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Current Topics

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

A CRAZY
PROPHET.

THE early bird catches the early worm. And the early prophet is about also in the hope of catching an early hold on the lobe of the public ear. Leo XIII. is old and frail and

not immortal. The new pseudo-prophet that has stepped into the field has applied to him a crazy interpretation of a dozen honest texts ripped from the Book of Daniel. Leo XIII. is to be positively the last Pope. We had expected all this. The same was said of Pius VII. when he was carried away a prisoner into France by Napoleon I. But Pius VII. stayed long enough in France to see the end of Napoleon's power. The same prophecy went out on the winds of heaven again when word flashed over the wires that Pius IX. had shuffled off the burden of his mortal coil. And those of us that live long enough shall hear the forecast re-stated for other Popes after Leo until our ears become permanently deaf to sounds of earth and our eyes drop their shutters till the crack o' doom. The 'positively last appearance' of the Pope upon the stage of human life is not yet. The toilsome prophecies merely give expression to a hope and wish. They have an uneasy habit of ever 'gangling alee,' and prove the truth of Twain's saying: 'Prophecy may be a good line of business, but it is full of risks.' Curiously enough, such interpretations of the Prophet Daniel count among the products of morbid cerebration which in the Harvard University Library are lumped together under the comprehensive and emphatic title of 'Insane Literature.' The friends of our new prophet should see about making him as comfortable as his unhappy circumstances will permit.

The Pope dies. The papacy lives on. It knows neither decrepitude nor decay. Ponce de Leon sought in Florida the marvellous fountain of perpetual youth—and died there with the waters undiscovered and an arrow in his ribs. The Church's waters of youth came from a higher Source than that of earth. Her marvellous vitality is the theme of many an unfriendly pen. Macaulay's words are worn threadbare by quotation. But the following sentences of his will bear repeating in this connection:—

The proudest royal houses are but of yesterday when compared with the line of the Supreme Pontiffs. That line we trace back in an unbroken series from the Pope who crowned Napoleon in the nineteenth century to the Pope who crowned Pepin in the eighth; and far beyond the time of Pepin the august dynasty extends till it is lost in the twilight of fable. The republic of Venice came next in antiquity. But the republic of Venice was modern when compared with the Papacy; and the republic of Venice is gone, and the Papacy remains. The Papacy remains, not in decay, not a mere antique, but full of life and youthful vigour. . . . Nor do we see any sign which indicates that the term of her long dominion is approaching. She saw the commencement of all governments and of all ecclesiastical establishments that now exist in the world, and we feel no assurance that she is not destined to see the end of them all. She was great and respected before the Saxon had set foot on Britain—before the Frank had passed the Rhine—when Grecian eloquence still flourished at Antioch—when idols were still worshipped in the temple of Mecca; and she may still exist in undiminished vigour when some traveller from New Zealand shall, in the midst of a vast solitude, take his stand on a broken arch of London Bridge to sketch the ruins of St. Paul's.

A similar testimony comes from another and quite recent Protestant source—the *Christian Advocate*. It is from the pen of Rev. H. K. Carroll, a Methodist clergyman who a short time ago returned from Cuba. In the course of an article dealing with religious life in the new American dependency, he says of the Catholic Church that she 'is evidently not to be crushed by any forces yet discovered. Kings who have measured arms with it have in the end gone to Canossa, and but recently a man whose name was a synonym of strength in Europe [the late Prince Bismarck], went to his grave after a memorable conflict with the Powers of Rome, in which he was

not successful. . . . The Church emerged from what was pronounced a duel to the death without the scars of wounds.'

During that great struggle, the situation in Germany was hit off in amusing fashion by a cartoon in a Dublin newspaper. On one side was represented a tall building. A stout cable was around it, and the burly figure of Bismarck was pulling away at it with might and main. Satan steps up and asks:

'What are you doing, Bizzy?'

'Oh, just pulling down this old Papist Church.'

'And when do you expect to have it down?'

'In about a year,' said Bismarck.

'In a year? Very good. If you do, I'll exchange places with you. For I've been pulling away at it for over 1800 years, and blest if I've loosened a stone in it yet. Worst of it is, the older the plaguy thing grows the stronger it gets.'

THE cable-man finds nothing either above or beneath the notice of his eagle eye. He shows that he is able, at will, either 'to waft a feather or to drown a fly.' Side by side

with last Monday's messages that affected the fate of nations came the momentous intelligence that a self-styled 'mystic healer' has been prosecuted in Paris 'for imposing on the credulous.' In itself the message makes a sufficiently paltry item to serve up at the breakfast tables of New Zealand. But it brings home to us none the less the fact that they do some things better in France. Our cities are speckled over with a not particularly charming variety of what Carlyle would call 'brass-faced, vociferous, voracious' quacks who are 'imposing on the credulous' to quite as pretty a tune as the 'mystic healer' who has knocked his silly head against the adamant wall of French law. We, too, have our 'mystic' and other kinds of 'healers.' Some of them are so fearfully clever that they are able (so they say) by a glance at a hair cut from your head 'the first thing in the morning,' to see more of your 'innards' that is revealed by an X-ray apparatus working with a twenty-inch spark. There is likewise a tolerable supply of 'trance mediums,' 'psychomants,' 'astro-mathematicians,' and heaven knows what else besides. A small and not over-select group of those medical swindlers are female creatures living in dingy streets, and having the French title of 'Madame' prefixed to names that are as Anglo-Saxon as Nogs or Smith or Binks. But by far the greater part of them are smooth-faced male impostors whose stock-in-trade consists of a few gaudy rings on their fingers, a *souffron* of oil on their hair, a few handfuls of assorted herbs, a small quantity of some strong corrosive, a few nondescript pills, an oily tongue, a copious shirt-front, a double dose of low cunning, and a brazen and oftentimes ungrammatical affectation of supernal knowledge to mask a baptismal innocence of all acquaintance with even the elements of anatomy, physiology, or therapeutics. De Quincey says in his *Confessions of an English Opium Eater* that 'in many walks of life a conscience is a more expensive luxury than a wife or a carriage.' Your quack medico often indulges in the luxury of a wife. Sometimes he lolls and lazes in a carriage. But a conscience? Well, if the fellow ever had one, he buries it—not like Deeming, in the back yard—but with the corpse of the sailor-boy—a thousand fathoms deep, where he fancies the roughest sea of time and circumstance will never cast its grinning skeleton up before his mental vision. No, no. The quack medico may afford velvet-pile carpets and Cicquot and best Havanas and such-like luxuries. But a conscience! *Ma foi!*

There was a time when the quack could impose his mighty pretensions on the dwellers in high places. Sir Kenelm Digby, for instance (1603-1665), stirred all the drawing-rooms of the English nobility and gentry of his day with his 'sympathetic powder.' In the words of Charles Lamb, he was 'none of your hesitating, half story-tellers, but a hearty, thorough-paced liar.' The British Parliament was so impressed with the value of 'Stephens's Specific'—another old-time nostrum over which the public had gone crazy—that it voted £5000 for the purchase of the secret of its composition. The sale was duly

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effected. Mrs. Stephens got the money stowed away into the unexplorable depths of her feminine pockets. Then she handed over the recipe for which the expectant world was waiting on a eager tip-toe. It was published in the next *London Gazette*. When the fickle public read the list of ingredients they suddenly lost all interest in 'Stephens's Specific.' They were as follow: Egg-shells, snail-shells with the snails in them (all calcined), hips and haws, swine crees, and several other vegetables—all burned!

Plunkett's great Irish 'cure' for cancer was sold by him in London, after he had made a fortune by it, chiefly at the expense of the English gentry and moneyed classes. In six years the purchaser—Richard Grey—had amassed by its sale as much money as satisfied his utmost ambition. He then published its ingredients for the public benefit, in *Lloyd's Evening Post*. The recipe is worth reproducing, if only for the reason that it is just as good—and as bad—as that of any quack cancer-curer between Auckland and the Bluff: 'Crow's-foot which grows on low ground, one handful; dog-fennel, three sprigs, two to be well pounded; crude brimstone, three thimblefuls; white arsenic, the same quantity. All incorporated well in a mortar, then made into small balls the size of nutmegs, and dried in the sun.' A Cork glazier named Long, a footman named Brodun, a hawker named Solomon, and even Mesmer, were notorious in their day as medical charlatans, and made tidy little fortunes out of the credulity of 'carriage-folk' in England during the last century. But the uncrowned king of the whole fraternity was the adventurer Cagliostro. For years this 'lull-necked longer' (as Carlyle calls him) was the spoiled pet of almost every court in Europe towards the close of the eighteenth century. His 'elixir of immortal youth' was extremely popular with the fine ladies of the period, and brought him in a fortune which he promptly gambled away.

* * *

Times have changed, and quack-tricks have been modified to meet the new conditions. Now days the medical charlatan finds his victims almost exclusively among the masses. The classes ignore him. The advertising columns of newspapers (those of the N.Z. TABLET are rigorously closed to them) allow themselves to become the sounding-boards of blatant charlatans who are thus enabled to bleed with greater ease and certainty the toiling masses of the Colony. With a thousand various loud-voiced claims to semi-miraculous powers of healing, there is a singular sameness in their general method of work. It is, briefly (1) to convince the confiding dupe that he (or she) is in a very precarious state of health; and (2) that the quack, and he alone, can effect a certain and permanent cure. When you go mountain-climbing in Switzerland, there is always the oft chance that the rope that bears you may break or fray across over the jagged edge of a precipice, or that you may fall into the depths of a dark crevice through the thin and treacherous coating of frozen snow which covers it. In either event your insurance policy soon comes due. But it does not matter so much to the guide: he has taken the precaution to make you pay in advance, and the money is in the hands of his careful *frat* in the valley far below. The quack doctor adopts a similar precaution. The modest sum of £10 was the fee repeatedly paid in advance, to the writer's knowledge, by struggling working people for the guaranteed 'cure' for rheumatism, cancer, tumour, 'general all-overness,' etc.; while a confiding mother was relieved of £12 'down' for the guaranteed 'cure' of her boy—in only one who was in the last stages of consumption. It is needless to say that neither did the 'cures' cure nor was the money refunded. Nineteen out of every twenty of the fraternity are healers of every ill that flesh is heir to. The twentieth is a 'specialist' along some popular line. The story runneth that one of this latter tribe was once called to a case which was beyond his ken. But he was not to be defrauded of his fee. 'H—m, yes,' said he, 'this is a case of typhoid. But give him this bottle. It'll give 'im fits. An' I'm death on fits.'

* * *

One of the methods of working their victims into a whole state of alarm is by the assiduous circulation of advertisements, pamphlets, question-sheets, etc., that are bristling at every line with 'symptoms.' The mere perusal of one of these insidious printed sheets is enough to give some people 'symptoms.' And 'symptoms,' inasmuch as they reside chiefly in the imagination, are almost as incurable (though by no means so dangerous) as cholera morbus or the bubonic plague. An eminent scientist lately deceased used to say that the reading of one of these pamphlets left him racked with doubt as to whether he was suffering from softening of the brain, or enlargement of the liver, or valvular disease of the heart. But he outlived them all, and died long years afterwards of influenza. Rousseau long ago gave a general all round warning against the reading of medical books by lay folk. 'I could not read the description of a malady,' he wrote, 'without thinking it mine, and had I not been already indisposed, I am certain I should have become so from this study. Finding in every disease symptoms similar to mine, I fancied I had them all, and at length gained one more troublesome than any I yet

suffered, which I had thought myself delivered from; this was a violent inclination to seek a cure, which it is very difficult to suppress when once a person begins reading physical books.' Now this is just the result anticipated by the wily quack. 'The average man that gets the 'symptoms' gets with them a violent inclination to seek a cure.' And to whom should he go but to the brazen throated charlatan who promises a dead certain cure? Goethe has well said that 'he who studies his body too much becomes diseased—his mind becomes mad.' But why, in the name of common sense, does not our paternal Government—which very properly prosecutes the retail deprecations of the miserable fortune-teller—try to prevent another and far more dangerous class of wholesale knaves from 'imposing on the credulous' by undermining their health, and that, too, at rates which often are ruinous when compared with the utmost legitimate fees of even the kings of the medical profession?

ANOTHER
VARIETY.

BUT there are quacks and quacks. And one of the worst is the quack who sets forth to remedy all the tumours and cancers and rodent ulcers of social life by spraying them with rose-water or dosing the patient with a gentle course of Mattei globules or pink pills, where only the merciless use of knife and cautery can be of the slightest avail. The rugged old Sage of Chelsea lashes the hide of your social quack, in his *Past and Present*, with the cat-o-nine-tails of his fiercest and most vehement satire. Now many an evil shall cling to our social system—like the barnacles and parasitic growths that they are—until the sound of the last trumpet. And the social quack, like the poor, will likewise always be with us, with his patent pills and cure-alls. But the most curious of all recent quack remedies for social evils are those which have been suggested as a means of curing the now rampant scandal of divorce. One of the remedies comes from America, the other from England. The American plan is very simple. So are its authors—the 'Bachelor Girls' Association of Michigan.' This interesting feminine conventicle is extending its field of operations into Indiana, Illinois, Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio, Wisconsin, and Missouri. It binds its members by solemn oath to refrain from 'committing matrimony' until they attain the age of thirty years. Even when the lovely dames have reached the time-limit which places them fairly upon the market, they must mate themselves only to life-partners who possess a lengthy and somewhat exacting list of qualifications for claiming the hand of a 'Bachelor Girl.' The promoters of the movement believe—or affect to believe—that the divorce evil will be 'partially eradicated' by this organisation. The bounding hopefulness common to new social crazes has blinded them to the fact that early marriage is not the sole, nor even by a very long way the chief, cause of divorce. However great the success of this latest piece of feminine folly, it can never appreciably affect the business of the divorce courts. Its chief results will probably be either a not infrequent violation of the oath, or the need of constructing a further set of shelves on which to stow the increased old-maidhood in the realms of Uncle Sam.

* * *

The other quack remedy for divorce appears in a recent issue of the *Church Review*. 'A Woman Member of the English Church Union' suggests that women should never leave cards upon, or ask to dinner, any lady who has married a divorced man whose first wife is still alive. 'More than one young girl,' says the author of the proposal, 'has made such a marriage because she was told it was legal, and no one had warned her that it was forbidden by the Church.' But where and when forbidden? 'The bishops—most of them—issue licenses,' says the *Tablet*, 'through their vicars-general. Clergymen are found ready to marry her in church. If she be a communicant no one dreams of refusing her the Anglican Sacrament; and she reads in the papers that the chief pastor of her own Church [the Archbishop of Canterbury] says she may marry the man who has divorced his wife. How can anyone, knowing all this, tell her that her proposed union is forbidden by the Church to which she belongs?' How, indeed? Writing to the *Church Times* towards the close of 1897 the Rev. Mr. Black describes a marriage which took place at St. George's Anglican Church, Hanover Square, London. 'The lady in this case,' says the writer, 'has succeeded in having at this moment the modest allowance of three husbands living.' Either the marriage tie is dissolved by divorce or it is not. If it is dissolved both parties—innovent and guilty—are plainly alike free to contract a second union. If the marriage tie remains after divorce, then both are equally bound by it till death do them part. By the very nature of the marriage contract, the bond is either mutual or non-existent.

* * *

No, no. The divorce evil is too deep-seated and old-standing for the rose-water and pink pills treatment; the fever too raging to be cured by poulticing lips and soft fanning with fans. Its root lies in the loose doctrines regarding the marriage tie that came in with the Reformation and still hold their ground, with the benison of practically all the creeds

whose Hegira dates from that great religious revolution. Luther marked the opening years of the Reformation movement in Germany by giving to married persons, in his *De Captivitate Babylonica Ecclesie* (1519), a degree of licence which has since come to be known as 'free love.' The Protestant writer Bax, in his *German Society at the Close of the Middle Ages*, says (p. 100) of Luther: 'He was opposed to divorce, though he did not forbid it, and recommended that a man should rather have a plurality of wives than that he should put away any of them.' Later on, in 1539, he permitted Philip of Hesse to have two wives simultaneously—Catherine of Saxony (his lawful wife) and Marguerite de Staal. In return for this concession Philip piously promised 'to live and die more cheerfully in the cause of the Gospel, and be more ready to undertake its defence. I engage,' he added, 'to perform, on my part, all that may be required of me in reason, whether as regards the property of convents, or matters of a similar description.' The bait took. Luther, Bucer, Melancthon, and five other doctors of divinity, drew up, on December 7, 1539, the famous manifesto acceding to Philip's request for a second partner of his joys and woes. The permission was given—so said the doctors of divinity—'that the glory of God may be promoted.' But they cautiously add: 'We are of opinion that it ought to be done secretly; that is to say, there should be none present beyond the contracting parties, and a few trustworthy persons, who should be bound to secrecy.' So much for the action of the German Reformers. Chambers' *Book of Days* (vol. ii, p. 669) tells how, at a later date, the Calvinistic clergy of Prussia surpassed Luther and his fellow-doctors by formally authorising Frederick William II. to have quite a little harem of three wives at the same time—Elizabeth of Brunswick, the Princess of Hesse, and the Countess of Euhof.

