

NEW ZEALAND: GENERAL.

THE stranded steamer *Mapourika* is to be refloated on the 8th inst.

THE University Senate has agreed to the affiliation of the Victoria College, Wellington.

VERY REV. FATHER MCKENNA has resigned his seat on the Masterton Hospital Board.

IN consequence of illness in his family Captain Russell, leader of the Opposition, has been compelled to postpone his political campaign.

Rev. Father Kreymborg desires to acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of 10s for his mission from two ladies of Lawrence per Very Rev. Dean O'Leary.

OUR telegrams to-day (writes the *Imangahua Times*) contain the news that Kate M-Namara and Ethel Gibbie have passed the Junior Civil Service Examination. Both have been pupils at the Reciton Convent High School.

WE have received the sum of 10s for Father Lighthouse's mission from Mr. P. Creahan, Winton, and parcels of used stamps for Father Kreymborg from Miss Agatha O'Connor, Cargill street, Dunedin, Mrs. W. Kelly, Rose Cottage, Pahiatua, Mr. John Collins, Nelson Creek, Mr. David E. Fouhy, Roxburgh, Miss Gertrude Adams, Ashburton.

WE hear that the Catholics of Maniototo have succeeded in purchasing a section in the township of Ranfurly as a site for a church. The section is in a very suitable situation and is very nearly 6 acres in area. The negotiations for the purchase were carried out by Mr. P. Bleach of Ranfurly on behalf of the Catholics of the district.

WE notice that among the successful candidates (says the *Temuka Leader*) at the Civil Service Examination recently held was Miss Katie Bourke, eldest daughter of Sergeant Bourke, erstwhile of Temuka. Miss Bourke was educated in the Temuka Convent until she removed to Christchurch, where she has attended the convent of that city.

THE Catholics of Middlemarch have purchased a fine site for a church adjoining the railway line in their town. The Catholic householders of the district have formed themselves into a committee for the purpose of raising funds for the erection of a suitable church on the newly purchased site. A meeting was held last Saturday week. Another is to be called shortly for the same purpose.

MR. J. M. HICKSON, Clerk of the Court at Masterton (says the *local Times*), has received notice from headquarters of his speedy transfer to Wellington, with promotion. Mr. Hickson has filled his office most ably since his stay in Masterton, and has earned the esteem of all who have come in contact with court work. Mr. Hickson is brother of the Rev. Father Hickson, late of St. Patrick's College.

THERE was a large attendance of members at the last meeting of the Ashburton Catholic Literary Society. Mr. P. Cooper (president) occupied the chair. The programme for the evening was a debate as to whether women should be admitted to Parliament. Mr. Cooper spoke in support of the proposition, and Mr. Burgess against it. After a very good debate a vote was taken, with the result that Mr. Burgess's opinions were approved of by a small majority.

TWO of Mr. B. J. Dolan's pupils entered for the recent teachers' examinations and both passed (says the *Wairarapa Daily Times*). Mr. Balfour Kean securing a full E certificate and partial D, and Miss Maggie Smith partial E. Out of nine of Mr. Dolan's pupils presented for the various public examinations throughout the educational year eight passed successfully, five with marked distinction. Miss A. M. Brown secured second place in jurisprudence at Otago University, and Messrs. Alpass, Hughan, Ferns, and Colway first-class honours at the South Kensington examinations in agricultural chemistry.

INTERCOLONIAL.

Our Australian exchanges record the death of the Rev. James Healy, at Kyneton, Victoria.

At the coming elections in South Australia the Catholics will make a claim for justice on the education question. All they want is a capitation grant.

A new convent was blessed and opened at Millicent, South Australia, on Feb. 1. Dean Ryan delivered an eloquent address on the education question.

The death is announced of Mrs. J. D. Woods, at East Torrens, South Australia. The deceased lady was the second daughter of James Griffin, the elder brother of the late Gerald Griffin, the celebrated Irish poet and novelist.

A Brisbane message states that the steamer *Ningchow* is loading 500 fat bullocks and 1000 sheep for Delagoa Bay, South Africa. The shipment is the first of the kind from Australia to South Africa. It is made by Mr. H. Sleigh, of Melbourne. The stock sold will go to the Transvaal. If the venture is successful others will follow.

The Rev. Father O'Callaghan, who had been in charge of the parochial district of Pymont and Ultimo, Sydney, was entertained at a social gathering and presented with a purse of sovereigns prior to his departure for Europe. Rev. Father McIntyre, of Leichhardt, takes up Father O'Callaghan's duties.

A proof that the Adelaide Hospital microbe is still lively was given recently, when the members of a city bowling club black-balled Dr. Leith Napier when he sought to join their very select association. Never previously had a ballot been demanded when a gentleman was proposed for membership.

