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Current Topics

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

A NON-CATHOLIC correspondent has been 'worried' over us. He is of opinion that the great principle of the 'freedom of the Press' is sufficient justification for the publication of vile abuse of any body of people—especially of 'Romanists.' Well, we are satisfied to believe in and act upon the Golden Rule. As regards the 'freedom of the Press' in the right understanding of the word 'freedom' we shall ever defend the proper freedom of the Press as of the subject. But we are not in favour of free lying, free slander-monging, nor free literary filth from the shambles or the sty. Freedom is one thing. License is another. The honest man seeks the one; the other kind the other.

WHEN one takes a stand on a question of principle it is pleasant to see men who differ with him in creed and politics range themselves like brothers-in-arms by his side. Some time ago we had to take such a stand on behalf of the Catholic body of New Zealand. We have already quoted extracts to show that all the great Australian dailies—even those that are habitually hostile to us—endorsed our action to the fullest extent. The latest echo of approval comes from a source which adds a special value to its words. The Melbourne *Southern Cross* is the organ of the Presbyterian body in Victoria. In one of its recent numbers it states decisively that the Catholic body in New Zealand have solid grounds for complaint against Lord Ranfurly. 'Lord Ranfurly,' says the *Southern Cross*, 'is her Majesty's representative in New Zealand, and the head of a community which includes all varieties of religious belief. He plainly ought not officially to say a word which would declare his bias against or for anyone of them. The Roman Catholic papers are screaming angrily against Lord Ranfurly on account of his recent utterance, and while we cannot approve of much of the language they employ, yet we think they have reasonable cause for complaint. Lord Gormanston, the Governor of Tasmania, is an earnest Roman Catholic. Suppose he received a deputation from, say, the members of the Society of Jesus, and expressed officially his disapproval of "the errors introduced into the Christian religion by Luther at the Reformation!" All good Protestants would be justly indignant at such an utterance by her Majesty's representative. And on the authority of the Golden Rule, we must wish for our Roman Catholic friends the same consideration we demand for ourselves. Lord Ranfurly, however, is still young as a Governor; he will, no doubt, learn his lesson.'

THE LATEST SHERLOCK HOLMES. THE following good story is told by 'Flaneur' in the Sydney *Freeman*. It will be perused with amused interest by our readers:— Connected with the '98 Celebration in Ireland a story is told which shows that the smart English police officials are still as eager to jump at any tales of treason told against Irishmen as a gudgeon is to spring at a fly. A post-card was sent from Ireland to Mr. William O'Brien, ex-M.P., a week before the eventful day, and on it was written the suspicious line—'The pikes are ready.'

Some keen-nosed official in the London post office scented danger to the Empire at once on seeing this card, and, with joyful visions of future honours and reward, he hurried it off to the great Detective Department in Scotland Yard, the result being that the whole establishment was set in motion, and the cleverest men it contained were told off to seize the pikes and all connected with them. The result of their investigation was a considerable 'take-down' for the Sherlock Holmes party, for it turned out that Mr. O'Brien had merely given a Dublin jeweller an order for a large number of appropriate '98 brooches; the central idea of the trinkets being a re-

presentation of a pike. When the jeweller had finished the order he sent his terse post-card along, and now, instead of reaping his anticipated rich reward, the patriotic party who sented danger has to keep clear of the detectives for fear they might football him round Hyde Park, or duck him in the dirtiest portion of the Thames.

PUT TO THE TEST. THERE are two difficulties ahead of the Catholic journalist who is placed face to face with what is, happily, unknown in New Zealand outside of Dunedin—systematic vilification of the Catholic Church and body. Occasional controversy, conducted in gentlemanly fashion, is a great means of good. Perpetual controversy—even in the face of perpetual vilification—has the same exasperating effect as long-drawn guerrilla warfare. It defeats its chief purpose. The other difficulty is this: that the 'lewd fellows of the baser sort' who furnish this sort of garbage are just the kind that a respectable journalist could not cross swords with without losing his self-respect and social status, and inviting a fresh outpouring of no-Popery sewage. Hence the undesirability of dealing in the secular Press with the rag-tag-and-bobtail of controversialists. And hence, too, no answer has ever been made through the secular organs to many of the wild statements of the creature who runs the no-Popery columns in the Dunedin *Evening Star*.

Attacks on the consoling practice of confession were sure to come, sooner or later. We are told—on the authority of nobody knows who and of a book that nobody can find, that that sacred practice is corrupting. The slanderer is wise as the serpent. Were he to make the same charge against an individual Catholic as he does against the whole 250,000,000, he would speedily find himself in the dock and under lock and key in gaol. If such were the tendency of that sacred rite, those who practised it most would be the most degraded wretches that crawl upon this planet; namely, the Pope; the clergy; the orders of men and women who sold themselves into slavery to redeem the slave; the millions of religious of both sexes who gave their lives without fee or reward to the service of the sick, the orphans, the foundlings, the stricken old—to every form of human ill; the Sisters of Charity who died upon the battle-field; and the nuns and brothers who have banished themselves for ever from civilised life and comforts to nurse the lepers and die with them, as Father Damien and so many others did. On the principles enunciated by the literary scavenger of the *Evening Star*, these would be the very scum of creation. We need not ask which have displayed the true spirit of Christianity: the Church's long bead-roll of spotless purity and heroic charity, or the nameless scribe who yells foul epithets upon them and forgets that the God of Truth ever forbade people to bear false witness against their neighbour.

Happily, we are able to put the foul insinuation to the test. There is probably no country in the world where more frequent use is made of the confessional than in Ireland. On the scavenger's theory, there should be no country in the world where the majority of the people are more morally degraded. This question has been forced upon our notice. We will take, for instance, the statistics of illegitimacy. They are, according to Leffingwell, a good test of the morality of people living in the same country, under the same laws and customs, and with the same methods of collecting statistics. He gives us the following figures regarding the people who go and those who do not go to confession in Ireland:—

| Province. | Non-Catholic Population, Census 1880. | Rate of Illegitimacy per 1000 births, 10 years—1871-1880. |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Connaught | 5 per cent. | 7 |
| Munster | 6 " | 17 |
| Leinster | 11 " | 22 |
| Ulster | 52 " | 40 |

The following figures for the counties of Ulster are more instructive still. They are compiled from the statistics of 1891 and the Registrar-General's report:—

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| | Population. | Per cent. Cath. | Per cent. Non-Cath. | No. Illeg. | Per cent. Illeg. |
|----------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------------|------------|------------------|
| Cavan ... | 111,917 | 80.8 | 19.2 | 32 | 2.8 |
| Donegal ... | 185,635 | 76.9 | 23.1 | 69 | 3.1 |
| Monaghan ... | 56,205 | 73.2 | 26.8 | 38 | 4.4 |
| Fermanagh ... | 71,170 | 55.1 | 44.6 | 55 | 7.4 |
| Tyrone ... | 171,491 | 51.6 | 48.4 | 130 | 7.1 |
| Armagh ... | 113,289 | 49.6 | 50.4 | 139 | 9.0 |
| Londonderry... | 152,009 | 41.5 | 58.5 | 113 | 9.1 |
| Down ... | 267,395 | 36.3 | 63.7 | 281 | 10.5 |
| Antrim ... | 128,128 | 21.6 | 78.4 | 560 | 13.0 |

In the first five counties the people who go to confession predominate. In the remaining four non-Catholics are in the majority. Here is the table summing up the figures we have given —

| | Rate of Illegitimacy. |
|--|-----------------------|
| The five Catholic counties of Ulster ... | 1.9 per cent. |
| The four non-Catholic counties of Ulster ... | 10.4 " |

The last report of the Registrar-General proves that the same results still continue. In last November, the Manchester *Guardian*, a non-Catholic paper, says of the then recently published report that 'in the birth statistics, the proportion of illegitimate births (in Ireland) is exceedingly small, and the Protestant parts of the country compare unfavourably with the Roman Catholic. So far as the ratio of illegitimate births is to be taken as a test of morality, Ireland is, with the exception of Greece, the most moral country in Europe.' The celebrated Presbyterian clergyman, Dr. Watson (better known by his pen-name, 'In MacLaren') said to an American interviewer that, among the admirable qualities of the Irish people 'is that moral purity which is one of the glories of the Catholic Church in Ireland.' So much by the way. We shall be able to give further and stronger evidence in point during the course of the articles on confession begun in our issue of this week.

CONVENT INSPECTION. THERE is a man in Dunedin who writes letters sometimes to the papers. He signs himself 'J. Smith'—probably John Smith. We have heard that name before. We have, in fact, met the great John Smith by the thousand, from the Baltic to the Bluff, and in a thousand different faces and characters—a glorified Mick McQuaid. The Dunedin *Apprentice* of the great man poses as a convent inspection enthusiast. He wants the Dunedin electors to ask the city members if they will support a Bill for the public inspection of convents 'the same as all other institutions.' Likewise, he volunteers the information that a petition for this purpose was signed by 363,000 women in the United Kingdom. This array of bonnets looks very formidable indeed. But when our budding convent-inspector finds a Barkis who is willing among the electors of Dunedin, he would do well to supply him with information on the following points —

1. Who are the 'Convent Inquiry Society' that ran this big petition? Its secretary we know—an individual named Abbott. Its president we know. His name is Colonel Sandys. (By the way is he a descendant of that Brigade Major Sandys who, in 1798 made his Pivot a place of torture that was filled day and night with the shrieks of his victims?). Does the Society consist of Abbott and Sandys? If not, why did the secretary decline to give the representative of the Glasgow *Herald* the name of a single other officer or member? Is the Society a fraud?

2. Again: How were the signatures of this petition obtained? The secretary assured the representative of the Glasgow *Herald* that the lists were sent to very few Episcopalian clergy, that the majority of the signatories were Nonconformists, and that the names were obtained frequently at the church doors. How's this? And is it a fact that the list is swelled by the addition of the names of thousands of children and of some fallen women?

3. Barkis will also need to be coached in other matters. The reasons alleged in the petition for convent inspection were (a) that nuns are kept in 'hopeless imprisonment' in convents against their will. (b) that 'a system of terrible torture exists in English convents'; (c) that interments take place at night in 'the private burial' ground of the Notting Hill Convent.

(a). As to the first statement, the secretary, though strongly pressed, could not allege one single instance—not even one—in point. (b). The charge of torture led to signal evidence of Mr. Abbott's fitness to head such a movement. For proof in point he referred the representative of the *Herald* to a friend whom (he said) he had known for years—Mr. Steele, Raquet Court, Fleet street, London. Mr. Steele was not a member of the Society. On being applied to he declared that he shouldn't know Mr. Abbott from the man in the moon! There is an Ananias here. Perhaps John Smith will explain which it is. As to the proofs of torture, Mr. Steele declared that he knew nothing at all about them, nor could he name any person who did. And the genial secretary granted that he had never seen them either.

(c). The midnight burial myth met with an untimely and inglorious death. The versatile Mr. Abbot gave a county councillor as the authority for the story. Then he admitted that this statement was not true. Next he mentioned a draper—one Mr. Mayes—who lived opposite the convent, as an eye-witness. The most diligent inquiry at Notting Hill, says the interviewer, 'failed to elicit the whereabouts of Mayes the draper.' The story of the 'private cemetery' at Notting Hill convent elicited the fact that there is no burial-ground within its precincts, and that nobody is interred there. Dr. Turnbull (Ladbroke Grove)—a Protestant—has been physician to the convent since 1893. He spoke of it and its inmates in terms of the highest praise. With regard to the burials at night, he says: 'That is ridiculous. They are all buried in Kensal Green. I always register the deaths in the ordinary way.' Dr. Robinson, another Protestant physician, bears out every word uttered by Dr. Turnbull. It may interest John Smith and Co. to know that Ministers have, in effect, kicked the petition out of doors. The women or children or—the other kind—who signed—or are said to have signed—this foolish and lying petition would have been better occupied trying to stem the growing tide of vice around them than in interfering with the private concerns of ladies who choose to put themselves out of the marriage-market for the purpose of devoting their lives, without fee or earthly reward, to the cause of education and charity. John Smith ought to have started his agitation two centuries back. There is too much electric light about now for schemes like that of the so-called Convent Inspection Society.

GOD'S flowers bloom in every soil. But the most A BITTER BADLY unlikely soil that such a blossom ever opened its BITTEN. petals on was that on which stands the residence of Mr. Johnston of Ballykilbeg (M.P. for South Belfast), whose daughter was recently received into the Catholic Church. Mr. Johnston was firmly convinced in his heart of hearts that the Pope is the Man of Sin, that the Catholic Church is the Mistress of Abominations, and that liberal-minded Protestants are Jesuits in disguise. We confess to a sort of feeling of respect for the magnificent proportions—the measureless height and depth and width—of Mr. Johnston's bigotry. Mr. Johnston would not, on principle, tolerate any 'truckling' with the Scarlet Woman. As far back as 1857 he published a novel entitled *Nightshade* (reprinted in 1895). Its theme was the good old legend of Jesuits in disguise—in the Church of England, of course. The plot is the old familiar one of the No-Popery 'shilling-shocker' or 'penny dreadful'—Jesuits acting as Anglican clergymen, domestic servants, etc. But the novel ends happily—'Jesuits baffled, and priests and nuns and all,' while the principal 'Jesuit impostor cast off his disguise, and ceased to play the not uncommon but disreputable part of an apparent union with a Protestant Church, while he was really a member of the Church of Rome.'

Mr. William Johnston is an Orangeman by conviction, and has been for long years Deputy Grand-Master of Ireland. He sprung into fame among the brethren by his march to Bangor, July 12, 1867—contrary to proclamation and Act of Parliament—at the head of a large body of Orangemen, who carried sixty-seven flags, and were provided with arms and ammunition, 'in case the worst came to the worst.' For this defiance of law and order he was sentenced to a month's imprisonment at the Down Assizes, February 28, 1868. He at once became the ideal of the lodges at Ulster. His portrait found an honoured place in every 'brother's' home, along with that of the hero of the Boyne; and, at the next elections, he was returned to Parliament. He never makes a speech in Parliament or takes an active part in discussion unless the subject under consideration relates to Catholic interests. Then he uses all the energy and eloquence which he possesses in denunciation of the Pope, the Church, and everything they represent. He is, in effect, the living head—the Pope—of the Orange faction in Ireland.

Evil days have fallen on the Grand Old Man of the Lodges. His favourite and highly-accomplished daughter, Miss Ada Johnston, was received into the Catholic Church by the Rev. J. F. McCauley, C.C., in St. Patrick's Memorial Church, Downpatrick. Miss Johnston had been attending the Catholic services for some time previously, and her conversion was not unexpected. We do not know what led the young lady's faltering footsteps to the bosom of the unity of Catholic truth. Perhaps it was the reading of her father's wild No-Popery novel, *Nightshade*. Her surroundings were to the last degree unpromising. The ways of grace are wonderful, and oftentimes very mysterious. A notorious American female orator was holding forth at Hastings (England) some years ago, a lady rose to her feet and said: 'I ask your permission to thank you for your lectures. Two years ago I was a Protestant, but, thanks to you, I am now a Catholic of Catholics. I hold in my hand a Bible. It was given me by a priest of the Church of

Rome, with an earnest desire that I should study it. I have simply to state these facts, and I do, from the bottom of my heart, thank you for your labours.' Sampson took honey from the lion's mouth. But it was God's work, and one that does not occur every day.

ABOUT CONFESSION.

SOME PERTINENT POINTS.

'No might nor greatness in mortality
Can censure scape; backwounding calumny
The whitest virtue strikes. What king so strong,
Can tie the gall up in the slanderous tongue?'

Thus spoke Duke Vincentio in *Measure for Measure*. Catholics, and—in New Zealand—Dunedin Catholics especially, can fully realise the truth of the words of the 'sweetswan of Avon.' Almost every doctrine and practice of the Catholic Church—including that of confession—has been grievously misrepresented; and charges of monstrous crimes or sins have been laid at the door of the Catholic body. It is a series of little orgies of calumny. But through the malodorous atmosphere which surrounds them, we can see in letters of light the words of prophecy and comfort: 'Blessed are ye when they shall revile you and persecute you and speak all that is evil against you, untruly, for My sake' (*Matt. v. ii*). The Catholic Church is the only one that is ever and ever more subject to this endless bombardment of falsehood and slander. It is her prophetic mark—to be like her Divine Founder, Who was harried just as industriously by the towners of the foul heart and evil tongue. Like Him she was to be hated by all men for His name's sake (*Matt. x. 22*).

SOME SLANDERERS.

There is scarcely any Catholic practice so little understood and so frequently mis-stated by those outside our fold as that of the confession of sins. While, as we shall see, its use has been strongly advocated by many leading Protestant divines ever since the days of the Reformation, it has been constantly and bitterly assailed by others. Most of these opponents of confession only echo a tradition—they have had no personal experience of what they condemn, or too slight an acquaintance with its history, its principles, its practical working, and its results. The most virulent assailants of confession belong to the recent outcrop of itinerant professional slanderers, who, of late years, have found a lucrative business in making this ancient practice of saints and sages the subject of prurient and sensational romance of the Zola type. Among this class of unfortunates we must count, to our deep shame and sorrow, some degraded and suspended clerics and some ex-nuns. But beside and beyond these there has been a large number of so-called 'ex-priests,' 'ex-monks,' and 'ex-nuns,' who not only were not what they claimed to be, but many of whom never had been Catholics. They were attracted to the 'lecturing' business by the big profits which for years were to be made out of such slender capital as a few rank-smelling no-Popery pamphlets, a glib tongue, and a total disregard for truth and decency. The action of the police and criminal courts in the United States and Great Britain thinned out this class—a number of them being convicted of fraud, embezzlement, forgery, one of selling indecent pictures, and a few of abominable crimes. The London Catholic Truth Society has in its possession the facts of the careers of some scores of this unfortunate class of real and bogus 'ex-priests' and 'ex-nuns.' Some of them have already been published in England and the United States. Others will, we trust, see the light during the course of the present year. We know whereof we speak, and we can promise our readers that this new edition of the *Bogues' Gallery* will serve as an eye-opener to the gullible or malicious scribblers who have pinned their faith to the course attacks made by these sons and daughters of Ananias on that consoling practice which sustained the Sisters of Charity on the battle-field, and Father Damien in his living grave at Molokai.

At a future time we hope to point out the wide difference that exists between the genuine and the travestied Sacrament of Penance. Our present purpose is to view, in the light of history, the mere fact of the practice of confession to a fellow-man as an act of religion, and to see how ancient, how widespread and natural it is. Ripe scholarship, both Catholic and Protestant, has shown us that the practice of confession is older than the priesthood who are alleged by some to have 'invented' it; that it is older than Christianity; that it is, in fact, or at least in its principle, almost as old and as widespread as the human race.

TWO BASIS.

The confession of sins is based *ex motu* on two feelings implanted by the Creator in the human heart—feelings that are as old as the fall of our first parents. We shall see at the proper time, that it is also based on a more direct Divine sanction.

1. The first of the two feelings just referred to is the desire of the heart to unburden itself of oppressive secrets. To one not yet

wholly lost to good, the most painful and burdensome secret is that of crime. The records of history, from Cain to Eugene Aram and Richard Pigott, bear frequent and striking evidence of this desire to unburden criminal secrets, often on the part of those still in the full flush of youth and strength, but more especially when the near approach of death and judgment makes a man fall back upon himself. Nor has this been merely the feeling of the ignorant and vulgar sinner. It was the case with men of such transcendent genius of Bouguer, La Mettrie, Count Boulainvilliers, Montesquieu, Dumarsais, Maupertius, the Marquis d'Angers, Toussaint, Buffon, Delange, Robinet, L'Archer, the first Napoleon, and countless others, who knew no happiness until they had unburdened their consciences by a declaration of their sins. The first Reformers, as we shall see, recognised this divinely given instinct of the human heart. The Church of England acknowledges it, when it urges the sick and dying persons whose conscience is 'troubled with any weighty matter,' 'to make a special confession of his sins' to the Minister (*Visitation of the Sick*). Eminent Protestant physicians, such as Drs. Tissot and Ami-Badel, recognise the strength of this cry of the sinful soul for a confidant, and point out the important calming effect which the confession or unburdening of sin exercises on the minds of patients (*Réflexions médico-théologiques sur la Confession*, p. 24). Confessions of sins is the natural outlet of a natural desire implanted by the Creator in the heart of man; it is a safety-valve against despair, an incentive to true repentance.

(To be continued.)

ST. PATRICK'S COLLEGE, WELLINGTON.

MIDWINTER ENTERTAINMENT.

(From our own correspondent.)

June 18.

THE usual entertainment which precedes the midwinter holidays at St. Patrick's College took place on Tuesday night before a crowded audience. In fact it was with great difficulty the authorities were able to find accommodation for late comers. The entrance of his Grace the Archbishop, accompanied by the Mayor (Mr. J. R. Blair), the Anglican prelate (Bishop Wallis), the French Consul (Count de Courte), and the Countess de Courte, was the signal for an enthusiastic reception from the students, in which many of the audience joined. Among those present were the Very Rev. Father Devoy, V.G., Very Rev. Father Lane, Very Rev. Father McKenna (Masterton), Rev. Father Lewis, Rev. Father O'Shea, Rev. Father Holly, Rev. Father Walsh, Drs. Cahill, Martin, Ewart, and Mackin, Messrs. R. O'Connor, M. Kennedy, M. T. McGrath, J. J. Devine, P. McArdle, A. G. Johnston, R. J. Collins, W. Ross, etc.

The study hall, in which the entertainment was given, was tastefully decorated with evergreens and vari-coloured drapery. A pretty effect was created by the electric lights being covered with coloured silks. The decorations were carried out under the direction of the Rev. Father Hickson, who is to be complimented on the success of his efforts.

THE CONCERT.

Punctually at eight o'clock the College Brass Band, under the conductorship of Mr. Trowell, opened the proceedings with Scholes' 'Songs of England,' in which the soloists gave practical evidence of fine-tuned tuition, the solo instrumentalists being Masters D. Kenny (cornet), R. Dorset (trombone), E. Watson (euphonium), C. Venning (tenor horn), Rev. S. Mahoney (clarinet). The next item was the vocal solo, 'The Arab's farewell to his steed,' which was splendidly rendered by the Rev. Father Hills. A fine original contribution followed, namely, 'A view of '98'—being a brief glance at some of the causes that led to the rising of '98,' delivered by Mr. Stanislaus Moran, of the College Literary and Debating Society. The young orator showed that he possessed in no small degree a decided talent for declamation, and was warmly applauded at the conclusion of his speech. The next item was a chorus by six students entitled 'Ever joyous,' which was followed by a selection by the orchestra.