The English Reformation opened with another assault on the sanctity and indissolubility of the marriage tie. The occasion which directly led to the 'revolt from Rome' was the fury of Henry VIII. at the refusal of the Pope to allow him to exchange a faded consort of 43 for the fresh charms of beauty still in its teens. 'Gospel light,' the poet sang, 'first dawned from Bullen's eyes' on Henry's soul. Other and more prosy writers put the matter in plainer terms. Thus a writer in the Protestant publication *The Christian Remembrancer* (vol. i, p. 337) states that 'the divorce [of Henry VIII.] was almost the sole cause of the English Reformation.' So strong a Protestant as Lord Macaulay roundly declared—in the course of one of the most eloquent passages that ever came from his gifted pen—that the Reformation in England 'sprang from brutal passion, and was matured by selfish policy.' These are strong words. But they have not been struck in the mint of a Catholic brain. The history of that period has been in great part re-written. One by one the old Protestant traditions regarding it have gone from the minds of learned men. The spurious halo that so long circled the heads of the early English Reformers has so far faded away that even those who (like, for instance, A. H. Clough) maintain the 'goodness of their cause' are obliged to frankly admit the 'badness of the agents.'

There lies the tap-root of the spreading evil of divorce in the loose teachings of the Reformed Churches regarding the unity, sanctity, and indissolubility of the marriage tie. There are, undoubtedly, other causes which contribute, in their measure, to aggravate this growing danger to domestic life. But here lies the main cause. The remedy lies not in withholding visiting cards, nor in Girl Bachelor Clubs, nor in any such paltry inventions of male or female quack-heads. Something better was suggested towards the close of 1897 by Mrs. Chapman—a non-Catholic writer—in her book, *Marriage Questions in Modern Fiction*. 'The only way,' she says, 'to restore honour and dignity to marriage is to make it indissoluble, and to convert all men and women, Christian and Agnostic, to the belief that it is a Sacrament.' It is a far-oft hope. The Catholic Church still remains, what she ever was, the bulwark of true domestic life, the fearless defender of women's best and most sacred rights. She let England fall away rather than sanction Henry VIII.'s attempt to divorce his lawful wife, Catherine of Aragon. She maintained a similar inflexible front in the case of Philip Augustus, King of France, Jerome Buonaparte, etc. Where her laws are faithfully obeyed, there is and can be no tampering with the sacred bond of marriage.

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THE STAGE IRISHMAN AGAIN.

WHAT HE IS AND WHERE HE CAME FROM.

AN esteemed correspondent sends the query: 'Would you kindly state what it is that constitutes the stage Irishman? As Colonials, we have not the opportunity of studying the genuine Irishman on his native heath, and must therefore be content, in our delineations of him, to confine our powers of mimicry to the specimens we meet in everyday life.'

By the stage Irishman is generally understood the capering idiot who persists in stumbling into all sorts of blunders and stupidities, either through native apishness and imbecility, or through drinking, fighting, or other forms of what is termed in stage language 'divarshan an' divilmint.' The fellow's antics are only aggravated when he appears—as he often does—not in the time-honoured brown and grey, but in green or scarlet knee-breeches and (shades of Brian Boru!) green stockings, and when his ungrammatical lips volley out words, words, words in a Colonial-made accent which is meant to be 'so Irish, you know,' but which would make a Connemara pony or a Munster donkey weep salt tears. One has no objection to our budding entertainers exercising their 'powers of mimicry' on the typical specimens of Irish people they 'meet in everyday life.' But where, and oh, where, in the name of Munchausen, do so many of our 'comics' alight upon the unearthly, pig-witted, apish, drunken, fighting animals that are so often exhibited on stage-land as types of the Irishmen of 'everyday life'?

Such representations of an old and hard-trying Catholic people—of the nation of saints and martyrs, of the countrymen of Burke and Grattan and O'Connell—are, in all reason, bad enough on the stage of a variety theatre, and in the mouths of a class of low comedians whose financial interests involve an appeal to the gallery. But it is both a shame and a scandal that they are still permitted at entertainments that are avowedly Catholic or Irish or both. It is more mysterious still that grown-up Irish people should be so leaden-witted as to sit and enjoy being ridiculed to the top of his bent by an exponent of so-called 'Irish character-acting.' There are, happily, in every such audience, the judicious few who will grieve. As to the rest, it is worth while to ask: (1) How many of those who laugh, laugh at, and how many with, the 'Irish comedian'? (2) How many of those who enjoy such exhibitions are really sound judges of what is fit and proper, and what is not? And if they are not good judges, what is the artistic value of their approval? (3) How many of the 'enthusiastic recalls' that read so well in print, and fire the 'comedian's' imagination, are due to the handful of 'gods' and noisy boys who would prefer a Lath-rate clog-dance to the finest orchestration of one of Beethoven's sonatas, and a bear-show to Salvini's Hamlet? And are not recalls from such quarters, after all, about the worst 'back-handers' that the body of an audience can give? Is it not the dignified protest of silence against mere noise, of good breeding against an outrage on the proprieties? Those that laugh at an actor get a surfeit of him far more quickly than those that laugh with him.

Alas, and yet alas! We owe this foreign creature, the stage Irishman, to Irishmen. He is wholly or in great part the joint product of three Irish Protestant pens. Samuel Lover, although in many respects one of the best delineators of Irish character, permitted himself to write his all too popular *Handy Andy* for *Bentley's Miscellany* in 1838. The gentlest critique of this production that I can find is that of Alfred Webb. He describes it as 'somewhat coarse.' Will Carleton also did much to popularise the stage Irishman, especially by the publication of his *Paddy the Long* in 1845. Carleton was a curious type. He was a lapsed Catholic, idle, worthless, without a sense of honour, and lived by sponging on his friends and acquaintances till they were sick of him. Then he gravitated to the debtors' prison. The Rev. Cesar Otway—who was engaged in rescuing Ireland from the abominations of Popery—engaged this promising convert to write stories of Irish superstitions for his paper, the *Dublin Christian Examiner*. The Anglican divine thought that such stories 'would serve the cause if properly prepared.' Even in the height of his prosperity and popularity Carleton would not pay his debts, and coolly went through the insolvency court. 'To the last,' says his biographer (*Life of William Carleton*, Ward and Downey, 1896) 'his pen was at the service of any party or any creed that would hire him.' The remaining member of the great trio who fairly set up the stage Irishman was Charles James Lever—the novelist of the old Milesian squire, of the dashig soldier, the camp the turf, and the bill-room. His fiction betrays throughout one of the great faults of the romantic school to which he belonged: exaggeration and over-colouring. So says the *Athenaeum*. And it adds: 'In the novels of Lever the grotesque element is always present in a greater or less degree, lapsing occasionally into the caricature.' Irish literature owes much to Lover, Carleton, and Lever. But the Irish character has likewise suffered through the vague which they gave to the insane creation—half man, half ape—which poses to this day as a type of what is, perhaps, one of the wittiest and most Catholic people that the sun shines upon. But for how long, O Lord, how long?

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

TRIBUTES OF PROTESTANT POETS TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY.

SOME SWEET FLOWERS OF RESPECT AND VENERATION.

AN esteemed young correspondent from Southland sends us (N.Z. TABLET)—very appropriately for the month of May—the following hymn to the Blessed Virgin from the pen of the American poet, Edgar Allen Poe:—

'At morn, at noon, at twilight dim,
Maria! thou hast heard my hymn!
In joy and woe, in good and ill,
Mother of God, be with me still!
When the hours flew brightly by,
And not a cloud obscured the sky,
My soul, lest it should truant be,
Thy grace did guide to thine and thee;
Now when storms of Fate o'ercast
Darkly my Present and my Past,
Let my Future radiant shine
With sweet hopes of thee and thine!'

Our Southland friend inquires if Edgar Allen Poe was a Catholic. Whereunto we make reply and say that Poe never was a Catholic, nor made much, if any, profession of any religious belief during the course of a life which was cut short in 1849 by drink and other excesses. Poe had, however, his saner and more repentant moments. They brought to him whirlwinds of bitter remorse, gave him bright glimpses at the beautiful world of virtue that lay off his track, and resolutions that melted before temptation like the morning mist before the sun. In this respect he resembled the unfortunate, but more gifted, Irish poet, James Clarence Mangan, who died in the same year, and like Poe, in a public hospital. It is possible that in his better moods Poe may have recognised the beauty and elevating character of Catholic devotion to Our Lady. Many Protestant poets have penned lines of great beauty in her honour. Cesare Cantù, the distinguished Italian historian, quotes in his discourses a poem in honour of the Blessed Virgin written in Italian by Byron at Ravenna. The poem, which lies before us, is a gem of devotional feeling, but as far as we have been able to discover, it is not included in any of his collected works.

In the third canto of his *Lady of the Lake*, Sir Walter Scott puts the following evening hymn into the mouth of the fair Ellen as she and her father are about to spend their first night in the Goblin-cave:—

'Ave Maria! Stainless styled!
Foul demons of the earth and air,
From this their wonted haunt exiled,
Shall flee before thy presence fair.
We bow us to our lot of care,
Beneath thy guidance reconciled;
Hear for a maid a maiden's prayer,
And for a father hear a child.'

Wordsworth, who was a thorough-going member of the Church of England, went farther and did better than Scott in the famous lines which he addressed to Our Lady in one of his ecclesiastical sonnets:—

'Mother! whose virgin bosom was uncroft
With the least shade of thought to sin allied;
Woman! above all women glorified,
Our tainted nature's solitary boast;
Purer than foam on central ocean tost,
Brighter than eastern skies at daybreak strewn
With fancied roses, than the unblemished moon
Before her wane begins on heaven's blue coast,
Thy image falls to earth. Yet some, I ween,
Not unforgiven, the suppliant knee might bend,
As to a visible power, in which did blend
All that was mixed and reconciled in thee,
Of mother's love with maiden purity,
Of high with low, celestial with terrene.'

Side by side with Wordsworth's lovely sonnet (says the late Father Bridget, C.S.S.R.) must always be placed the lines in which Southey has depicted devotion to the Blessed Virgin, as the effect and climax of scenic beauty:—

'How calmly, gliding through the dark-blue sky,
The midnight moon ascends!
The watchman on the battlements partakes
The stillness of the solemn hour; he feels
The silence of the earth, the endless sound
Of flowing waters soothes him, and the stars
Which in that brightest moonlight well-nigh quenched,
Scarce visible, as in the utmost depth
Of yonder sapphire infinite, are seen,
Draw on with elevating influence
Towards eternity the attempered mind.
Musing on worlds beyond the grave he stands,
And to the Virgin Mother silently
Breathes forth her hymn of praise.'

In some of his prose Southey was strongly anti-Catholic. His better and finer sentiments came out in his poems. Longfellow and other poets might also be quoted for their sense of the spiritual beauty and worth of devotion to Our Lady. But we have contented ourselves with referring to four such representative British poets as Byron, Scott, Wordsworth, and Southey. It is beyond the scope of these brief lines to refer to the manner in which, during the past fifty years, devotion to the Blessed Virgin has sprang among a large and steadily growing section of the Anglican Church. The old Catholic sentiment was, perhaps, never quite dead in the Establishment. Bishop Joseph Hall (1574-1656)—who was much

persecuted for his supposed leanings to Puritanism—gave expression to it over two and a half centuries ago in the following remarks on the words which the Angel Gabriel said to Mary:—

'But how gladly do we second the Angel in his praise of her, which was more ours than his! How justly do we bless her, whom the angels pronounced blessed! How worthily is she honoured of men, whom the Angel proclaimed beloved of God! O blessed Mary, he cannot bless thee, he cannot honour thee too much, that defies thee not! That which the Angel said of thee, thou hast prophesied of thyself; we believe the Angel said of thee: "All generations shall call thee blessed," by the fruit of whose womb all generations are blessed.'

Diocesan News.

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON.

(From our own correspondent).

May 6.

THE largest congregation ever assembled in a Catholic church in Wellington was present in St. Joseph's on Sunday evening on the occasion of the closing of the mission, every available space being utilised. After the Rosary had been recited the Ven. Archdeacon Devoy, on behalf of himself and the parishioners, thanked his Grace and the Rev. Father Ainsworth for conducting the mission, the result of which had far exceeded his expectations, and which would bring down on the parish innumerable blessings and favours from Almighty God. His Grace, on his own account and on behalf of Father Ainsworth, by whom, he said, he had been most ably assisted, congratulated one and all on the great success which had attended the mission. They were shortly leaving Wellington to conduct similar missions throughout the archdiocese, and he hoped the people of Te Aro parish would pray that those might be as successful as their own had been. He also thanked them for the generous manner in which they had responded to his appeal for subscriptions towards the Cathedral Fund. If the other towns did proportionately well he would, at a time not so far distant as many supposed, have the privilege and honour of laying the foundation stone of a cathedral which would accommodate 3,000 people. That such a building was an absolute necessity anyone in the church that evening could readily see. The subject of the final sermon was Perseverance—'He that persevereth to the end shall be saved.' In it his Grace urged the absolute necessity of persevering to the end, and said Christ had shown the necessary means in His words 'Watch and pray'—watch that we may know the dangers that continually surround us, and pray for grace and strength to overcome them. He concluded by exhorting all to join the Sacred Heart Society, for there was no better means of ensuring perseverance than by being a practical member. Before Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament his Grace conferred on those present the special blessing of the Sovereign Pontiff. At Benediction his Grace was the celebrant, with Father Mahoney deacon, and Father Maloney sub-deacon. Congregational singing was the rule on every evening of the mission.

The Very Rev. Dr. Pestre, S.M., Provincial of the Marist Order in New Zealand, has taken up his residence in Te Aro, where he will stay for a lengthened period.

As a result of the entertainment recently given by the Te Aro Dramatic Club, in aid of the Sisters of Compassion, the nuns have received a cheque for the handsome sum of £41 odd. The club is to be congratulated on the financial success of the venture.

On Tuesday Dr. Mackin held a housewarming in his new residence, 'Rostrevor,' in Marion street. The house is a spacious one containing over twenty rooms. A breakfast was given in the morning, and in the evening, Dr. and Mrs. Mackin's hospitality was again shown to their many friends, and a delightful evening was spent. Among those present were his Grace Archbishop Redwood and some of the local clergy.

It was announced in the churches on Sunday, that, although the matter is not yet finally decided, the new Cathedral will in all probability be situated in Buckle street. Mr. M. Kennedy, whose generosity is proverbial, has given the authorities the offer of a site extending from St. Joseph's Church to Tory street, in lieu of his promised donation of £1,000. Had we a few more citizens such as he, the building would be very soon erected. The advisability of securing a site such as this must be apparent to all who have resided in Wellington. It is in a position almost central and in a few years' time will be right in the heart of the city.

His Grace Archbishop Redwood, accompanied by Rev. Father Ainsworth, left by the Haurangi on Thursday evening for Nelson to continue their missionary work.

At a meeting of St. Joseph's Choir it was unanimously decided to ask the Rev. Father O'Shea to accept the office of president of the choir, rendered vacant by the resignation of the Rev. Father Ainsworth.

St. Joseph's Choir has accepted Father Lane's invitation to sing the Mass on the occasion of the opening of the church at Petone on the 11th inst.

The Rev. Father O'Shea, who has been away on a holiday, returned during the week much benefited by his trip.

A church is to be built at Pahiatua. The contract for its erection has been let, and the Rev. T. McKenna expects the building to be completed in about four months.

Rev. Brother Mark, Superior of the Marist Brothers in New Zealand, is visiting the South Island on a tour of inspection.

The Rev. Father Power, of Hawera, paid Wellington a flying visit this week. He was down on business.

DIocese of Christchurch.

(From our own correspondent.)

May 8.

At a meeting last week of the Anglican Cathedral Completion Committee the chairman, Bishop Julius, in addressing the meeting, said that the executive had been put to shame by their Roman Catholic brethren, having in mind presumably the splendid result of the recent appeal in the Pro-Cathedral for subscriptions towards the erection of the new cathedral. Considering the number of well-to-do members of the Anglican community, and the rich and profitable endowments at their disposal, together with their comparative freedom from the increasing demands for educational and church extension purposes, which their numerically weaker and financially poorer Catholic neighbours cheerfully comply with, the sum total of their efforts for the object advocated by their Bishop is distinctly disappointing.

The Very Rev. Father Le Menant de Chesnais, Vicar-General, was in Leeton on Sunday last establishing the confraternity of the Children of Mary.

On the return of his Lordship the Bishop from the West Coast he will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation in the Pro-Cathedral, for which preparation is now being made.

On Sunday last, as is customary on the first Sunday of the month, there was exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament from High Mass in the Pro-Cathedral till Vespers. At Vespers the Rev. Father Crotty preached a very fine discourse on the Blessed Sacrament to a crowded congregation, after which the usual procession took place, joined in by the various confraternities.