An alleged sea serpent has been found dead on the beach at Suwarrow Island, in the neighbourhood of the New Hebrides. A portion of the remains has been brought to Sydney. The animal was described as being 60ft in length, and as having two spines and two heads. Suwarrow is a small place, and was annexed by Great Britain about 10 years ago, together with a few other islands, as likely to be useful in connection with the projected cable from Australia to Vancouver.

SPEAKING at the Presbyterian General Assembly at Wellington, the Rev. Mr. Gillies said he did not think the Christian Endeavour movement was doing the great amount of good work that it was represented to be doing. True religion, he added, was not all in the tongue and the heels—in the tongue by speaking and in the heels by running to meetings every night in the week. A great many of those who spoke at Christian Endeavour meetings would often be better employed at home helping their mothers to darn socks. It is only fair to say that Mr. Gillies's opinions met with strong dissent from many members of the assembly.

St. Joseph's Church, Orange, New South Wales, has been recently improved and enlarged at a cost of £4500. The ceremony of blessing and formally opening the church, which is to all intents and purposes a new building, took place on Sunday, February 12. Besides the Bishop of Bathurst (Right Rev. Dr. Byrne) there were also present the Right Rev. Dr. Higgins, Auxiliary-Bishop of Sydney; the Right Rev. Dr. Gallagher, Coadjutor-Bishop of Goulburn; and the Right Rev. Dr. Dwyer, Coadjutor-Bishop of Maitland, as well as a large number of clergy, and visitors from Sydney and elsewhere. The sermon at High Mass was preached by Bishop Higgins, and at Vespers by Bishop Gallagher. The collection amounted to over £1300. After the ceremony the Right Rev. Dr. Byrne, the visiting prelates, the clergy, and a number of visitors were entertained at dinner by Mr. James Dalton, K.S.G., at Duntry-league House.

The Anglican organ in Adelaide has the following in reference to the school question:—Archbishop O'Reilly has returned to the charge on the matter of denominational grants for Church schools. It is much to be regretted that the Anglican body, so much more numerous, influential, and wealthy than the Roman, cannot present an equally determined front against the lovers of non-religious education. The Roman Church can make its voice felt politically because it is united. The Anglican Church is barely reported by the Press because it has no political vote. We believe that the Roman Catholics will get their denominational grant, and that it will be refused to all others; and this because our side is weakened by those who refuse to care for really Catholic teaching. If Synod were unanimous, the Church could dictate terms. So long as it is divided she must perforce be left out of account, and see her children half taught in Sunday schools or wholly neglected, so far as Holy Scripture is concerned, in the State schools. And in the meantime abligious parents must be doubly taxed that their children may be Christianly and virtuously brought up.

RELIGIOUS TOLERATION.

THE following incident did not happen in Spain, Italy, Ireland, or in any other alleged priest-ridden country, but in England, where we are continually told that religious freedom of the purest brand exists.—

Miss Rayner, a Catholic, applied for the position of head nurse. She was found to be well qualified (says the *Catholic Times*) for the position and was appointed to it. No questions as to her religion were asked. Had she been a Mohammedan or a Buddhist it would, no doubt, have been all right. But she was a Catholic and made no secret of her belief. That of course was a different matter altogether, here was a sin that could not be forgiven. Well, there are different degrees of intolerance. There are intolerant people who, when they have determined to do a harsh deed such as the dismissal of Miss Rayner, do it in a straightforward way. But the committee of the Brompton Hospital are not of that kind. They held a Council of War against this Catholic lady, and instead of telling her in an honourable way, "We dismiss you simply because you are a Catholic," they merely tried to cover their intolerance by throwing out an insinuation against the neighbouring Convent. They gave her notice, "As in consequence of the state of the Roman Catholic Convent being so near the Hospital, the Committee deem it unwise for the Hospital to be left in the sole charge of a Roman Catholic"; and then they advertised for another nurse—not a Roman Catholic. This conduct is cowardly as well as unfair, and as such it is denounced by Father Bole in the local Press. He is making a fight for justice, and we trust he will be well supported. It is monstrous that an institution which appeals for support to Catholics and members of every other creed should be managed by the Committee in a spirit of intolerant sectarianism.

Mr. Joseph Maxwell, bookseller, Oamaru, has a special business announcement in our advertising columns.

Mr. J. Fitzpatrick, well known in this city and suburbs, has started as a wood and coal merchant and wharf carter, etc., at Main Road, South Dunedin. He hopes that by careful attention to the requirements of the public to receive a fair share of patronage.

Messrs. Louis Gille and Co., the well known Catholic book-sellers of Sydney, have an important business announcement in our advertising columns. The flow is under the patronage of His Eminence Cardinal Moran, and has a large stock of church requisites, etc., of the approved Catholic style.

“DEAR ME! I've forgotten that **SYMINGTON COFFEE ESSENCE**, whatever shall I do? Call at the next Store on pass, They All Keep it