The second part of the programme was opened with a selection by the College orchestra. Father Hills contributed another vocal item 'The holy city,' which was warmly applauded. The item had an orchestral accompaniment, the arrangement being by Mr. Trowell. Another enjoyable item played by the strings followed, after which the orchestra gave a spirited interpretation of Robinson's 'Khartoum.' The programme concluded with another selection by the band. Mr. T. Trowell did the whole of the conducting save in one instance, and the Rev. N. Moloney and Master D. Kenny shared the pianoforte accompaniments.

THE ARCHBISHOP SPEAKS.

At this juncture his Grace Archbishop Redwood, Bishop Wallis, the Mayor of Wellington, and Rev. Dr. Watters took their seats on the stage. His Grace, in moving a vote of thanks to the Mayor for presiding, said that he desired, on behalf of the professors and the students and in his own name, to return his sincere thanks to those present for coming there that evening, and *honouring* the entertainment by their presence, and thus encouraging the students to still greater efforts on each occasion. The modest *known* by the public of Wellington in St. Patrick's College supplanted the Rector, professors, and students to work harder each year so as to become still more worthy of public approval and support. He desired also to thank his Lordship the Bishop of Wellington for his attendance, his presence being regarded with pleasure and satisfaction (applause). He desired also to thank the Mayor who had condescended

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to preside at the entertainment (applause). His Worship's presence proved that the people of the Empire City took a deep interest and pride in the work and progress of the institution. He begged to compliment the students on the admirable entertainment given by them that evening, which was a real musical treat. In thanking them he was sure he was interpreting the feelings of the large audience, for it reflected the greatest credit on the performers and on their able teacher. Whenever he came there to see how well they had done, to applaud their victories, it was with the hope that when they left the institution they would gain still greater victories when they went into the world. For what they were in the college was an earnest of what they would be in the future. The virtuous youth grew up a virtuous man, and the perfect youth became the perfect man. They were here in a young and promising country that had a grand future before it if its citizens were rightly prepared to grasp it. They were living here in a very democratic country, under a very democratic form of democratic government, and it was more necessary therefore that the citizens should understand their duties and responsibilities, for everyone was expected to take a share of the work, so that the result might be in the direction of true progress and civilisation. And as the only reliable source of true and solid virtue, of true and solid patriotism, and true and enduring devotedness the common ideal was religion, religion ought to pervade and be worked into the very warp and woof of the whole texture of society, and hence, any education in which the element of religion did not fairly predominate was not a complete education; it did not deserve the name of education. What, he asked, could set a limit to the progress of these fair lands of Australasia?

The best blood of the most noble races of the globe ran in the veins of their inhabitants; they had qualities amongst the very best in their nature, the very qualities requisite to bring out all the material resources of this fair land. Those qualities were: Energy, self-reliance, sobriety, perseverance. And then in this country religion was free and Almighty God had given them a glorious destiny, glorious to themselves and beneficent to the world, and that destiny was to work out, under the guidance of religion, an ideal of civilization higher than had ever been seen yet in any part of the world (applause). Their people had the love of liberty, and liberty was all powerful in bringing forth the energies of mankind. They had the spirit of enterprise and noble and generous aspirations, sometimes, indeed, misguided, but certainly such aspirations were calculated, when under the guidance and care and direction and ennoblement of religion, to lead to a degree of civilization unparalleled in the history of the world (applause). And how would this want, which was perhaps the only thing that Australasia required for the consummation of her future greatness, be supplied except by Christianity? There alone was the security for true, great, lasting and immortal civilization. When they looked around through the world and through history they saw that all things faded away and disappeared, but the Church remained in her divine unchangeableness, the divine organization, and therefore suited and equal to every need of humanity. In every time she has shown her adaptability to all the needs of the human race. She leavened and Christianized the corrupt Roman civilisation, she tamed the fierce hordes of barbarians, she founded Christian Europe, and 400 years ago she took in hand the wild and savage tribes of South America, and instead of exterminating them by ram and powder, as the Anglo-Saxons so often did, she put them in possession of an amount of civilisation and of freedom that was in keeping with their wild and untamable natures. And now she saw the Church, under the guidance of one of the most learned, most liberal and most intelligent Pontiffs that ever sat in the chair of St. Peter, girding herself for her next great conquest, and that was to spiritualise and hallow the progress and enlightenment of this age to sanctify and ennoble, and elevate and sublimate the material progress of their day, for belief in the invisible and faith in the supernatural was the great need of the future, as the late and great Gladstone repeated with his dying lips (applause). He asked the boys therefore, now and in their after life, to study the grand old Mother Church, to be proud of her achievements in the long course of 19 centuries, proud of the part she had taken in bringing about true happiness, progress and freedom. They had the inestimable advantage in this land to be born free, in the thralldom of no man, to be only in the bondage of God, whose service was above all sovereignty. Let them be independent, manly and firm, and temper their manliness with Christian devotedness and charity. In conclusion he proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Mayor for presiding (applause).

BISHOP WALLIS SPEAKS.

Bishop Wallis, in seconding the vote of thanks said, in referring to Master Moran's speech on '98, that he did not imagine that when another '98 came, he, an Anglican Bishop, would stand before such a Catholic audience as that (applause). However, he could not refuse the Rector's invitation to be present and in common with the whole of the audience he had spent a very enjoyable evening. When they went to school entertainments they hoped only to see promise of good in future years, but here that was realised, and if the students did all their work as well as they performed their musical work that evening he considered the College was in a very happy position (applause). They were taught many lessons as years went by, but he did not think they were taught to give up one iota of that truth which they had learnt to hold so dear. Their kind invitation to him did not mean that they accounted the differences that separated them of small moment—he did not think for a moment they were—but that they had learnt that the best thing was to speak the truth in life, that by learning to understand one another and to sympathise with one another they were more likely to arrive at the perfect truth which God meant to teach them (applause). They were not ashamed to put Christianity in the forefront in the school, and therefore he could not but wish the school every success, and he wished the boys a thoroughly good and happy holiday (renewed applause).

DR. WATTERS SPEAKS.

Before the resolution was put to the meeting, the Very Rev. Dr. Watters, Rector, said he had a few remarks to make. Letters of apology for non-attendance had been received from the Premier, Mrs. and the Misses Seddon, the Minister of Lands, and the Minister of Justice. He referred in very complimentary terms of the painstaking manner in which Mr. Trowell carried out his duties as musical instructor to the students, whom he had at their lessons at 7 o'clock every morning. But they should not suppose that their only occupation was

'To sport with Amaryllis in the shade,
Or with the tangles of Neera's hair.'

They also took their part, with more or less success, in public examinations—matriculation, junior and senior civil service, and scholarships, and Trinity College musical examinations. Though they dropped a few in the path they generally counted some, and though they could not point to perfect success, at least they tried to attain it (applause). The spirit of the College had been good; they had close on 150 students, nearly 100 of whom lived within the walls, and the spirit that prevailed among the boys was almost up to expectations—not quite (laughter and applause).

THE MAYOR SPEAKS.

The vote of thanks to the Mayor was then carried by acclamation. His Worship in responding, said in reference to the speech on '98, that he read history in a different light to other people, for instead of England conquering Ireland, he held that Ireland and Scotland had conquered her, for had not the latter given the British Empire Gladstone, and the former the Commander-in-Chief of the British Army. Turning to St. Patrick's College, he said it was the principal Catholic educational institution in New Zealand, and, although he was connected with institutions in which the religious element did not prevail, it did not prevent him from realising and appreciating the influence which the boys derived from the cultivation of the æsthetic side of education. The whole tendency of the age was in a material direction, and everything now was based upon what it would fetch in the money market. Anything that tended to mitigate and soften down that tendency was of the utmost value in any educational system. He could say that without any reservation whatever. He had enjoyed the evening's entertainment very much indeed, and he had the utmost goodwill towards St. Patrick's College (applause). That institution might reasonably be reckoned to turn out a fair proportion of leaders of the community, and it was of the utmost importance that youths who would in the future be leaders of the community should take to heart the weighty and judicious words which His Grace the Archbishop had addressed to them. He thanked them for the reception they had accorded him (applause).

At the conclusion of the proceedings cheers were given for His Grace the Archbishop, Bishop Wallis, and the Mayor, and the Very Rev. Dr. Watters.

Diocesan News.

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON.

(From our HAWERA correspondent.)

THE first of a number of socials, which it is intended to hold during the winter months, took place in the Opera House on Tuesday evening, 14th. The attendance was very good, and everything passed off most enjoyably. Dancing was interspersed with songs by Mr. Johnson, two splendid items by Professor Higham's orchestra, and a violin solo by Miss Winnie Connell. The dance music was supplied by Miss Flynn, assisted by Misses Espagne, Haughey, and Katie Flynn. A large committee, consisting of Messrs. Douglas and Whitaker, Misses Flynn and O'Neill, Messrs. Higham and Russell, carried out all necessary arrangements with entire satisfaction. Messrs. O'Connor and N. McCarthy made most efficient M.C.'s. The funds raised by these socials are to go towards improving the school, which is now far too small to accommodate the number of scholars.

Sunday last, being within the Octave of Corpus Christi, was a special day of prayer. After 11 o'clock Mass a procession of the Most Blessed Sacrament took place, and adoration was continued throughout the day, large numbers attending. The altar was beautifully decorated by the Sisters of St. Joseph. The celebrant was Rev. Father O'Dogherty, of Wellington, who is at present relieving Rev. Father O'Mara, who is taking a holiday. In the evening Rev. Father O'Dogherty delivered a fine sermon on Devotion to the most Holy Sacrament. The Mass rendered by the choir consisted of portions of Mozart's 7th, and Rev. Murphy's, and was given in the usual good style of the choir. At Vespers and Benediction special music was sung, the 'Litany' and 'Tantum Ergo,' being Professor Higham's compositions. After the sermon, Mr. Thomas Curran, of M-Minn's Minstrels, sang a solo most effectively.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND.

(By telegraph from our own correspondent.)

At the Sacred Heart Church, Ponsonby, on Sunday morning, the Feast of the Sacred Heart was observed with special devotion. The Bishop attended 10 o'clock Mass and preached an eloquent sermon on the Devotion of the Sacred Heart. The Rev. Dr. Egan sang High Mass, and Rev. Father Gillan directed the ceremonies. At the

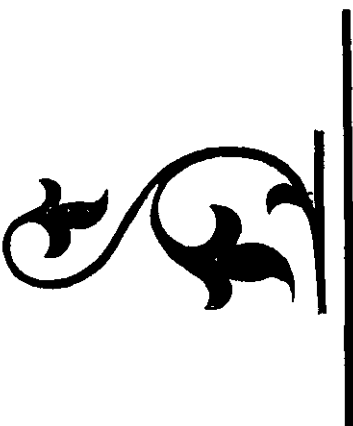
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conclusion of Mass there was exposition of the Blessed Sacrament all day. In the evening the Bishop again attended and preached before a large congregation. Rev. Father Brodie sang Vespers. The church was beautifully decorated. The altar was resplendent with lights and flowers, the decorations reflecting the highest credit on Miss Rita Toie. A word of praise is due to the choir, who sang Gounod's Mass in the morning, and in the evening rendered exquisite devotional music under the conductorship of Mr. Calon.

Rev. Father Dawson preached morning and evening on Sunday at the Cathedral on the Blessed Sacrament. He left on Monday for a short stay at Wellington on private business. He expects to return next Saturday.

The Parnell parishioners intend enlarging the parochial church and auxiliary chapel, Newmarket. Rev. Father Kehoe and his people pull together amicably, with beneficial results.

After first Mass at the Cathedral on Sunday several new members were received into the Guard of Honour Society by Rev. Father Croke. The statue of the Sacred Heart was tastefully decorated under the supervision of Miss Gough. General satisfaction was expressed at Rev. Father Croke's recovery from his recent illness.

The Hibernian male and female branches are working assiduously to make a success of the social to be held on July 8, for the benefit of the widow and family of late District Secretary Kearney. The Society are endeavouring to purchase the house, which has on it a mortgage of two hundred pounds. They appeal for members' assistance throughout the Colony.

The Police Commission enquiry here is thought by many to be a huge farce, affording the promoters notoriety at the Colony's expense, with barren results. Bishop Lenihan was summoned to give evidence. The Prohibition pleaders refrained from examining him.

A benefit entertainment was held last Friday evening at Ponsonby in aid of the Sisters of Mercy Convent. There was a large gathering, a result due to the hard work of the committee, who deserve congratulations.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

ON Sunday last the Vicar-General celebrated High Mass at the Pro-Cathedral, and at the Gospel read the following circular, a copy of which will be forwarded to each priest in the diocese:—

Very Rev. and dear Father,—For the last twelve months his Lordship has been untiring in his efforts to collect money for the building of a cathedral in this beautiful city of Christchurch. In his letters he tells us he has every day been mindful of his devoted flock and clergy in his prayers and at the altar. He has visited the principal Irish colleges, and taken steps to secure zealous and able priests for this diocese; two of them have already come, and others will soon follow, so that in the near future every parish will be sufficiently supplied with devoted clergymen. His travels through Eng and, Ireland, Scotland, France, and other countries have won the sympathy of the clergy and laity to our cause, and made this young colony better known. His Lordship expresses great joy at the prospect of being soon again in our midst to resume his apostolic labours. We owe him a debt of gratitude for all he has done and intends doing for us, and I am sure that both the clergy of the diocese and the laity will vie with each other in giving him a hearty welcome. Although the calls on your charity are many and great, I think we should be failing in our duty if we were not to give our Bishop a tangible proof of our appreciation of his solicitude for our temporal and spiritual welfare. Wherefore, I exhort you to form a committee, as soon as possible, to collect offerings to be presented to his Lordship on his return to his diocese after such a prolonged absence, and so have the merit of putting a stone in the Christchurch Cathedral, in which, when we are dead, the soul-stirring ceremonies of our liturgy will be carried out and prayers offered for those who contribute to raise in this city a lasting monument of their faith and generosity. Along with the offerings of each parish, an address from the clergy and laity, with the names of the subscribers, will be presented to his Lordship. His advent cannot be far distant, and any day we may hear of his having set sail for New Zealand. Therefore, we should lose no time in preparing for his reception. I hope this appeal will be responded to in a warm and enthusiastic manner. I invite you, dear Father, to have this appeal read in all the churches and chapels of your district, and to encourage your people to take up this matter in a loving and Christian way.—TH. LE MENANT DES CHESNAIS, S.M., V.G., Adm.

The Vicar-General also announced that a large gathering of the faithful of both parishes will take place on next Sunday afternoon, at 3 p.m., in St. Joseph's Schoolroom, in Barbadoes street, in order to form a committee, who will arrange every matter in connection with the due reception of the Bishop. The Vicar-General will preside at the meeting. At Vespers, in the evening, the principal of St. Patrick's College, Wellington, the Very Rev. Dr. Watters, preached an impressive sermon to a large and appreciative congregation.

After Vespers had been sung at St. Mary's, there was a very beautiful and solemn procession of the Blessed Sacrament around the interior of the Church.

Sunday week, which was the Sunday within the octave of the feast of Corpus Christi, was celebrated at the Pro-Cathedral with great solemnity. After High Mass there was exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, and at 3 p.m. a solemn procession of the same took place in the beautiful grounds adjoining the convent of the Sisters of our Lady of Missions. In addition to the local clergy, several from other parishes took part in the august ceremony. There were also a number of acolytes, the members of the Hibernian Society, and of the other societies and sodalities, and a large concourse of the faithful present. Very beautiful altars and arches

were erected on the route along which the Blessed Sacrament, which was preceded by the Sisters carrying lighted tapers, was borne. On the return of the procession to the Pro-Cathedral the Rev. Father Servajean delivered a very devotional discourse on the great advantage of frequently and worthily receiving the holy Eucharist, and the beautiful and impressive ceremonies of the day ended with solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

On Sunday afternoon last a large and ardent meeting of the Catholic people in Addington took place in the local school chapel to arrange for the erection of a new church in the suburb in place of the wretched building that has now served for a church for some years back. The Rev. Father Servajean occupied the chair, and explained the object of the meeting. He showed a photo of a very pretty little church which has recently been erected on the West Coast, and explained that one somewhat similar, though a little larger, could easily be built in Addington for about £350. But before any steps were taken at least two-thirds of the money necessary to complete the work would have to be forthcoming. Mr. McKeown, Mr. J. Steel, Mr. Power, Mr. J. Rennell, and Mr. W. Hayward also addressed the meeting, and the latter gentleman ended by proposing that all present should be formed into a committee to carry out the work of the erection of a church forthwith, and that a subscription list should be at once opened in order to obtain a general estimate of what money could be raised at present. This motion was seconded by Mr. Rennell and carried. The Rev. Father Servajean was appointed treasurer. Mr. Steel was also appointed assistant treasurer and vice-chairman of the committee. Mr. F. Milner was appointed secretary. The following ladies and gentlemen were likewise formed into an executive committee:—Mesdames Rennell and Campbell, Misses Hickey, Hoy, Rowe and Jones, and Messrs. Rennell, McKeown, Milner, Steel, Plunket, Pope, Burke, Barker, McCloy and Hickey. The secretary, accompanied with Mr. McKeown, then proceeded with the subscription list, which resulted in nearly a hundred pounds being promised. Most of the subscriptions were £5 donations and the rev. chairman expressed himself well satisfied with the canvass. With this amount of money in hand the work of the erection of a church could be at once commenced. The next meeting of the executive committee will take place on Tuesday evening next in the local school chapel. When a cordial vote of thanks, which was proposed by Mr. Hayward and seconded by Mr. Rennell, had been accorded to the Rev. Father Servajean for presiding at the meeting and for the great interest he displays in the matter, the gathering dispersed. In a short time Father Servajean proposes to make a house to house visitation of the suburb. I am sorry to add that at the time of the meeting he was still suffering from the effects of a fall from his bicycle. It appears that on Friday last, while returning from Mount Magdala and while crossing the bridge over the river Halswell, one wheel of his bicycle dropped unexpectedly into a deep rut, and he was thrown from the machine violently on to the ground and was not a little bruised on one knee. He is, however, recovering from the results of the fall, and will shortly be well again.

On Sunday week the Rev. Father Rafferty said Mass at Halswell, and also at Addington, where there was a large congregation assembled. I regret very much to hear that since then he has suffered from a severe indisposition, and that at present he is located in a private hospital in the city.

The sodalities at the Pro-Cathedral, known as the Society of the Sacred Heart, the Living Rosary, and the Apostleship of Prayer, have been organised into a regular confraternity, and each circle consists of 15 members. A diploma will be given to the promoter of each circle. He will, moreover, wear a ribbon which will have embroidered on it the name of the patron saint of the circle. After the monthly meeting all the members will be given Rosary tickets. On the first Friday evening in each month the promoters will be given each a number of the Messenger of the Sacred Heart, which will be given to the members to read in turn, and will afterwards become the property of the promoters. On the third Sunday in every month there will be a procession of the Blessed Sacrament in which all the members of the confraternity will take part.

HOW TO SPOIL A CHILD.

1. BEGIN young, by giving him whatever he cries for.
2. Talk freely before him of his great cleverness.
3. Tell him he is too much for you—that you can do nothing with him.
4. Let him learn to regard his father as a creature of unlimited power, capricious and tyrannical; or a mere whipping machine.
5. Let him learn, from father's example, to despise his mother.
6. Do not care who or what his companions may be.
7. Let him read stories about pirates, Indian fighters, and so on.
8. Let him roam the streets in the evening and go to bed late.
9. Devote yourself to making money; remember always that wealth is a better legacy for your child than principles in the heart and habits in the life, and let him have plenty of money to spend.—Exchange.

There is but one man living who has sat in the House of Lords since the beginning of the first Parliament of William IV., and that is the Earl of Mansfield. He is now ninety-one years old.

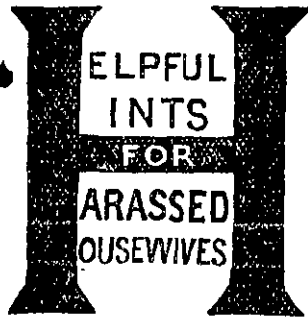
Mr. Gawne, of Dunedin (says the *Southland Times* of April 13, 1891), has just been on a visit to Invercargill to push business a little. Not that it wants much canvassing, for since he commenced the manufacture of his Worcestershire Sauce, the demand has kept pace with his capacity to supply it. He makes a really good thing, indistinguishable from the famous Lea and Perrins, 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.—*.*

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The Catholic World.

BAVARIA.—Honouring the Pope.—Protestants of the extreme type usually have very strong objections to allowing Catholics to do fitting honour to the Pope at festive or social gatherings, and in these colonies they have more than once attempted to make trouble when Catholics have followed their usual practice in the matter. It is pleasant to note that more intelligent Protestants can rise superior to such petty narrowness. At a banquet recently given by the newly-appointed Archbishop of Munich, Mgr. von Stein, the Prime Minister of Bavaria (Baron von Craillsheim), who is a Protestant himself proposed the health of the Pope. Referring to his own visit to the Vatican two years ago, he spoke of the powerful impression made upon him by the personality of Leo XIII., extolled the Pontiff's love of peace, which had been consistently evinced during the twenty years of his pontificate, and specially mentioned with eulogy the Holy Father's efforts to avert the unfortunate conflict between Spain and the United States.

FRANCE.—Verdi's Latest Works.—Our music-loving readers will be interested to learn that three of Verdi's latest works, all of a highly religious and devotional character, were produced for the first time in the Opera of Paris. These compositions are a 'Stabat Mater,' a canticle in honour of our Lady—consisting of the well-known lines which form the opening stanzas of the last canto of Dante's 'Paradiso'—and a 'Te Deum.' All three, which were splendidly rendered by some of the first artists, made a profound impression. The 'Stabat Mater' departs from the customary classical forms; the verses follow one another without interruption, until the beautiful liturgical chant commences, re-echoed by the female voices. The colouring is said to be brilliant, and the chorus has some magnificent and even dramatic passages. The 'Paradisi Gloria' begins with a pianissimo, rising by a grand crescendo to an imposing finale and amen. The sweet melody from Dante is written for four female voices, and received quite an ovation. The 'Te Deum' is spoken of as a really glorious composition, one of the finest pages of music ever written by the great master. Verdi is now eighty-four years of age.

ROME.—St. Christopher Columbus.—With this name according to the *Roman Echoes*, the great discoverer of America will ere long be invoked by millions of Catholics both in the Old World and the New. It appears that the Sacred Congregation of Rites was on the point of abandoning the cause for beatification of Christopher Columbus, as his marriage certificate could not be found, and it was suspected that the union, of which his son Diego was born, was not legitimate. This important document having now been discovered in the archives of Seville, the cause will be continued, and it is hoped, will be brought to a successful termination. This delay, however, has once more proved the earnestness and scrupulous impartiality of the prelates appointed to investigate into similar cases.