With characteristic enterprise the Catholics of St. Mary's have well in hand elaborate preparations for the carnival which is to be opened by his Worship the Mayor in the Opera House on Monday next, the 15th inst., to provide funds towards liquidating the debt existing on the parish. The committee have styled the event the 'Early History Carnival,' in anticipation of the jubilee festivities which will be in progress next year in celebration of Canterbury's first half century, dating, of course, from the arrival of the first of four now historical ships conveying the pilgrims of the province. It may be noted, however, that, according to Brett's *Early History of the Catholic Church in New Zealand*, two other pilgrims, not as pioneers of civilisation only but as those of love and duty, in the persons of the saintly Bishop Pompallier and his no less devoted companion, the late Very Rev. Father O'Reilly of loving and revered memory, set foot as early as the year 1844 in Canterbury. This was the first known visit of a priest to the province.

The month of May at the Marist Brothers' School was opened on the 1st inst. in a very devotional manner. The Very Rev. Father Le Menant des Chesnais, V.G., delivered a short but instructive and interesting address. The instructions last week were given by the Rev. Brother Mark, M.A., who is now on a periodical visitation to the various communities throughout the Colony. The Rev. Brother is director of the Marist Brothers' School, Wellington, and has, by his many years of zealous labour, won the love and esteem of all with whom he has come in contact.

TIMARU.

(From our own correspondent.)

May 8.

The Church of the Sacred Heart was crowded at the High Mass on Sunday last. The celebrant was the Rev. Father O'Connell, of Waimate; deacon, Rev. Father Tubman; sub-deacon, Rev. Father McDonnell. A very beautiful sermon on devotion to the Blessed Virgin was given by the Rev. Father Tubman. The music, for which the church ranks high amongst the churches of the Colony, was beautifully and devotionally rendered. At the conclusion of the Mass there was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. In the evening Vespers were sung by Rev. Father Tubman, and the pulpit was occupied by Rev. Father O'Connell, who delivered a fine discourse on the Blessed Sacrament.

Mr. Daniel Mahoney (late of the Club Hotel) is back again in perfect health from the Hanmer Plains, where he went a short time ago to try the effect of the hot springs in restoring his strength.

The Hon. W. Hall-Jones addresses the electors of Timaru in the Theatre Royal on Tuesday, the 9th inst.

HOKITIKA.

A correspondent, writing under date May 1, supplements our report of last week regarding the visit of his Lordship Bishop Grimes to Hokitika. He says:—The mission terminated on Sunday, April 30, when his Lordship Dr. Grimes administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to about 60 candidates, among whom were some converts. In the evening the Bishop delivered a farewell sermon, when the church was crowded. In the course of the discourse his Lordship referred to the great success of the mission, nearly the whole of the congregation having received the Sacraments during its continuance. He also thanked the congregation for their liberal response to his appeal for funds for the new cathedral at Christchurch, and concluded by giving the Pontifical Blessing.

During the week his Lordship dined with Mr. Joseph Mandl, the other guests present being Very Rev. Dean Martin, Rev. Fathers Goggan, the Right Hon. the Premier and Mrs. Seddon.

Another correspondent sends us the following:—
On Monday morning a thanksgiving Mass was offered by his Lordship, at which a large congregation assisted.

On Monday evening, after the May devotions, a concert was held in the large schoolroom at the convent, when many had to be turned away from the doors, standing room being at a premium. His Lordship, accompanied by Very Rev. Dean Martin and Rev. Fathers Goggan and Le Petit, was present. Miss Stalia Murphy read an address of welcome from the children to his Lordship, in which they expressed their pleasure at his return to New Zealand, and his visit to the West Coast, and asked his acceptance of their

donation to the Cathedral Fund, regretting their inability through the slenderness of their purses to make the gift a hundredfold greater. A long and varied programme of vocal, instrumental, and dramatic items and a spirited debate by the boys, was then given, the performance reflecting great credit on the children and the Sisters. In a few words his Lordship thanked the children for the kind welcome accorded him, and congratulated them on the able manner in which they had performed their several parts, and concluded by asking and obtaining a holiday for the children. As a result of the concert, something like £10 was handed to the Bishop in aid of the Cathedral Fund, making for Hokitika a total of between £300 and £400.

I am informed the mission at Ross, and more especially the one at Rimu, were equally successful, and the contributions in aid of the building fund were of a like satisfactory nature.

On Tuesday afternoon several of the leading Catholics assembled at the railway station to bid farewell to his Lordship Dr. Grimes and Father Goggan, who left for Greymouth, accompanied by Very Rev. Dean Martin, to open a short mission there.

DIocese of Auckland.

(By telegraph from our own correspondent.)

May 8.

The month of May devotions were commenced on Monday the 1st inst., in the city and suburban churches. At the Cathedral Our Lady's altar was tastefully decorated. At the first Mass the Confraternities of the Children of Mary and the Guard of Honour, approached Holy Communion in large numbers. In the afternoon, at three o'clock, eight new members were received into the Children of Mary, by the spiritual director, Rev. Father Buckley, who delivered a very appropriate address to the members, enjoining upon them to remain ever faithful to the promises now voluntarily made, and always to bear in mind the great honour and privilege attached to those fortunate enough to be banded together under the patronage of Mary. At Vespers the Cathedral was crowded to excess; the Rev. Father Mulvihill, of Gisborne, preached a beautiful sermon upon the penalties due to sin. A procession of the Blessed Sacrament followed, the canopy being borne by four Marist Brothers. Father Buckley officiated, accompanied by Rev. Father Mulvihill.

At St. Benedict's Rev. Father Gillan delivered the second of his series of discourses on the Blessed Virgin. The Rev. Father was listened to with close attention by the large congregation present.

The St. Patrick's Day celebration at Gisborne netted £200. How many of the large centres could show a like result?

One more church is to be added this month to those of the diocese. On Sunday, 21st inst., a new church is to be solemnly opened at Driving Creek by the Vicar-General, Monsignor Paul, assisted by the Very Rev. Dean O'Reilly. It is worthy of notice that 27 years ago the latter was parish priest in the parish. The new church will be free of debt at its opening. This speaks eloquently of the indefatigability of Rev. Father Michael Egan, whose untiring zeal throughout Coromandel has borne such excellent results.

For some months past the poor boxes at St. Patrick's have been broken open and robbed. On the 8th inst. a man named Robertson was arrested and charged with the crime.

The agitation concerning the retention of Auckland as sole port of call for the San Francisco mail steamer waxes warm. Sydney is appealed to on the ground that the detour to Wellington would delay their mail by seventeen hours. The South Island would gain eight hours, while Auckland would lose twenty hours. Two-thirds of the cargo carried comes from Auckland.

The following are the report and balance sheet of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, Auckland, for the 18 months ending April 20, 1899. The committee in their report say:—The Society wishes to place before its friends, benefactors, and the general community, a report of its transactions for the past 18 months. In doing so we must return our sincere and grateful thanks to all those who assisted in any way, either by subscriptions, donations, or entertainments, to supply the necessary funds to enable us to carry on our work. We would earnestly beg of all the members to use every endeavour in their power to encourage their friends to become at least honorary members. We would also like to see a larger number of our working members attend regularly to assist in sewing and visiting the poor. During the year a great deal of work has been done to alleviate the wants of our poor. We have also provided clothing and boots for several children to enable them to attend school; assisted families in paying rent; sent two persons to the Magdala Asylum, and others to the Little Sisters of the Poor and to the Costley Home; and helped two young people to rejoin their friends. We have also sent two boys to the Dear and Dumb Institute, Waratah, and are paying towards their support. The officers are:—Spiritual director, Rev. Father Buckley; president, Mrs. Dignan senr.; vice-presidents—City, Mrs. Thorne; Ponsonby, Miss Tole; Parnell, Mrs. McCabe; Newton, Mrs. R. Dignan; secretary, Mrs. Derron; treasurer, Miss Lynch; wardrobe-keeper, Mrs. Guscott. The balance sheet showed:—Receipts: Balance in hand October 7, 1897, £14 5s 3d; subscriptions (honorary members), £29 10s; subscriptions (working members), £10 13s 6d; donations, £14 3s 4d; concert, £13 17s 6d; musical afternoon, £2 1s 1d; lecture by Dr. Bakewell, £1 12s; Easter bags, £22 1s 6½d; poor box, £13 14s 1½d; total, £121 18s 4d. Expenditure: Groceries, £61 1s; meat and milk, £7 10s 6d; drapery, boots and shoes, £17 0s 6d; board, lodging, and rent, £8 7s 9d; cash and medicine, £2 18s 6d; passage money, £3 19s 9d; printing and advertising, £2 16s 6d; stamps and stationery, 17s 6d; two boys Deaf and Dumb Institute, £1 6s; sundries, £1 17s 3d; balance in bank, £8 13s 4d; total, £121 18s 4d. General summary:—Orders given, 797; articles of clothing distributed, new, 188; old, 213; and 45yds.

material; 34 pairs new boots and shoes, and several old pairs; families assisted, 90; visits made, 300; number of meetings, 71; honorary members, 76; working members, 37.

ST. MARY'S HALL, NELSON.

BETWEEN four hundred and five hundred people assembled in St. Mary's Hall, Nelson, on the evening of April 26, when it was officially opened by the Mayor, Mr. Trask.

The Very Rev. Dean Mahoney (says the *Colonist*) expressed his pleasure at seeing so large an audience present, and he heartily welcomed them all. He noted that the new building stood on the spot formerly occupied by St. Mary's School, which, having become old and dilapidated, it was determined to replace with a new building, which had given them an infant school and a hall for social purposes. They had desired to have Archbishop Redwood present, but that gentleman was coming next week, when probably a conversation would be held to welcome him. The Archbishop was one of the old pupils of St. Mary's School, many of whom were scattered all over the Colony, and some of them occupying very important positions. There was present another old pupil, Mr. John Graham, M.H.R., and he would be asked to address the assemblage. He had great pleasure in asking the Mayor (Mr. Trask) to preside, and to officially declare the hall opened.

The worship the Mayor regretted the absence of Archbishop Redwood who would have performed the duty he had been asked to undertake that evening much better. He referred to the labours in the cause of education put forth by the late Father Garin, Father Mahoney and the Sisters, and eulogised their self-sacrificing efforts. He bore personal testimony that many had gone from St. Mary's Schools who had become worthy men and women and worthy citizens. He hoped that Father Mahoney and his co-workers would long live to enjoy the pleasure they received from the good and important work they were performing. He had great pleasure in declaring the magnificent building—St. Mary's Hall—duly opened for the purposes for which it had been built.

An excellent concert, under the direction of Mr. L. Frank, was then given, the performers being Misses Scott, Pratt, Waters, Hanron, Mesdames Roberts, Walker, and Messrs. Mackay, Naylor, Maginnity, Kidson and Moller.

Mr. Graham, M.H.R., added his congratulations to Father Mahoney and his co-workers on the addition of such a beautiful new hall to the buildings of St. Mary's parish. He was proud to remember that he was one of St. Mary's boys. He referred to the vast amount of good done by the late Father Garin and Matthew Campbell in the early days of the Nelson settlement in providing some education for the children of the early settlers. He compared the present educational advantages with those in existence when he was a boy. He urged upon the young people the importance of embracing the opportunities so freely given them of obtaining a good education. He also asked them to remember that the Victoria University College was established as much for their good as those of Wellington, and pointed out that if they used their brains they could go onward from the First Standard until they obtained a University education. He congratulated Father Mahoney upon his having received the title of 'Very Rev. Dean,' and concluded by hoping that the educational institutions of St. Mary's, under the management of Father Mahoney and the Sisters, would keep pace with the rapid advance of the times.

A number of young ladies and gentlemen then handed round refreshments, after which dancing was indulged in for a couple of hours by the younger portion of the audience.

A GOOD EXAMPLE.

PROTESTANTS PRESENT AN ADDRESS TO A CATHOLIC BISHOP.

THE Right Rev. Dr. Gibney, Bishop of Perth, visited Bulong, W.A., some time ago, for the purpose of opening a bazaar held to raise funds for the re-erection of the Catholic Church, which had been recently blown down. During his Lordship's stay he was entertained at the Council Chambers by the Mayor. Here he was presented with an address by the Protestant inhabitants. The address, which was signed by Mr. George Grennell, churchwarden, and over thirty others, was as follows:—To the Most Reverend Dr. Gibney, Bishop of Perth.—We, the Protestant inhabitants of the loyal town of Bulong, desire to avail ourselves of the opportunity offered by your Most Reverend Lordship's visit to express to yourself and your co-religionists throughout the colony our sympathy in connection with the trials you have experienced in your efforts to extend the benefits of religion and civilisation to this remote corner of the Australian Confederacy. Though we are aware the utmost effort on our part in the way of prayer, sacrifice, and labour may often be insufficient to protect us from the desolating effects of such natural agencies as that which laid low the edifice in which your Lordship's spiritual flock in the district have been accustomed to meet (and seek that manumission from the thralldom of sin and unorderd lives, as the equally with ourselves, so earnestly desire), we no less appreciate your Lordship's solicitude in the moral and physical welfare of all of us, whether Roman Catholic or Protestant, as evidenced by this episcopal and very friendly visit. Though separated from you in some points of religious thought and ecclesiastical discipline, we are conscious that your venerable division of the Christian Church has still many claims on our gratitude and good-will, and while we are glad to notice the expansion of science has not diminished the love and regard of our Roman Catholic neighbours for their most militant, well disciplined, and self-sacrificing Church, we gladly join

with them in welcoming their Bishop, and further venture on the liberty of offering you all our sincere and respectful congratulations on the now almost secured recovery of his Holiness the Pope from one of the trials incident to a laboriously beneficent life, at his great age.

Bishop Gibney, returning thanks, said they had given him almost the greatest surprise and the greatest pleasure in his life. He could understand the spirit that inspired their address, and appreciated it. He had always desired to see people live in harmony, notwithstanding their differences of opinion with regard to religious matters. He trusted that no one in this colony of West Australia, in which he had been known for 35 years, could accuse him of being a religious bigot. He claimed freedom for himself to worship God in the way that he believed to be the right one, and he wished to accord the same liberty to all others. How could he as a Christian man, as a reasonable man, demand of others that they should outrage their consciences in a matter of such importance? He had an honest faith in his own Church. He would die a thousand deaths rather than be forced from that faith. At the same time, he fully believed that there were others holding different opinions whose convictions were as strong and as sacred as his own. In this belief he had always refrained from questioning those who had come to him for help, and they had been many, as to their faith. He had always been willing to do his best for those who required his assistance without the slightest regard to the religious belief of the applicants. He would sink with shame if he suspected that any man had thought it necessary in order to obtain his friendship or his help to deny or dissemble his religious opinions. Differences on this point were unavoidable, and therefore he would say to anyone who required his good offices, 'stand before me as a man, treat me as a man, and I will treat you as a brother and a Christian.' He felt that he could do no less than that for were they all more mindful of the teachings of the faith they respectively professed, there would be less quarrelling as to those teachings. There was one great precept which was found in every Christian Church, 'love God above all things and your neighbour as yourself.'

A MILITARY PRELATE.

THE NEW ASSISTANT BISHOP TO CARDINAL VAUGHAN.

MONSIGNOR BRINDLE, the hero of the Soudan, was consecrated Assistant-Bishop to Cardinal Vaughan on March 12 at the Church of St. Gregory, Rome, this being the titular church of his Eminence the Cardinal-Archbishop of Westminster. The whole of the English Catholic colony, in fact the *élite* of English society (says *La Vera Roma*), was present at the solemn ceremony, as a mark of respect to the new bishop, who has won for himself a place in the hearts of his countrymen.

Cardinal Satolli performed the consecration ceremony, assisted by the Most Rev. Monsignor Sambucetti, Archbishop of Corinth, and the Most Rev. the Hon. Monsignor Stonor, Archbishop of Trebizond. Cardinal Vaughan was represented by his secretary, Monsignor Dunn. Pupils of the English College and of the College of St. Bebe performed the services of the altar. Among others who attended the ceremony were the primate of the Benedictines, the Rectors of the English, Irish, Scotch, and Canadian Colleges, Monsignor Nugent, Campbell, Tyler, Stanley, and Lindsay.

A banquet was afterwards given in honour of Bishop Brindle, when Cardinal Satolli delivered what is described as a most beautiful discourse in praise of the new prelate, his Eminence's remarks being received with warm applause by those present.

Bishop Brindle, D.S.O., retains his rank as Colonel in the British army. His Lordship has been through many campaigns and seen dangers in many forms; he has lived with it in the wards of a cholera hospital as well as faced it on the battle-field. Few men have ever earned such enthusiastic praise as he has received from those under whom he has served. He has worked in places as far asunder as Canada, China, and the Soudan. He was the only chaplain at the front at Tel-el-Kehir. He went through the campaigns of Suakim, the Nile, and Ginnias in 1884, 1885, and 1886. After ten years of Aldershot and Colchester he accompanied Lord Kitchener's recent expedition, and was present at the battles of Atbara and Khartoum. Twice he has been specially promoted for service in the field. He has received the first pension for 'distinguished and meritorious service' ever granted to a Catholic chaplain. He is a Companion of the Distinguished Service Order; has the medal with the four clasps for Egypt, 1882; the Turkish Order of the Medjidieh, third class; the Egyptian war medal for conquest of the Soudan, with three clasps; and the Khedivial Bronze Star for 1882. Bishop Brindle was born in November, 1837, was ordained at the English College, Lisbon, and before he was appointed military chaplain, served in the diocese of Plymouth.

