

[ESTABLISHED 1877.]

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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.

ANSWER TO CORRESPONDENT.

M. L. KELBER.—We are making inquiries. Kindly send your address.

DEATHS.

TUBMAN.—James Tubman, of Ballinamore, County Leitrim, Ireland, father of Rev. J. Tubman, of Timaru, and of Rev. T. Tubman, P.P. of Virginia City, Nevada, United States. Died recently at the ripe age of 82 years.—*R.I.P.*

HOULAHAN.—Of your charity pray for the soul of Catherine Houlahan, wife of Michael Houlahan, of N.E. Valley, Dunedin, who departed this life April 9, 1895.—*R.I.P.*

The New Zealand Tablet.

FIAT JUSTITIA.

FRIDAY, APRIL 8, 1898.

WAR RUMOURS AND PEACE ARBITERS.

HATE war," said a French wit. "It spoils conversation." The saying is characteristic of that school of light and airy Gallic wits who were given to skimming gaily, like twittering swallows, over the broad surface of even the mightiest questions that can exercise the human mind. Just now conversation turns mainly on the prospects and ultimate chances of two mighty wars. East and West are bristling with sensational possibilities. For the United States and Spain the prospects of peace were for a moment in the ascendant. They apparently hung by the Pope's mediation. But there is undoubtedly thunder in the air. The submarine wire records day by day the bustle of moving battalions, and the feverish mobilising of fleets. The risk of a big impending struggle is by no means diminished. Nobody can surmise what to-morrow may bring.

* * *

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