UNITED STATES.—The Missions to Non-Catholics.—We gave last week the names of a number of recent converts to the Church in America, many of whom owe their conversion under God to the labours of the devoted Paulist Fathers. A report has just been issued regarding the 'Missions to Non-Catholics,' which shows what remarkable progress the movement has made during the past two years. The Society is one legally incorporated body, under the chief direction of Archbishops Corrigan and Ryan, the object being to support missionaries who are engaged in giving missions in sections of the country where the people are almost entirely non-Catholic. These missions are now being vigorously carried on throughout Arizona, Texas, Kansas, Kentucky, the two Carolinas, the two Virginias, Maryland, and Delaware, and also in parts of Oregon, California, Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, and New York. Five missionary priests are entirely supported by the Union and devote themselves exclusively to the work. The results achieved are certainly most remarkable. According to the report, Father Manara received 22 converts during the few months he has been at work. Forty were received in the year at the Holy Rosary Church, New York; and 12 at that of St. Joseph, at the Paulist Church 96 names were given in to the 'Inquiring Class' at the close of a mission; and in the year the Paulists baptised a total of 78 in their church. Over and above conversions, great good must necessarily be done by the removal of prejudice and misconception from the minds of the many hundreds of non-Catholics who crowd these missions. The literature of the English Catholic Truth Society, which we have so often commended in these columns, is kept on sale and extensively used by the organisation.

The Chaplain of the Maine.—The Rev. John Patrick Chidwick, chaplain of the ill-fated battleship Maine, whose coolness and courage during the disaster were described in our columns a few weeks ago, has since his arrival in New York been a guest at the rectory of St. Stephen's parish, where he was warmly welcomed by priests and people and where he served as assistant to Father Colton in the days before President Cleveland appointed him to the Navy. In an order issued by Secretary Long, Chaplain Chidwick has been commissioned with the relative rank of lieutenant in the United States Navy. In speaking of the commission Father Chidwick said that it was only in the regular line of promotion. The Secretary has also gratified Father Chidwick's desire for active duty by placing him to do duty on the cruiser Cincinnati. The war correspondents of Havana and Key West have sent Father Chidwick a complete set of vestments. A letter accompanying the present, signed by all the war correspondents, stated: 'We, the war correspondents, hereby join in offering you a token of our best wishes in the form of vestments as an Easter present to replace those which you lost on the Maine.'

PRUSSIA.—Mixed Marriages in Prussia.—Some statistics regarding mixed marriages in Prussia, based upon the last

census, have lately been published, and we hope our young men and young women readers will note, how eloquently they speak as to the disastrous consequences of such unions. On December 2 last, there existed in Prussia 278,434 cases of mixed marriages between Catholics and Protestants. In 150,365 cases the husband was a Catholic, and in 128,069 the wife was Catholic. Thus, more Catholic men than women contract such unions, though surely for men there is less excuse than for women. The following figures show the consequences:—Out of 597,921 children, the offspring of these marriages, no less than 332,947 were brought up Protestants, as against only 264,648 Catholics, a clear evidence of the disastrous results to the faith; for here, in spite of the large majority of some 22,000 Catholic fathers, we find a majority of about 68,000 Protestant children! Again, look at the following figures: Of the children of Protestant fathers 59 per cent. of the boys and 53 per cent. of the girls—in each case a clear majority—follow the religion of the father; whilst of those of Catholic fathers, only 46.6 per cent. of the boys and 42.4 per cent. of the girls are brought up as Catholics. Thus both Catholic fathers and Catholic mothers neglect their duty towards the souls of their children.

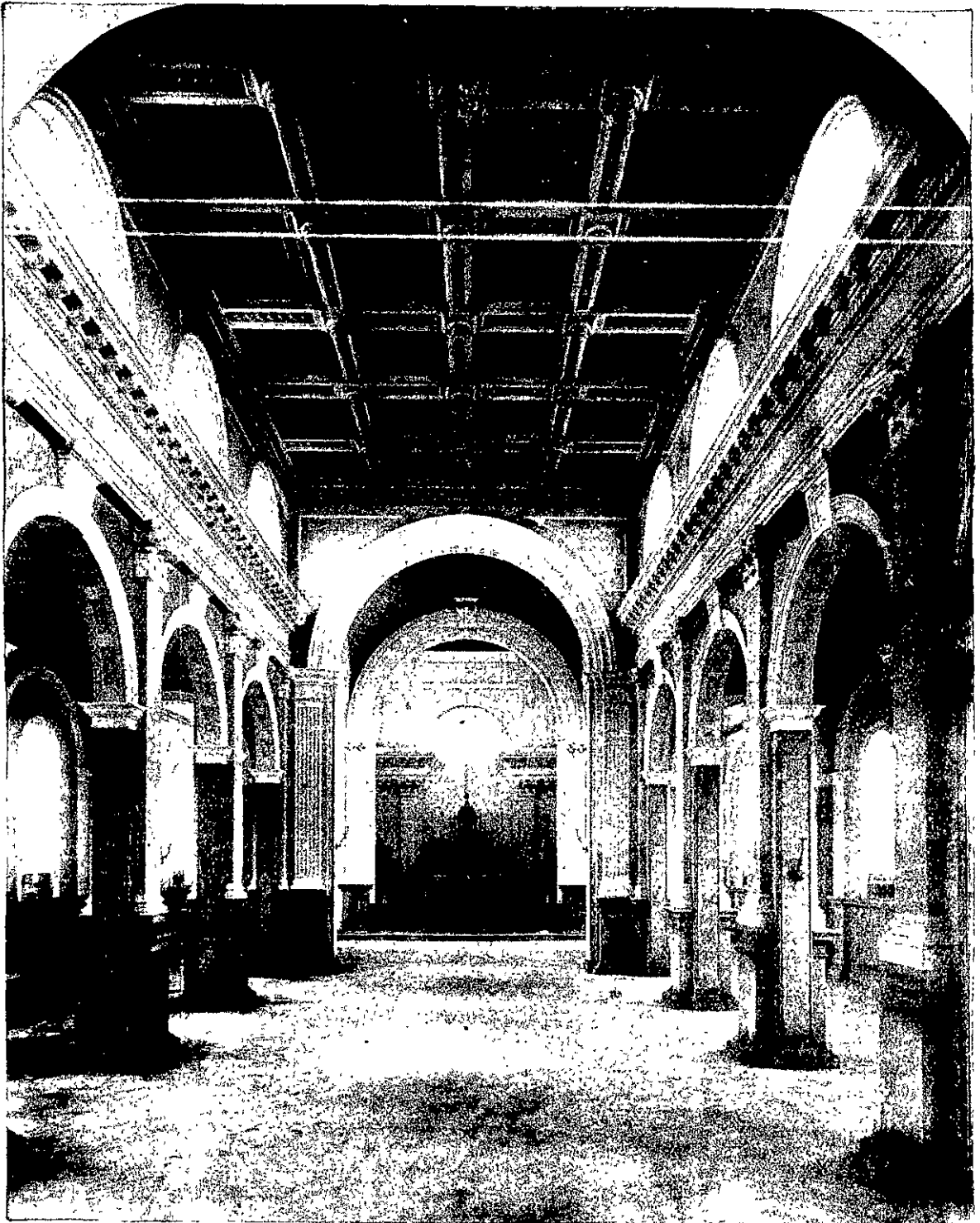
SCOTLAND.—St. Andrew's Cathedral, Glasgow. Endangered by Fire.—We learn from the Glasgow correspondent of the London *Tablet* that the Catholic cathedral of that city has just had a very narrow and providential escape from destruction by fire. The most extensive and disastrous fire (writes the correspondent) which has occurred in Glasgow for many years broke out on Monday, April 23, about ten o'clock, and continued to burn with unabated fierceness until late on Tuesday morning, resulting in the destruction of a large amount of valuable property, but happily unattended by any accident to life or limb. The area involved is the square included within East Howard street on the north, Ropework lane on the east, Dunlop street on the west, and Clyde street, facing the river, on the south, and extends about 100 feet broad by 200 feet deep, though narrowing a little towards the south end. The fire is said to have broken out in the third or fourth storey of the corner building, and it appeared to spread with lightning rapidity. In the course of five minutes from the time it was first observed the roof fell in, and the flames leapt high into the air, burning fiercely. The alarm reached the Central Fire Station shortly after ten, and in the course of a few minutes Captain Paterson, with a couple of engines, was on the scene. Seeing the character of the conflagration he summoned assistance from the Western, Northern, and Southern stations, and in less than half an hour he had six steamers on the ground, with a staff of sixty men. The anxiety of the crowd was chiefly centred in St. Andrew's Cathedral Great Clyde street, which was only divided by a narrow lane from the blazing block. The Rev. Fathers Mackintosh O'Connell, Forbes, and Towie, who reside in the presbytery beside the church, worked assiduously in removing the sacred vessels, vestments, statuary, and other valuable materials from the sacred edifice to the house of the Rev. Father Mackintosh. When it was reported that the church was in danger crowds flocked to the building. Inside the church and outside men and women were to be seen on their knees praying earnestly. Happily, the firemen succeeded in averting the dreaded danger, and the sacred edifice, in which so much interest was displayed, escaped almost unscathed. The roof of the sacristy caught fire about twelve o'clock, but the outbreak was of a slight nature, and was soon extinguished. It may be mentioned that when the fire first broke out the seventy-first annual festival of the congregation of St. Andrew's Church was proceeding in the Grand National Halls. News of the fire reached the hall before the gathering broke up, and the congregation dispersed immediately. It was feared that the Catholic school adjoining the church might catch fire, but this happily was averted. The block in the west corner of Dunlop street and Great Clyde street was totally destroyed. The damage to the surrounding property is variously estimated at over £150,000.

W H Y ?

Why do we heap huge mounds of years
Before us and behind.
And scorn the little days that pass
Like angels on the wind?
Each turning round, a small, sweet face
As beautiful as a near?
Because it is so small a face
We will not see it clear.
We will not clap it as it flies,
And kiss its lips and brow;
We will not bathe our weary souls
In its delicious now.
And so it turns from us and goes
Away in sad disdain.
Though we would give our lives for it,
It never comes again.

—D. M. MULLOCH, in the *Advocate*.

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 advertisement.—*



INTERIOR OF ST. PATRICK'S BASILICA, SOUTH DUNEDIN.

ST. PATRICK'S BASILICA, SOUTH DUNEDIN.

PREPARING FOR THE OPENING.—DESCRIPTION
OF THE BASILICA.

SUNDAY next will be a gala-day in South Dunedin. After years of patient effort the beautiful basilica of St. Patrick's will be solemnly re-opened on next Sunday, June 26. The Pontifical High Mass will be sung by his Lordship the Bishop at 11 o'clock, assisted by priests from St. Joseph's Cathedral and from other parts of the diocese. The preacher on the occasion will be the genial and popular parish priest of Lawrence, the Very Rev. P. O'Leary. The preacher for the evening will be the Very Rev. Dean Mackay, of Oamaru. St. Joseph's Cathedral choir will attend in full strength, and the solemn function will be carried out to the sound of the magnificent harmonies of Mozart's 'Twelfth Mass.' A full orchestra will accompany the vocalists, and we venture to say that no such solemn and inspiring sacred music has yet been heard in South Dunedin since the days when the first houses were built upon its foreshore. The Catholic congregation have struggled long and well, despite the fact that they are none too richly endowed with worldly wealth, to raise up the noble pile of the basilica, and they look with confidence for the active sympathy and practical support of the Catholic population of Dunedin and its vicinity. The interior of the basilica is practically complete, and with its fine dimensions,

Roman arches, solid pilasters, beautiful mouldings, and magnificent ceiling, forms one of the most beautiful interiors that any church in New Zealand can boast of. The beautiful zinc ceiling was supplied by Messrs. Wunderlich and Co. of Sydney. We publish in this issue a view of the interior. In our next issue we shall publish a fine perspective design of the edifice as it will be when completed. The following particulars of the new basilica have been furnished to us by the architect, Mr. F. W. Petre:—

Another considerable stage towards the completion of this church has just been finished, with the result that the whole of the nave, aisles, transepts, and sacristy are now, so far as their internal fittings and finish go, completed. There yet remains for some future date the task of constructing the centre dome and the front, comprising the baptistry, atrium, organ loft, and colonnaded portico.

The first plans for the entire building were laid before the late Bishop, Dr. Moran, by the architect, Mr. Frank W. Petre in 1890, and, after certain alterations and modifications, were finally approved of towards the end of 1891, and it is from the plans then drawn that the work has been carried out up to the present point.

The first start at the construction of this church was made in February 2, 1892, when the contract for the foundations and the carcass was let to Mr. D. W. Woods, of Dunedin.

The church, when finished, will comprise a sanctuary 25ft. by 20ft., nuns' chapel 12ft. by 20ft., sacristy 12ft. by 20ft., lobby 24ft. by 6ft., transepts together 50ft. by 25ft., surmounted by a dome carried on 32 columns the whole rising to a height from the floor to the top of the cross of 85 feet, with a diameter of 25 feet. The nave and two aisles together give a floor spread of 61ft. by 50ft. with a ceiling

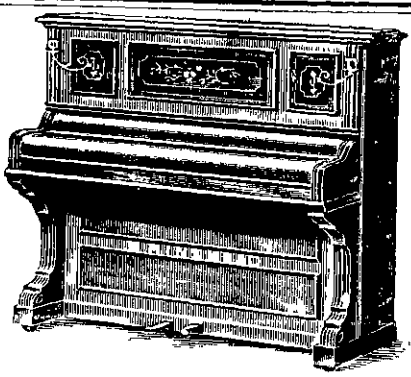
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77 WILLIS ST., WELLINGTON,
167 STAFFORD ST., TIMARU

Established 1861.



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BOOK MUSIC IN THE
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PIANOS AND ORGANS By the Best and Well-known Makers, FROM 20s MONTHLY.

VIOLIN, BOW & CASE, Complete, from 20s

Every description of MUSICAL INSTRUMENT Kept in Stock.

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SPECIAL TERMS FOR TEACHERS AND SCHOOLS.
Catalogues and Lists posted Free to any address.

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83 GEORGE STREET, DUNEDIN,
FURNISHERS, CABINETMAKERS, UPHOLSTERERS,
MANUFACTURERS, IMPORTERS

All our goods noted for high-class finish, design and durability and at lowest prices. We can supply :
Handsome Toilet Pair.—Dressing-table with drawer and jewel drawers on top, bevel glass and brass handles. Washstan marble top, tiles in back—all well finished. The Pair, £4 17s 6d.
Toilet Chest, 4 drawers, brass handles, two jewel drawers, carved brackets, bevel plate glass. £3 15s. Washstand to match, 12s 6d, 25s and £2.
All goods packed free of charge ; cases only charged for.
N.B.—Photo. frames, tables, brackets, etc., for ladies' wood carving always in stock.

COSSENS AND BLACK

ENGINEERS, BLACKSMITHS, MILLWRIGHTS,
IRON AND BRASS FOUNDERS,
CRAWFORD STREET DUNEDIN.

Manufacturers of Pumping and Winding Machinery, Hydraulic Mining Plant—including Hydraulic Giants, Sluice Valves, Elevator Castings, Iron and Steel Fluming, etc., etc., Dredge Tumblers Buckets, Links, Windmills, Waterwheels, Turbines, Brick and Drain Pipe Making and Wood-working Machinery, Horse Powers, Chaff Cutters, Turnip Pulpers, and all kinds of Machinery and Gearing.

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ESTIMATES GIVEN.
CORRESPONDENCE INVITED

Repairs and Every Description of Engineering and Blacksmith Work Promptly Executed.

H. A. C. B. SOCIETY

Established 1871.
Registered under the Friendly Societies' Act

OBJECTS.—To cherish a love for Faith and Fatherland ; to extend the hand of fellowship to our co-religionists of every nationality ; to render assistance and visit the sick and distressed ; to help the widows and orphans of deceased members.
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 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 9d, 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.
Twenty-five branches of this excellent Institution are now established in New Zealand, and every provident Catholic in the Colony eligible for membership should join and, combining as it does, the spiritual as well as the temporal, participate in its unsurpassed advantages.
Full particulars may be had from branches and from
P. KEARNEY,
District Secretary Auckland

CRITERION STABLES

MORAY PLACE, DUNEDIN.
JAMES JEFFS (Successor to W. H. Taggart) PROPRIETOR.

Drags, Landaus, Waggonettes, Dog-Carts and V-ehicles of every description. Saddle Horses always on Hire Carriages for Wedding Parties. Horses Broken to Single and Double Harness, also Saddle
TELEPHONE NO. 124 ; also EMPIRE STABLES, PALMERSTON SOUTH.

LOVELY AKAROA — Spend your Holidays at Akaroa ! It cannot be equalled for Boating, Fishing, etc.
MRS. CULLEN. Board and Lodgings. Terms Moderate

LOFT AND CO.,

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 here

TRY OUR GUM BOOTS, 21s.

GRAIN SEASON, 1898.

OTAGO CORN AND WHEAT EXCHANGE, VOGEL STREET, DUNEDIN.

TO THE FARMERS OF OTAGO AND SOUTHLAND.

Another Grain Season being at hand, we take the opportunity of thanking our many clients for their patronage in the past, and to again tender our services for the disposal of their Grain here, or for shipment of same to other markets, making liberal cash advances thereon, if required.

SPECIAL FACILITIES FOR STORAGE, ETC.—We would remind producers that we provide special facilities for the satisfactory storage and disposal of all kinds of farm produce. Our stores are dry, airy, thoroughly ventilated, and in every respect admirably adapted for the safe storage of grain, being conveniently situated, and connected to railway by private siding. Produce consigned to us is delivered direct into store, and is saved the loss and waste incurred in unloading and again carting into warehouse.

WEEKLY AUCTION SALES—We continue to hold the regular Weekly Auction Sales of Produce as inaugurated by us many years ago, and which have proved so beneficial to vendors; and owing to our commanding position in the centre of the trade, and our large and extending connection, we are in constant touch with all the principal grain merchants, millers, and produce dealers, and are thus enabled to dispose of consignments to the very best advantage, and with the least possible delay.

PRODUCE SALES EVERY MONDAY—Our sales are held every Monday morning, at which samples of all the produce forward are exhibited. Our sale room being brilliantly lighted, samples are shown to the very best advantage, and as every lot is carefully valued before being offered, clients can depend that no lot will be sold below its full market value, and that their interests generally will be thoroughly protected.

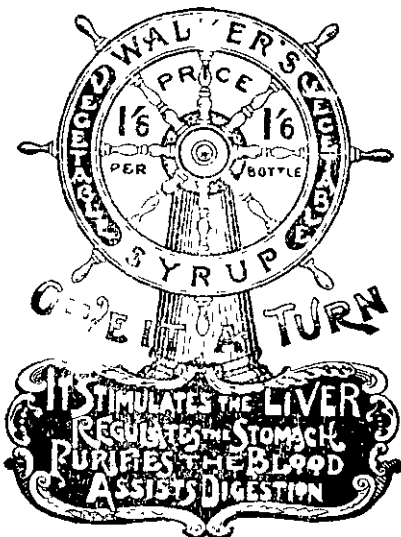
ACCOUNT SALES are rendered within Six Days of Sale
CORN SACKS, CHAFF BAGS, ETC.—Having made advantageous arrangements to meet the requirements of our numerous clients, we can supply best Calcutta Corn Sacks, all sizes, and at the lowest prices. Also Chaff Bags, Seaming Twine, and all Farmers' Requisites at the shortest notice, and on the best terms.

ADVANTAGES.—We offer producers the advantage of Large Storage and Unequaled Show Room Accommodation. No Delays in Offering. Expert Valuers and Staff. The Best Service. The Lowest Scale of Charges. The Highest Prices, and Prompt Returns.

SAMPLE BAGS, WAY BILLS, AND LABELS SENT ON APPLICATION.

DONALD REID AND CO.

"GIVE IT A TURN."



(REGISTERED TRADE MARK)

OWING to a great scarcity and consequent increased cost of the American herbs, barks and roots, from which that well-known and popular Liver and Digestive-specific, Walker's Vegetable Syrup, is prepared, the manufacturer, Mr. J. J. F. Walker, has been reluctantly compelled to announce an increase in price, from 1s 6d to 2s 6d per bottle, which increase will barely cover the extra cost of production.

He has resolved to increase the price, believing that in a matter of such vital importance a medicine which possesses the virtues of stimulating the Liver, regulating the Stomach, purifying the Blood and assisting Digestion, the public—at least that portion of it which has personally experienced its curative efficacy—would prefer to pay the increased price, and thereby ensure the maintenance of its good qualities, rather than that the present high standard should be lowered to allow of its being sold at less.

We would advise all those who are sufferers from Liver or Digestive derangement to secure a supply of this wonderful remedy from their nearest Chemist or Storekeeper, or from the Medicine Chest, corner High and Tuam Streets, Christchurch.

Dunedin Agent: J. HUTTON

(Next Old Knox Church)

GT. KING STREET,

From whom all "Walkers" Preparations may be obtained Wholesale or Retail.

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We beg to announce that at the request of numerous clients we have purchased a (First-Class) Undertaking Outfit, and that we are prepared to furnish FUNERALS IN THE BEST POSSIBLE STYLE AT MODERATE CHARGES.

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62A PRINCES STREET, DUNEDIN
(Near Dowling Street),

Have just opened up a Splendid Variety of
TWEEDS, VICUNAS, WORSTEDS, &c.
Suitable for season's requirements.

Fit and Style Guaranteed.

NEW BUTCHERY.
JOHN MINTOSH

(For many years salesman to City Company).
Opposite Phoenix Company.
MACLAGGAN STREET.
Has Opened as above. Only the best of
Meat at Lowest Possible Prices.
A TRIAL SOLICITED.
Families waited on for Orders.

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Arcade Painting and Paper-hanging
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A Splendid Stock of the latest designs in
Wall Papers, also Mixed Paints, Window
Glass, Scrim, Linseed Oils, Turpentine, Var-
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Tradesmen sent to the country at shortest
notice.

Artists' Materials a Speciality.

CORNER OF ARCADE, ASHBURTON

J. and W. GRANT,
Blacksmiths, Wheelwrights, and
Coachbuilders, Temuka.

J. and W. G., in thanking the public for their support in the past, beg to solicit a continuance of the same. As we have now a very complete stock for carrying on our several branches, and having secured the services of one of the best painters in the Colony, we have now a very strong staff of men in their different lines.

Shoering, as usual, a speciality.

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.