A party of Franciscan nuns, in charge of a number of Indian children dressed in their native costume, were conspicuous in the body of the church during the consecration ceremony. A Protestant clergyman is said to have drawn the attention of Monsignor Dunn to these children and their teachers, and to have said, 'Witness the greatness of the British Empire.' Monsignor Dunn's reply was, 'Witness rather the universality of the Catholic Church.'

On the day after his consecration Bishop Brindle was received in audience by his Holiness the Pope.

A curious incident occurred in connection with the death of Canon Carlile, of Stockton-on-Tees. Mr. Porritt, of Breck road, Liverpool, a Catholic friend of his, addressed and posted a letter to him. At the same time Canon Carlile addressed and posted a letter to Mr. Porritt, and whilst the letters were in transit both the senders died.

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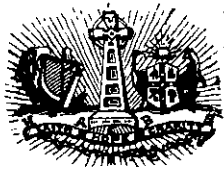
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A Reduced Benefit Member, on payment of a weekly contribution of from 7d to 8d (graduated according to age), is entitled to Medical Attendance and Medicine for himself immediately on joining and a Sick Allowance of 10s per week for 26 weeks, 5s per 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.

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Full particulars may be had from branches and from

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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.

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."

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.

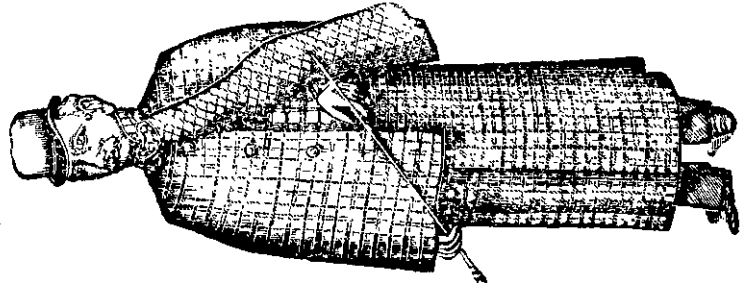
You see they understand their trade
And buy for ready cash
Just nothing but the best of goods,
And never worthless trash
I used to buy from other shops
But found it did not pay;
The soles too quickly did wear out,
Or else the tops gave way."
So if you want good Boots and Shoes,
That give you honest wear,
Just go direct to Loft and Co.
And you will get them there

TRY OUR GUM BOOTS, 21s.

BEATH AND CO.

For Up-to-date Tailoring, Clothing, and Mercery,

CHRISTCHURCH.



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You know that our stock of Men's Waterproofs is the Largest and Cheapest, so

YOU

Can depend on getting the Best Assortment to select from, if in

NEED

Of a superior article at the Lowest Price, in all styles and sizes.

A

Special Lot now offering for riding, driving, and strong country wear, with deep capes.

WATERPROOF?

Coats are indispensable in this Colony, and we make special garments suitable for the climate, then

CALL ON US

If you desire to save money.

Prices: 26s. 6d. to 65s.



BRANCHES IN ALL PRINCIPAL TOWNS OF THE COLONY.

NEW ZEALAND

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In Trouble.



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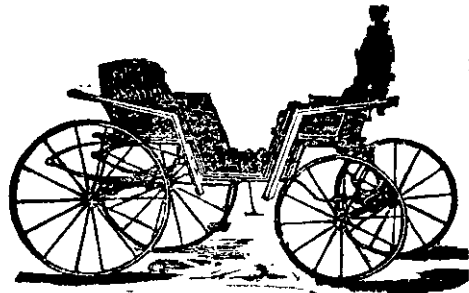
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HORDERN & WHITE



Has now on hand Single and Double Buggies, Station Waggon, Waggonettes, Spring Carts, etc. First award for Carriages at New Zealand and South Seas Exhibition, 1889-90

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JAMES REID

BREWER, BOTTLER, AND AERATED-WATER MANUFACTURER,
QUEENSTOWN.

Irish News.

CORK.—St. Patrick's Day.—On St. Patrick's Day there was a revival of the edifying custom of a state visit of the Mayor and Catholic members of the Council, Cork, to the churches. At 12 o'clock the Mayor and aldermen in their robes, accompanied by the mace and sword bearers and other attendants, were present at St. Mary's Cathedral, where High Mass was celebrated with full pomp and magnificence. His Lordship the Most Rev. Dr. O'Callaghan, Bishop of Cork, presided. An eloquent panegyric on St. Patrick was preached by Rev. Father O'Laverty, and at the conclusion of the sacred ceremonies the mayoral party drove to the Bishop's palace, Farranferris, where his Lordship received them.

DERRY.—A Grand Old Derry Man.—The patriarch of the Canadian Senate, the Hon. David Wark, entered on his ninety-sixth year on February 19. Born in Derry in 1804, he emigrated to New Brunswick in 1825, and developed into a prosperous merchant. He entered the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick in 1843, and attained Ministerial honours in 1858. In May, 1867, he was called up to the Senate of the Dominion, and has sat there ever since as a Liberal. He has published some political pamphlets dealing with Imperial Federation, Trade Reciprocity between Canada and the United States, and the relations of Canada to the Empire.

DUBLIN.—A Hero of Omdurman at Home.—Whatever may be thought of Lord Kitchener's achievements at Omdurman there can be no second opinion as to the bravery of the charge executed by the 21st Lancers, and it is a noteworthy fact (says an exchange) that all the Victoria Crosses awarded in respect to that engagement have fallen to Irishmen in the British service. Foremost amongst the recipients of the distinction was Private Thomas Byrne, who with heroic courage rescued Lieutenant Molyneux from the hands of the Dervishes, though badly wounded himself. Private Byrne is now home on furlough with his people in Donnycarney, County Dublin. Though his wounds have healed, the fingers of his right hand are still stiff and almost numb. He expects to rejoin his regiment in Egypt within a month.

Exhibition of Old Irish Music Books.—The O'Donoghue of the Glens presided at last meeting of the executive committee of the *Féis Ceoil* to be held in Dublin. The hon. secretary announced the receipt of an important letter from Mr. Alfred Moffat, London, with reference to the Loan Exhibition in connection with the festival. Mr. Moffat said:—Mr. John Glen (the celebrated Scotch bagpipe maker), Edinburgh, told me he would be willing to lend you two O'Farrell's, two Burk Thermoth's, Murphy's Irish Jigs, and some other books for the Féis Exhibition of Old Irish Music Books. I can lend you the Carolan collection, two O'Farrell's (different from Mr. Glen's copies), Mangan's "Poets of Munster" (the rather rare first edition, 1849), Coffey's "Beggar's Wedding," 1728, a very rare work, with the music, and the original edition of "O'Keefe's Poor Soldier," 1783.

Funeral of Colonel Bidwill.—The remains of Colonel Bidwill, who died on March 12 at his residence Sandycove, were interred in Dean's Grange Cemetery, Kingstown. The very large and representative attendance at the funeral fully testified to the widespread esteem in which the deceased gentleman was held by all classes. A *Requiem* Mass for the repose of his soul was celebrated in St. Joseph's Church, Glaasthule, by the Rev. Joseph Murray, P.P. The 5th V.B. the King's Liverpool Regiment, commonly known as 'The Liverpool Irish,' which Colonel Bidwill originally raised and equipped, and of which he retained the honorary Colonelcy up to the time of his death, was represented by the following, who appeared in the smart and becoming uniform of the regiment:—Surgeon-Major Edgar Flinn, Lieutenant-Colonel Carruthers, Captain Lewin, Captain Byrne, Captain Ruddin, Lieutenant and Quartermaster Blake, Surgeon-Captain O'Hagan, Regt-Quartermaster-Sergeant Donnelly, Armourer-Sergeant Devanny, Sergeant-Instructor Lynch, Sergeant-Drummer Halligan.

The Secretaryship of the Steampacket Company.—Mr. A. J. Callaghan, L.L.D., B.L., has been appointed secretary of the Dublin Steampacket Company in succession to the late Mr. Lee. As assistant secretary of the company Dr. Callaghan showed himself fully alive to the commercial importance of facilitating in every possible way cross-Channel traffic. The appointment is a very

popular one, and has given great satisfaction to the commercial community and the travelling public.

KERRY.—The Grand Jury and the University Question.—At Kerry Assizes, the Grand Jury, mainly composed of Protestants, passed a resolution expressing their hearty sympathy with Mr. Balfour's desire to satisfy their Catholic fellow-countrymen in the matter of a university, such as may be in accordance with Catholic principle and feeling.

KILDARE.—A Memorial to the Late Father McWey.—A movement has been set on foot in Kilkock for the purpose of erecting a memorial in memory of the late Rev. S. McWey, who had been for a long time parish priest of the district.

LIMERICK.—Death of the Oldest Magistrate.—Mr. P. T. Hartigan, the oldest magistrate in Limerick, died recently at Clounagh, Rathkeale. The deceased had reached the ripe old age of 80 years.

Tribute to the Memory of a Limerick Man.—The following glowing tribute to the memory of Congressman Hon. Denis M. Hurley was paid on the floor of the United States Congress, on March 3, by the Hon. Israel F. Fischer:—I desire to briefly record my opinion of his life, character, and worth. Denis M. Hurley was born in the city of Limerick, Ireland, March 14, 1813, and came to this country when he was seven years old. His early struggles and subsequent successes furnish us with one more example of the possibilities of young men who seek our shores and apply themselves faithfully to their needs and progress. Mr. Hurley's character was one of the grandest ever possessed by any man. He was plain, straightforward, and honest, and his love for the good was so great that he could not bear the company of men who were otherwise. He was so constituted that he could not commit a mean act if he tried. His goodness of heart, his desire to serve others, and his entire unselfishness in all things made him one of the grandest and best of friends and citizens, and I do not violate my conscience when I say that I felt his loss almost as much as I did that of my own parents. The grandest compliment, in conclusion, that I can pay him is to record the opinion of all who knew him, that he was an honest man.

WEXFORD.—Nuns as Hospital Nurses.—At a recent meeting of the Enniscomorthy Board of Guardians, Mr. Jonathan Haughton, a Protestant magistrate, well known in the County Wexford, gave expression to his views on the vexed question of the qualifications of trained nurses, the Local Government Board's order regarding which has been the subject of so much discussion at the various public Boards throughout the country. He criticised the order as being too restrictive, and said that if the Local Government Board persevered in the order which they had issued, they would exclude many experienced and competent nurses from employment in public institutions. Mr. Haughton paid a handsome tribute to the Sisters of Mercy for the untiring zeal with which they looked after the sick patients in the hospital. The infirmary had been vastly improved since the introduction of the Sisters as nurses, and in every public institution in Ireland where the nuns officiated as nurses the same improvement was recorded. This restrictive order would exclude ladies such as these from coming in as nurses under the Act, inasmuch as they haven't got the training required by the Local Government Board order to entitle the guardians to be recouped in half the salary. He was one of the guardians that proposed that the Sisters be admitted into the infirmary, and he was never sorry for it, for they had done their duty efficiently and satisfactorily in every sense of the word.

WATERFORD.—The Mayor and Sheriff.—Mr. L. C. Strange, solicitor, has been installed Mayor of Waterford under the new Local Government law. At the same Mr. W. D. G. Goff, of the brewery, Mary street, Waterford, was installed High Sheriff. The Mayor is a Nationalist; the High Sheriff is a Unionist and Tory.

GENERAL.

Mr. John Dillon Visits Cambridge.—Mr. Dillon, M.P., visited Cambridge University recently on the invitation of the Master of Trinity, and delivered an address to the students on the Irish University Question. The address was so successful that Mr. Dillon was invited to repeat it next day before the female students of the University. He did so.

Impressions of a Recent Visitor.—Lecturing recently in the Federation Hall, Sydney, on his impressions during his visit to Ireland, the Very Rev. Father Le Rennetel, S.M., said:—On the occasion of his recent visit he found the people cheerful, contented, and fairly prosperous. Many new industries had been established,

THE MASSIVE

Plate-Glass Windows of the CITY BOOT PALACE, with their Beautiful Display of New Season's Footwear for LADIES, GENTS, and CHILDREN, give a fair indication of the grand VALUE and VARIETY to be found inside the Establishment.

Some of the PRETTIEST DESIGNS that could be wished for are now on view, and the STOCK is sufficiently large in quantity and diversified in make up to MEET THE WANTS of all intending Purchasers.

SEE AND BELIEVE.

CITY BOOT PALACE.

CORNER GEORGE AND ST. ANDREW STREETS.

J. M'KAY.

and the fisheries in particular were proving a great boon. Hundreds of farmers had been able to throw off the yoke of the landlord, and, most hopeful sign of all, men who had been driven from Ireland by bad times and extortion were returning from the United States to take up their holdings again. On all sides he was told that the new Local Government must, for a certainty, break the back of landlordism in Ireland. Then the rightful owners of the soil will be left in happy and undisturbed possession. The majority of the landlords will be glad to sell out almost at any price, and big family estates, held by absentees now contributing nothing to Ireland's revenue, will be broken up once and for ever. When the people themselves own the land and industries are flourishing, it will not be possible to withhold Home Rule. He saw on all sides evidences of a new awakening—a strong and sound revival of national spirit and national prosperity. 'Give Ireland fair play even now,' he said, 'and in twenty years she will be more prosperous than she was 100 years ago.' With respect to the religious condition of Ireland, he had no words with which to express his admiration. He did not notice any improvement in the religious character of the people—that would be impossible. What he did notice was that, as the Catholics improved their condition socially and commercially, every advance in worldly prosperity was strikingly marked by the erection of new cathedrals, new churches, new colleges, new schools, new convents, and new religious houses. It was astonishing to see what has been done within the past twenty years.

Irish Industries Exhibition.—The Marchioness of Dufferin opened a two days' sale of work at Downshire House, Belgrave Square, London, on St. Patrick's Day. The sale was under the auspices of the Irish Industries Association. Lord Arthur Hill, the Chairman of the Committee, briefly addressed the company, tracing the history of the Association, which was started in 1888, since when the total sales have reached £34,558. Lady Dufferin, in formally declaring the sale open, said that as an Irishwoman she sympathised deeply with its objects, and especially with the Irish Distressed Ladies' Fund. On the 14 stalls were exhibited exquisite specimens of needlework, embroidery, and carving, while the famous Irish homespun tweeds were a notable feature. The Marchioness of Hamilton, the Countesses of Lucan, Mayo, and Arran, the Viscountesses Duncannon and Castlerosse were among the stallholders, and the Marchioness of Blandford, Princess Edward of Saxe-Weimar, and the Countesses of Pembroke and Donoughmore, the Duchess of Somerset, Viscountess Cranborne, Lady Fitzgerald, the Countess of Erne, Lady Helen Stewart, Lady Arthur Hill, and the Countess of Kilmorey also assisted. One of the most interesting stalls was that at which were displayed the products of the girls trained in the Convent of Mercy Schools, Gort. Amongst the articles shown were some beautifully worked cushions, lace fichus in cream, white, black, black and white tambour lace, Irish crochet collars and sleeves, Gort cloaks in grey, white, crimson, and navy fannel, bath rugs of Gort flannel, children's dresses of white washing silk daintily smocked, and Gort linens of different colours, for which there is a great demand, large dolls dressed in clothes of Gort manufacture, and many other articles too numerous to mention. Lady Gregory, of Coole Park, Gort, who has already done so much for the industries, took charge of the work.

The Irish Club in London.—The opening of the Irish Club was inaugurated a few days ago (says *Reynold's Newspaper*, March 12) by a conversazione at their premises, Henrietta street, London. The club rooms were inconveniently crowded by a brilliant gathering of Irish ladies and gentlemen. Earlier in the day a general meeting of the members of the club was held, and it was then stated that the membership was at that moment over 100, and that after paying all expenses there was a balance of £500 to the good. It was stated that the Lord Chief Justice of England had become a member, and a letter was received from him regretting that for that evening he had a prior engagement of some standing, otherwise he would be present, and promising to visit the club during the ensuing week. The club is unique so far as Ireland is concerned. Never before, it is to be regretted, has a club of Irishmen of all creeds and political faiths—Catholics and Protestants, Unionists and Home Rulers, Conservatives and Liberals—been formed on a purely social, literary, and artistic basis. Under the direction of Mr. Jerome J. Murphy, of Daly's Theatre, one of the rising singers of the day, a programme of exceptional excellence, all Irish, was rendered. Mr. Murphy himself sang, among other pieces, Needham's 'My dark Rosaleen.' The Rev. J. J. Nesbit, Vicar of Sittingbourne, perhaps the ablest reciter of the day, gave Gyles' 'Pat Magee,' and so on throughout. The greatest credit for the phenomenal success of the club is due to Mr. Foy, the chairman of the Committee, and to M. Henry Lennane and Captain Gerald Fitzgerald, the honorary secretaries. The subscription for town members is £2 2s a year, and it is expected that in a few months it will be necessary to impose an entrance fee owing to the number of persons who have signified their intention of becoming members.

