February. For sale by public auction for cash. 1 section, town of Opua, 1 road; upset price, £5. 3 sections, village of Taupiri, 2 roads each; upset price, £10 a section. 12 sections, suburbs of Weymonth, from 1 road to 22 acres; upset price from £1 to £45 per section. For sale by public auction. 589 kauri trees in Maungaru Survey District containing 1,903,654 sup feet; upset price, £952; 57 kauri trees, containing 154,829 feet, and 14 totara trees containing 20,559 feet; upset price, £88. 517 green kauri trees (1,430,799 feet), 40 dead kauri trees (79,290 feet), 18 totara trees (14,000 feet), in Pekapekaran. State Forest, Mangakahia district; upset price, £824 19s 5d. 806 green kauri trees (2,108,163 feet), 288 singed kauri trees (602,951 feet), Tutamoe and Mangakahia districts; upset price, £1129 12s 6d. Run No. 61, West Taupo County, area 50300 acres, term 21 years: upset rental, £40 per annum. Situated about 13 miles from Te Ateamuri and about 5 miles from Kihikihiki.

Wednesday, 2nd March. For application for cash, for occupation with right of purchase or for lease in perpetuity. First and second class surveyed land. 25 sections: Opaheke, Puniu, Kerikeri, Whangape, Mangamuka, Punakitere, Maungataniwha, Matakohe, Waipu, and Awitu districts, from 9 acres to 431 acres; cash price, from 5s to £3 per acre.

**TARANAKI.**

Friday, 25th February. For sale by public auction for cash. 15 sections, Pukearuhe village, 1 acre each; upset price, from £5 to £8 per section. 2 sections, Matapouri village, 1 acre 2 roads 2 poles, and 1 acre, 1 road, 35 poles; upset price, £5 per section.

Wednesday, 2nd March. For application, for cash, for occupation with right of purchase for lease in perpetuity. First and second class surveyed land. 11 sections, Omona and Ngatimaru districts, Stratford County, 200 to 600 acres; cash price, from 12s 6d to £1 5s per acre. 12 sections, Pouatu District, Stratford County, from 210 to 319 acres; cash price, from £1 to £1 5s per acre.

**WELLINGTON**

Wednesday, 2nd March. For sale by public auction, at Pahiatua, for cash. 4 sections, Pongaroa town-ship, from 1 road to 2 roads 26 perches; upset price, from £7 10s to £13 10s per section. 12 sections, Rakaunui village, from 30 perches to 1 acre; upset price, from £3 to £5 per section. 8 sections, Pahiatua village settlement, from 1 road to 1 acre; upset price, from £5 6s to £13 per section.

Paparangi Settlement, 313 acres, about March next: rent, about 16s per acre. Paparangi is situated at Johnsonville, about a quarter of a mile from the Johnsonville Railway Station. The land will be divided into sections of from 1 to 10 acres.

**CANTERBURY.**

Tuesday 25th January. For lease in perpetuity. 1 section, Rakitairi Settlement, Geraldine County, 20 acres: annual rent, 9s 6d per acre.

Wednesday 23rd February. For application, for cash, for occupation with right of purchase, or for lease in perpetuity. Second class surveyed land. 1 section, Waitohi and Waipira Districts, 510 acres; cash price, £1 per acre. 1 section, Hind District, 579 acres; cash price, £1 per acre. 1 section, Alford and Shepherd's Bush Districts, 194 acres; cash price, £1 2s 6d per acre.

**OTAGO.**

Wednesday, 23rd February. For application, for cash, for occupation, with right of purchase or for lease in perpetuity. Second class surveyed land. 28 sections, Akatore, Catlins, Glenomaru, Tarras, Upper Wakatipu and Woodland Districts, from 40 to 295 acres; cash price, from 7s 6d to 17s 6d per acre. For sale by public auction for cash. Section 22, block XIV, Maniototo Survey District, 10 acres: upset price, £10. Small grazing run for lease. Section 7, block VIII, Waipoi, S.D., 1268 acres. annual rent, 4d per acre.

**SOUTHLAND.**

Wednesday, January 26. Beaumont Estate, Wairaki Survey District. For lease in perpetuity. 13 sections of first class land, ranging from 222 acres to 115 acres. Annual rent from 1s 4d to 3s 5d per acre.

Wednesday, 23rd February. Small grazing run for lease. Sections 64 to 75 Takitimo District, 3192 acres; annual rent, 3d per acre.

Friday, 25th February. For sale by public auction for cash. Block XLVI, Wallace town, 1 road 13 perches; upset price, £6 10s 6d.

Wednesday, 2nd March. For application, for cash, for occupation with right of purchase or for lease in perpetuity. First and second class surveyed lands. 22 sections: Hokonui, Taringatua, Eyre, Longwood, New River, Oteramika, Waikawa, Alton and Takitimo districts, from 26 to 501 acres; cash price, from 5s to £1 10s per acre.

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BOOT MANUFACTURERS AND IMPORTERS,  
9 ROYAL ARCADE, DUNEDIN.

Where do you get your Boots and Shoes?  
Said Mrs. Smith one day,  
Unto her neighbour Mrs. Jones,  
Just in a friendly way.

You see they understand their trade  
And buy for ready cash  
Just nothing but the best of goods,  
And never worthless trash.

They last as long again as mine,  
And always look so neat;  
They seem to fit you like a glove,  
So nice they suit your feet."

I used to buy from other shops,  
But found it did not pay;  
The soles too quickly did wear out,  
Or else the tops gave way."