DEAR SIR OR MADAM,—I hereby take the liberty of informing you that I have commenced business as a

TAILOR AND CLOTHIER

at the above address, and respectfully solicit your kind patronage, feeling sure that by the superior quality of the Goods and the Fit and Finish of my Garments, I will secure your complete confidence.

Having had considerable recent experience in leading London and Edinburgh Houses, the best finish and the latest Modes and Fashions can be guaranteed.

LADIES' TAILORING

will form a speciality of my business.

A carefully-selected Stock of Coatings in Vicunas, Serge, English, Scotch, and Harris Tweeds, West of England Trousers and Worsteds on hand, to which all the Newest Patterns of the English and Scotch Markets will be added from time to time. A Trial Order will be esteemed.

Yours respectfully,

WILLIAM WILLS.



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

FOUND.—"Spring Blossom Ointment" cures cracked or sore nipples and broken breasts; 6d and 1s everywhere.

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

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

ONLY 6^D AND 1^S
Storekeepers and Chemists Order from
KEMP THORNE, PROSSER & CO.,
Dunedin, Christchurch, Wellington and
Auckland.

height to the nave of 43 feet and to the aisles of 20 feet. Entering into the nave by means of two large arches is the atrium into which two pairs of entrance doors will give access from the portico. Immediately above this space which is 25ft by 12ft 6in. will be placed the organ loft communicating with the church by means of a large arched opening—at present bricked up—20ft by 12ft. Immediately to the right and left of the atrium are situated the baptistry and the organ loft each 12ft. 6in. by 12ft. 6in. The portico is semicircular in plan, approached from the street level by means of a semicircular flight of 8 steps, the whole covering a space of 44ft by 22ft. The roof of the portico is flat having a balustraded parapet and full entablature, carried on 6 stone columns each 17ft high.

The general style of the building is Roman, the whole of the interior being confined to the Corinthian order, whilst the external front and portico are almost exclusively in the more severe Ionic order.

To describe more minutely the internal features of the building: The sanctuary has the whole of its walls of three sides, which are 40ft high, finished in two stages, the lower being marked by a Corinthian entablature of architrave, frieze and cornice with decorated modillions and carried on fluted Corinthian pilasters of good bold projection, all finished in Keen's cement and plaster of Paris. The upper stage has lighter pilasters carrying a moulded ceiling cornice, and the intermediate spaces finished in moulded panels, the whole done in plaster of Paris. The arch into the transepts is 20ft wide and 40ft high with well-moulded impost, moulded and decorated archvoilt carried on fluted Corinthian pilasters, the whole done in plaster of Paris and Keen's cement. The altar is a plain moulded Oamaru stone altar table surmounted with a stone dome canopy carried on eight colonets. The altar steps and predella are of white marble, and the whole floor of the sanctuary is laid with Austrian tiles. The altar rail is of hammered iron with cedar hand rail—a very well done piece of smith's work from Mr. Faulkner's works in Dunedin. Immediately to the right and left of the high altar, and each facing one of the aisles, are two side altars, set within niches 9ft wide, finished with moulded impost and archvoilt. The ceilings of the two transepts are plaster vaulted with a view in the future of fresco painting. In between the two transepts is the internal dome, which at present is finished in plain plaster, but the complete plan provides for an inside painted glass dome, 65 feet high. The lower part of this space is divided from the transepts and nave by means of three large arches, finished with moulded impost, archvoilt, and panelled soffits, fitted with fluted pilasters on the face of the piers. The general scheme of the finish to the walls, etc., of the nave and aisles is in the Corinthian order, with piers and pilasters, surmounted with full entablature. There are five arches on each side of the nave passing through into the aisles, which have correspondingly shallow arches along the walls. On the face of the nave piers are Corinthian capped pilasters, with moulded bases consisting of full die, cornice and base; the arches being finished with moulded impost, archvoilt, key stone, and moulded panelled soffits. The entablature above the nave architrave consists of moulded architrave frieze and moulded cornice, with decorated modillions and dentils. Above this is the clerestory, consisting of five arches containing the windows, having moulded spandrels and finished with the ceiling cornice. The ceilings of the nave and aisles form a particular feature in the building, being all of zinc, richly embossed in modelled work and floral decoration, the whole manufactured under the Wunderlich patent, by Messrs. Wunderlich and Co., of Sydney. The ceiling of the nave is well executed from the architect's design, and consists of forty coffers, which are formed in between the transverse and longitudinal beams. Each coffer has a depth from the face of the beam of eighteen inches, with fluted and moulded coves, a centre drop of open foliage work for ventilation, oak leaf decoration to its mouldings, and the beam soffits are decorated with roset circles and decorated foliage drops at the points of intersection; the whole of this ceiling is carried on a bold-moulded and dentiled cornice. The aisle ceilings are treated flat with moulded cornice, fluted margins, and moulded diapers with oak-leaf centres. All this zinc ceiling work is painted in subdued shades of carefully chosen contrast. The object of the coffer design in the nave ceiling is to avoid the possibility of echo—a defect so often found with high flat ceilings, and in this case the result is all that can be desired, besides which the metal seems to give a greater fulness and quality to sound generally.

The work of fixing this ceiling (the first of its kind in the South Island) was entrusted to Mr. James Small, who has also carried out sundry other works in connection with decorations of the interior.

It has been found necessary to construct a temporary organ loft at the end of the nave, which forms the double purpose of inside porch as well.

The internal plaster work of this church is a feature in itself, and the way it has been carried out reflects great credit on Mr. Ferry of Dunedin.

All the window frames, as well as the ventilating panels under each of the aisle windows are of cast iron, done by Messrs. Barningham and Co., of the Victoria Foundry in George street.

The confessional is a very neat piece of cabinet work in red pine, having moulded base, panels and pilasters, surmounted with a moulded and dentiled cornice, and finished with a carved and moulded pediment. It was constructed by Mr. J. J. Marlow, of St. Andrew street.

The whole of the painting has been executed by Mr. C. Fottrell, and it must be admitted that he has succeeded in producing a very pleasing effect.

Swift wheelmen, in comparison with other riders and wheels, secured the greatest proportion of places in the finals run on the cycle tracks in connection with the great annual Cycle sports held by the Victorian Druids. * *

A LESSON FOR THE WEAK.

Do you see that locomotive engine standing on the side-track. Something has broken down about it. There is not a hiss of steam from its valves; it is still and cold as a dead whale on a beach; it can't draw a train; it can't even move itself. Now, tell me, do you believe that any amount of tinkering and hammering at it would make it go? Not a bit. Nothing on earth will make it go except steam in the boiler, and even that won't unless the engine is in order. Everybody knows that, you say. Do they? Then why don't they act on this principle in every case where it applies?

Here is such a case. Writing concerning his wife, a gentleman says: "In the autumn of 1880 my wife fell into a low, desponding state through family bereavement. Her appetite was poor, and no food, however light, agreed with her. After eating she had pain and tightness at the chest, and a sense of fullness as if swollen around the waist. She was much troubled with flatulence, and had pain at the heart and palpitation. At times she was so prostrated that she was confined to her room for days together, and had barely strength to move.

"At first she consulted a doctor at Ferry Hill, but getting worse, she went to see a physician at Newcastle. The latter gave her some relief, but still *she did not get her strength up*; and after being under his treatment for six months she discontinued going to him. Better and worse, she continued to suffer for over a year, when she heard of Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. She began taking it, and soon her appetite revived and *her food gave her strength*. In a short time she was quite a new woman. Since that time (now nearly twelve ago) I have always kept this medicine in the house, and if any of my family ail anything a few doses puts us right.—Yours truly, (Signed) George Walker, Grocer, etc., Ferry Hill, near Durham, October 25th, 1893."

We call attention especially to those words in Mr. Walker's letter which are printed in Italics. You can pick them out at a glance. They show how fully he understands where human strength comes from—that it comes from digested food and not from any medicines the doctor or any one else can give us. Let us have no mistake or confusion of mind on this important point.

For example, Mrs. Walker was ill with indigestion and dyspepsia. Her symptoms and how she suffered, her husband tells us. The disease destroyed her power to obtain any strength from food, and Nature suspended her appetite in order that she may not make worse by eating what could only ferment in the stomach and fill her blood with the resulting poisons. The only outcome of such a state of things *must* be pain and weakness—weakness which, continued long enough, *must* end in absolute prostration and certain death.

Well, then, she failed to get up her strength under the treatment of either doctor. Why? Simply because the medicines they gave her—whatever they may have been—did not cure the torpid and inflamed stomach. If they had cured it then she would have got up her strength exactly as she afterwards did when she took Seigel's Syrup. But the trouble is this: Medicines that will do this are rare. If the doctors possess them they would use them, and cure people with them, of course. Mother Seigel's is one of these rare and effective medicines. If there is another as good the public has not yet been made acquainted with the fact. But even the Syrup does not impart strength; it is not a so-called "tonic;" there is no such thing. It (the Syrup) *cures the disease*, drives out the poison, repairs the machine.

Then comes the appetite (all of itself) and digestion and strength. You see the order—the sequence. Yes, Well, please bear it in mind. The mechanics set the engine in order; then the stoker gets up the steam.

And of the human body—the noblest of all machines—Mother Seigel's Syrup is the skilled mechanic. * *

The favourite sport of the Mikado is horse racing, but he allows no betting, and the price of admission to the races is placed so high that only the upper classes can attend. The Mikado's stables accommodate about 3000 animals.

A Wonderful Railway.—The most remarkable railway in the world is the one designed by Mr. Nesom, an electrician, for use in the Chilcott Pass, and mountainous districts generally. By its means the loftiest precipices can be skirted, the steepest mountains scaled, and avalanches and snowdrifts rendered powerless to impede locomotion. The track, instead of being carried over bridges or through tunnels, is projected by stout girders from the very face of the mountains, and from it the car is suspended in mid-air. The wheels on which the car runs and the motor which impels it are inside the track.

The two richest debutantes since the Duchess of Marlborough (Miss Consuelo Vanderbilt) and Miss Anna Gould effected their entrance into the world of society have just made their appearances in New York, each possessing in her own right more than a million sterling. They are Miss Mildred Stokes and Miss Josephine Drexel. The former is the fifth daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ansen Phelps Stokes, who are eminently wealthy—many times millionaires in dollars. Miss Drexel is the fourth daughter of the late Mr. Joseph Drexel, who was the head of the famous banking firm of Drexel, Morgan and Co.

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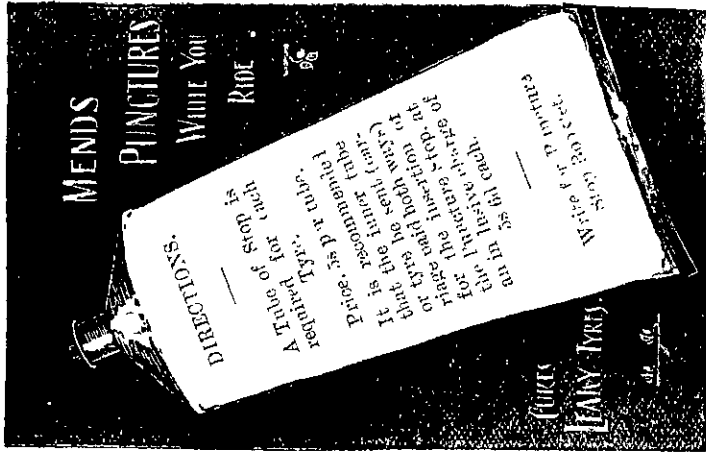
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| | | | |
|---|-----------------|----------------|--------------|
| LYTTELTON and WELLINGTON— | | | |
| Mararoa | Tues., June 28 | 2.30 p.m. | trn |
| Talane | Thurs., June 30 | 2.30 p.m. | trn |
| NAPIER, GISBORNE and AUCKLAND— | | | |
| Mararoa | Tues., June 28 | 2.30 p.m. | trn |
| Waihora | Tues., July 12 | 2.30 p.m. | trn |
| SYDNEY, via WELLINGTON— | | | |
| Talane | Thurs., June 30 | 2.30 p.m. | trn |
| Tarawera | Mon., July 11 | 2.30 p.m. | trn |
| SYDNEY via AUCKLAND— | | | |
| Mararoa | Tues., June 28 | 2.30 p.m. | trn |
| Waihora | Tues., July 12 | 2.30 p.m. | trn |
| MELBOURNE via BLUFF and HOBART— | | | |
| Monowai | Thurs., June 30 | 2.30 p.m. | trn |
| Wakatipu | Fri., July 8 | 2.30 p.m. | trn |
| WESTPORT, via TIMARU, AKAROA, LYTTELTON and WELLINGTON. | | | |
| Kini | † | Frid., July 1 | 4 p.m. D'din |
| Tarpo | † | Thurs., July 7 | 4 p.m. D'din |
| | | † Cargo only. | |
| | | † Nelson. | |
| * Via New Plymouth and Greymouth. | | | |
| GREYMOUTH, via OAMARU, TIMARU, LYTTELTON, WELLINGTON, and NEW PLYMOUTH— | | | |
| Herald | Wed., June 29 | 4 p.m. | D'din |
| TONGA, SAMOA, FIJI and SYDNEY— | | | |
| Ovalau | Wed., June 29 | From Auckland | |
| FIJI (SUVA and LEVUKA)— | | | |
| Upolu | Sat., July 16 | From Auckland | |
| TAHITI and BAROTONGA— | | | |
| Hauroto | Tues., July 5 | From Auckland | |

HOTELS FOR SALE.

Hotel, Gisborne, trade £100 weekly; free house.
Hotel, Pahiataua district, rent after sublets £3 10s, trade £65, cash required £1,000.
Hotel, Forty Mile Bush, trade £40, rent £4; ingoing £1,250.
Hotel, Wellington, rent £4; trade £60; cash required about £1,000.
Hotel, Napier, rent £3 3s after sublets; trade £60; cash required about £750.
Hotel, Wanganni district, rent £5 10s, takings £50; cash required about £1,100.
Hotel, Auckland, trade £300 weekly, rent £22.
We are continually receiving fresh properties for Sale. Write to us for particulars. Hotel-keepers wishing to dispose of their houses kindly communicate with us, and we guarantee to dispose hotels quicker than anybody in the Colony.
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Farmers, Miners, and all who want to keep their feet dry, try this Brand.

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

Commercial.

For week ending June 21.
STOCK EXCHANGE.

Wednesday, June 22.

BANKS.—National, Buyers, —; Sellers, 2/3/0. New South Wales, B., —; S., —. Union of Australia, Ltd., B., —; S., —.

INSURANCE.—National, B., —; S., 16/3. New Zealand, B., —; S., 3/7/6. South British, B., —; S., 2/9/-. Standard, B., (cum div.) 12/3; S., 12/6.

SHIPPING.—New Zealand Shipping, B., 1/10/-; S., 1/15/-. Union Steam, B., 9/15/0; S., 10/0/0.

COAL.—Kaitangata (old), B., —; S., —. Do (new), B., —; S., —. Westport, B., 2/16/6; S., 2/16/6.

LOAN AND AGENCY.—Commercial Property Company (2,10,0). B., 4/6; S., 5/0. National Mortgage, B., 10/6; S., 11/0. Perpetual Trustees, B., 10/3; S., 11/3. Trustees and Executors, B., 1/11/6; S., 1/12/6.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Colonial Sugar Refining Co. (£20), B., —; S., —. Kaiapoi Woollen Co., B., —; S., 6/2/0. Milburn Lime and Cement, B., 1/10/0; S., 1/10/6; do, new issue, B., —; S., — premium. Mornington Tramway, B., 15/9; S., 16/3. Mosgiel Woollen, B., 4/6/-; S., 4/7/-. New Zealand Drug (2/7/6 paid), B., 2/8/3; S., 2/8/3. New Zealand Drug (30/- paid), B., 1/11/6; S., —. Otago Daily Times, B., 11/10/-; S., 11/15/-. Egan Bay Railway, B., 12/0; S., 13/0. New Zealand Asbestos Co., B., par; S., —, 6 premium.

GOLDFIELDS.—Reefton: Big River Extended, B., 7/6; S., 8/0. Cumberland Extended, B., 2/0; S., 2/3. Dillon Extended, B., —; S., —. Keep-it-Dark, B., —; S., 1/5/6. Alpine Extended, B., 6/0; S., 6/6. Welcome Co. (Ltd.), B., 3/0; S., 3/3. Cresus (Paparua), B., 10/6; S., 11/0. Auckland.—Bunker's Hill, B., 1/0; S., 1/2. Crown, B., —; S., —. Talisman, B., 7/6; S., —. Waitekauri, B., —; S., —. Waipi Silverton, B., —; S., —. Woodstock, B., —; S., —. Otago.—Alpha (vendors), B., —; S., 13/-. Morning Star (A issue), B., 13/-; S., 14/-. Burnt Creek, B., 5/6; S., 6/3.

DREDGING COMPANIES.—Buller, B., 10/-; S., 11/-. Clyde, B., —; S., 2/15/0. Enterprise, B., 3/0/0; S., 3/1/6. Golden Beach, B., 3/6; S., 4/0. Golden Gate, B., 1/12/6; S., 1/13/6. Golden Run, B., 1/2/6; S., 1/3/6. Golden Treasure, B., —; S., —. Golden Terrace, B., 14/9; S., 15/6. Jutland Flat (paid), B., 5/9; S., 6/6. Lion Rock, B., 1/10; S., 1/1/0. Molyneux Hydraulic Co. (Dredge issue), B., 1/10; S., 1/11/0 (premium). Nevis, B., 18/0; S., 19/0. Otago, B., 1/15/0; S., 1/16/0. Upper Waipori (contrib.), B., 2/3; S., 2/6. Kyoburn, B., —; S., —. Dunedin Dredge, B., 6/0; S., 6/6. Ettrick, B., —; S., —. Golden Crown, B., 3/9; S., 4/0.

SLUICING COMPANIES.—Moonlight Sluicing (contrib.) B., —; S., 1/13/0. Roxburgh Amalgamated (contrib.), B., 6/9; S., 7/0. Deep Stream, B., 19/6; S., 1/0/0. Bakery Flat, B., 14/0; S., 15/0.

LIVE STOCK

DUNEDIN HORSE SALLYARDS.

Messrs. Wright, Stephenson and Co. report as follows:—

This week, as was the case at our last sale, there was a very poor muster of horses placed on the market. Out of some score of horses offered there were only two good draught geldings in the yard. The others comprised aged draught horses and very light hacks and harness horses. Three draughts found new owners, and the same number of light horses. There is a keen inquiry privately for heavy draught mares and geldings and for first-class colts and fillies, and it is quite certain our country friends having good horses for sale would find it to their advantage to con-tribute to this market just now. Strong upstanding light harness horses, if young and thoroughly

broken, are also in demand, and sell readily at quotations. We quote as follows: First-class draught mares and geldings, L35 to L40; extra good mares, L45 to L50; good useful draught mares and geldings, L25 to L33; aged do, L12 to L20; strong upstanding harness horses, L20 to L25; cavalry horses, L18 to L25; medium hacks and harness horses, L8 to L15; aged do, L2 to L5.

PRODUCE.

London, June 19.

The wheat market is dull and has further declined a shilling. At the sheep-skin sales supplies were small, and the bulk sold. Merinos and fine crossbreds showed a 1d advance.

MUTTON.—Crossbred weathers and maidenewes: Canterbury, 3 13-16d; Duredin and Southland, 3 1/2d; North Island, 2 1/2d.

LAMB.—Prime Canterbury, 4 1/2d; a fair average, including Dunedin, Southland, Wellington, and secondary Canterbury, 4 1-16d. River Plate unchanged.

Messrs. Stronach Bros. and Morris report as follows:—

WHEAT.—The market is very dull at present, and prices may be quoted nominally the same as last week.

OATS.—Market quiet. Quotations: Milling, 2s 5d to 2s 7d; good to best feed, 2s 3 1/2d to 2s 4 1/2d; medium, 2s 2d to 2s 3d per bushel (sacks extra).

BARLEY.—Market unchanged. Prime malting, 4s 9d to 5s 3d; medium, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; feed and milling, 2s 6d to 3s 6d per bushel (sacks extra).

CHAFF.—Owing to the large quantities coming forward prices have declined 7s to 7s 6d per ton during the week. Best oaten sheaf, L3 7s 6d to L3 10s; medium, L2 5s to L3 5s per ton (bags extra).

POTATOES.—Best Derwents L6 17s 6d to L7; medium, L6 10s to L6 15s per ton (bags in).

WOOL, SKINS, TALLOW, ETC.

Messrs. Stronach Bros. and Morris report as follows:—

RABBITSKINS.—The demand was very keen at Monday's sale, and prices showed a decided improvement, one lot of winters sold by us realising 16 1/2d per lb. Quotations: Prime winters, 15d to 16 1/2d; early do, 14d to 15 1/2d; autumns, 10d to 13d; summers, 6d to 9d; blacks and silver greys up to 18d per lb.

SHEEPSKINS.—We offered a large catalogue yesterday, when bidding was brisk and prices, if anything, firmer. Best dry crossbreds, 4s to 5s 6d; medium 3s to 3s 9d; inferior, 2s to 2s 9d; pelts, 4d to 1s 6d; best dry merinos, 3s 3d to 4s 6d; medium, 2s 3d to 3s; inferior, 1s 6d to 2s; pelts, 5d to 1s 3d; green crossbreds, 2s 9d to 3s 2d (extra to 4s 3d); do lambskins, 2s 9d to 3s.

HIDES.—Market firm. Prime heavy ox, 3 1/2d to 4d, medium, 2 1/2d to 3 1/2d; light and inferior, 1 1/2d to 2 1/2d per lb.

TALLOW.—Market steady. Best rendered mutton, 4 1/2d to 5s; medium, 12s to 13s 6d; inferior, 10s to 11s 6d, rough fat, 8s 6d to 11s per cwt.

Messrs. Edward Thomas and Co. Bond Street, Dunedin, wool, skin, hair, and hide merchants report:—

RABBITSKINS.—Only small catalogues submitted, some 25 to 30 bales being extent of offerings. Competition keen, price irregular. Sheepskins—Late quotations fully maintained.

Hair—Clean tail, 15d; fair, 14d to 15d.

Hides continue steady at very good values.

Mrs. F. MERRAN, King street, reports:—Wool sale price only:—Oats: Good demand; feed, 4s 11d to 2s 2 1/2, milling, 2s 4d to 2s 6d. Fowls' wheat, 3s to 4s; milling, 3s 6d to 5s. Chaff, L3 to L3 15s, fair supply. Ryegrass and clover hay, L3 15s to L1 5s. Straw, pressed 28s per ton; loose, 25s. Potatoes: Market bare, L6 10. Flour: Roller, L13 to L13 10. Gramed L13 in 25lbs. Butter: Dairy, 10d to 1s; factory, 1s 2 1/2 to 1s 7d. Bran, L4. Pollard, L5. Onions, L9 to L10 per ton.