Amalgamation of the Irish Railways.—A short time ago one of the largest and most influential Irish deputations that have visited London for very many years waited on Mr. Hanbury, Secretary to the Treasury, and Mr. Gerald Balfour for the purpose of protesting against the proposed amalgamation of several railway lines in the South of Ireland with the Great Southern and Western Railway. The deputation was representative of Dublin, Cashel, Clonmel, Cork City and County, Kilkenny, Mayo, Queen's County, Limerick City and County, Mullingar, Roscommon, Sligo, Tipperary, Tralee, Waterford, etc. Mr. Hanbury, in reply, said on behalf of the Treasury that the policy they would adopt in reference to this matter was that they would give paramount consideration to the real interests of the people of Ireland. Mr. Gerald Balfour said in his opinion it would be desirable that the whole matter should be thrashed out before a hybrid committee of the House.

CONVERTED BY THE 'HAIL MARY.'

THE Paris correspondent of the *Liverpool Catholic Times* gives this interesting information concerning Father Tuckwell, an English priest who is now labouring successfully in France:

At six years of age, a little Protestant boy amid Protestant surroundings, he was charmed by the recitation of the 'Hail Mary.' Being told by his mother that it was superstitious and being forbidden by her to say it, he came across the angel's salutation in St. Luke and showed it to her. At thirteen he was equally charmed by the 'Magnificat,' which he came across accidentally in the New Testament. On one occasion about this time he ventured to point out to some full-grown Protestants their inconsistency in the matter of devotion to Our Lady, since they believed in the Bible and would not practise what it taught on this subject. For this he drew upon himself a sound reprimand from his mother in the presence of company. When he was of an age to act independently he embraced the Catholic religion. His great wish then was to convert his sister. She one day, pointing to her children said: 'You know how I love them! Well, I would rather see them dead than Catholics!' A stroke of heaven intervened. The two children were struck down with croup and their death was imminent. The Catholic brother said: 'Let us say the "Hail Mary" together. I entreat you to say it with me.' Conquered by her anguish and with the maternal instinct fully aroused, the Protestant sister knelt down and humbly joined in the prayer. It was a fervent prayer. The children recovered and their mother's conversion followed. Father Tuckwell and his sister can both say that they were converted by the 'Hail Mary.'

ALL NATIONS' BAZAAR, NAPIER.

THE Catholics of Napier (says the *Hawke's Bay Herald*) have in the past promoted very many highly successful bazaars, but certainly none better or more worthy of support than the All Nations' Bazaar which was opened in the Gaiety Theatre on Saturday, April 29. The Mayor (Mr G. H. Swan) performed the opening ceremony, complimenting the good Sisters of the Convent on the many beautiful works of art which the stalls contained, and expressing a hope that their efforts would be rewarded as they deserved to be. The Very Rev. Dean Grogan and Father Hickson also made short speeches appropriate to the occasion. The attendance both in the afternoon and the evening was very large, in fact at night the dress circle had to be thrown open to visitors in order to relieve the body of the hall, and even then locomotion was extremely difficult.

The interior of the theatre, with its moving mass of people, and the various stalls so prettily arranged, gave the scene the appearance of a gay carnival. On the right as one enters is the No. 1 stall (England), where Mesdames Brophy, H. Barry, Kelleher, and B. Reardon preside. Beautiful hand-painted mirrors, which reflect one's features with all the improvements that art can suggest, such as water-lilies, kingfishers, mantel drapes of great beauty, plush chairs too dainty to sit in, a wedding cake which only awaits the coming of the bridegroom, and a thousand and one articles are all to be had in 'England.' The star-spangled banner and a majestic-looking eagle sufficiently indicate that No. 2 stall is America without the name overhead. Here Mesdames St. Clair, G. A. Reardon, C. R. Allen, and Miss Comiskey have gathered together such a collection of fine art work as would make any patriotic breast swell with pride. Oil paintings, mirrors, cushions chair covers, artificial flowers, and a profusion of articles too numerous to mention here captivate the eye. A braw chiel, kilted and gowned in tartan surmounts the No. 3 stall (Scotland). His defiant mien seems to claim for his stall the first place in this bazaar of all nations, and certainly the splendid display to be seen here will challenge comparison with any other. Mesdames Condon, Graves, C. O'Donoghue, and Anderson were in charge of this stall. The next stall (Ireland) shows that we have not yet exhausted all the good things of the bazaar, and Ireland seems no whit behind the other countries in providing artistic knicknacks for home decoration. Mesdames John Higgins, D. Murnane, P. Barry, Mitchell, and Ruston preside here, and judging by the brisk business they did, they must all have paid a visit to Blarney Castle and saluted the famous stone. 'New Zealand' is the name over the last of the stalls. Our Colony is evidently not considered to hold a high place in the world of art, for no painted plaques, no bead-work mantel drapes, or other artistic *bijouterie* adorned its counters, but instead were *chefs d'œuvres* in pastry, dainty cakes and confections, piles of snowy sandwiches, and the ambrosial nectar distilled from the Moocha bean and the golden-tinted leaves of the Souchong blend. Mrs. Malcon and the Misses Malcon and Hunter dispensed the fragrant beverages and edible refreshments. Dark-eyed colleens in the dress of the Irish peasantry or wearing the tartan of some Scottish clan, or the pretty stars and stripes of the United States, fitted in and out amongst the throng, alternately entreating, cajoling and alluring the small coins from visitors. A stereoscope which took the spectator round the world for threepence, and an Aunt Sally were additional attractions. In the afternoon and evening a number of pupils of the convent school, under the direction of Miss R. St. Clair, danced an exceedingly pretty 'pinafore' dance, Miss Condon accompanying. The school children also sang the 'New Zealand Anthem' at the opening ceremony. Several of the boys from the Marist Brothers' school contributed a dialogue arranged from 'Pickwick Papers' by Brother Brendon. During the evening Piper Helm played a selection on the bagpipes.

Louis XIV. of France drank the first cup of coffee made in Western Europe. Coffee was then worth £5 16s a pound.

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That all

STERLINGS

Are Fitted with the

MORSE ROLLER-JOINT CHAIN.

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Before purchasing your TURNIP SOWER, see

SAPWELL PATENT DAISY.

The Best Driller in the Market.

SAVES TIME and LABOUR,

MAKES THE DRILLS,

SOWS SEEDS and MANURE

AT ONE OPERATION.

Send for Catalogue.

Your Old Friend the

INVINCIBLE M'CORMICK REAPER AND BINDER

Is still to the front, having

WON THE TWELVE BIG PRIZES IN FIELD COMPETITIONS IN FRANCE THIS SEASON ALREADY

MORROW, BASSETT & CO.,

Christchurch, Ashburton, Dunedin.

NEW WINTER GOODS !

HERBERT,

Special Show in each Department.

Everything New and Fashionable.

Our first shipments of over 260 cases of New Winter Drapery are now opened, and comprise the Latest Productions from British and Foreign Looms.

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RABBITSKINS.

RABBITSKINS.

EDWARD THOMAS & CO.,

LARGEST EXPORTERS OF
—RABBITSKINS—

NO COMMISSION. In the Colony.

Cash Buyer of WOOL, SHEPSKINS, HAIR, HIDES, etc.
Agents for the ALBERT CHURN (Patented)!

BOND STREET, DUNEDIN.

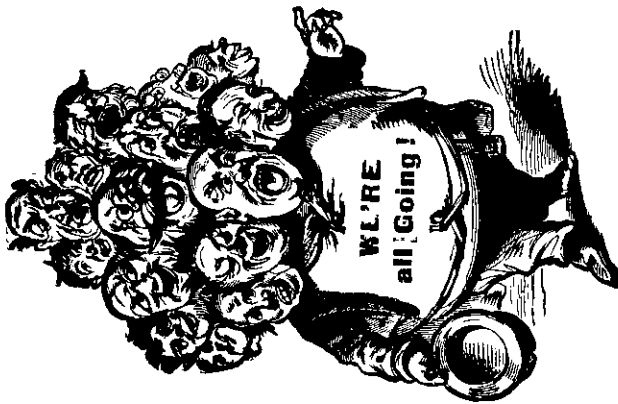
Notice of Removal.

MR. T. J. COLLINS, DENTIST,

Has removed to new premises, immediately above the Union Bank of Australia, PRINCES STREET SOUTH, and directly opposite Brown, Ewing's.

ENTRANCE next to BRISCOE AND CO.

SUNFLOWER SOAP



To Buy Some.

It is THE DADDY OF 'EM ALL FOR HOUSEHOLD USE.

You can buy it Anywhere.

SOUTH END MONUMENTAL WORKS.

Established - 1865.

H. PALMER
STONE MASON & SCULPTOR

PRINCES STREET SOUTH, DUNEDIN

Monuments and Tombstones erected of New Zealand Granite, Scotch Granite, and Italian and American Marble.

Tomb Railing in great variety.

THE TRADE SUPPLIED

Town and Country Orders promptly attended to.

T. B. O'CONNOR

VICTORIA HOTEL,
Victoria Street, Auckland.

First-class Accommodation for Visitors. Close to Steamer, Train, &c

ONLY THE BEST BRANDS OF WINES AND SPIRITS
KEPT IN STOCK.

O'DONNELL AND TOOMEY,
PRODUCE, PROVISION, and COAL MERCHANTS,
GT. KING ST., DUNEDIN,

Have much pleasure in intimating that they have removed from Stafford Street to more commodious premises in Great King Street, where they are prepared to supply goods of the very best description at the Cheapest Rates.

Dealers in Tea, Sugar, Wheat, Oats, Bran, Chaff, Straw, Hay, Barley.
All kinds Coal and Firewood. Hams, Bacon, and Cheese a speciality

F O R S A L E

AS A GOING CONCERN,

The Old-Established and Favourably-Known BUSINESS and REMISES of FRANCIS MEENAN, Dunedin, Produce, Provision Wine and Spirit Merchant. A superior 10-roomed House attached to premises. Owing to failing health. Terms can be arranged. Premises can be inspected at any time.—Apply

FRANCIS MEENAN

February 15, 1899.

For ^{STYLISH,} RELIABLE Boots and Shoes

VISIT.....

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95 GEORGE STREET, DUNEDIN.

NOTE.—Shipments of the cream of the World's Markets constantly coming to hand. SEE WINDOWS.



<p>FIRST. Boots with this Brand on the heel are Guaranteed to Fit and Wear Well.</p>	<p>SECOND. On this Brand only the Very Best of Workmen are employed.</p>	<p>THIRD. Only the Very Best of Materials are used in this Brand of Boots and Shoes.</p>	<p>FOURTH. Farmers, Miners, and all who want to keep their feet, dry try this Brand.</p>	<p>FIFTH. The "STANDARD" Brand Boots and Shoes are known from Auckland to the Bluff for sterling quality</p>
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Commercial.

(For week ending May 10.)

Mr. Harman Reeves, Sharebroker, Dunedin, reports as follows:

BANKS.—National, Buyers, 2/8/6; Sellers, 2/9/6. New South Wales, B., 37/0/0; S., 37/10/0. Union of Australia, Ltd., B., 26/15/0; S., 27/5/0.

INSURANCE.—National, B., 17/6; S., 17/9. New Zealand, B., 3/3/0; S., 3/3/6. South British, B., 2/4/0; S., 2/5/6. Standard, B., 13/3; S., 13/6.

SHIPPING.—New Zealand Shipping, B., 4/12/6; S., 4/15/6. Union Steam, B., 9/17/6; S., 10/0/0.

COAL.—Westport, B., 3/2/6; S., 3/3/6.

LOAN AND AGENCY.—Commercial Property Company (2/10/0), B., 5/3; S., 5/6. National Mortgage, B., 17/0; S., 17/6. Perpetual Trustees, B., 11/9; S., 12/6. Trustees and Executors, B., 1/12/6; S., 1/13/6.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Kaiapoi Woollen Co., B., 6/3/6; S., 6/6/0. Milburn Lime and Cement, B., 2/4/6; S., 2/5/6; do., new issue, B., 1/5/0; S., 1/5/3. Mornington Taraway, B., 16/0; S., 16/8. Mosgiel Woollen, B., 4/5/6; S., 4/6/0. New Zealand Drug, B., 2/10/6; S., 2/11/6. New Zealand Drug (80/- paid), B., 1/16/0; S., 1/17/6. Otago Daily Times, B., 12/0/0; S., 12/10/0. Emu Bay Railway, B., 8/0; S., 9/0. Wellington Woollen, B., 4/15/0; S., 4/17/6. Silverton Tram, B., 4/9/0; S., 4/11/0. New Zealand Refrigerating, B., 1/19/0; S., 2/0/0.

GOLDFIELDS.—Reefton: Big River Extended, B., 14/0; S., 14/6. Cumberland Extended, B., 0/9; S., 1/3. Dillon Extended, B., 1/0; S., 1/6. Keep-it-Dark, B., 20/6; S., 21/6. Alpine Extended, B., 4/9; S., 5/3. Welcome Co. (Ltd.), B., 1/6; S., 2/0. Crescus (Paparua), B., 4/9; S., 5/3. Otago.—Alpha (vendors), B., 2/6; S., 3/0. Golden Site, B., 3/0; S., 3/6. Morning Star (A issue), B., 9/0; S., 10/0.

DREDGING COMPANIES.—Belmont, par. Buller, B., 23/0; S., 21/0. Chatto Creek, B., 33/0; S., 35/0. Olydo, B., 47/0; S., 50/0. Dunedin, B., 15/0; S., 16/0. Empire, B., 37/0; S., 40/0. Enterprise, B., 30/0; S., 33/0. Enterprise Gully, par. Evan's Flat, B., 25/6; S., 26/0. Ettrick, B., 9/6; S., 10/0 (paid). Golden Gate, B., 71/0; S., 75/0. Golden Beach, B., 11/0; S., 11/6 (prem). Golden Point, B., 28/6; S., 29/0. Tnapeka, B., 20/0; S., 21/0. Vincent, B., 30/0; S., 31/6. Harley and Riley, B., 34/6; S., 35/6. Jutland Flat, B., 5/6; S., 5/9 (contrib.). Kyeburn, B., 10/0. Macraes Flat, 20/0; S., 20/6. Golden Run, B., 19/0; S., 19/6. Golden Terrace, B., B., 16/9; S., 17/9. Magnetic, B., 50/0; S., 51/0. Matau, B., 52/0; S., 57/0. Matakitaiki, B., 5/0; S., 5/6. Mount Ida, par. Molyneux Hydraulic (B), B., 27/0; S., 29/0. Naseby, B., 31/0; S., 32/0. Nevis, B., 21/6; S., 22/0. Ophir, S., par. Otago, B., 2/5/0; S., 2/7/0. Success, B., 2/10/0; S., 2/15/0. Upper Waipori, B., 3/3; S., 3/6. Waimumu, B., 30/0; S., 31/0. Sunlight, B., 12/0; S., 15/0 prem. Cromwell, B., 10/6 prem; S., 11/6 prem. Riverbank, B., 1/0 prem; S., 1/3 prem.

SLUICING COMPANIES.—Moonlight (contrib.) B., 17/6; S., 20/6. Roxburgh Amalgamated (contrib.), B., 6/9; S., 7/0. Deep Stream, B., 27/0; S., 28/0.

LIVE STOCK.

ADDINGTON STOCK MARKET.

The entries at Addington to-day comprised 13,341 sheep and lambs, 373 cattle, 636 pigs. Business had a satisfactory tone.

FAT CATTLE.—Steers brought L5 to L6 17s 6d; heifers, L4 to L5 17s 6d; cows, L3 17s 6d to L6 12s 6d, the latter price being for exceptionally good animals. Best beef averaged 17s to 18s per 100lb; other sorts, 12s to 16s.

FAT SHEEP.—The entry was large. The supply of freezing sheep being good, prices all round showed an advance. Freezers brought 16s to 18s 8d; best ewes 11s to 13s 6d, and up to 16s 3d for extra prime loss; merino wethers, 13s 8d.

FAT LAMBS.—Competition was keen, best lots bringing 15s to 15s 7d; ordinary freezers, 11s 6d to 14s 6d; trade lambs, 9s to 11s.

STORE SHEEP.—The bulk of store sheep came from the North Island, Blenheim, and Nelson, business being brisk. Best wethers brought 13s to 14s 6d, a line of nearly fat 15s 10d; other wethers, 11s to 12s 9d; sound mouth breeding ewes, 10s to 12s; backward ewes and culls, 6s to 9s; best lambs, 9s to 11s 3d; culls, 6s to 8s 6d.

Pigs were in good supply, and prices were a shade easier. Bacon, 44s to 55s; pork-rs, 30s to 40s; stores, 20s to 34s 6d; weaners, 14s 6d to 18s; suckers, 6s to 12s. A line of 70 North Island stores brought 13s 6d to 34s; baconers brought 4d per lb; porkers, 3 3/4d to 4 3/4d.

DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS.

