

## O B I T U A R Y.

## MR. C. M. MOUAT.

PROFOUND regret was manifested throughout Dunedin on Friday last when the intelligence came to hand of the painfully sudden death of Mr. C. M. Mouat, B.A., LL.B., who was in partnership with his father, Mr. John Mouat, solicitor, of this city. The deceased gentleman, during his comparatively short connection with the Bar, had proved himself to be singularly gifted with many qualities which pointed to his professional career being crowned with every success. He also manifested a keen interest in public questions and public institutions generally. He was a member of the City Council, vice-president of the New Zealand Natives' Association, and was connected with several other bodies. When the news of his death came to hand his Honour Mr Justice Pennefather took occasion to voice his sympathy and the sympathy of the members of the legal profession with the deceased's family in their distressing bereavement. Although the late Mr. Mouat was known to be in delicate health no immediate danger was dreamt of, and consequently his death was a shock to all his friends. He died on the 24th inst. at Milton, where he was acting in the place of Mr. Donald Bell, solicitor, who is at present in America. The funeral took place on Sunday last, and a most large number who followed the remains to their last resting place in the Northern Cemetery were the members of the Law Society, the City Council, the Savage Club, the University Students' Association, the Licensed Victuallers' Association (to which body deceased was solicitor), and the New Zealand Natives' Association. The flag on the Town Hall was displayed half-mast high as a mark of respect to the deceased. The Rev. Father Murphy officiated at the grave. —H.I.P.

## MRS. JOHN SULLIVAN.

Almost ere the wedding bells had ceased breathing forth their joyful music (writes a Temuka correspondent), the death bell was heard. It is sad to have to chronicle death in youth, and more so the death of one who was but one month wed and only 25 years of age. The person to whom I refer is Mrs. John Sullivan, of Kerrytown Road, daughter of Mr. Timothy McGillicuddy, near Oriri. It seems that on the evening of July 18th Mrs. Sullivan went out into the yard, and, it being dark, she accidentally ran against a horse. Serious consequences followed the fright she received, and, despite the skill of Dr. Hayes (Temuka) and Dr. Thomas (Point), she died on the 21st of the same month. The funeral took place on Sunday, the 24th.—R.I.P.

## '98 CELEBRATION AT WAIMATE.

THE gentlemen to whom has been entrusted the task of making arrangements for the celebration of the '98 Centenary at Waimate have not been letting the grass grow under their feet. The result of their efforts has been a splendid programme which will be presented at the Oddfellows' Hall, Waimate, on August 11. The chair will be taken by the Rev. George Barclay, and speeches will be delivered by the Rev. James Goggin, of Christchurch, and Mr. A. R. Barclay, B.A., LL.B., of Dunedin. The concert committee has secured the services of first-class singers from Christchurch, Timaru and Dunedin, while the ladies' committee have been actively engaged in making provision for refreshments. The proceeds of the conversation are to be sent to Ireland to relieve the terrible distress existing there, so that on this account alone, apart from national sentiment evoked by the memories of glorious '98, there should be a bumper house.

## THE BIBLE IN THE SCHOOLS.

A WRITER in the *Otago Daily Times* of August 2 has the following regarding the use of the Irish Scripture Text-book which our Presbyterian friends and others desire to introduce into the State schools of this colony—a project which, he says, has 'little support' among the Presbyterian laity:—

'Outside of Ireland, the book is only in use in New South Wales, where it is far from giving general satisfaction. In Ireland, the home of its birth, although used in certain schools, it is tabooed by the Catholic Church. Some time ago it was positively affirmed by its advocates in the colony, by way of a great recommendation, that the book had been approved of by the Catholic authorities elsewhere, and would consequently be welcomed by that body in New Zealand.

'In Victoria about a year ago an agitation was started in favour of the Irish Text Book. Our late distinguished visitor, Dr. Clifford, when in Melbourne was consulted, and his most emphatic condemnation of the book caused it to be dropped. Dr. Copland and the Synod's committee at his back are apparently not so susceptible to reason as their Victorian brethren. This is what Dr. Clifford says:—"In New South Wales the Irish National Scripture Lesson Books are used. I have examined them, and I am sorry to find that some of the people in Victoria and in New Zealand are pleading for their use in those colonies. So far as I can judge those colonies are better as they are. The Irish selections are a mistake. They are ill-chosen, the translation is poor, turgid, loose. It is neither Douay nor Authorised Version. The notes contain statements and suggest questions that are inappropriate for children.'