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Ireland (from the Siege of Limerick to the present time), by Mitchell, 4s; The Irish Brigades in the Service of France, 3s 6d; The Fate and Fortunes of Hugh O'Neill, Earl of Tyrone, cloth, 10s; Curran's and Grattan's Speeches, cloth, each 3s; Life of Daniel O'Connell, 2s 6d; New Ireland, A. M. Sullivan, 1s 6d; Life of Michael Davitt, 1s 6d; Irish History for English Readers, 1s 3d; Kilmarnham Memoirs, by Tighe Hopkins, illustrated, 1s 3d; A Record of Treitorism (reprinted from the *Nation*), 1s; Handbook of Home Rule, by W. E. Gladstone, 1s 6d; Birds-eye View of Irish History, by Duffy, 1s 6d; Speeches from the Dock, 1s 6d; Life of T. F. Meagher, 1s 6d; Life and Adventures of Theobald Wolfe Tone, 1s; The Story of Ireland, Sullivan, 1s 6d; Memoirs of A. M. Sullivan, 1s; Rise and Fall of the Irish Nation, Barrington, 3s; The Irish Land Question, Henry George, 1s 6d; History of Ireland, Ancient and Modern, by Martin Haverty, cloth, 10s 6d; Irish History, by Justin McCarthy, 2s 6d; The Patriot's Brothers, or Ireland Martyrs, 1s; Around the World with Irish Delegates, 1s 6d; The Irish in Australia, cloth, Hogan, 3s 5d; Willy Reilly and his dear Colleen Bawn, 2s 6d.

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By Rev. H. W. CLEARY (Editor, N.Z. TABLET), 1s 6d.

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R.

PASTORAL RUN OPEN FOR APPLICATION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Run No. 11, Mount Fortune (Class 1) Waitaki County, containing 7000 acres, will be open for application at this office as a Pastoral Run under Part VI, of "The Land Act, 1892," for a term of 11 years, at an annual rental of £200, on

WEDNESDAY, the 6th of JULY, 1898.

Possession will be given on 1st of March, 1899. Valuation for improvements payable before possession is given in terms of Section 207 of the above-mentioned Act.

Full particulars can be obtained at this Office.

J. P. MAITLAND.

Commissioner of Crown Lands.

Crown Lands Office.

Dunedin, 13th June, 1898.

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.

Annual Subscription, 25s booked; 22s 6d if paid in advance; shorter periods at *pro* portionate rates.

DEATH.

QUINN.—On the 19th of May, at Auckland, Teresa Borzgia, the dearly loved daughter of William and Mary Quinn, of Wellington—*Requiescat in Pace.*

The New Zealand Tablet.

FIAT JUSTITIA.

FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 1898.

DUNEDIN CATHOLICS AND THE EVENING STAR.



DUNEDIN had its serpent: Amhara its heart-weariness; the Utopias their very human side: the rose has its cankerworm; and Dunedin has the *Evening Star*. It has long been engaged in a work which bodes ill for future peace and harmony among religious bodies in this growing city. For many a long day it has been carrying on a crusade of calumny against the Catholic body.

For years past it has been steadily holding them up to public scorn. During the past few weeks it has been spotted over like a leper with squibs and sneers and charges against Catholics. For this purpose—as one of our non-Catholic New Zealand contemporaries has said—'all sorts of articles from obscure corners have been raked up.' It has for years flung at us set articles, mock book notices, clippings, no-Popery sermons, the hoarse cawings of crows that have been driven out of the Church, and muck-rakings from every foetid corner of anti-Catholic literature. Under the thin pretence of a 'review,' it devoted long columns for the past three weeks to malodorous abuse of the whole Catholic body—clergy and laity. With a pharisaical affectation of fair-

-mindedness, it assured its readers that the Catholic practice of confession 'has a corrosive, corrupt influence that marks it out as an object of horror.' Whether the reader gives this abominable falsehood a general or a local application, he will readily understand how Catholics feel over it. This was followed by the outrageous calumny that there is 'a vast amount' of degrading immorality among the Catholic clergy, and that this is 'the only possible condition for them.'

These are but specimens from the *Evening Star's* sacred gospel of assafoetida. A lengthy collection of such extracts, which we are making, will enable the public to judge of the bitterness of the *Star's* unprovoked and long-continued crusade against the Catholic body. We could understand such articles being directed against the lowest and criminal classes. But it is for Catholics that the *Star* reserves the full-charged vials of its wrath. Its columns systematically misrepresent our faith, outrage our most cherished religious feelings, and fling at us monstrous charges. Were we half brutes, half human—monster Frankensteins—we could understand it. But there lies not even the pretext of provocation. The no-Popery crusade of the *Evening Star* is purely gratuitous. The head and front of our offending is—the profession of the Catholic Faith. That is the grand secret of the crusade—a crusade in which the Dunedin *Evening Star* stands alone, a blemish on the respectable journalism of New Zealand.

The *Evening Star's* campaign of vilification is not alone unprovoked. It is cowardly. It does not dare to say of any individual Catholic what—through the folly of the law of libel—it knows it can safely say of 250,000,000. Again: it knows full well that perpetual vilification cannot be met by perpetual controversy, which—like long-continued guerilla warfare—only serves to exasperate men's minds, and defeats the chief purpose of such discussion. Yet again: the *Evening Star* dares not assail, say the Presbyterian body as it does the Catholics. Did it fling at that respected body—as it did at Catholics—shocking charges of corruption and immorality, its shutters would soon go up. No, the *Evening Star* finds it safer to attack a minority of the population, and, deeming them spiritless and defenceless, flings at them every form of vilification and opprobrium. We are glad, however, to believe that its no-Popery columns represent the views of no considerable section of the people of Dunedin. Many Protestants of education and standing have, to our knowledge, reprobated the no-Popery policy of the *Evening Star*. We are convinced that these represent the views of the greater, the better, and the more enlightened portion of our non-Catholic fellow-citizens, and that their moral support will give an added strength to whatever further action Catholics may be compelled to take to protect their families against this cowardly crusade.

What is the object of this never-ending ding-dong of abuse? We do not profess to know. Is there money in it? What we have heard of the directors quite forbids the supposition that they would handleshekels won by such means. Is the paper an organ on which no-Popery declaimers, writers, or scissors-and-paste men are permitted, at their own sweet will, to grind out their suffocating tunes? We do not know. But this we do know: that the *Evening Star* is, in effect, setting creed against creed in a city where all have hitherto lived in mutual peace and goodwill: raising the demon of religious discord—a demon that it is very difficult to lay. We raised our voice last week in protest against this steady flow of calumny. We were answered by a string of the grossest charges against the Catholic priesthood. Others have since then entered a dignified protest, without result. We do not hope to alter the no-Popery current of the *Evening Star*—it has worn itself, apparently, too deep a bed. Nor can we, for the reasons stated above, enter into perpetual controversy in its columns. There is only one resource left to us. The *Evening Star* is, and has long been, unfit reading for any Catholic individual or Catholic home. And Catholics can and will protect themselves and their families from the scandal and exasperation of reading week after week foul and degrading insults against what they hold most dear and holy.

DUNEDIN AND DISTRICT.

THE splendid new church at South Dunedin is to be re-opened on Sunday next. At 11 o'clock His Lordship the Bishop will celebrate Pontifical High Mass, the Very Rev. P. O'Leary will act as deacon; Rev. Father McMullen, as sub-deacon; the Very Rev. Dean Mackay as assistant priest, and the Rev. Father Murphy, master of ceremonies. The sermon will be preached by the Very Rev. Father O'Leary. The glorious music of Mozart's 'Twelfth Mass' will be produced by St. Joseph's Cathedral choir, with full orchestral accompaniment. In the evening Pontifical Vespers will take place, and on that occasion the sermon will be preached by Dean Mackay. A description of St. Patrick's appears elsewhere in this issue together with a large picture of the interior, reproduced by the photozinc process. Next week we propose publishing a view of the church as it will be when completed.

A QUANTITY of correspondence from Wellington, also an account of the tour of the St. Patrick's College football team, reached us on Wednesday shortly before we went to press and consequently too late for insertion in this issue. They will appear in our next issue.

NEW ZEALAND: GENERAL.

WE have received a package of used stamps for the Rev. Father Kreyborg's mission from Miss Mary Ellen Kevenig, Otautau; also a parcel from Christchurch, which does not contain the name of the sender.

OBITUARY.

DEATH OF BRO. J. C. DOWDALL.

THE old pupils of the Christian Brothers' School, Dunedin, will be sorry to hear of the death of Bro. J. C. Dowdall, the announcement of which has just arrived by the 'Wakatipu.' The deceased came to the Dunedin establishment in 1879, where he laboured with marked success until 1888, when he was transferred to the mother-house of the Order, the Victoria Parade College, East Melbourne. His health gave way in the beginning of 1895. He was removed to Brisbane, where he quietly passed away on the 12th inst.—R.I.P.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY, DUNEDIN.

ANNUAL CONCERT.

THE great assemblage, which crowded out the City Hall on Friday night, when the annual concert in aid of the St. Vincent de Paul Society was given, must have indeed gladdened the hearts of the members of that deserving institution. The St. Vincent de Paul Society has long been in our midst, and although the extent of the funds at its disposal has ever been limited, it has succeeded in doing an immense amount of charitable work in the city, in a quiet and unostentatious though energetic and zealous manner. It may be added that the payment of the small and almost insignificant sum of sixpence per month entitles to membership, and as the objects of the Society should appeal to every Catholic heart, we hope to hear of a large augmentation in the ranks of its supporters. Anyone desirous of becoming a member can do so by communicating with the editor of the TABLET.

His Lordship the Bishop of Dunedin was present at the entertainment, and, at the interval in the proceedings, on behalf of the members of the Society, he took occasion to express his thanks for the generous patronage which had been bestowed upon the entertainment that evening, and also to those performers who had so willingly contributed to make the concert such a success. 'The concert,' he said, 'had been a very enjoyable one all would admit (applause). Every item had deserved the cordial demonstrations of approval that it had evoked. Judging by the well-filled benches the receipts of the concert would gladden the hearts of the good ladies of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. These ladies deserve the warmest encouragement. They were doing a noble work, and they had been doing a noble work during the past years. They had assisted a very large number of families, they had saved many a poor helpless creature from destruction, and had sent many orphans to happy homes (applause). The members of the Society were actuated by the true spirit of self-sacrifice, their names were not known to the public, and they had not sought applause in any way for the work which they had done, but the thanks of not only the Catholics but of the whole of the citizens of Dunedin were due to them. He was very much pleased at the thought that the concert would be the means of placing at the disposal of these ladies such a large sum of money to continue their great work (applause).'

The programme drawn up for the occasion composed a choice selection of musical items, which were rendered by some of our leading musicians. That the performers succeeded in affording pleasure to all present, was most manifest, for the applause which so freely interspersed the entertainment was of the most cordial character. Miss Mary Morrison, who has long occupied a warm place in the affections of Dunedin concert-goers, was tendered a hearty welcome, and her numbers—'The gift' (Behrend), and 'Venetia'—were received with many demonstrations of approval. Miss Rose Blaney's numbers were 'She wandered down the mountain side' (Clay) and 'Staubert song' (White). The favourite *cantatrice* met with great success in both,

but Clay's beautiful composition was so much appreciated that an encore was insisted upon, and in response the ever delightful Killarney was sung. Miss Lucy Connor, a highly promising young vocalist, created a distinctly favourable impression by an artistic interpretation of 'It was a dream' and 'The Kerry dance,' and in response to an emphatic recall for the former, sang 'Love-Tide.' The compliment of an encore was also most deservedly awarded Miss Kitty Blaney for her tuneful singing of 'Call me Back' (Denza), and as an added number the young lady sang with charming archness 'Two is company.' The popular baritone, Mr. J. Jago, met with his customary cordial welcome and sang 'The Bugler' (Pinsuti) and 'The village blacksmith' with excellent effect. His effort in each instance evoked enthusiastic applause, and encores being insisted upon the last verse of the second number was repeated and 'Pray for me' was sung as an additional number. Mr. P. Carolin also met with much success in 'My Queen,' which elicited warm, demonstrative applause. Mr. J. Woods was heard to fine effect in 'The gladiator,' while Mr. E. Fagers' singing of 'A My morning' is deserving of the warmest encomiums. Mr. J. Deakr was evidently a favourite with the audience, and his humorous contribution evoked quite vociferous encores. A number of Christian Brothers' pupils went through a song and chorus, and their singing was quite a feature of the entertainment. That it elicited unmistakable demonstrations of approval was not at all surprising, as the performance not only reflected credit on the pupils themselves but on their devoted teachers who had trained them. Misses S. and N. Hall gave an exhibition of their undoubted skill as pianistes in the duet 'Guillaume Tell,' while an instrumental trio, in which Misses M. Blaney, G. Stokes and K. Moloney took part, was also an acceptable item. Special credit is due to Miss Moloney for the manner in which she acted in the capacity of accompanist, while Mr. Albert Vallis, the cathedral organist, who acted as musical director, should also be singled out for special praise.

DEAN FITCHETT, ZOLA, AND THE PAPACY.

ZOLA, A NEW AID TO SOME CONTROVERSIALISTS.

PEOPLE seldom stop to consider the geological formation of the stone they throw at a dog. There is no particular reason why they should. There are people who pay just as little attention to the stone they throw at Rome. In other words: they think it quite unnecessary to test the value of the evidence or the credibility of the witnesses they bring to testify against the Grand Old Enemy—the Catholic Church. It was with a shock of pained surprise we learned that the Very Rev. Dean Fitchett of Dunedin—a man of wide reading and, it is said, of cultivated tastes, has pinned his faith in Zola, the apostle of pornography, as an authority on the life and manners of what he had never seen—the Papal Court. We are grieved, though not astonished, when the rill-raff of controversialists bombard us with stifling accusations on the authority of real and bogus 'expriests' and 'ex-nuns,' etc. It apparently does not detract from the value of the evidence of this malodorous fraternity that a large number of them never were Catholics, and that a big percentage of them—like Widdows, Slatery, Ruthven, and ever so many more whose histories have appeared or will duly appear in print—were well-seasoned jail-birds. One class of controversialists are evidently very thankful for even small mercies, and it is no small mercy to get even a convict to testify to the general perversity and hopeless chuckle-headedness of Catholics. In this matter the word of even the lowest criminal is evidently preferable to that of the most respectable Catholic, or Protestant, be he man, boy, or hobbledoy, layman or cleric, priest, bishop or Pope. This is one of the adamant axioms of the low-class controversialist. Another is, that Catholics either know nothing whatever of their own Church and creed, or that they are abominably incapable of telling the truth about it. A third is that Rome is to this hour the Mistress of Abominations, and Catholics—well, her children.

A NEW ALLY.

We do not know how far Dean Fitchett has accepted these axioms. He has, however, added a new and valuable ally to the broad-arrow band of testimonies against Rome. The pornographic novelist now finds himself among other congenial company besides that of Flaubert, Bourget, Pierre Loti, and Daudet. According to the *N.Z. Herald*, the Dean lectured at the Young men's Christian Association Rooms, Auckland, on—'one of Zola's novels.' The *N.Z. Herald* reports says: 'What the lecturer considered of importance in this book was the minute account of the morals, principles, and characters of those residing in the Vatican. . . . In the main, he believed that the account given by Zola was a true one.' The lecture was, in brief, an attack on the Pope and his court, with Zola as the witness-in-chief. Since reading this account we have taken the trouble to wade through that book which we should not otherwise have touched, and which nothing would have induced us to recommend to others. Its hero is a fine creation of Zola's—a priest who does not believe in several fundamental doctrines of his religion, who lives in—well, very queer surroundings, and who stands coolly by the bedside of a dying man without uttering a prayer or dreaming of attempting to administer a single rite of the Church! The book would, of course, not be Zola's if it had not its *deus-mundantia*, its divorce matters, its marital infidelity, and its too frequent play of what the translator terms 'frantic sensuality,' and running through all, an incandescent hatred of the papacy—a hatred which was by no means lessened by the stern refusal which met his every manoeuvre to gain admission to the Pope's presence, or to that of the members of his court.

ZOLA ON THE POPE.

It is well that we should know where Dean Fitchett stands. It would be impossible to convey to the reader a proper idea of what he terms Zola's 'mainly true' account of the dignitaries of the

Papal Court, where the apostle of filth never set foot, and with not one of the members of which he had any intercourse. During his stay in Rome the rejected of the Academy was denied intercourse even with the friends of the papacy. He had perforce to content himself with those of its enemies who were satisfied to herd with him. From them and from his own diseased imagination he must have conjured up his picture of the papal court. We have a recollection of a French critic who showed that the particular book which Dean Fitchett glorifies with a lecture is full of plagiarisms. In any case nobody could expect Zola to tell the truth about the Catholic Church, and least of all about the people who studiously snubbed and despised him during his stay in Rome. Nor can we expect truth from the man who, when whining for an interview with the Pope, protested to Cardinal Galimberti that he (Zola) was a Catholic of considerable zeal and that he wrote *Lourdes* with the object of serving the Church! From beginning to end Zola's book is teeming with fierce, savage, and venomous attacks on the papal court. He describes the generous old Pontiff as a miser, burying his arms nightly in secretly hoarded gold. Over and over again he terms him a 'demi-god,' an 'idol that is adored' by 'Christendom.' Even the familiar cry, *Viva il Papa-Re* ('Long live the Pope-King') is a 'cry of idolatry.' Protestants by the dozen have told of the intellectual beauty of Leo's face. Zola—who had never seen it—speaks of its 'sinuous (monkish) ugliness.' Moreover he makes the Pope the subject of gross imputations. The papal court is described as 'an abominable network of intrigues, venality, cowardice, treachery and even crime.' The apostle of filth does not believe that there is a single honest man in the Vatican from the Pope to the shoe-black. The papacy let England drift away from Catholic unity rather than consent to an unjust divorce. The Church's attitude is even now found fault with by some as being too rigorous. She is the last uncompromising guardian of the marriage tie. Yet Dean Fitchett's authority avrily tells us that divorces are to be purchased for money at any time from the Pope! The refined and dignified papal Master of Ceremonies is merely a 'ballet-master.' The Catholic religion is described as 'childish idolatry.' And so on and on. No mere extracts can convey an idea of the blind savagery of the attacks made by Zola on the Pope and his court. Blame from such a quarter is praise. But what of the clergyman who lectures on such a book in a public hall, a purveyor to young men, and accepts Zola's coarse savagery as 'in the main' a true account of things that neither he nor Dean Fitchett know much, if anything, about?

PROBABLE RESULTS.

Dean Fitchett has evidently given a glowing advertisement to Zola, if not to Zolaism. He is probably the first clergyman of any Church that has ventured to do so. We shall probably hear more of Zola in certain pulpits since Dean Fitchett has discovered that he is an authority (!) on the Vatican. A great impetus will undoubtedly be thereby given to the reading of Zola's foul-smelling 'masterpieces,' as well as to those which are only sprinkled with pellets of prurieny like raisins in a pudding. Must we believe that all this will tend to the glory of God and the good of souls? One well-known Protestant English writer describes some of Zola's works as combining 'the gore of the shambles with the filth of the sty.' Oliver Wendell Holmes describes Zola's literature as consisting 'largely in swampy, ill-melting patches of soil which had been previously left to reptiles and vermin.' He likewise refers in scathing terms to 'the unclean revelations of Zola.' The well-known German critic, Paul Lindau, said, in *Nord und Süd*, that any idea of purity for the ear, the eye, and the other senses seems quite foreign to M. Zola. An English Protestant critic describes some of his works as 'vulgar, obscene, furious,' 'loathsome,' 'uncontrolled by that reason which discerns the laws of morality, and the Divine presence in the world.' We thought we had reached a low depth when convicts and gaol-birds were advanced by a certain class of clergymen as fit and proper witnesses against the Catholic Church. It has been reserved for Dean Fitchett to discover another and hitherto unexplored depth. We can only express our surprise and regret that such a lecture should have been delivered by such a man to such an audience. The Church must ever suffer calamity; but this Zola calamity is one which a man of Dean Fitchett's parts might well have spared us.

'98 CELEBRATION AT WELLINGTON.

THE centenary of the celebration of '98 is to be celebrated at Wellington on June 24th, by an entertainment which is to be held in the Opera House. A copy of the programme to be presented on the occasion reached us just as we were about to go to press, and a glance at it sufficed to show that the Irishmen of Wellington will not be behind hand in the worthy celebration of the glorious '98. A most attractive selection of National music is to be rendered by some of the leading musicians of Wellington, and an orchestra under the conductorship of Mr. S. Cimino. A feature of the evening's proceedings, however, will be addresses delivered by Dr. Cahill and Sir Robert Stout. The former has chosen for his subject 'The History of the causes which led to the rebellion,' and the latter 'The Rebellion and the lesson it teaches.' The utterances of two such prominent men as Dr. Cahill and Sir Robert on the subject of the Irish rebellion should alone suffice to fill the Opera House on the night of the 24th.

The Hon. Harold Finch-Hatton, M.P. is the possessor of a unique accomplishment, for he is declared to be the only white man who can throw a boomerang like the blacks of Australia. It is said that he has often given private exhibitions of his skill, and has also displayed it 'by request' at political garden-parties. For nine years he was a Queensland squatter, and his knowledge of Australian matters generally is probably unqualified by any other member of Parliament.

THE WAR.

WHAT THE CABLES SAY.

THERE are indications of intervention on the part of the Foreign Powers in the hostilities between Spain and America. Despite the fact that the Madrid authorities firmly declare that they will not take initiating steps towards capitulation, late cable intelligence states that 30 provincial associations and 18 local newspaper proprietors have signed a manifesto in favour of peace. The Catalan Union is also demanding peace in order to escape a revolution in Spain. Meanwhile Spain's naval force continues its game of hide and seek—that is the squadron which is free, for one squadron is blockaded (actually in Santiago Harbour) and is expected to be captured in the course of a few days. The insurgents in Cuba are fighting with remarkable bravery, but the invading force so far does not seem to have made much headway in the island. As regards Manila, intelligence is expected hourly at Washington that Admiral Dewey has occupied the town. The Spanish forces have been greatly weakened by secessions from the ranks, large numbers having killed their officers and deserted.

NOTES ON THE WAR.

(From various sources.)

SPANISH DEFEAT AT MANILA—EXPLANATION BY THE ADMIRAL.