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

There was a moderate number of horses forward for Saturday's sale, comprised chiefly of medium to inferior light. Only a few good draughts were offered, and these met with a keen demand at full market rates. Any horses of the springcart order met a ready sale, there being a great demand for this class of animal at the present time. There was a good demand for light harness horses and hacks of good quality, but inferior sorts met a dull market and were very stiff to sell. We would remind all horseowners and intending purchasers that our eighth annual horse sale will be held on the 8th and 9th of June. We have already received upwards of 80 entries. We beg to draw the attention of vendors to the order of the sale—viz: Draught horses will be sold on Thursday, the 8th, and light horses on Friday, the 9th of June. We quote as follows:—

First-class young draught mares and geldings, L35 to L45; good do, L24 to L35; medium sorts, L20 to L25; aged draughts, L12 to L16; first-class hacks and light harness horses, L18 to L25; good do, L12 to L16; medium do, L6 to L9; aged and inferior, L2 to L5

PRODUCE.

London, May 2.—8,326 quarters of South Australian wheat (May shipment) have been sold at about 28s 8d, and 10,400 quarters of Victorian (March shipment) at 28s 7d.

London, May 3.—The total quantity of wheat and flour afloat for the United Kingdom is 3,150,000 quarters, and for the Continent 1,670,000 quarters.

London, May 4.—The American visible wheat supply is estimated at 47,258,000 bushels.

London, May 5.—The improved crops reports are causing a weakening of the American wheat markets. The English and Continental markets are firm. Two sailers' cargoes were sold at 28s 9d and 28s 4 1/2d. Steamer parcels (March shipment) are offering at 28s 3d.

London, May 5.—Butter is dull. Colonial, 92s; Danish, 94s.

London, May 7.—Frozen Meats—Mutton: Crossbred wethers and maiden ewes—Canterbury, 4 1/2d; Dunedin and Southland are not quoted; North Island, 4 1/2d. Lamb: Prime Canterbury, 5 1-16d; fair average (including Dunedin, Southland, Wellington secondary, and Canterbury), 4 3/4d. River Plate is unchanged.

The Rabbitskin sales were small. A good selection sold at about late rates.

AUSTRALIAN MARKETS.

Sydney, May 3.—Wheat: Chick, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; milling, 2s 8d to 2s 10d. Flour, L6 10s to L6 15s; Manitoban, L9 15s. Oats: New Zealand freezing, 1s 7d to 1s 9d; Tartarian seeding, 2s to 2s 3d. Barley: Cape, 2s 6d; Chevalier, 5s 3d to 5s 6d. Maize: Prime, 2s 7d to 2s 8d. Peas: Prussian blue, 3s 6d to 3s 9d. Bran, 8 1/2d. Pollard, 9d. Potatoes: Circular Heads and New Zealand Derwents, L2 5s to L2 10s. Onions: Victorian, L2 15s; New Zealand, L3. Butter: Dairy, 10d to 10 1/2d; factory, 11d. Cheese: Large, 5d; loaf, 5 1/2d to 6d. Bacon, 6d to 8 1/2d. Hams: New Zealand, mild cured, 9 1/2d.

Melbourne, May 3.—Wheat, 2s 7d to 2s 8d. Oats: Algerian, 1s 4d to 1s 8d; Tartarian, 1s 8d to 1s 10 1/2d. Barley: Cape, 2s 1d;

ARTHUR M. BYRNE,

Manufacturer's Agent and
Indent Merchant,

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Having just returned from the Home Country, where I have made arrangements to be the Sole Agent for the colonies of New Zealand and Tasmania for the following celebrated and well known brands of Irish Whiskies. For Otago and Southland Guinness Stout and Bass Beer. It is my intention to visit the chief centres of business in New Zealand and Tasmania at least twice a year, when I trust to be favoured with your valued indents for same.—Yours faithfully, ARTHUR M. BYRNE.

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The Old Bush Mills Distillery Co. Ltd. (Distillers of Pure Malt Whisky only)
The only Medal with Highest Award, for Irish Whisky, Chicago, 1893; and only Gold Medal for Whisky, Paris, 1889.
'Special Old Liquor' Malt Whisky, 12 years old. "Special" Malt Whisky, 7 years old. *** Malt Whisky, 9 years old
** Malt Whisky, 5 years old * Malt Whisky, 3 years old.

Duncan Alerdice & Co., Limited, Old Distillery, Newry.—"Extra Special"—"The Native Liqueur." "Hand in Hand" The "Native." "Killarney Cream." "The Blackthorn." "Old Irish" (with buyer's name printed).

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Flora Fri., May 19 3 p.m. D'din

NAPIER, GISBORNE and AUCKLAND—

Te Anau May 14 3 p.m. D'din
Mararoa Tues., May 16 2.30 p.m. tr'n
Flora Fri., May 19 3 p.m. D'din

SYDNEY, via WELLINGTON—

Mokoia Thurs., May 11 3.30 p.m. D'din
Wakatipu Wed., May 17 2.30 p.m. tr'n

SYDNEY via AUCKLAND—

Mararoa Tues., May 16 2.30 p.m. tr'n
Tarawera May 30 2.30 p.m. tr'n

MELBOURNE via BLUFF and HOBART—

Waikare May 15 2.30 p.m. tr'n
Talune* Mon., May 22 2.30 p.m. tr'n

* Calls Hobart.

WESTPORT, via TIMARU, AKAROA, LYTTELTON and WELLINGTON.

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Corinna † Fri., May 19 4 p.m. D'din
Taupo * Thurs., May 25 4 p.m. D'din

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† Calls Nelson if required.

GREYMOOUTH, via OAMARU, TIMARU LYTTELTON, WELLINGTON, and NEW PLYMOUTH—

Herald Wed., May 17 4 p.m. D'din

TONGA, SAMOA, FIJI and SYDNEY—

Manapouri Wed., May 31 From Auckland

TAHITI and RAKATONGA—

Ovalau Tues., June 6 From Auckland

FIJI (SUVA and LEVUKA)—

Upolu Wed., May 24 From Auckland

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Men's Light Boots from 8s 6d; Boys' and
Girls' School Boots a Specialty.

The Famous "VICTORY." The Best Sewing Machine in the World. Special £50 prizes this month only. 6, PRINCES STREET.

English feed, 2s 4d. Maize, 2s 9d to 2s 11d. Bran, 8d. Pollard, 8 1/2d. Potatoes, L2 to L2 2s 6d. Onions, L2 5s to L2 10s.

Adelaide, May 3.—Wheat, 2s 7d to 2s 9d Flour, L6 10s. Oats: Dun an Algerian, 1s 6d to 1s 8d; stout, 2s to 2s 6d. Bran and pollard, 9d.

The Christchurch Press of Thursday of last week, commenting on the agricultural and pastoral outlook, says:—Prime Canterbury is now worth over 4d per lb in London, and lamb is up to 5d. On Wednesday, at Addington, the export buyers showed their confidence in the market by giving 16s to 18s 8d for freezing sheep, and over 15s for fat lambs. Wool is also rising at Home, and altogether the prospects of the sheep farmer have not been so satisfactory for years.

INVERCARGILL PRODUCE MARKET.

Wheat: Prices unchanged, only local buyers operating. Oats Values have gone down, and the best price obtainable is 1s 4 1/2d, sacks in, f.o.b. Bluff. Local merchants have given farmers from 1s 0 1/2d to 1s 1 1/2d, sacks extra, at up-country stations. These prices being very full value when compared with f.o.b. prices obtainable for orders from over sea, and unless values improve in the outside markets, it is evident that prices ruling locally must come down. The low value has induced some to try the London market, and shipments have been made by the Indramayo and Morayshire. Wheat: Good milling is worth from 2s 2d to 2s 3d, sacks extra, up-country stations. Ryegrass: Farmers' parceller find ready sale at 1s to 1s 3d, sacks extra. There is no outside demand. Barley: Good malting samples are saleable at 3s to 3s 3d to local brewers. The outside demand is poor.

Invercargill prices current:—Wholesale—Butter, fresh, 7d; eggs, 1s 6d per doz; cheese, farm, 3 1/2d; bacon, farm, 7d; bacon (rolled), farm, 6d; hams, 8d; potatoes, 30s per ton; fowl wheat, 2s; barley, 2s to 2s 6d; chaff, L2; flour, L8; oatmeal, L9 to L10; bran, L2 10s, including bags; pollard, L3. Retail—Fresh butter, 9d; eggs, 1s 9d per doz; cheese, 6d; bacon (rolled), 8d; sliced, 9d; hams, 10d; potatoes, 50s per ton; flour, 200lbs, 17s; 50lbs, 1s 9d; 25lbs, 2s 6d; oatmeal, 50lbs, 5s; 25lbs, 2s 9d; pollard, 5s 9d per bag; bran, 3s 6d per bag; chaff, L2 10s per ton; fowls' feed, 2s 3d per bushel.

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

WHEAT—There is inquiry for prime milling and fowl wheat, but there is no change in values. Best milling, 2s 1d to 2s 6d; medium do., 2s 2d to 2s 4d; fowl wheat, 1s 11d to 2s for best broken and inferior, 1s 6d to 1s 9d (sacks in, terms).

OATS—Values are unchanged. There are numerous inquiries, but very little is offering in the meantime. Quotations are hard to get either here or at the Bluff. 1s 3d Dunedin (sacks extra) is the figure at which most sales are made for B. grade sorts.

BARLEY—The best price obtained recently was 3s 7d Dunedin for a splendid sample of Lakes barley. Sales of coastal sorts are made at 2s 3d and 2s 4d for ordinary medium quality.

CHAFF—Market overstocked and consignments difficult to place. Prime, L2 2s 6d to L2 5s; medium, L1 15s to L2; inferior unsaleable.

POTATOES—Best derwents, 37s 6d per ton. Supplies heavy.

Messrs. Donald Reid and Co. report as follows:—

OATS—We catalogued medium to best feed, Danish and sparrowbills. There was a good attendance of buyers, but bidding was not animated. The lots sold, however, show last week's values to be fairly well maintained. Good to best feed sold at 1s 3d to 1s 3 1/2d; medium, 1s 2d to 1s 2 1/2d; inferior, 1s 1d to 1s 1 1/2d per bushel (sacks extra).

WHEAT—The market for milling quality is unchanged. All sorts in good condition are saleable at late values, buyers evincing a preference for choice samples. Fowl wheat is offering more freely, and sells at: For good whole wheat, 1s 11d to 2s; medium, 1s 9d to 1s 10 1/2d; broken and damaged, 1s 6d to 1s 8d per bushel (sacks in).

POTATOES—The supply coming forward is somewhat in excess of the demand, and sales at top prices are difficult to effect. We quote: Best Derwents, 37s to 37s 6d; medium, 30s to 32s 6d per ton (sacks in).

CHAFF—The market is still over-supplied, and to-day's prices show no improvement upon those of last week. Our catalogue comprised over 50 tons of varying qualities. Best oaten sheaf sold at L2 5s to L2 7s 6d; medium to good, L2 to L2 2s 6d; inferior, L1 10s to L1 17s 6d per ton (bags extra).

WOOL, SKINS, TALLOW, ETC.

London, May 2.—The wool sales opened to-day with an excited tone, prices showing an advance of from 15 to 20 per cent. compared with the closing sales of the last series.

London, May 3.—Messrs. Buxton, Balme, and Jacob's joint catalogue comprised 11,323 bales. A splendid selection, especially of merinos, was offered. There was a record attendance of Home and Continental buyers. No Americans were present. There was fierce competition for merinos, which went 15 to 20 per cent., and occasionally more, above the best rates realised at the March sales. Crossbreds were in brisk demand. Fine advanced 10 per cent.; medium, 7 1/2 per cent.; and low, 5 per cent. The rise exceeded all anticipations, and is due to the short supply and bare stocks. There is a strong demand for fine wools.

London, May 2.—The quantity of tallow in stock is 13,915 casks. The imports last month amounted to 2265 casks: the deliveries to 5776 casks.

London, May 4.—At the wool sales competition was animated. Prices show a hardening tendency.

At the wool sales the Okiri clip realised 6 1/2d per lb.

Melbourne, May 4.—Competition at the wool sales was exceedingly brisk. Merinos, both greasy and scoured, showed an advance of from 15 to 20 per cent. compared with last month's prices. Up to 20 1/2d was paid for scoureds, which is a record for the season.

Messrs. Dalgety and Co. (Limited) received the following cable from their London office under date May 2:—The wool sales have opened with a fair selection and a large attendance of buyers, competition being very animated. Merino wools are higher by 15 to 20 per cent.: fine crossbreds, 10 to 12 1/2d per cent.; and coarse breds, 5 to 7 1/2d per cent. compared with closing rates of last series.

The New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Company received the following London cable message, dated May 2:—'Wool—The sales opened at an average advance of about 15 per cent. on last sales' closing rates for merino and fine crossbred, and 7 1/2 per cent. for medium and coarse crossbred. Attendance of both Home and foreign buyers is good, and the buyers are operating with spirit.

London, May 5.—The wool sales are very spirited. Prices are firmer. At Bradford: Common sixties, 24 1/2d; supers, 25d.

Messrs. Dalgety and Co. received the following cable from their London office dated 3rd inst. —Wool sales continue firm and lately reported rates are fully maintained. Nearly everybody is buying at present prices, American buyers excepted. French buyers are the principal operators.

London, May 6.—At the wool sales competition was spirited. Merinos showed an upward tendency. Low crossbreds have advanced 1/2d. The total catalogued for the present series up to date is 52,272 bales, and the total sold 51,763 bales.

London, May 7.—At the wool sales the Mount Vernon clip (Mr. J. Harding's, Hawke's Bay) realised 9 1/2d, and the Tekoa clip 10 1/2d.

Messrs. Dalgety and Co. received the following cable dated 5th May from their London office:—Wool sales continue very animated; prices have gained further ground. Prospects are good.

Sydney, May 9.—The local wool sales show an advance of 7 1/2 to 10 per cent. Portion of a fine clip realised 1s 9 1/2d, the balance passing in at 1s 11d. Greasy realised up to 1s 0 1/2d.

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

SHEEPSKINS—In sympathy with recent wool cables the sheepskin market is active, and all offering meet with ready sale at values showing some improvement. We submitted a large catalogue yesterday and cleared everything at very satisfactory figures.

RABBITSKINS—Supplies are on a comparatively small scale, and auctions have been held fortnightly in consequence. This is no doubt owing to the large trade done by exporters. On Monday we offered a good catalogue which met with excellent competition. Summers made 15 1/2d, autumns 19d, with other sorts in proportion.

MR. F. MEENAN, King street reports:—Wholesale price only—

Oats: feed, medium to prime, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; milling, 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Wheat: plentiful: milling, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; fowls', 1s 6d to 2s. Chaff L2 5s to L2 12s 6d according to quality, plentiful. Ryegrass and clover hay: L3 to L3 5s. Straw: bare, loose, 2s; pressed, 2 1/2s per ton. Potatoes: L1 12s 6d to L1 15s. Market overstocked. Flour: 17 to L7 10s. Oatmeal: in 25lb bags, L8. Butter: dairy, 6d to 8d; fresh factory, 9d to 10d. Eggs 1s 8d. Bran: L2 10s. Pollard: L3 10s. Onions: L3 10s to L3 15s per ton.

Such has been the rush for the new Multiflex Dunlop tyres in England that the Home company for a time were quite unable to compete with the demand. Orders for no less than a quarter of a million of tyres were placed with the big company within one week, so that there is hardly any wonder that things are humming in the company's factories. The Australian factory is also working at high pressure, trying to get out the new tyres on order, which orders are now pouring in from all quarters of Australasia.—* * *

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.—* * *

The Paris papers are telling an interesting story of a newly-elected member of the French Senate. M. Bassinet, like many of his colleagues, is a self-made man, and began life as a journeyman mason. In that capacity he was employed to renovate the sculptural facade of the Luxembourg Palace, when the architect, noting his skill and industry, said to him by way of encouragement, 'Why, you couldn't be making a better job of it if it was your own house.' The young workman smiled, and is said to have answered, 'One never knows what the future may bring forth.' He had at the time no political aspirations, but all the same he now sits as a Senator in the building he helped to adorn.

Mr. Swinburne has just lost a sister, Miss Charlotte Jane Swinburne, who died at her house in Onslow square. Admiral and Lady Jane Swinburne had six children in all, four daughters and two sons, of whom the eldest, the poet, was born in the year Queen Victoria began to reign. His only brother, who married a lady of Berlin, died eight years ago, and another of his sisters, Alice, has been dead for nearly 40 years. Among Mr. Swinburne's near relations are, strange to say, certain Roman Catholic priests—Father Sebastian Bowden, of the Oratory, and his brother being the poet's first cousins. Another first cousin, the Earl of Ashburnham, is a convert to the Roman Catholic religion—a religion which all the Swinburnes professed until the beginning of this century.

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E. O'CONNOR,
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O T A G O A. A N D P. S O C I E T Y.

ANNUAL WINTER SHOW

And

FAT STOCK COMPETITION

Will be held in the

AGRICULTURAL HALL and ANNEXES

On

JUNE 7, 8, 9, and 10, 1899.

GENERAL ENTRIES CLOSE on WEDNESDAY, MAY 31.
CHEESE and BUTTER for EXPORT, APRIL 29.