Briscoe's new sea-on teas (1898-99) are now in the market. The well-known Sir Isaac, Golden Crest, Silver Crest and Avondale brands are offered to the public. \* \*

## THE WAR.

## WHAT THE CABLES SAY.

THE cable intelligence during the week has been mainly confined to the peace negotiations which have been going on between Spain and America. The American Cabinet has informed the Spanish Government that the basis of peace negotiations must be the absolute cession to America of all the Spanish West Indian islands, excepting Cuba; the relinquishment of Spanish authority over Cuba, America controlling the island until a stable Government has been established; the cession of a coaling station in the Ladrone Islands, and perhaps another coaling station in the Caroline Islands; the non-assumption by America of the debts of Cuba and Porto Rico. If the above concessions are granted America will claim no war indemnity.

A joint commission is suggested to arrange the terms of peace, conditional upon all the Spanish troops being immediately removed from Cuba and Porto Rico. Spanish authorities consider the American demand for the surrender of Porto Rico and the refusal to recognize the Cuban and Porto Rico debts to be flagrant injustice. M. Cambon, the French Ambassador at Washington, is acting as the fully accredited representative and envoy on behalf of Spain. He has induced President McKinley to modify the terms of peace. The point of modification either extends the date of the armistice or affects the extent of American interests in the Philippines. The American newspapers generally declare that it would be imbecile on the part of America to hand the Philippines back once more to the rule of Spain. The American Peace Commissioners will probably be General Woodford (who was American Minister at Madrid when the war was declared), Mr. Richard Olney (the former Secretary of State), General Benjamin F. Tracey, and Mr. G. F. Edmonds.

A later cable states that with regard to the Philippines it is proposed that America shall control Manila and the adjacent territory. The future of the Philippines is to be determined later on, when America has been informed what obligation she has incurred with the insurgents. Spain is warned that the questions of the cession of the West Indian islands and a coaling station at the Ladrone cannot form subjects for discussion.

Meantime there are indications that the insurgents at the Philippines will give trouble. Admiral Dewey, in command of the American fleet at Manila, has telegraphed that Aguinaldo, the insurgent leader, who was brought from Hongkong by the Americans, in order to lead the insurgents in harassing the Spanish troops, is now boldly defiant. He recently proclaimed himself dictator. Admiral Dewey adds that there are strong indications that before America could govern the Philippines it would be necessary to fight the insurgents led by Aguinaldo. A strong American force would be required to defeat the insurgents.

## DEATH OF PRINCE BISMARCK.

INTELLIGENCE as to the death of Prince Bismarck was received by cable on Sunday last. The great German ex-Chancellor passed away at 11 o'clock on Saturday night last. He had been seriously ill for some time, but no immediate danger had evidently been anticipated. He rallied so strongly on Thursday as to permit of his medical attendant (Dr. Schweningen) returning to Berlin for luncheon. On Saturday the Prince jocularly discussed politics, especially the relations of Germany with Russia and other powers. During the afternoon he experienced a severe attack of oedema of the lungs, and was frequently unconscious. Dr. Schweningen, who was summoned, arrived shortly before the ex-Chancellor's death. Prince Bismarck died in the arms of the doctor, all the family being present. Some accounts state that he had hard suffering in his mortal agony, crying aloud with anguish, while other accounts say that he died easily and painlessly. With his last words he thanked his daughter for wiping his brow. He desired to be buried at Varzin beside his wife.

The German Emperor was at Bergen when he received the news and was deeply affected. He ordered the flags of his yacht to fly at half-mast, and directed a guard of honour to be sent to Friedrichsruhe. The Emperor at once returned to Kiel.

Profound national sorrow has been expressed throughout Germany. Flags were lowered half-mast everywhere. The newspapers appear in mourning, and eulogise the immortal services to Fatherland of the deceased Prince.

The references to the deceased statesman have been markedly eulogistic, except perhaps the French Press which referred to his work as glorious, but qualified their praise by stating that his methods were infamous and unjust. Some French papers declare that the memory of French defeats disappears with Prince Bismarck.

The Russian Press declare him the greatest diplomatist that the world has ever known. The *Times*, commenting on Prince Bismarck's death, says that the greatest personality in Europe is removed. All the British, Continental, and American newspapers recognise the Prince's consummate statesmanship. The Italian and Austrian papers are particularly sympathetic and unstinting in their praise.

Signor Crispi, the ex-Italian Premier, in a letter to the *Tribune*, says that Germany ought to treat Prince Bismarck's remains in a similar manner to England's treatment of Mr. Gladstone. Europe, he says, has lost two political giants and men of mighty talents.

Persons contemplating entering the hotel business will be interested to learn that Messrs. Dwan Brothers, of Wellington, advertise in this issue several hotel properties both in the North and South Island. \* \*