THE steamer 'Ching-Tu' recently arrived at Thursday Island, and from there has been telegraphed a statement made by Admiral Montojo regarding the fight between the American and Spanish fleets in Manila Harbour. The statement is telegraphed from Auckland by the Christchurch Press correspondent as follows:—Shortly after 5 o'clock on Sunday morning, just as day was dawning, he observed the American squadron sailing in a line across the bay towards Cavite. As the ships approached he prepared to receive them. After they had got past Corregidor Island he fired on each ship as it came within range. The Americans did not reply. All the Spanish ships were anchored in Cavite Bay. The best of them were the Reina Christina and Don Juan de Austria and the Castilla, all old, and the last named a wooden cruiser, unable to steam owing to a breakdown of her engines. The two others, the 'Velasco' and the Don Antonio de Ulloa, were helpless, as they were undergoing repairs. 'Although,' he says, 'I recognised the hopelessness of fighting the American ships, we were busy returning their fire. The Reina Christina was repeatedly hit, but shortly after half-past 6 I noticed that the ship was on fire forward. The steering gear was damaged, and the vessel being unmanageable was subjected to a terrific hail of shell and shot. The engines were struck, and I estimated that she had 70 hits about the hull and superstructure. The boilers were not hit, but the pipe of the condenser was destroyed. A few moments later the after part of the ship was on fire. A shell from the Americans had penetrated her hull and burst with deadly effect, killing many men. The flag lieutenant reported the disabled state of the ship, which it was impossible to remain on any longer, and I transferred the staff to the Isla de Cuba. The Reina Christina was then one mass of flames.' Subsequently Admiral Montojo sought shelter behind the pier at Cavite, and recognising the futility of further fighting, prepared to disembark, and gave orders for the evacuation of the remainder of the ships, the last signal to the captains of the vessels being, 'Scuttle and abandon your ships, to prevent the guns being of use to the Americans.'

The captain of the American ship Boston afterwards said to the chief of Admiral Montojo's staff: 'You combatted us with four very bad ships, not war-ships. There was never seen such brave fighting under such unequal conditions. It is a great pity you exposed your lives in vessels not fit for fighting.' Admiral Dewey sent Admiral Montojo a message by the English Consul saying that in peace or in war he would have pleasure in grasping him by the hand and congratulating him on the gallant manner in which he had fought. In reply to a question, Admiral Montojo said that the responsibility of the disastrous defeat of the Spanish squadron lay with the Government of Madrid. Ever since he had assumed command on the naval station he had been requisitioning the Government for ships and torpedoes, but nothing came. He constructed some torpedoes, but did not have proper material, and the torpedoes were useless. The Minister for Marine had promised to send supplies, but they never came. He knew from the first that his squadron would be destroyed, as the Americans had men-of-war, whereas his ships were incapable of fighting with any chance of success.

THE ROBERT EMMET'S.

Mr. Robert Emmet, a relative of the more famous Irish patriot of the same name, whose portrait appeared in our '98 issue, was, according to the *Pilot* of April 30, raising a regiment to fight under the Stars and Stripes. The *Pilot* says that 'his very name would suffice to rally 100,000 or more fighting men under the flag. Robert Emmet, private, captain, colonel or general, has only to hang out his recruiting flag to find himself surrounded and overwhelmed with comrades, companies, regiments or brigades, if he has only a fraction of the magnetism which ought to go with his glorious name.'

The ex-Empress Eugénie has always carefully preserved a small piece of her wedding-dress and orange-blossom wreath. Her wedding ring, as is the custom in France, is made in two portions which close together tightly. When unjoined, on one is found the name of the bride, on other the name of the Imperial bridegroom.

DUNEDIN CATHOLICS AND THE
EVENING STAR.

THE *Bruce Herald* has the following under the heading 'Covert Attacks'—

'The Dunedin *Evening Star* was the subject of a few fervid remarks by the officiating priest at St. Joseph's Cathedral on Sunday last, I am given to understand. The newspaper, for a long time past, has been making covert attacks on Catholics. The TABLET hits straight out at it in its issue of last week.' The *Bruce Herald* then quotes, in full, our remarks on the subject from the TABLET of last week. It then continues:—'There was a correspondence in the *Star* recently, arising out of the Spanish-American war, and one of the participants was a minister of a Non-conformist conventicle wherein the manager of the *Star* is a shining light. Strange to say, since then all sorts of articles from obscure corners have been raked up, and the thing has been so glaring that I believe some of the directors have noticed it, and are beginning to ask awkward questions.'

T I M A R U.

(From our own correspondent.)

THE Government Inspector gave in his report on the Catholic schools of the district at the late meeting of the S.C. Education Board. All the schools, Waimate, Timaru, Kerrytown, and Temuka, passed good examinations, and it was pleasing to note that the Inspector made special reference to the order and behaviour of the children at which he expressed himself as highly pleased.

The appointment of Mr. John Fitzgerald of Arowhenua as Justice of the Peace has given much satisfaction here. Mr. Fitzgerald is widely known and respected throughout the district and should wear his new honour well.

Mr. J. M. Twomey, editor and proprietor of the *Temuka Leader*, has been called to the Upper House.

Mr. William Fitzgerald, late student of St. Patrick's College, Wellington, has secured an appointment in the Public Works Department, and left to commence his duties during the week. Mr. Fitzgerald and his violin will be greatly missed at future local entertainments, as he has always generously given his services on such occasions.

The Aloysian Society held their usual weekly meeting on Tuesday last. The Aloysian journal was read and contained original papers from several of the members. The paper was keenly criticised, and pronounced to be very encouraging for the first number.

L A T E C O M M E R C I A L.

BURNSIDE STOCK REPORT.

(SPECIAL TO N.Z. TABLET.)

(Per favour Messrs. Stronach Bros. and Morris.)

Wednesday, June 22, 5 p.m.

CATTLE—176 yarded. There was a fair demand for prime bullocks. Prices were slightly better than last week. Best bullocks, 18 10s to 19 17s 6d; medium, 17 to 18 5s; best cows, 15 to 16 17s 6d; medium, 14 10s to 15 15s; others, 12 10s to 13 15s.

SHEEP—1176 penned. The number forward was quite sufficient for butchers' requirements. Prices were about the same as those ruling last week. Best cross-bred wethers, 13s to 14s 6d; one small pen of extra heavy, 15s 9d; medium, 11s 6d to 12s 9d; light, 8s 6d to 11s. Best ewes, 10s to 11s 6d; medium, 8s to 9s 9d; others, 6s to 7s 6d.

LAMBS—175 penned. All selling well at from 5s 6d to 9s.

PIGS—94 penned. There was good demand for all sorts; prices slightly better than last week. Slips, 15s 6d to 17s 6d; stores, 20s to 22s 6d; porkers, 25s to 32s; light baconers, 35s to 41s; heavy baconers, 17s to 54s.

MESSRS. DONALD REID AND Co. report as follows:—

OATS.—There were no buyers for large lines in attendance, and in consequence we passed our catalogue. Medium and inferior qualities are offering more freely, and values for these sorts are a shade easier, otherwise the market is practically unchanged.

WHEAT.—Prime milling quality receives little attention at present, fowl wheat being the only class inquired for. This sells at 3s 6d to 3s 9d per bushel (socks in) for whole fowl wheat; 3s to 3s 5d for broken.

POTATOES.—We offered a few lots of kidneys, which sold at £6 5s to £8 per ton; one lot medium Derwents realised £6 5s, and we quote prime up to £7 per ton, sacks in.

CHAFF.—The market has been completely glutted for the past few days. Best oaten sheaf sold at 13 7s 6d to 13 10s; medium to good, 12 15s to 13 5s; straw chaff (difficult to place), 27s to 27s 6d per ton (sacks extra).

TURNIPS—14s to 15s per ton (loose in truck).

One of Mr. Gladstone's peculiar ideas, which he followed for fifteen years, was to go to bed the instant he finds he caught a cold, and stay there until the indisposition had passed. In this way he believed he frequently cut short what might have been a serious illness. He sometimes read and wrote in bed just as usual.

RETURNING TO THE FOLD.

FOLLOWING the example of Marion F. Gurney, head and front of the Episcopal Church settlement house, says the *New York Herald*, Miss Emily R. Arnold, hitherto a well-known worker in the Episcopal Church, has become a convert to the Catholic faith. The ceremony of baptism was performed by the Rev. Father John F. X. O'Connor, at the Church of St. Francis Xavier, at Sixth avenue and Sixteenth street, recently, in presence of a few of the personal friends of the convert from New York and Philadelphia, where Miss Arnold formerly resided. Before coming to New York city Miss Arnold was connected with St. Clement's Church, conducted by the Cowley Fathers, an Order from England. Miss Gurney was also received in the Catholic faith at the Church of St. Francis Xavier. Her baptism was performed on November 1 last, and the account of the ceremony published in the *Herald* at the time created almost as great a sensation in Episcopal, if not in Protestant circles generally, as did the recent news of the conversion of Judge Frederick Smyth, of the Supreme Court, to the Roman creed.

On Easter Sunday Miss Ada Johnston, of Ballykilbeg, the highly accomplished daughter of Mr. William Johnston, M.P. for Belfast, was received into the Catholic Church by the Rev. J. F. McCauley, C.C., in St. Patrick's Memorial Church, Downpatrick. Miss Johnston had been attending Catholic services for some time past, and her conversion was not unexpected.

The Rev. Edward L. Buckley, until last autumn rector of the Zabriskie Memorial Church (Protestant Episcopal), Newport, R.I., was received into the Catholic Church in Rome, Italy, a few weeks ago and, is now a candidate for the priesthood.

Mr. Buckley's conversion seems to be one of those which have followed on the letter of Pope Leo XIII., re-affirming the invalidity of Anglican Orders for up to last autumn he held his charge in peace of mind. At that time he made no secret of the fact that his faith in Episcopalianism was shaken, and at once resigned his charge. His parishioners, who were deeply attached to him, entreated him to take an extended vacation and consider the matter, offering to leave his charge open for his possible return. Of course, this kindly offer was affectionately declined by the upright man who knew that there could be but one end to his difficulties, and who, having put his hand to the plough, would not look back.

Another notable conversion from the advanced Episcopal ranks is that of Mrs. Mary Uily Robbins, widow of Judge Chilion Robbins, who was Judge of the Court of Common Pleas at Freehold, N.J. This convert's thoughts were turned to the Centre of Unity by the divisions in the Episcopal Communion.

Miss Emma Arnold, a former associate of Miss Elizabeth M. Gurney, in the Church Settlement House, East Side, New York, has followed that lady into the Catholic Church. Like her friend, she was of the extreme High Church Party, as many of the Episcopal workers among the poor are. All these ladies are converts of the Jesuit Fathers.

The Rev. George M. P. Bowns, a Methodist Episcopal clergyman of New York, dates his conversion from his attendance at the recent mission to non-Catholics in the Church of the Paulists, New York, and the satisfactory answers of the "Question Box." He belongs to a family of preachers, his maternal grandfather, the Rev. William Noon, having been a friend and supporter of John Wesley, under whom he preached in England. Ex-Mayor and Mrs. A. Oakey Hall, of New York, have also been received into the Church by the Paulists.

In Boston there is a steady gain in converts from the wage-earning classes, of whose religious difficulties the world is likely to hear far less than those of people of wealth and position but whose example and labours are often as fruitful.

THE NORTH CANTERBURY BOARD.

WE have learned, with great pleasure, that the North Canterbury Board of Education, at their sitting on Wednesday, passed a resolution in favour of the inspection of private schools. We congratulate both the Board and the Catholic body on this fair-minded and long hoped-for resolution. It is a recognition of the just claims of the local Catholic body—claims which, we think, were first forced upon the notice of the general public by the articles of our esteemed predecessor in the editorial chair of the N. Z. TABLET.

The greatest heiress in the world is the baby Grand Duchess Olga, daughter of the Czar. The Grand Duchess was born in 1895 and is the elder of the two daughters. Her bassinets is studded with precious stones and she has a doll whose dress is ornamented with precious emeralds.

By the Government Gazette of March 2nd, we (*Gympie Times*) notice Gympie takes precedence for the number of lots thrown open for selection under the new (1897) Land Act, in the southern division of the Colony with a total of 983. Brisbane comes next 871, and Bundaberg third with 666. The lands mentioned are open for selection by applicants, on and after April 5th.

Messrs. Thomson, Bridger and Co. are the agents for the new metal ceiling process. Metal ceilings have come much into favour in Australia and in the Home countries. The system possesses manifold advantages. The ceilings may be had in any design, suitable for public buildings or private dwellings. The firm are also the agents for Marsellies patent roofing tiles. An advertisement dealing with the matter appears elsewhere.—* * *

Particulars appear elsewhere of a pastoral run in Waitaki County to be opened for application on Wednesday, July 6 prox.—* * *

We cordially recommend our readers who visit Christchurch to stay at Mr. P. Burke's finely appointed hotel, the Café de Paris, Cashel street, which is replete with every modern convenience * * *

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Bricks for the Mansion, Cottage, Stable, Warehouse and Factory: Drain and Sanitary Pipes, Traps, Syphons, Chimney Pots, Chimney Lining, Air Bricks, Tiles, Vases, Open Channelling, etc.

Sole Agent for the celebrated Grey Valley Fireclay Goods, Tiles of all sizes, Bricks of every shape, Blocks, Lumps, Boiler Seats, etc.

Sole Manufacturer of Cuthbert's Patent Disconnecting Gully Trap

Also a Stock for Sale.—Colonial and English Cement, Hydraulic and Stone Lime, Plaster of Paris, Cowhair, Laths, Nails, Sand, Shingle, Rubble, Clay, Grotto, etc.

Manufactory at Farnley, St Martins.

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HOUSE, SIGN, AND DECORATIVE PAINTERS.

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ST. ANDREW STREET, DUNEDIN

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THORNDON QUAY, WELLINGTON

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 Choice and Best Brands. Dunedin XXXX Beer always on tap.

Table d'Hot daily from 12 to 2, and Meals at all hours for travellers
Free Stabling

THE KAITANGATA RAILWAY AND COAL COMPANY, LIMITED.

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.

THE SHAMROCK HOTEL, DUNEDIN.

COUGHLAN BROTHERS

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 excruciations 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,

THOMAS JOHNSTONE,
PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMIST
(Of Ireland),
MANSE STREET, DUNEDIN.

RICHARDTS * HOTEL
QUEENSTOWN, LAKE WAKATIPU,
Otago, New Zealand.

This Hotel is situated on the margin of Queenstown Bay, and commands views of Grand and Magnificent Lake Scenery.

PRIVATE APARTMENTS FOR TOURISTS AND FAMILIES.

Porter meets every Steamer on arrival at the Wharf.

CRAIG AND CO'S COACHES

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

TO TOURISTS, COMMERCIAL MEN, AND THE PUBLIC GENERALLY.

MOUNTAINEER * HOTEL
QUEENSTOWN, LAKE WAKATIPU.

Proprietor - - P. MCCARTHY.

This New and Commodious Hotel has been well furnished throughout and is now one of the most comfortable Houses in Otago. Suites of Rooms have been set apart for Families, and every attention has been paid to the arrangements for carrying on a first-class trade. Bath Rooms.

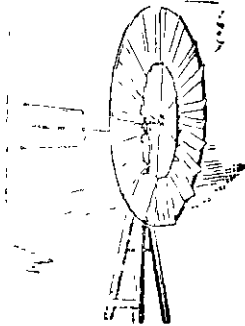
TERMS MODERATE.

Best Brands of Wines, Spirits, and Beers.

FIRST-CLASS SAMPLE ROOM.

A Porter will attend Passengers on the Arrival and Departure of Steamers. First-class Stabling.

Horses and Buggies for Hire.



WINDMILLS, SEED AND GRAIN CLEANING MACHINERY.

JOHN MARSHALL

(Late of Springston)

Has removed to 204 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.

I have had a large experience amongst Harvesting Machinery, and all work entrusted to me will have my most careful attention.

JOHN MARSHALL,
Agricultural Engineer,

204 ST ASAPH STREET, CHRISTCHURCH N.Z.

J. T. CARTER,
42 GEORGE STREET,

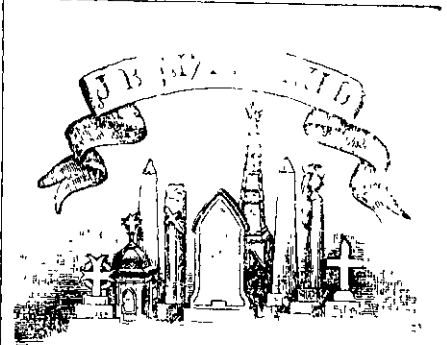
Has just opened a large assortment of CROCKERY AND HARDWARE. Which is now being offered to the public AT THE LOWEST POSSIBLE PRICES.

CALL AND INSPECT.

No So-Called Sale Price but the Genuine Bed-rock Price at

J. T. CARTER'S.

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Near Railway Station,
CHRISTCHURCH.

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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.

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MANUFACTURERS OF
BLINDS OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS.

Venetian Blinds, Self-coiling Shutters with our own patented improvements.

Our Stock of Ladder Web unequalled for Quality, Durability, and Variety.

FACTORY AND SHOWROOMS,
ST. ANDREW STREET, DUNEDIN.

PATERSON, BURK AND CO
VENETIAN BLIND MAKERS,
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We have just received a supply of Patent Improved Venetian Blind Tape, very durable New and Old Blinds fitted with it without extra charge. To be had only from us.

Every description of Calico and Festoon Blinds at Moderate Prices.

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**GENERAL BRASSFOUNDER,
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Manufacturer of High-pressure Water
Fittings, Engineers' and Plumbers' Brass-
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Current Rates

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Dynamo, Engines, and all kinds of Electric
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Long experience has proved the famous remedies to be
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the slighter complaints which are more particularly in-
cidental to the life of a man, or to those living in the
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Occasional doses of these Pills will guard the system
against those evils which so often beset the human race,
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HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT

Is the most effectual remedy for old sores, wounds,
ulcers, rheumatism, and all skin diseases; in fact, when
used according to the printed directions, it never fails to
cure alike deep and superficial ailments.

These Medicines may be obtained from all respectable
Druggists and Store-keepers throughout the civilised
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They are prepared only by the Proprietor, Thomas
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Beware of counterfeits that may emanate from the

**T E R M I N U S H O T E L,
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This Hotel is situated just opposite the
Triangle Gardens, Railway Station, and
Wharves. It is one of the most beautiful
positions in Dunedin. There is no pleasanter
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Only the very best brands of wines, spirits
and beer supplied. Anglers will find good
sport in the neighbourhood as the rivers are
well stocked with trout. Good Stabling.

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LOANS NEGOTIATED.

Grain stored at moderate charges or
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Respectfully request a share of your Pat-
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BEST MANUFACTURES hope to give every
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SPARKLING GINGER ALE, SODA
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ORDERS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.

C O O K I N G R A N G E S

The Patent Prize Range
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Requires no setting, and will burn any Coal.
VERANDAH CASTINGS OF all kinds.
Catalogues on Application.

**B A R N I N G H A M & C O.,
VICTORIA FOUNDRY, GEORGE ST., DUNEDIN
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desires to inform the public he still
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Funerals attended in Town or Country
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Hotel, J. L. hopes, by strict attention to the
comfort of his boarders, travellers, and the
public in general, and having made several
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Suites of rooms for families. Terms
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A Special feature: 1s LUNCHEON from
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Hot, Cold, and Shower Baths.
The very best of Wines, Ales, and Spirits
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A Night Porter in attendance.

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A single article Plated with Silver, Gold, or
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Piano Brackets, Fenders and Irons, Chan-
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**Look at the People
You Meet daily.**



Their faces tell the story
of their lives. They tell
of penury or plenty,
of refinement or coarseness,
of health or disease
Three fourths of these
people are "not up to the
mark." They are not all
"ill," but many of them
are, and few are whole and
heartly. Kidney disease
comes on gradually under
cover of a hundred differ-
ent symptoms: Pickle
appetite, coated tongue,
nausea, indigestion, pallor
of the skin, lassitude,
head-aches, nervousness
or sleeplessness, back-ache,
burning or unnatural
frequency in voiding, es-
pecially at night.

Warner's Safe Cure

Restores the kidneys to healthy
action. Here is one of many
testimonials on this point --

Christchurch, N.Z., Linwood
"Having suffered for years
with severe complications of
the heart, which several doctors
told me was caused by my kid-
neys failing to act properly and
as my medical advisers failed
to do me any good, I was at last
persuaded to try Warner's Safe
Cure. At first I got little bene-
fit, but I persevered, when after
taking this valuable medicine
for nine months, I was com-
pletely restored to health. If
this letter is of any use you
have my full permission to pub-
lish it, for I feel my life has been
saved by Warner's Safe Cure"

CHARLES ARMITAGE.
(Armitage & Co., Importers.)

Irish News.

ANTRIM.—Conversion of Miss Johnston, Ballykilbeg.—Our readers will have already learnt from a paragraph which has appeared in many of the daily papers, of the reception into the Catholic Church of Miss Johnston of Ballykilbeg. Her father, Mr. Wm. Johnston M.P. is well-known as being perhaps the most violent Protestant bigot in all Ireland and the conversion of his daughter has caused a great sensation. The Belfast *Irish Weekly* of April 16 gives the following particulars of this young lady's conversion. 'On Sunday,' (writes our contemporary) 'Miss Ada Johnston, of Ballykilbeg, the highly-accomplished daughter of Mr. William Johnston, M.P. for Belfast was received into the Catholic Church by the Rev. J. F. McCauley, C.C. in St. Patrick's Memorial Church, Downpatrick. Miss Johnston had been attending Catholic services for some time past, and her conversion was not unexpected. Mr. Johnston is a violent anti-Catholic and anti-Home Ruler. He represents the Orange party in Parliament.' A correspondent writes.—'The cause of bigotry in the North of Ireland has not received such a rebuke for some years by any private action, as it has by the fact of William Johnston's daughter becoming a convert to the Catholic Church. To the Orangemen it will be a more bitter pill to swallow than even Home Rule itself, and I should not be surprised if, after all Mr. Johnston had done and suffered for them, they turned their backs upon him and endeavoured to oust him from the representation of South Belfast. And, then, what a figure, in the light of this incident, will Mr. Johnston himself make in the House of Commons as the representative of the most bigoted opposition to the Catholic Church? But let that pass. Of one thing we may be certain, that, apart from his fanatical Protestantism, there are few kinderhearted or more amiable men than the hero of Ballykilbeg. And, as one who knows something of his history, I have no hesitation in saying that he is absolutely honest in his political and religious convictions. It might appear to those who have heard, or read, his declamation about "the glorious blue banner of the Covenant," and "the glorious, pious, and immortal memory," that Mr. Johnston was, in act as well as in principle, an unmitigated bigot. But those Catholics who live in the vicinity of Ballykilbeg

near Ballycastle. For some time past a local syndicate has quietly been making investigations, and according to the report of a mining engineer the field contains over two and a half million tons of coal, somewhat superior to the best Scotch, and quite equal to the average quality burned in London.