I always buy from Loft and Co.,  
Mrs. Jones did then reply.  
There as on that I buy from them  
I now will tell you why.

So if you want good Boots and Shoes,  
That give good honest wear;  
Just go direct to Loft and Co.,  
And you will get them there.

TRY OUR GUM BOOTS, 21s.

**APPLE TREES, PEAR TREES,**

CHERRY TREES, PEACH TREES, APRICOT TREES AND SMALL FRUITS.

All Clean, Healthy and Well-Rooted and at Low Prices

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Choice Vegetable and Flower Seeds from 3d per packet.

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JAMES DEALY ... Proprietor.

This well-known Hotel is in close proximity to both Railway Stations, thereby offering great facility to the travelling public of being able to leave by the early trains.

Guests may depend upon being called in time, a porter being kept for that purpose.

The Bedrooms are well and comfortably furnished, and the Fittings and Accommodation throughout is all that could be desired.

The Wines and Spirits are all of the choicest and Best Brands. Dunedin XXXX Beer always on tap.

Table d'Hotel daily from 12 to 2, and Meals at all hours for travellers.

Free Stabling.

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THE NATURAL EXCELLENCE of the REAL and ORIGINAL KAITANGATA COAL for every purpose is so universally recognised by all HOUSEHOLDERS and MANUFACTURERS throughout the Middle Island now, that it would be superfluous for the Company to detail the special features of its superiority over all other coals in every notice like this. The present, therefore, is only to assure the Public generally that the Coal maintains its excellence, and is sold by all Merchants in the trade.

The KAITANGATA ALMANAC will be delivered to Consumers as usual next month

W. P. WATSON,  
General Manager

Offices: Crawford street, Dunedin.  
12th November, 1896.

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Beg to notify that they have taken this Hotel, and will be glad to MEET their OLD CUSTOMERS and FRIENDS. The Hotel will be run on the same lines as heretofore, and no effort will be spared to please customers.

Best Brands of all Liquors only kept.  
The old Moderate Tariff will be maintained

## BIG FEET

AND little feet have, from time immemorial, been subject to those painful excrescences commonly called Corns. Now, a new born babe has no Corns on its feet, but nearly everyone else has, and there is no excuse for them for the remedy is at hand. CALLOSINE removes the hardest or softest corn in a few applications. You can have a bottle sent, post free, for a shilling by sending to the inventor.

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QUEENSTOWN, LAKE WAKATIPU, Otago, New Zealand.

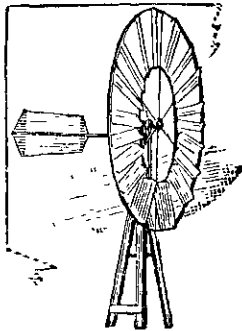
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Porter meets every Steamer on arrival at the Wharf.

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Leave this Hotel for Dunedin Thrice Weekly First-class Stabling. Horses and Buggies for Hire, and ready at a moment's notice Drivers provided. Specials to Mount Cook.

Reasonable Arrangements can be made for the Accommodation of Families, as well as for Accommodation during the Winter Season



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Has removed to 201 St Asaph street, Christchurch, and is Manufacturing WINDMILLS of the Most Simple, Strong, and Durable Make. None but the very best iron and steel is used in their manufacture.

Derricks supplied of either Wood or Iron.

Windmills from £5 upwards; Derricks from £1 10s upwards.

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Destroys the morbid deposits of the Lungs.  
Overcomes the racking cough and spitting of blood.

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"It has been clearly demonstrated that this new remedy is not only highly efficacious in the treatment of the more formidable disease of consumption, but that in all cases of coughs and colds, whatever may be their cause, it cures with astonishing rapidity. It acts against these lesser maladies as quinine acts against intermittent fever. It is equally efficacious in bronchitis and catarrh, and all inflammatory states of the respiratory organs. Expectoration and cough disappear like magic, and there can be no doubt that thousands of cures will be affected during the coming winter by this latest application of modern medical science."

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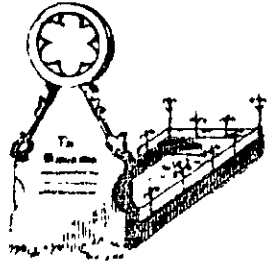
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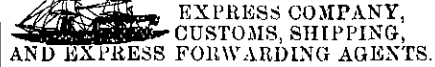
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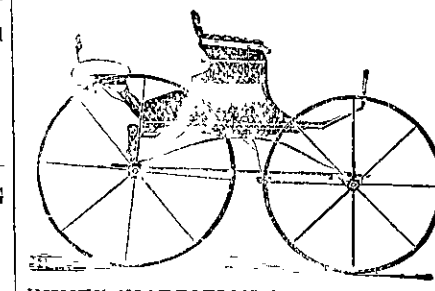
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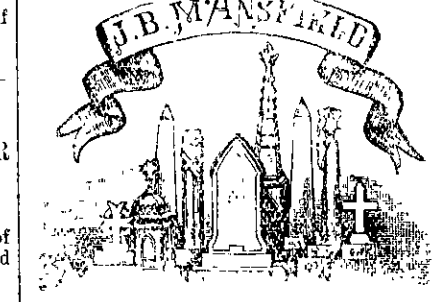
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Requires no setting, and will burn any Coal.  
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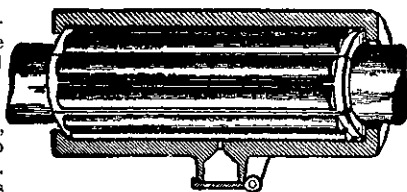
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