EXHIBITS RECEIVED on JUNE 5 and 6: and for the convenience of country competitors, Farmers' Butter, Fruit, Honey, Bread, Scones, and Dressed Poultry will be received up to 2 p.m. on WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7.

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Society will be held on THURSDAY, June 8, and during Show Dates.

Schedules and full particulars on application to
E. F. DUTHIE,
Secretary.

AUSTRALIAN GENERAL CATHOLIC DEPOT.

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" May, Meditations, Ella McMahon	-	1	11
" " at Mary's Altar, Ward	-	3	10
" Mary of Our Lady Lourdes, Lasserre	-	2	10
" Our Lady, Ferran	-	3	3
Little Month of Mary, Ella McMahon	-	1	1
Imitation of Blessed Virgin	-	1	2
Miniature Life of Mary, Bowden	-	0	7
Mary in the Gospels, Lectures, Northcote	-	3	9
" Magnifying God, May Sermons	-	2	9
Year of Mary, or True Servant Blessed Virgin	-	5	0
Urn-like Mouth of Mary, Meditations	-	1	2
A Flower Every Evening for Mary	-	1	2
Miraculous Sanctuary Our Lady of Lourdes	-	3	11
" " Episodes " "	-	5	5
Sermons for Children of Mary, Clarke	-	6	8

NOTICE.

Copies of "THE ORANGE SOCIETY, by the REV. FATHER CLEARY, can be had from the TABLET Office. Price, 1s 3d; per post, 1s 8d.

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DRAWING MAY 24, 1899.

My cordial thanks are offered to the following ladies and gentlemen for blocks and amounts received:—

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DEAN MACKAY.

DEAR ME,,!

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

THE ANNUAL

S. VINCENT DE PAUL CONCERT
FOR THE POOR
Will be held in the
GARRISON HALL

On
WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY.

A Splendid Programme by the following artists has been arranged:—

Miss R. Blaney	Miss K. Blaney	Mr. A. H. Burton
" Bay Davis Marks	" Mee	" P. Carolin
" K. Maloney	" G. Busch	" Neill
" Lucy Mee	" Gertie Meenan	" E. Eggar
Mrs. J. Woods	Christian Brothers' Pupils	" J. Woods

Concert commences at 8 o'clock sharp.

TICKETS 2s and 1s.

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.

STEWART.—At Police Camp, Alexandra South, John Patrick only son of David and Mary Stewart, aged 5 years.—R.I.P.

ANSWER TO CORRESPONDENT.

ONE WHO WANTS TO KNOW.—Yes, it would be decidedly a breach of good manners.

The New Zealand Tablet.

FIAT JUSTITIA.

THURSDAY, MAY 11, 1899.

THE LATEST SCIENTIFIC WONDER.



THE century that opened with the clang and din of a European war which resounded over three continents has found its highest triumphs in the arts of peace. It is, beyond all others the century of applied science and mechanical invention. In this, as in other respects, it has been the heir of all the ages. For few inventions have sprung out of men's minds fully equipped and ready, as Minerva is fabled to have come all armed and grown up from the brain of Jupiter. Like the electric telegraph and the steam engine, they are the slow result of the experimental failures and partial successes of many a brain and hand toiler. The newest wonder of scientific magic—liquid air—is no exception to this rule. It comes to us as the result of long and patient experiments in low temperatures combined with high pressure. Twenty-two years ago RAOUL PICTET gave us liquefied oxygen. In 1892 OLZEWSKI succeeded in reducing nitrogen to a liquid state. The most successful of this line of experimentalists was JAMES DEWAR, the Scottish chemist, an old pupil of Sir LYON PLAYFAIR at Edinburgh, and of Professor KEKULIE at Ghent. He went a step farther than any of his predecessors, and not merely liquefied air, but reduced it to a solid block of ice. Liquid air has a high

value in many industrial processes, but thus far the cost of production has been prohibitive. And now forth steps Mr. TRIPLER (a New York chemist) on the scene. He has so far simplified the processes of its production as to run it out at the cost of ten pence per gallon. He has thus changed it at one stroke from a mere laboratory curiosity into a mighty commercial agency, the future of which it is impossible for us, in our present state of knowledge—or rather of ignorance—to estimate.

McClure's Magazine for March makes history by being the first to announce the cheapened production of liquid air and to open up the wondrous prospects that lie before it as the future motive power, which is to supersede steam, gas, water, oil, and electricity, and work a revolution in industrial life. Events are moving fast in the fields of invention as the century dies. And we are evidently on the eve of sensational developments. The already known uses of liquid air are so many and varied that Mr. TRIPLER's new method of production will at once bring it into play as one of the working agencies of our every day life. A small roomful of air, containing 800 cubic feet, can be compressed into a single cubic foot of clear, limpid liquid of such intense cold that it turns back into the gaseous state again at a temperature so low as 312 degrees below zero of the Fahrenheit thermometer. Its value for cooling purposes is thus apparent, and it is likely to give a marked impetus to the great meat-exporting industry of New Zealand. It will also add much to the comfort of life in tropical and sub-tropical countries. Taken up in felt or cotton it forms a safe, manageable, and powerful explosive. Experiments are already being made to adapt it to use with small arms and artillery, and in the near future it may displace the smokeless powders and high explosives now in use, and add a new terror—and therefore a new deterrent—to that 'trade of barbarians,' war. Its action on metals is strange to a degree. It freezes mercury (says McClure's) 'as hard as granite. Iron and steel become as brittle as glass. A tin cup which has been filled with liquid air for a few minutes will, if dropped, shatter into 100 little fragments like thin glass. Copper, gold, and all precious metals, on the other hand, are made more pliable, so that even a thick piece can be bent readily between the fingers.' One of the greatest and most welcome triumphs of the new agent will, however, be in the field of surgery. 'A few drops retained on a man's hand will sear the flesh like a white hot iron; and yet it does not burn—it merely lulls. For this reason it is admirably adapted to surgical uses where cauterisation is necessary; it will cut out diseased flesh much more quickly and safely than caustic potash or nitric acid, and it can be controlled absolutely. Mr. TRIPLER has actually furnished a well known New York physician with enough to sear out a cancer and entirely cure a difficult case. And it is cheaper than any cauterising chemical in use.'

So much for actual achievements. The anticipations of its usefulness as a motive power are well grounded. They are based on the tremendous expansive force which is generated by the return of the liquid air to its normal or gaseous state. The action is exactly analogous to that of the use of steam, but with this important difference: that while water requires to be raised, at considerable expense, to above 212 degrees of Fahrenheit to turn it into the gaseous condition called steam, liquid air is far beyond its ordinary boiling point and returns rapidly to the gaseous state at the ordinary temperature of the atmosphere even on the coldest day. The mechanical skill of our day ought to find no difficulty in devising means of harnessing this new force to drive the flying wheels of commerce. The near future may see this effected. If and when this is effected, there should ensue a revolution in production of a far more sweeping and radical kind than that which was ushered in by the steam engine. It should cheapen the breakfast table, the textile industries, the carrying trade, electric lighting, etc., bring motive power into every corner of domestic use, solve the difficulties of the auto-car, the motor-bicycle, and the flying machine, overthrow the boiler-makers' and other trades, but, as a compensation, extend the means of production along other lines hitherto not dreamed of. Speculation will probably not be kept for long in a state of suspense. And those that live will probably see the harmless, necessary atmosphere harnessed to many an unaccustomed work.

THE FAMOUS "VICTORY" SEWING MACHINE.

for Catalogue (mention this paper).

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DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN.

We learn by wire from a Queenstown correspondent that the Rev. Father O'Donnell, Queenstown, has been elected a trustee of the Wakatipu Hospital.

On Friday next two nuns from the Dominican priory, Dunedin, will leave for Queenstown. They will be joined there by a sister from the local convent. From thence they will proceed to Cromwell, where a new Dominican convent is about to be opened.

Among the passengers by the *Monowai* on Monday for Melbourne was Mr. John Cleary, of Bendigo, Victoria, who had been spending a short holiday in New Zealand. Mr. Cleary is a brother of the rev. editor of the N. Z. TABLET, and whilst in Dunedin was the guest of the clergy at the Bishop's palace.

The Rev. Father Bowers of Geraldine, who is taking a trip to Australia for the benefit of his health, arrived in Dunedin on Saturday morning, by the *Monowai* from the North. He left for Melbourne by the same steamer on Monday. During his stay in Dunedin Father Bowers was the guest of the clergy of the Cathedral parish.

A complimentary farewell concert is to be tendered to Miss Kitty Blaney in view of her approaching marriage to Mr. T. Costello of Naseby. The concert, in which the leading vocalists of this city take part, is to be given in the Garrison Hall on the 31st inst. Miss Blaney's vocal talents have ever been placed, in the most cordial and ungrudging manner, at the service of every good cause. The public of Dunedin, and especially the Catholic public, owe it alike to Miss Blaney and themselves to mark their appreciation of her ability and generous services by making this farewell concert an unqualified success.

On Saturday next Mr. Alfred Harris and Mr. John J. Conuor, jun., sever their connection with the Printing Department of the N. Z. TABLET Company to take over the old-established and well-known Junction Commercial Hotel at Cromwell, which they purchased quite recently. Mr. Harris has been in the employment of the Company for seventeen years and Mr. Conuor for twelve years. During that time they have won for themselves, by their uniform courtesy and gentlemanlike conduct, a wide circle of warm friends, who will wish them prosperity in the new career on which they have embarked. On behalf of the literary, commercial, and mechanical departments of the N. Z. TABLET we wish our old confidants of so many years, health, happiness, prosperity, and a flowing measure of all good things.

St. Joseph's Gymnasium was opened on Tuesday evening. About 30 members took the floor, whilst the Rev. Fathers Murphy, O'Donnell and Cleary were also present. Instructor Smith, in a short speech, encouraged the young men to make good use of the gymnasium. He did not wish them to strive to become great gymnasts, but to train and strengthen their bodies by systematic exercise. Gymnastics would improve them mentally and physically, and would better fit them for their various callings in life. About an hour was spent in various movements, the instructor deeming it unwise to extend the time till members were in better training. In the course of a week the gymnasium will be well equipped with serviceable material.

The annual concert on behalf of the funds of the Dunedin St. Vincent de Paul Society will be given in the Garrison Hall on Wednesday, 21th inst. It is almost unnecessary to recommend the Society to the generous support of the Catholics of Dunedin, as the good work done by it in the most unostentatious manner is well known. A good deal of poverty exists in Dunedin, as well as in other centres of the Colony, and although we have many public institutions for relieving distress, still there are many in sore straits, who would rather starve than parade their poverty before a public board. Many such cases are sought out and attended to by the ladies of the Society, who by their kindness and sympathy assist in a manner which is not hurtful to the feelings of the recipients. Not alone do the members of the Society contribute to the funds, but also meet regularly to make clothing for the poor, so the least the public can do is to assist the funds by supporting the concert, which in itself will be worthy of their patronage, as an excellent programme will be submitted.

The usual weekly meeting of the Dunedin Catholic Literary Society was held on Monday evening, in St. Joseph's Hall, the Rev. Father Murphy, president, in the chair. There was a large attendance, considering the inclemency of the weather. Two motions had been set down for discussion. The first, which was moved by Mr. J. A. Scott, was to the effect that on debate nights, and on such other nights as the committee thought desirable, lady members of the congregation should be invited. This was adjourned until the next meeting. The other motion, of which notice had been given by Mr. H. McCormack, was to the effect that the name of the Society be changed to that of the Catholic Men's Society. A lengthy and animated discussion took place on Mr. McCormack's motion, the general feeling of the meeting being decidedly against the proposed change. On a division the motion was lost by 12 votes to 5. Mr. McCormack also proposed that it be a suggestion to the committee to, as far as possible, introduce dancing into the programme of the musical evenings of the Society. After considerable discussion the resolution was adopted. Several new members were elected, and the names of a number of candidates for membership were submitted. It was announced that the programme for the next meeting would be (1) consideration of Mr. Scott's motion, (2) a paper on phrenology by Mr. Foster, and (3), if time permits, a discussion on the Samoan question. A hearty vote of thanks to the chair brought the proceedings to a close.

Our Invercargill correspondent writes:—There was a large attendance at the meeting of the Literary Society on Monday evening.

ing. when Mr. Gilfoeder, M.H.R., gave a very interesting description of an overland journey which he made recently to Preservation Inlet. He illustrated his discourse by a rough sketch of the country lying between the Waiou River and Preservation Inlet, and pointed out the places of especial interest. He characterised the country as being hilly and covered with bush. Numerous rapid streams had to be crossed, not without danger, and high mountain ranges had to be surmounted. He found the small lakes and lagoons, of which there are many, covered with ducks, swans, and swamp hens. At the conclusion of his discourse he was accorded a very hearty vote of thanks.—On Tuesday Mother Mary Gabriel and five sisters of the Dominican Convent, Dunedin, on their way to Western Australia, paid a farewell visit to the Dominican Convent here. They were met at the Bluff by the Very Rev. Dean Burke, and thence they came on by train to Invercargill. On their departure a large number of people assembled at the station to wish them *adieu*, and many even accompanied them to the Bluff.—A farewell banquet was given to Sub-Inspector McDouall on Tuesday evening by the Highland Society of Southland. Several influential citizens were present, and many eulogistic speeches regarding the sub-inspector's sterling qualities, and especially his strict attention to duty, were delivered. The sub-inspector left for Wellington on Thursday, Sergeant O'Neill having arrived on Saturday from Dunedin to take his place.

NEW ZEALAND: GENERAL.

WE publish next week the audited balance-sheet of the N.Z. TABLET Irish Distress Fund. Our readers will in the meantime be interested to know that it reached the magnificent amount of £888 8s. 9d.

THE May number of the *Triad* is to hand. This month a musical supplement is given, which will no doubt be appreciated by the readers. The illustrations as usual are very well done, and the printed matter is up to the usual standard.

WE understand that Mr. Cyril Gudgeon intends to start a general commission agency in Queenstown. His long connection with banking business, extending over a period of thirty-five years, as well as his knowledge of mining and insurance matters, should prove of good service to him in his contemplated sphere.

A PLEASANT gathering took place one day last week, when the staff of Messrs. Neill and Co., Dunedin, made a presentation to Mr. Norman H. Bell, who is severing his connection with the firm. The presentation was made by Mr. Rankin, who expressed his appreciation of the recipient's many good qualities, and referred to the good feeling which had always existed between Mr. Bell and the staff. Mr. Bell thanked Mr. Rankin and the others for their present, and acknowledged the many kindnesses which had been shown him by those in the office during his connection with the firm. Mr. Bell, who is a tea expert, has, it is understood, joined the firm of Messrs. R. Wilson and Co. Mr. Bell's many friends will wish him every prosperity in his new sphere.

At the last meeting of the Ashburn Catholic Literary Society Mr. M'Sherry read an interesting paper on 'Henry VIII and the Reformation,' which was well received. Mr. D. McDouall also contributed a paper, dealing with 'Cycling,' showing the numerous advantages of the bicycle, and the strides made by the industry during the last 30 years. Mr. F. Cooper then took the members for a trip over the Southern Alps by the aid of his magic lantern, showing altogether about 30 slides of the most interesting scenery. Needless to say, the trip was thoroughly enjoyed by all present. At the conclusion a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the three gentlemen for the able manner in which they entertained the members. Messrs. P. Hanrahan and R. J. Henry were elected to fill vacancies on the council, and three candidates were nominated for membership. It has been decided to form a dramatic club in connection with the society.

THE members of the Hibernian Society, and especially the committee of management, are to be warmly congratulated on the success which attended their first annual social, held in St. Paul's Schoolroom, on Friday evening last. The schoolroom was comfortably filled, so that those present enjoyed themselves thoroughly, which would scarcely have been the case had the attendance been larger. Among the visitors were the Rev. Fathers Murphy, Coffey, O'Donnell and Cleary, who showed by their presence the interest taken by the clergy in the welfare of the society. The schoolroom was nicely decorated with flags, banners and evergreens, this being the work of Mr. Davy, the custodian. An addition to these decorations was an Irish flag, bearing a harp without a crown, hung in a conspicuous position over the stage, by Bro. J. O'Connor, secretary of the society. About sixty couples took part in the dancing, which was continued up to the small hours of the morning, the music being supplied by Messrs. Yates Brothers. The duties of M.C.'s were admirably carried out by Bros. Keogh, Dee, Rogers and Heley. At intervals during the evening songs and recitations were contributed by Messrs. Black, Attridge, Dee, McCormack and Miss Gregan, the latter being honoured with an enthusiastic *encore*. General satisfaction was expressed regarding the superior manner in which the catering was carried out by Mr. S. Lean. The committee are so pleased with the success attending the initial gathering that they are considering the advisability of holding like entertainments monthly, or at least quarterly. The main object is to bring the Catholic people together, and to get them to know each other.

Official statistics for British India alone show that about 21,000 people and 90,000 domestic animals are killed there every year by wild beasts.

INTERCOLONIAL.

▲ The hospital Saturday collection in Sydney and suburbs totalled £3728, nearly £800 more than last year.

The Right Rev. Dr. Lanigan, Bishop of Goulburn, who had been seriously ill for some time, is now thoroughly restored to health.