ARMAGH.—Bad for the Workers.—So far we have not heard of any of our colonial industries being very seriously affected by the war. In Ireland, however, the disturbing influence which such a contest always has, has already begun to make itself felt. Owing to the depression in the linen and cambric trade the Portadown manufacturers have put their employes on three-quarters time. In consequence of the present unsettled state of affairs in America, manufacturers find it exceedingly difficult to dispose of their goods unless at a sacrifice, and as stocks have accumulated it has been found necessary to reduce the production.

CORK.—A Remarkable Old Man.—We have to chronicle the death of still another Irish centenarian in the person of William Coveney, a peasant of Kilpatrick, who was recently laid to rest in Innishannon chapel-yard. He had lived to the age of 115 years, and was full of interesting memories and reminiscences. He remembered 102 years ago, when he saw a big concentration of troops at Bandon, when the French fleet came to Bantry Bay. He lived at his native place of Cloughduv near Bandon, which town was then a hive of industry, full of tanneries, factories, and mills. On arriving at manhood's years Coveney went to work with a farmer near Kilpatrick, and there he lived for upwards of 90 years. He was able to work as a labourer up to 12 months ago. Coveney was of middle size, strongly built, and full of physical and mental energy. Anybody looking at him would never take him to be much over 60 years of age, for he appeared no way feeble, and his hair—he was not a bit bald—was only grizzled. In his habits he was very simple and abstemious. He smoked but little, and drank moderately. Coveney was twice married: a son Thomas, by the first wife, is living in Queensland, and is 86 years of age. There was an interval of about 30 years between her death and his second marriage. The youngest son of this union is Denis Coveney, who is employed at the Upton Industrial School.

DONEGAL.—The Chief Secretary and the Distress.—Extracts from the letters written by the Bishop of Clogher and

CITY BOOT PALACE.

WE ARE NOT Killing the Dead—not making low prices on poor stuff and blowing about it as a marvel. We are slaughtering the living—hewing down a clean, live stock level with the rubbish that is being associated with cheap prices. It's easy enough to repeat these words, parrot-like, but it makes all the difference in the world who says them.

IMMENSE STOCK OF NEW SEASON'S GOODS JUST LANDED.—SEE AND BELIEVE.

CITY BOOT PALACE

GEORGE STREET, DUNEDIN.

J. McKay

could tell how far the conclusion would be from accurate. There are few men in the district more respected by all classes than is Mr. Johnston, and numerous are the instances which the poorest Catholics give of the kindness and liberality of him and his family. It is remarkable that Mr. Johnston's son, a barrister like himself, is a stout Home Ruler. And now that the accomplished daughter of the Member for South Belfast has found a haven in the True Church, it will be the earnest wish of all Catholics who know Mr. Johnston that he, too, may eventually find, after a life of ineffectual warfare against it, rest and comfort within its bosom.

An Interesting Landmark Removed.—The *Irish Weekly* of Belfast thus describes the history and approaching removal of an interesting landmark of the Catholic faith. One of the well-known and early landmarks of the Catholic faith, as well as a memento of the stirring times of '98, will, in the old parish church at Lisburn, be shortly removed. Many of the old parishioners who were at its building rest peacefully in 'Godsacre,' which adjoins, the inscriptions on the tombstones dating to 1798, while their children perpetuate their faith and nationality scattered throughout the globe. As far as we can learn, the first place Mass was celebrated in the town of Lisburn after the Reformation was in a house in Bow street, opposite to Antrim lane. The site of this 'Mass house' is occupied by Mr. Kilpatrick's shop. The ground of the present church was given by Mr. Teeling, father of the glorious martyr patriot of 1798. The old church was built by Father Magee in 1786, and was a plain, oblong building, with the entrance along the side. Father Dempsey, whose remains repose in the church, added the wing. The Rev. Bernard Dorrian completed the church as it stands by erecting the tower and furnishing the internal fittings, etc. This last addition was made in the year 1841. The other day, while excavating for the new foundations, a pike head was found, and is in possession of the parish priest. Seeing the necessity of having more accommodation for the parish, the Very Rev. Mark McCashin, has, with unwonted energy, undertaken the building of a new edifice, which, when finished, will add another to the stately and magnificent churches in the diocese. The contract for the building, when finished, will cost over £12,000.

A Valuable Discovery.—A very valuable discovery, and one which opens up big possibilities for the future, has just been made in County Antrim. A large bed of coal, four and a half feet thick, covering an area of about five hundred acres, has been discovered

Canon M'Kenna in which it was asserted that the severity of the distress in Donegal was intensified by a plentiful issue of ejectment processes, have already appeared in our columns. Mr. McNeill, M.P., has brought the matter before the notice of the Government, but without affecting any practical result. Mr. McNeill asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland whether his attention has been directed to the letters of the Bishop of Clogher and Canon M'Kenna describing the great distress existing in the parish of Petigo; whether the distress has been aggravated by the issue of ejectment processes, and whether he will direct an inquiry into the state of things existing there. The Chief Secretary replied: 'My attention has been directed to the matter. As regards the alleged distress, it appears from the latest official returns that there are only 36 persons in receipt of outdoor relief in the entire Donegal Union in which Petigo is situated, the population, according to the latest census, being 22,891. The average rate on the union is less than 11d in the £, and it seems to me, under the circumstances, that any isolated cases of distress can easily be provided for by the guardians out of the resources of the rates. I have no information as to the number of ejectment notices issued in the district, but I have cabled for a report on the subject, as well as on the statements in the letter of Canon M'Kenna.' It is the old story. The Irish people ask for bread and they receive a stone.

DOWN.—Church Progress in County Down.—The first Mass in the new church at Teconnaught was celebrated on Sunday, April 17, by the Rev. James M'Ardle, of Crossgan, pastor of Kilmore, in which the church is. The style of the new building is Gothic of a late period, and the dimensions give a nave of 80ft by 32ft. The church will be dedicated by Bishop Henry, of Down and Connor, probably in August. The handsome parish church of Loughbrickland has now a splendid organ procured by the joint efforts of the priests and people of the parish. The instrument is an English organ of great power and sweetness of tone, contains about 20 stops, and is constructed damp-proof throughout.

GALWAY.—A Needed Improvement.—Yielding to strong pressure the Government are taking steps to improve the means of communication for the south-east portion of Galway. At the earnest request of the inhabitants of the south-east district of the County, made through their Member of Parliament, Mr. Roche, and Father Costello, the Government is erecting a pier on the property of Lord Clanrickarde at Rossmore Point in Lough Derg. This will give the

people of Woodford district the benefit of the new Shannon steamer service. Williamstown is also to be provided with a pier.

LIMERICK.—The Influenza Epidemic.—The influenza plague continues its ravages. According to a correspondent, the epidemic in West Limerick shows no signs of abatement, notwithstanding that it is over a month since it set in. In some places it is so severe that the schools have had to be closed. Whole families in several districts are laid up, but fortunately very few deaths have resulted.

WATERFORD.—Spanish Sailors at Queenstown.—On Sunday, April 3, the congregation at last Mass in the Cathedral, Queenstown, included the captain, officers, and crew of the Spanish warship *Osado*. The *Cork Examiner* of a recent date said:—We got an example of how practical Spanish Catholics are from a touching incident in connection with the other Spanish torpedo boat destroyer, *Audez*, which, it will be remembered, had very nearly foundered on the way down to Kingstown, and it was found necessary to put into Waterford Harbour in a disabled state. The escape of the vessel and all on board was providential, and in order to offer special thanksgiving to God for their deliverance from a watery grave, one of the first acts of the master and officers was to arrange for a full attendance of all on board in the Cathedral at Waterford. Such an incident is not often recorded in connection with a ship's crew.

QUEEN'S COUNTY.—An Object Lesson in Technical Education.—We are glad to note that Mr. Seddon proposes to reintroduce during the coming session the Technical Education Bill which was so foolishly rejected last year. An interesting example of what our teachers can do in the way of technical education is furnished by the Presentation Convent, Stradbally, which, notwithstanding its need of funds is doing excellent work in the practical training of girls. The cookery and laundry classes have been most successful and although only inaugurated at the beginning of the present year, the sixty-four pupils of which they consisted gained the highest marks in each subject. By imparting instruction in these departments of household work the good Sisters have provided many poor girls with the means of earning a respectable livelihood at home, instead of swelling the army of useless exiles in America and elsewhere. A public laundry is attached to the Stradbally Orphanage, and is worked by about thirty girls, who are trained there for about three years before being recommended as competent laundresses.

TYRONE.—An Orange Row.—It was hardly to be expected that the blind bigots who compose the Orange Society in Ireland would allow the 98 demonstration to pass without making trouble. According to the Irish correspondent of an American exchange the Orangemen created a big disturbance in Stewartstown on April 11. They anticipated that the Nationalists, who took part in a demonstration at Mullaghmoyle, would parade the town, and Orangemen from the latter and surrounding districts took possession of the square. The Nationalists, on proceeding to the meeting, were attacked by the rowdies. A scuffle ensued, and on the police intervening the Orangemen threw stones and other missiles at them. The police were compelled to use their batons upon the Loyalists, who beat a hasty retreat. At midday the Orangemen attempted to force their way through a file of police, but were repulsed with serious injury to themselves. The authorities had considerable difficulty in keeping both parties from coming in contact, owing to the persistent attitude of the Orangemen in parading. The policemen had to draw their swords, and in the melee an Orange flag was trampled in the mud by the officers of the law.

GENERAL.

The Shamrock in the British Army and Navy.—We referred a week or two ago to the punishment recently by imprisonment of an Irishman in the British navy for wearing a shamrock on St. Patrick's Day and refusing to remove it at the bidding of an Irish-hating officer. It is gratifying to know that there is some influential English opinion on the Irish side in the matter, as we may infer from the following remarks in the London *Saturday Review*:—How much longer are a few wooden-headed officers to be permitted to make mischief and injure discipline by sentencing our soldiers, sailors, and mariners to imprisonment and loss of good conduct marks for wearing the shamrock on St. Patrick's Day? It is worn by viceroys, admirals, generals, and ministers of the Crown, and in these days of "territorialism" in the services, what could be more natural and proper than that men should be encouraged to wear any little bit of colour in which they take pride, and which will tend to make better and not worse soldiers of them?

Declaration by the Irish Bishops: The University Question.—At a quarterly meeting of the Standing Committee of the Archbishops and Bishops of Ireland held Tuesday, April 26, at University College, Stephen's Green, His Eminence Cardinal Logue presiding, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—That we have seen with considerable surprise statements recently made in the public press to the effect that the Irish Bishops have been conducting private negotiations with the Government in reference to the Irish University question. We feel called upon to declare that those statements are without foundation. The views of the Irish Bishops as to the constitution of the new University have been expressed in a document given to the public on the occasion of their meeting last June. In that document they answered every question that had up to that date been raised by responsible statesmen in reference to this matter. They, moreover, declared their readiness to answer any further questions upon the subject that might be put to them by anyone authorised to act on behalf of the Government. Since then no communication of any kind has been made to the Bishops on this subject. They have consequently been debarred from taking any further action in the matter. But they are ready, as they always have been, to facilitate the settlement of this grave matter by further defining their views, if called upon to do so, in reference to any point as to which the

statement issued by them last June may be considered insufficient. We take this opportunity of requesting the Irish members of Parliament to oppose by every means in their power the Estimates for the Queen's Colleges until the Government pledge themselves to bring in a measure to satisfy the admittedly just demands of Irish Catholics in the matter of University education. We also wish publicly to make grateful acknowledgment of the strenuous exertions during the recent debate on the Address of the great body of our representatives to secure the concession of our just rights, so long and so unfairly denied.

The Bishops and the Local Government Bill.—In the same Declaration the Bishops thus express their attitude towards certain clauses in the Local Government Bill:—While, so far as we can foresee, it is not likely that clergymen would seek election under the Local Government Bill, except under very rare circumstances, we must record in the name of the bishops and priests of Ireland our emphatic protest against the disqualifications by Act of Parliament of the clergy of this country for offices to which they ought to be eligible from the very fact of their being citizens, independently altogether of their acknowledged qualifications to serve the public interest on the Boards that are to be constituted under the new Bill.—(Signed) † MICHAEL CARD, LOGUE, chairman; † F. J. J. M'CORMACK (Bishop of Galway and Kilmacduagh), † JOHN HEALY (Bishop of Clonfert), acting secretaries to the meeting. The following Bishops were present:—His Eminence Cardinal Logue, Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland; His Grace the Most Rev. Dr. Walsh, Archbishop of Dublin and Primate of Ireland; the Most Rev. Dr. MacEvilly, Archbishop of Tuam; the Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell, Bishop of Raphoe; the Most Rev. Dr. O'Dwyer, Bishop of Limerick; the Most Rev. Dr. Healy (Bishop of Clonfert) and the Most Rev. Dr. M'Cormack (Bishop of Galway), hon. secretaries.

The Redemptorist Fathers.—The Dublin correspondent of the *Catholic Times* announces that by the authority of the Holy See the houses of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer in Ireland, Australia, and New Zealand, which hitherto formed part of the English Province, have been erected into a distinct province known as the Irish Province of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer. The Very Rev. Father Andrew Boylan has been appointed the first Provincial, and is to reside at Mount St. Alphonsus, Limerick; the Very Rev. Father O'Lavery becomes rector at Limerick; Very Rev. Father Vincent Bourke rector of St. Joseph's, Dundalk, and Very Rev. Father Griffith rector at Clonard, Belfast. The Very Rev. Fathers William Plunkett and Thomas O'Farrell are rectors of the Redemptorist houses in Australia. The Rev. Father Bannon, the zealous director of the confraternity of the Holy Family, Limerick, is about to be transferred owing to ill-health.

The Distress in the West.—The Chief Secretary for Ireland has repeatedly expressed the opinion that the newspaper reports of the distress in the West are grossly exaggerated. He will hardly say the same of the returns furnished by the Registrar-General, which are summarised in *The Freeman's Journal*, from which we take the following:—The average produce all over the country is only two tons per acre, as compared with an average for the preceding decade of 3.7. In other words, the yield of potatoes throughout the country last year was only 59 per cent of an average harvest. In considering that aspect of the question regard must be had to the fact that the preceding 10 years, on which the average is calculated, includes the exceptionally bad years of 1887, 1889, 1890, 1891 and 1896, in two of which years, 1890 and 1894, the yield was practically as bad as the present year being only 2.3 tons per acre in 1890 and 2.6 tons in 1894. The yield of 1897 is the worst since 1879 when the average per acre was only 1.3 tons. Except in the years 1890 and 1894, above referred to, and 1882, when the yield was 2.4 tons, the average of any one year since 1879 did not fall below three tons to the acre. In a good year the yield has gone up to 4.5 tons per acre, and of that standard the last harvest gave only 48 per cent. The book does not give the averages for the counties and provinces, and we have gone to the trouble of calculating them. The failure is distributed over the four provinces as follows, the average in the first column being for the years 1887 to 1896:—

| | Average | 1897 |
|-----------|---------|------|
| | tons | tons |
| Munster | 3.7 | 1.5 |
| Connaught | 3.7 | 1.8 |
| Leinster | 3.6 | 2.1 |
| Ulster | 3.6 | 2.6 |

The provinces are given in the order in which the failure is greatest. In Munster the yield was only 40 per cent of an average; in Connaught it was only 48 per cent; in Leinster, 58 per cent; and in Ulster 72 per cent. In Munster the last harvest breaks the record of 1879. It was the worst since 1846. The yield was only 1.5 tons, as compared with 1.6 tons in 1879. The yield in Connaught is 1.8 tons, as compared with 1.3 tons in that province in 1879. The worst harvest in 1879 was in Ulster, where the yield was only 1.1 tons per acre. Last year Ulster was the least ill-circumstanced province. The yield per acre in Leinster in 1879 was 1.5 tons. Though Ulster was not so badly hit this year as the other provinces, it must be remembered that the failure of 28 per cent of the potato crop followed upon an almost total failure of the flax crop in the previous year. The total loss on potatoes alone is estimated at £2,708,062.

The statistics of the population of Australasia, issued by Mr. Coghlan, N.S. Wales Government statistician, states that the total population at the end of 1897 was 4,410,124, showing a gain for the year of 86,920. The particulars of the increase are as follows:—New South Wales, 25,820; Victoria, 1,291; Queensland, 12,521; South Australia, 2824; Western Australia, 23,962; Tasmania, 5,605; New Zealand, 14,894.

PROSPECTUS
A.M.D.G. ET S.P.H.
(Sectare Fidem.)

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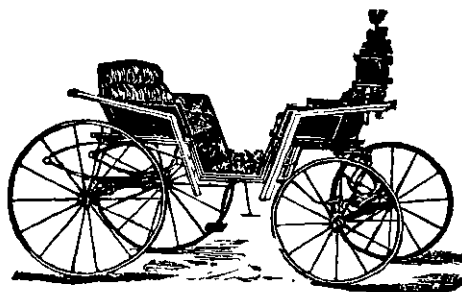
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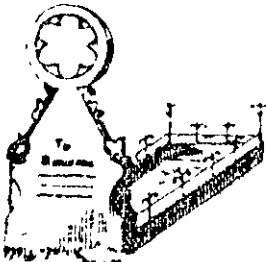
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MERVYN COURT.

(By E. LEAHY, in the *Catholic Fireside*.)

LARGE snow-flakes fell thick and fast, covering with their soft, fleecy mantle the dense, overgrown wilderness of shrubs and bushes surrounding Mervyn Court, and veiling the ivy-covered front of the old house with the same soft white drapery.

Snow was rare in that mild southern climate, and the feathery particles fluttered hither and thither in their descent, as if they had lost their way or were shy of alighting on the shrivelled vegetation.

From one of the windows, deep sunk in the massive stonework of the ancient mansion, a young girl looked forth at the wintry scene, her eyes sparkling with delight as she watched the light flakes whirled wantonly to and fro by the wind.

Although Gladys Luttrell was eighteen years of age, a snow-storm afforded her as much pleasure as when she was a curly-headed fairy of five.

'I will run out and make a pair of snowballs and catch Rex when he comes through the gate. Oh! what fun!' she exclaimed, clapping her hands and running out of the room, with a parting glance in the looking-glass on her dressing-table.

It was a charming image that was reflected in the mirror: eyes blue as the forget-me-not, dancing with fun, a complexion delicate as the bloom of a wild rose, while from under the fur cap which she had donned for her escapade a wreath of golden curls strayed coquettishly over her white brow. Her dress was worn and shabby, but the girl's sweet face and exquisite figure made it as becoming as the finest masterpiece of art and fashion.

She ran lightly down the stairs, opened the hall-door, and, heedless of the elements, flew along the winding avenue bordered by stately trees until she reached the entrance gates, once imposing and massive but now sadly dilapidated. Here she ensconced herself behind a clump of trees which stood like sentinels, and securely hidden waited the expected arrival to make her mischievous onslaught.

'Well played, madcap,' said a fresh young voice, and Rex Mervyn stood for a moment between the headless stone lions which guarded the entrance to Mervyn Court, and replied with a handful of snow to the damp missile which, sped by Gladys' rosy fingers, had struck him in the ear.

'You'll pay for that,' young lady, the first time I get a chance.'

Gladys suddenly flung the second snowball, which she had ready to follow up the attack, carelessly on the ground, and bounding lightly to the young man's side, slipped her hand through his arm.

'Rex, what is the matter with you? You look so sad. I know there is something wrong by your face; tell me, what is it?'

'Yes, my darling, you are right. Since yesterday I have been thinking very seriously over everything and have come to a final decision. I have no secrets from you, and you shall know what it is.'

Gladys' small hand pressed the young man's arm more closely, and for some moments both walked on in silence, broken at last by Rex.

'Three months ago a young man I met in Dublin told me a story which, improbable as it may sound, revived all my hopes. He told me he had received news from a friend in America, which, he thought, would prove beyond doubt Reginald Mervyn's death. I followed up the matter eagerly and gladly, as you can imagine, and I found this report was as groundless as all the others, which have made fools of us. I swore to myself that if this last search failed I would give up all hope and start on some new career, and so Gladys, darling, I am going to Australia.'

'Rex! you are going to leave me,' and withdrawing her hand the young girl stopped and looked at her companion in blank despair.

If the young man had declared he was going to take his life she could not have been more shocked.

'Gladys, do not make my life harder than it is. See, my darling, it will be good for both of us for me to go. We can never marry on the miserable pay that I earn here. In Australia, on the contrary, I shall very soon earn enough to buy the little cottage we so often talk about, and you shall have the pair of ponies with the flowing manes. So cheer up, my darling, it will all come right.'

And Rex drew the slight, trembling figure close to him.

'Or perhaps, if you get rich, we could come back and live here,' said Gladys, for the moment beguiled from her sadness at the thought of the parting from her lover.

'The dear old place! How glad I would be if I were able to restore it to some of its old splendour, but—that can never be,' and Rex sighed heavily.

Rex, the New Year will soon be here, and we are so gloomy and despairing. It is very wrong of us not to be more cheerful during the last days of the dear old year, it is a shame for you, sir.'

'And yet, you little rogue, your eyes are full of tears,' rejoined Rex, looking at her tenderly.

Because I cannot bear the thought of your going away across the sea. Oh, Rex, Rex, it is dreadful.'

'I shall not go for three months. Spring is the best time for such a journey.'

'Three months! That is a long way off yet; perhaps something will happen before then to make you change your mind.'

'You grey old walls,' exclaimed Rex, raising his hand towards the old house, 'why will you not reveal your secret?'

'Be quiet, Rex darling,' said Gladys in a hushed, solemn voice, 'Reginald Mervyn was last seen in that room over there where the

ivy grows thickest round the window. His ghost will appear to you if you talk like that.'

'I wish I could see his ghost, then at least I would be certain he had quitted this mortal life.'

'What good would that do?' The judges would not believe your ghost story any more than they believed the other reports and stories brought to them.'

'That's true, only too true,' sorrowfully acquiesced Rex.

'So now, dear, let us put away our sad thoughts for a while, and for Aunt Letty's sake try to be bright and cheerful, for she deserves that much,' said Gladys with a determined effort to hide her own feelings, which were very far removed from the cheerfulness she was assuming.

Tourists who chanced upon the beautiful corner of Ireland in which Mervyn Court was situated were invariably struck with admiration at the extent and beauty of the demesne, while, at the same time, few could avoid feelings of regret at the sight of the ruin and decay everywhere rampant.

Those strangers who happened to secure the services of Pat Donahoe, the champion jurvey of the village, were fortunate indeed, Pat was a living chronicle of all the stories and legends of the neighbourhood, and he was always in his element when anyone questioned him as to the history of Mervyn Court and the reason of the neglect and desolation which hung like a pall over the beautiful spot.

'Yes, indeed, yer honour,' he would say, 'it's a dreary-looking place now, but when I was a young fellow—that's close on forty years ago—there wasn't a finer nor better kept place in the county. Some of the ould stock still live in the house up there, but they haven't as many pence now as they once had guineas. Shure an' it's some curse must have come upon them, an' little they deserved it, for they were always the rale good sort.'

And Pat would shake his head mournfully and be silent, until adjured by his listeners, whose curiosity he had thus judiciously aroused, to give them the history of Mervyn Court. Then he would launch out and detail the sad story:

'Thirty years ago, yer honour, there was grand doin's in the ould house, that's so lone and desolate looking now. The master, Sir Reginald, was only 25 years of age, an' hadn't long come into his property. He was a fine, handsome jintleman—all the Mervyns are handsome—but had a terrible temper of his own, if anything went again him he would fly out like a madman; still, he was rale kindhearted, an' every wan loved him, an' all the young ladies were dyin' about him, but sorra a wan would be look at save Lady Geraldine Mowbray. An', faix, he had good taste.

'Eh, yer honour, but she was a rale beauty. Molly Brady, the housekeeper up at the house, once showed me her pieter hangin' in wan of the rooms, an' troth she'd turn any man's head. Well, it was aisy to see that Sir Reginald was half crazy about her, an' bedad, she was no better about him. Well, sir, it was all settled, an' the weldin' was to come off in no time, but nothin' would do the young Mather but that Lady Geraldine an' her father an' mother should come an' stay at the Court for a week. Such doin's as was then, nothin' but diversion from mornin' until night.

'Well, yer honour, there was to be a grand ball wan evenin', an' Sir Reginald went to his room in the height of good spirits to dress for the dancing, but from that good hour to this, an' that's thirty years ago come Christmas, not a livin' soul seen nor heard anything of Sir Reginald. High an' low, far an' near, across the say, in furrin' parts, they sarched, but never got tale nor tidin's of him. Some of the people round here, the ould wans, firmly believe the good people took him away, but an' coorse, that's rale nonsense, but the Lord only knows what became of Sir Reginald.

Poor Lady Geraldine was like a mad woman at first, she wouldn't believe them he was gone, an' for years an' years she was always expectin' him to come back, but, at last, the clayther gave up hope, an' pined away. The poor lady's dead these ten year now. There was great commotion all over the country. No one was sartin whether Sir Reginald was livin' or dead, so nobody could get the property. His uncle, Mister Maurice, it was him as should have got the place, came to live at the Court, but not a penny did he get of the rents—they wouldn't even give him as much as would keep the place in order. Mister Maurice died, and left a son—Mather Rex—as fine a young fellow as you'd meet with in a day's journey. With God's help sooner or later, he'll come in for his own, but he must find it very hard to want a five-pound note where there's thousands in the bank belongin' to him.

Mister Rex's aunt, Miss Laetitia Mervyn, lives up in the house beyant with two servants where I remember twinty. She has a lovely young lady livin' wid her, Miss Gladys Luttrell. They say as how she's a cousin of poor Lady Geraldine's and troth she's the born image of her. Anyhow, Miss Laetitia has a little money of her own, and when poor Miss Gladys' father and mother died she adopted her. Mister Rex has some appointment in Dublin, but he very often comes down here. They do say as how he's in love with Miss Gladys, but he has no manes of keepin' a wife; and, faix, people can't live on love.

'Well, yer honour, the queerest thing about it is there's an ould mad woman, Rachel Bray, livin' here in the village, and many think if she had her senses and could spake she'd be able to tell somethin' about Sir Reginald. She was poor Lady Geraldine's maid, and was with her at the Court when all the trouble happened. She was a rale good lookin' girl then, but very proud and reserved in herself, and never made free with the other sarvants. The mornin' that the young mather was missin', they found Rachel Bray—that's her name, sir—lyin' on the flure in a dead faint, and when they brought her to, her senses was clane gone. 'Twas said as how she had taken a letter to Sir Reginald's room the night before, an' every wan thinks she saw somethin' terrible as set her crazy, but the Lord knows what happened. The worst of it all is if she had her senses she, maybe, could help our young master to get his rights. Poor Rachel is very quiet, never a bit o' barrum in her, an' so they let her stay on about the place, an' Miss Letty is rale good to her, sir; the Mervyns was always good to the poor and misforthunit. And now,

yer honour, that's the history of Mervyn Court, an' no wan livin' knows more about it nor I towld ye.

It was the day before New Year's Eve. In an old disused room on the highest storey of Mervyn Court Gladys was busily engaged rummaging among the contents of the dusty, cobweb-covered boxes and chests which had lain there for many a long year. The object of her search was a piece of fur with which to trim a warm crimson jacket for Rachael Bray, the half-witted woman of whom Pat Donohoe had spoken. The winter was a severe one, and the poor creature suffered a good deal from the cold, so Gladys was preparing the jacket as a New Year's gift, which she knew would be the more acceptable, as it gratified Rachael's childish love of bright colours. The search did not seem successful, for after repeated divings into the motley heap which was piled on the floor, Gladys exclaimed in an impatient, vexed tone of voice:

'I have rummaged these old boxes a thousand times, and I might as well have spared myself the trouble. This bit of beaver must do, although I'm sure it is all moth-eaten. I thought I could find an old chinchilla muff of Aunt Letty's, but it seems to have vanished. Oh, you old thing, I'd give anything to know what you contain; if I only had the key I would soon find out.'

This last remark was addressed to an old brass-bound chest which stood in the corner, and was the only one undisturbed by Gladys in her search. As long as the young girl remembered, and she was but four years old when brought to the Court, that old chest had been standing in the same corner.

Many a time in the days of her merry childhood, when running about the silent, lonely house, she made her way to the lumber-room, and jumping upon the old chest kicked her little heels merrily against its solid sides. Even in those days its contents were the object of much speculation and curiosity on the part of Gladys, and as she grew older her desire to solve the mystery grew stronger. Her youthful imagination pictured the old chest as a fairy storehouse of all sorts of wonderful things, if she could only open it.

Long years before Gladys was born that old trunk was locked and placed in the corner where it stood, with strict orders from Miss Letty that no one was ever to disturb it. The old lady kept the key in some unknown place, and no one, not even Gladys, her spoiled pet and darling, had ever got the least hint as to the contents of the mysterious chest.

'Listen, my young people,' said Aunt Letty, as she sat, that evening, round the fire with Gladys and Rex.

'To-morrow will be New Year's Eve, and this year we have made no preparation for marking the passing away of the last hours of the old year. I am very sorry, for never since these walls were built has this happened before, except, indeed, on one occasion.' The old lady paused and sighed deeply.

'It is true, dear children, that you have never known anything here but the simplest pleasures, but still, you know, we always made some change from the daily round at Christmas and the New Year. This year, I need not tell you, has pressed heavily upon us; we cannot afford any outlay, and without money nothing can be done in the way of merry-making. The thought that Christmas Day passed away like any other day saddened me very much, and so I have made up my mind that our Gladys, at least, shall have a little pleasure, and to-morrow evening she shall open the old trunk here in this room.'

If Miss Mervyn had announced that the heavens would fall Gladys and Rex could not have looked more astonished.

But the girl's astonishment soon changed to wild delight. She kissed and hugged the old lady in the exuberance of her gratitude, thereby considerably deranging her cap.

'How sweet of you, Aunt Letty!' Oh, how sweet of you! That is really the only pleasure I wished for; there could be nothing in the world nicer. Only think, Rex,' she added, turning to him, 'we may open the old chest and see what it has held all these years. I shall scarcely sleep a wink to-night. Rex, why don't you thank Aunt Letty? You are just as curious as I am about the old chest, but you wouldn't admit it for the world.'

'Oh, children, that will do,' cried Aunt Letty nervously. 'I am quite satisfied with your thanks; it is very good of you, dears, to be so pleased with the trifling pleasure a poor old woman can give you.'

New Year's Eve dawned cold and clear. A thick mantle of snow covered the earth, and pendant icicles adorned every branch.

The sitting-room, which the inmates of Mervyn Court had redeemed from the general desolation, looked cosy and bright, not alone in the glow of the ruddy firelight, but in the still brighter glow reflected from the young and happy faces gathered there. Gladys, brimming over with expectant delight, was radiant.

'Look, Rex,' she cried, 'look how the firelight is shining this evening on Lady Geraldine's portrait. One would think she was smiling at us. How sweet and lovely she must have been!'

'Very lovely,' replied Rex, 'and you are very like her.'

'You dreadful hypocrite, do you think that I believe a word—'

A clattering noise interrupted Gladys.

'The chest, the chest,' she cried, flying across the room to open the door.

Miss Mervyn came in, followed by two men carrying the chest, at last removed from its long abiding place.

'Here, here, on the hearth,' said Gladys, and the young men laid down their burthen, received each a half-crown as a New Year's gift, and departed highly pleased.

'Now, my Gladys,' said Aunt Letty, 'as I know your patience and curiosity are on the rack I shall let you open the old chest,' and she handed the girl the key.

Gladys's fingers were trembling so that it was only after some time and with Rex's help that she was able to turn the key in the lock.

Slowly she raised the lid and a faint perfume floated upwards. Gladys removed some sheets of tissue paper and there lay revealed a dress of pale blue brocade, dulled and faded, the bodice trimmed with costly pearl embroidery and rare old lace, a pearl necklace, a chaplet of pearls for the hair, an ivory fan exquisitely painted—all, all dimmed, yellowed with age.

Dead silence fell on the little group as they stood round these faded relics of the past. At last Gladys raised her eyes to Lady Geraldine's picture, and Miss Mervyn, interpreting the glance, answered it.

'Yes, child, that is the dress Lady Geraldine wore when her portrait was painted. The last time I saw her in it was that dreadful night 30 years ago,' and Aunt Letty's eyes filled with tears and she shuddered at the remembrance of the long-past horror, 'when poor Geraldine, half dazed with grief, went away from us. I packed this dress, which she wore on that unlucky night, with some old letters and a diary in which the poor girl had recorded her boundless love for him who was gone, into this old trunk, and as I could not bear the idea of strangers' hands ever touching these things, I had the chest put away in the corner of the lumber-room, and it has not been opened since. To-day I have dragged these poor relics of the past into the light again; but we here all love and honour her memory. My poor Geraldine, my lovely bird, yours was a sad fate.'

Carried away by these memories so vividly recalled, the old lady fell into a reverie, and seemed quite oblivious of those around her. Putting her finger to her lip to enjoin silence on Rex, Gladys slipped quietly out of the room.

Suddenly Miss Mervyn started and cried out half in wonder, half in fear. There beneath the portrait stood Lady Geraldine herself. Could the dead come back? For a moment Miss Letty thought she was dreaming, until Gladys with a merry laugh dispelled the illusion.

'Do you think I am a ghost, Auntie?'

It was indeed Gladys, who in her ill-fated kins-woman's dress so marvellously resembled her as to startle not only Miss Mervyn but also Rex.

'Child, child! you are really—'

Aunt Letty was interrupted by another and still stranger apparition at the door. It was that of a woman whose tall form was slightly bent and wasted to a shadow.

'Why, Rachel, how is it you have come to see us this evening? you generally avoid the house,' said Miss Mervyn in a kind voice.

'As I was passing I looked through the window and saw that my Lady Geraldine is here, and I came in to ask her if she wanted me to-night,' and the poor wasted figure dropped a low curtsy to Gladys.

'How strange! I think this is the first time since she lost her reason that Rachel has uttered her mistress's name. The sight of Gladys in that dress must have stirred up her memory.'

'Your ladyship will not walk on the terrace to-night with Sir Reginald,' said the mad-woman.

'For Heaven's sake do not disturb her train of thought! Perhaps we may glean something, if not all, from her, for if there is one on earth who can reveal the truth it is this woman, says Miss Mervyn, trembling with excitement.

'Where is Sir Reginald?' asked Rex suddenly, in a stern voice.

The old woman turned on him angrily.

'Who are you that want to tear my secret from me?'

'I will do you no harm,' rejoined Rex soothingly; 'you can tell me everything.'

'But not before her,' and Rachel's voice sank to a whisper as she pointed to Gladys.

In obedience to a sign from Aunt Letty, Gladys, pale and trembling, slipped behind a portière, whence she could, unseen, hear all that passed.

'Where is Sir Reginald?' repeated Rex, who was so overcome as to be obliged to lean against an armchair.

'At the bottom of the old well under the sun dial. I saw him fall in, and then all was dark before me—and before him too. Ha, ha!'

The listeners' hearts throbbled wildly, and for a moment or two Rex felt unnerved. With a great effort he regained composure, and fixing a stern gaze on Rachel addressed her again.

'Speak on. How did he fall in?'


'It was night. Outside the moon hid herself in dark clouds and wouldn't look at the earth. My Lady had written a note to Sir Reginald telling him she loved him and would marry him. She trusted me with all her secrets, and what she didn't tell me I found out by reading her letters. My Lady had another lover at Mervyn Court who wanted to marry her too, but she hated him. That night, it was New Year's Eve, she gave me two letters, one for the man she loved and the other a scornful refusal to the man who pursued her with his love. That day I was raging with Sir Reginald because he had abused the Jews—my people. To punish him, I put the note with my Lady's bitter words in the envelope addressed to him and kept back her loving words.

'When Sir Reginald read the letter he grew pale as death and clenched his hands, and then, without a word, he dashed down the small secret staircase that led from his room to the garden. I called to him but he did not mind me, but ran blindly down towards the lake. I was frightened at what I had done, and I followed him, but suddenly he disappeared before my eyes. That minute I knew what had happened, but my tongue was paralysed with terror. He had gone headlong into the old well, that dreadful well, which is so deep and black that people say the devil comes up through it when he comes on earth, and there he lies at the bottom of it. What a funny grave for a lord of Mervyn, isn't it?' And the mad woman burst into a wild fit of laughter and then fell unconscious on the floor.

That was a sleepless night for the inmates of Mervyn Court. Rachel's story had thrilled her listeners and set their hearts wildly

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beating. What a bright future opened before them if her statement were true! Rex would obtain his rights, Gladys' hopes and wishes would be realised, and Aunt Letty's cares were all at an end.

The next day an exploration of the old well, which was dry, put the truth of Rachael's sad story beyond all question. In it were found the remains of a human skeleton, together with the watch and signet-ring of the unhappy Baronet, thus dispelling the mystery which had so long enshrouded his fate. The remains of the long-lost Sir Reginald were laid to rest with his ancestors in the old churchyard, and his young kinsmen entered upon his inheritance.

A month later there was great rejoicing at Mervyn Court at the wedding of young Master Rex, as the people still fondly called him, with Gladys Luttrell.

'Just think, Rex,' said Lady Mervyn, 'that we have to thank the old chest for all our good luck. I always believed that it contained a charm, and you see I was right.'

A PLEA FOR RELIGION IN THE SCHOOL.

TIME and patience and 'pegging away' will probably in due course solve the education difficulty. In the meantime the disastrous results attending the atheistic or godless system in Christian lands will awaken the public mind to its inherent and inseparable dangers. The greatest minds are gradually coming around to a frank recognition of the stand taken by Catholics in these colonies. One of the latest of these was Lord Cross, who was Secretary of State under the Derby Administration. Speaking at the opening of new Church of England schools at Penzance, he referred to the absolute necessity of maintaining the Voluntary schools of the country. He was afraid, he said, that the object of many persons of late was to destroy the Voluntary schools for the purpose of creating universal Board schools and School Boards, and he heartily hoped and believed they would fail in their attempt. He had read with very great pain some statements recently made by the president of the National Teachers' Union, who wished to dissociate secular and religious teaching. The president, however, forget to draw a distinction between instruction and education. Not only must a child be taught the way he should go, but religious truths, which ought to be at the bottom of all lives, must also be put into his mind for the benefit of the child and the State. Between 1870—when the School Boards were established—and 1896 the Voluntary school accommodation had exactly doubled itself—a fact which showed that there was in the minds of the people of this country, and not simply confined to Church-people, a determination that their children should be given education grounded on religion, and that they should be taught religious truths. If Voluntary schools were to be continued, they must insist that the secular education given therein should equal that of the Board schools. Referring to the question of secondary education, Lord Cross said he was extremely anxious that this country should organise a system of secondary education without delay, and he was happy to say that the Duke of Devonshire was determined that they should have such a system at the earliest possible day. He was convinced that if the nation failed to provide this, the nation would be the first to suffer.

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DR. WILLIAMS, of Pink Pills fame, is forcing this fact home in all civilised countries every day. A case in point, illustrating, comes from Melbourne. So says the *Advocate* :—

'The greatest and most extraordinary miracle which has ever occurred in Victoria is undoubtedly the recovery of Dave Kirk, the popular and dashing ex-champion cyclist, who over a year ago, when training on the track at the Scotch College, Melbourne, was hurled from his machine and thrown with incredible rapidity and violence on the hard ground. The tire of his leader burst, and thus the fateful accident was occasioned. Kirk was picked up from where he lay in a senseless heap, and was carried quite unconscious to the Melbourne Hospital. All the many resources of that institution were brought into play for the relief of the patient, but the grave looks of the surgeons in attendance plainly indicated that they entertained but slight hopes of the young man's ultimate recovery. An eminent member of the profession expressed it as his opinion that Kirk would never again rise from his sick-bed. For seven trying months of pain and suffering poor Dave lay 'twixt life and death—unable to stir hand or foot, unable even to move, a victim of spinal disease, pleurisy, dysentery, complete paralysis of the body, and last, but by no means least, locomotor ataxia, a terrible complaint which utterly prostrates the human frame and destroys the power of the will; so much so that the common functions of nature are performed by a power extraneous to the will. An idea of the dreadful injuries sustained by the patient may be gathered from the following details gleaned from Kirk by our representative. His left heel had to be removed, and 32 stitches were inserted in that part of his foot, 18 being placed in his right leg. The kneecap was smashed, and had to be lifted. Altogether, seven surgeons had to do with the sufferer, who was reduced to a very weak and

comatose state after nine operations had been performed on him. Mortification set in in parts of the lower limbs, and artificial means had to be employed to draw off the urine. The system was washed internally four times every day with water and carbolic acid, the stomach being cleaned out by means of a tube. Injections were also largely employed. This was a most singular case, and one which must have afforded ample play for the physicians' skill and experiment, yet it remained for Dr. Williams' Pink Pills to effect a radical and complete cure.'

References to the accident appeared in the *Melbourne Herald*, *Argus*, and other papers.

The *Herald*, of October 9, '96, said :—'Dave Kirk, residing at the Coffee Palace, Victoria-street, North Melbourne, sustained severe injuries this afternoon through falling from his bicycle while training on the track at the Scotch College ground. The tire of his bicycle burst, and Kirk was thrown violently to the ground. He was removed in a cab to the Melbourne Hospital.'

The *Argus*, about a month later, said :—'Everyone has heard of Kirk, the crack racer. About a month ago he met with an accident whilst training, and has been in the Melbourne Hospital ever since. The medical authorities say that he will never ride again, as his spine has been so badly hurt that he will likely be paralysed for life.'

Our statements are consequently borne out by Press-reports. But to continue our story :—

After seven months of bedridden existence in the Melbourne Hospital, Dave Kirk, left that institution with faint hopes of ever being able to get about without the aid of crutches, and with all hopes vanished as to his being again able to enter the cycle arena, where, prior to his accident, he had been a prominent form. In May last Kirk's friends, being impressed by the numerous and authentic cures effected by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills under all conditions, induced him to give them a trial as a last resource. We will give it in his own words his account of the change resulting from their use. He says :—'Gradually the sense of numbness began to disappear, and the extremities acquired by degrees their wonted healthy glow and warmth. While under treatment in the hospital the sense of feeling entirely disappeared, so much so that when the surgeons would put a needle into any part of my body I was absolutely insensible to the fact. To be sure of the absence of the sense of touch, the doctors would conceal my vision, and then question me as to the part they were piercing; but my answers clearly proved to them that I was absolutely bereft of all sensibility! As a final test as to my sense of feeling, I received a shock from a powerful galvanic battery—a shock so strong that the operator declared it to be half a volt more than had been given to anyone in the institution for 40 years—but I was unable to feel its effect. After a month's trial of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills I was able to throw aside my crutches. But one of the most powerful effects of the pills was the restoration of functional health. Bowel troubles had been a terrible trial to me ever since the day I met with the accident. Regularity in this direction was perfectly set up, and I am now, after four months' taking of these pills, in the enjoyment of perfect health.' It wanted no assurance of this, as those who had seen the subject of this narrative are not slow to express their surprise at the picture of health and almost completely resuscitated power of body and mind presented in the person of Dave Kirk.

A short time ago Dave gave a practical illustration of his restored vitality by pluckily capturing a young fellow (who had stolen one of his bicycles) of heavier build than himself, and after vanquishing him in a willing encounter lodged him in the lock-up. An account of the capture appeared in the *Age* of 23rd September. He (Kirk) is able to trench his large garden, and walks daily two miles to and from his business place.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People are not a patent medicine, but are a thoroughly scientific preparation, the result of years of careful study on the part of an eminent Edinburgh University physician, and they were successfully used by him in his everyday practice for years before being offered for general sale. They positively cure rheumatism, sciatica, lumbago, neuralgia, and influenza's evil after effects, and are a specific for all diseases of women, such as anemia, poor and watery blood, female irregularities, nervous headache, and hysteria. They are not a purgative medicine, but brace up and permanently strengthen the whole system.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are obtainable from all leading chemists, or from the Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Wellington, New Zealand, who will forward (post paid) on receipt of stamps or post order, one box for 3s. or half-a-dozen for 16s. 6d.

A French scientific journal publishes some particulars as to the consumption of tobacco, which is decreasing in that country, being at the present time about 2lb per head of the population annually, whereas in Holland it is 7lb, in the United States 5lb, in Belgium and Germany 3lb, in Austria-Hungary 2½lb, and in Canada about 2½lb. The consumption in Sweden and Russia is about the same as in France (2lb), while in Great Britain it is not quite 1½lb. The same statistician is also responsible for the calculation that the consumption of matches in Europe is 2,000,000,000 in the course of 24 hours, being on the average 12 per head of the population in Germany, 9 in Belgium, 8 in England, and only 6 in France, where they are of such bad quality that one would have supposed the consumption must be proportionately greater than in any other country.

Mr. P. LONDON, Phoenix Chambers, Wanganui, is still busy putting people on the soil. He has also hotels in town and country For Sale and To Let. Write to him.—*.*

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TESTIMONIAL.

April 30, 1898.

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