The exports from Victoria last year showed a falling off to the extent of £867,121. The imports totalled £16,769,994 in value, against £15,154,482 for 1897.

At the recent examinations held by the Public Service Board in New South Wales, the first place for all New South Wales was obtained by Master Horace Ellen, a pupil of the Christian Brothers' College, St. Patrick's, Goulburn.

The Venerable Abbé Schurr has been appointed Vicar-General of the diocese of Lismore. The Abbé is parish priest of Casino, and has been connected with the diocese for the past 30 years. The appointment has given universal satisfaction.

A new church was recently opened at Gobarralong, in the diocese of Goulburn, the ceremony being performed by the Right Rev. Dr. Gallagher. The cost was under £700, and the subscriptions at the opening extinguished the debt of £220 which was then on it.

The Very Rev. Father John, Superior of the Passionist Order in South Australia, is about to leave shortly for Ireland, for the purpose of attending the Chapter of the Order to be held in July in Dublin. He is likely to be succeeded by the Very Rev. Father Hilary as rector at the Retreat, Glen Osmond.

The Rev. Mother Provincial Kennedy, of the Convent of the Good Shepherd, Abbotsford, accompanied by Prioress O'Rourke and Sister May, of the same convent, has gone to Perth to establish a branch of the Order in the West Australian capital. Dr. Gibney, Bishop of Perth, has set aside an extensive site on the Swan River for the purpose.

At St. Laurence's Church, North Adelaide, on a Sunday afternoon recently, the Dominican Fathers were made the recipients of a phaeton, a set of harness and a fine-looking mare, the gifts of their parishioners, of whom there was a large gathering. The Fathers were also presented with an illuminated framed address, a striking piece of work for which the Dominican nuns of Buxton street were responsible.

The Hon. J. T. Toohy and Mrs. Toohy, of Sydney, were in New York during the Month of March. Archbishop Corrigan, with great pride, showed them the principal Catholic colleges, orphanages, etc. In one orphanage, in which he is deeply interested, there are 700 children, girls and boys, the younger ones being instructed in the Kindergarten principle. Mr. Francis Higgins, brother to Bishop Higgins, conducted the visitors over a wonderful Home for boys rescued from the streets. It is expected that Mr and Mrs. Toohy will arrive in Sydney about the end of next month.

St. Vincent's Hospital, Sydney, which is in charge of the Sisters of Charity, dates as far back as the year 1855, when a quarter of an acre of land was grudgingly granted as a site for the institution. A larger area was obtained by purchase, and a building erected, the hospital commencing operations in October, 1857. Since then, over £150,000 has been spent upon it, the land alone costing £5532 10s. The number of beds now available is 175, and last year over 9000 indoor and outdoor patients were treated by the staff of nurses, the total number of attendances at casualty and outdoor apartments being 22,757.

A pleasing ceremony took place at East Maitland on a Sunday recently, when the parishioners of St. Joseph's Church presented the Right Rev. Dr. Dwyer, Coadjutor-Bishop of Maitland, with a handsome hooded buggy and harness. Alderman Burke presided over the gathering, and Mr. James McLaughlin being the oldest parishioner, was specially selected to make the presentation. His Lordship made a suitable reply, thanking the parishioners most heartily for their very handsome present. The buggy, a double-seated one, is a very beautiful piece of work. The buggy was awarded first prize in its class at the recent show.

On April 19 the chief president of the Hibernian Australasian Catholic Benefit Society (Brother E. T. Hayden, of Ballarat), entertained the deputies attending the annual movable meeting at luncheon at Purer's Crystal Café, Melbourne. One toast, that of the health of the host, was honoured. Brother F. J. Townsend, of West Australia, proposed it, and the chief president replied. On the following evening the deputies were entertained by the St. Ignatius' branch of the society, at Richmond. Among the visitors at the annual movable meeting of the society was Bro. J. W. Howard, the past chief president of the society. The movement was inaugurated in Victoria in 1865, and Mr. Howard was one of the founders.

Over 200 members of the Hibernian Society sat down to the annual breakfast in Sydney on April 16. In the course of his speech the district president (Mr. J. Sutton) said that during the past year the Society had paid £490 in funeral donations, £1801 in sick pay, £2542 for medical attendance and medicine, and had to the credit of the various funds—sick pay, £5300; incidental, £1059; and district, £6077; making a total of £12,136, with a membership of 2400 in New South Wales. Throughout Australasia the Society had 246 branches (201 male, 32 female, and 13 juvenile), with a total membership of 16000, and a grand total in funds of £93,000, an increase of nearly £5000 for the year. His Eminence Cardinal Moran, who was present, delivered an address, in the course of which he said that a membership of 16,000 was but a poor record throughout Australia. For his part he would like to see it 160,000.

There are in round numbers 2,700 cheese factories in Canada.

THE OAMARU BASILICA.

AN APPRECIATION.

THE White Stone City by the sea has basked in sunshine. The great blue ocean, breaking its heaving billows on the coast, is murmuring 'its everlasting hosanna'; a Sabbath stillness adds to the peaceful beauty of Nature; and art, in that Grecian structure known as the Catholic Basilica, has inscribed on the scene a poem of mighty praise. Says a modern writer—'In matters of art, the smallest flash of genius, the smallest effort to soar to new conquest, fascinates men more than all the resources and lights of science within the limits of knowledge'—and truly, a new conquest is here to view, fascinating from the association of ideas that linger around it.

In the course of a few short years the Catholic people of Oamaru have achieved remarkable results. The man who 10 years ago would have predicted the existence within that limit of time in Oamaru of a basilica of such proportion and beauty, would have been regarded as a dreamer, whose education lacked the practical knowledge detailed by the great American humorist, of 'New Zealand's population and politics, and form of government, and commerce, and taxes and products, and ancient history, and varieties of religion, and nature of laws, and their codification, and amount of revenue, and whence drawn, and methods of collection, and percentage of loss, and character of climate—well, a lot of things like that.' Not for 50 years to come could it have been supposed that with the resources at hand such work could be accomplished. Surely, every white stone in that beautiful pile may be considered to represent a weary care, an anxious thought, a hard pull on the part of the zealous pastor who took upon himself the responsibility of raising to the Most High a temple in some way worthy of the sacrifice therein to be offered when the toilers of to-day are receiving their reward in God's Eternal Home.

The style of architecture, which gives the basilica so unusual and striking an appearance, is very suggestive of dreamy thought. Lingeringly, we drink in every detail, and then we close our eyes and dream a dream. With the speed of thought we annihilate time and space, revisiting the classic land where first the Corinthian pillar rose in its chaste elegance, and there the shades of Cimon and Pericles wander past us, immortal.

The basilica has been often described, from the delicate stucco work semblanced in the ceiling, to the spiral staircase in iron that winds aloft in fairy-like elegance. Of a truth, civic crowns are due to the people who have embellished the town of Oamaru with an architectural monument which cathedral cities are taking as a model.

But the Catholic people have higher aims than civic crowns. They are all a-striv to complete the noble undertaking, and they are determined to clear away the harassing burden of debt. The approaching bazaar and art union are causing considerable excitement, and the preparations to have the amusements on a big scale are very active. One speaker, a thorough workman, but not a committee man, was heard to ask when the various prizes were discussed—'Is it wise to present for the first prize a work of art valued at sixty guineas?' The point was debated among connoisseurs and with ill-concealed envy. The question being left an open one, another remarked, 'Somebody is going to get that magnificent piece of art for sixpence.' Well, such is the 'fortune of war,' and more good luck to the winner. So say I.—RIP VAN WINKLE.

PRESENTATION TO REV. FATHER BOWERS, GERALDINE.

A PLEASANT gathering took place at the presbytery, Geraldine, on Wednesday last week, when the Rev. Father Bowers was met by a number of his parishioners, representing the congregation, to bid him good-bye before he left for a holiday in Australia, with the object of benefiting his health. On behalf of those present Mr. J. Farrell read the following address—

'Presentation to the Rev. Father Bowers from his parishioners and friends on the occasion of his leaving for holidays in pursuit of rest and health—To the Rev. Father Bowers—We, your parishioners and friends, desire to record our universal feelings of regret that impaired health compels you for a time to withdraw from amongst us. For the last five or six years that you have been amongst us you have laboured very hard for the good of the parish. We hope that you will enjoy your well-earned holidays, and trust that the rest and change which you so much need will soon restore your health, and that it will shortly be our pleasure to welcome you back to your people in Geraldine quite restored in strength and health. In conclusion, we beg of you to accept this purse of sovereigns as a small token of affection from your people. Signed, on behalf of the parishioners, John Farrell, Andrew Lyaght, William Earl, John Sugrue, Patrick Burke, Kyran Brophy, Edward Murphy, and William Fitzpatrick.'

Mr. K. Brophy then handed the Rev. Father a purse of sovereigns, and in doing so he trusted he would enjoy his holiday, and would return to them thoroughly recuperated in health.

The Rev. Father Bowers, in reply, said he was very much obliged to his parishioners for their very kind address and for the purse of sovereigns they had presented him with. No one could wish for greater personal kindness than he had experienced during his stay in Geraldine. He valued the token of regard which they had given him very highly. It was but an additional proof of the goodwill which they had always shown to him, and it was a source of gratification to him, as it showed that his work amongst them was appreciated. He sincerely hoped that he would return to Geraldine in a short time much improved in health, and that he would find all his friends well and prosperous.

The Rev. Father Bowers left (says the *Temuka Leader*) by the North express for Christchurch, to catch the Monowai on Friday for Melbourne. He will make the round trip through Australia and back to New Zealand, and will be absent from Geraldine for two or three months. During his absence the Rev. Father Franklin, of Christchurch, will officiate in the parish.

THE REDEMPTORIST MONASTERY, BALLARAT.

THE blessing of the new wing completing the Redemptorist monastery, Wendouree, Ballarat, took place on Sunday, April 23, in the presence of a large assembly. The ceremony was performed by the Right Rev. Dr. Moore, Bishop of Ballarat, who was attended by members of the Order and other clergy. The foundation stone of the monastery was laid in 1891, and the total cost amounts to close upon £17,000.

Apologies were received for the non-attendance of his Eminence Cardinal Moran, and their Lordships Bishops Corbett and Reville, of Sale and Bendigo respectively, and other leading dignitaries. The Very Rev. Father M. Maher, superior of the Vincentian Monastery, at Malvern, preached the sermon, the first part of which was a panegyric on St. Joseph, whose Feast was celebrated that day, but before closing, he paid an eloquent tribute to the self-denial and labours of the Redemptorist Fathers.

His Lordship Bishop Moore congratulated the Redemptorists on the completion of their magnificent monastery, which was not only a credit to the city of Ballarat, but to the whole of the Catholics of Australia. He had only recently travelled extensively through Europe and Africa, and he would unhesitatingly say that the Ballarat house was second to none in the world. The Catholic people of Ballarat had done much to beautify the district by the erection of Nazareth House, convents, schools, and other institutions; but this last effort was among the most pronounced in the way of building operations. In conclusion he hoped the Almighty would continue to bless the Redemptorist community of Ballarat in their work.

Very Rev. Father O'Farrell briefly thanked the Bishop for his kindly remarks and goodwill. He then read a list of donations to the building fund, which included £100 from the Right Rev. Dr. Crane, Bishop of Bendigo, £25 from Right Rev. Dr. Dwyer, Coadjutor-Bishop of Maitland, and similar amounts from other Australian prelates. Several prominent members of the Church of England, including Dr. Pinnock, of Sturt street, contributed handsomely to the funds, and the total contributions and promises for the day will probably reach £1000, including £50 from Bishop Moore, £50 from Mrs. O'Reilly (of Portland), and £20 from Mr. J. Loughlin, a visitor from Ireland, and nephew of the late Mr. Martin Loughlin.

The head house of the Order in Australia is situate at Waratah, and from both Victorian and New South Wales monasteries Redemptorists are despatched periodically to hold missions in all parts of Australia.

The pioneer priests of the Redemptorist Order in Ballarat 10 years ago were Very Rev. Father O'Farrell (now vice-provincial of Australia), Rev. Fathers Plunkett (uncle and heir of the Earl of Fingall), Hegarty and Beramans. The priests at present in the Monastery are Very Rev. Father O'Farrell (vice-provincial), Rev. Fathers Pidgeon, Hegarty, Sherman, Maguire, Macdonald, Mangan, M'Dermott and Hartigan, together with some lay Brothers.

O B I T U A R Y.

MRS. O'BRIEN, ADDISONS.

We regret to record the death of Mrs. O'Brien, wife of Mr. Daniel O'Brien, of Addisons, West Coast, which occurred on April 10. The deceased had been ill for about a fortnight and was attended during her illness by the Ven. Archpriest Walshe, who administered the last sacraments. Mrs. O'Brien was a native of Limerick, Ireland, which she left about twenty-three years ago for the colonies. The deceased, who was a model wife and mother, leaves a husband and four daughters to mourn their loss. The funeral, which took place on April 12, was the largest seen in the district for years, many friends attending from a considerable distance. The Rev. Father Costello officiated at the cemetery.—*R.I.P.*

The attention of our readers in Christchurch and district is directed to the advertisement of Mr. M. Finlay, Tailor, Colombo street, Sydneyham. Mr. Finlay has a large stock of goods to select from, and is prepared to make suits as low as £2 10s, at the same time guaranteeing style, fit and finish.—*

Now that winter has set in, careful housewives will be interested to know that Messrs. Brown, Ewing, and Co., are giving special value in superior colonial-made blankets. The stock was purchased at discount prices, and will be sold during the current months at rates which will stand the test of comparison. Messrs. Brown, Ewing and Co. claim that no house in the trade can give better value.—*

Townend's Cinnamon Cure, which is prepared from the quintessence of cinnamon, is reputed to be very efficacious in the treatment of consumption in its incipient stages, and is also said to be very beneficial for persons afflicted with chronic coughs. Ordinary coughs and colds, too, quickly succumb to this remedy. A lady residing at Ohanpo in this Colony, writing to the proprietors, speaks highly of the effect of the cure on her son, who was suffering from a bad cough. She says:—'I can't find words to express my thanks for this improvement. He is very much better, and sleeps well at night. I hope the great value of this remedy will be known everywhere.' This recommendation is worthy of the consideration of persons subject to cold and like ailments.—*

P U B L I C A T I O N S.

THE CATHOLIC TRUTH SOCIETY.

CHESTERFIELD wrote to his son: 'We should choose an author as we would a friend. Books are, indeed, our friends or foes. They do us either good or harm. They improve or corrupt. They either waste our time or enable us to employ it to advantage.' With the multitude of mere time-wasters, and of the books that are real foes of the household, it is always refreshing to be able to drop across a series of publications which can be recommended almost blindfold, so to speak, as safe, instructive, and entertaining reading for the Catholic home. Such are the publications of the Catholic Truth Society. They embrace so wide and diversified a range of subjects as fiction, biography, history, Scripture, theology, and up-to-date exposition and defence of every phase of Catholic thought and principle that are brought into prominence by the current of passing political or religious controversy. These publications represent the brain-work of the foremost English Catholic writers of the day, and are sold at prices which place them within reach of the poorest household. The bound volumes of the series—which are very numerous—should find an honoured place in every Catholic home, on every school-prize list, and on the shelves of our parochial and boarding-school libraries. They are procurable through all the booksellers that advertise in our columns.

The latest batch of the C.T.S. publications which we have received includes nos. 21-25 of the fifth series of Lady Herbert's *Wayside Tales*. Each number contains one complete tale (32 pp., 1d). Lady Herbert's *Wayside Tales* fulfil the grand desideratum of works of fiction suitable for the home and the parochial library: they are sufficiently moral to elevate, and sufficiently clever to be read with intellectual profit. The same remark applies to the *Catholic's Library of Tales*, issued by the same Society, of which no. 29 (Aunt Marcia's Conversion, 32 pp., 1d) is to hand. The fifth and previous series of both these publications are also to be had handsomely bound in cloth (1s). For Catholic parents and teachers they should afford a pleasant relief from the ephemeral rubbish with which children are so often permitted to choke their minds.

Two kindred lives have been added to the Society's Biographical Series. One of these is *The Priest of the Eucharist*, a sketch of the life of the Very Rev. Peter J. Eymard, founder of the Society of the Most Holy Sacrament. Lady Herbert is the author of this compact sketch (96 pp., 6d). It is a very tender and appreciative sketch of the character, teaching, and work of the venerable French ecclesiastic who passed to his reward in 1866, after having realised the ideal of his life in leaving behind him a religious congregation of men banded together to exalt the Eucharistic reign of our Lord on earth. The life-work of Mother Mary Teresa Dubouché, foundress of the Congregation of Expiatory Adoration, had a somewhat similar scope. Her simple life-story of love of the Blessed Lord is sweetly told by Blith Renouf (24 pp., 1d). Although only 36 years have passed away since Mother Mary's death, her little congregation keeps spreading in France, and is expected to soon make its appearance in England.

We have also received vols. xxxviii and xxxix of the C.T.S. publications, handsomely bound in blue cloth, gold-lettered (1s). They are, as usual, full of meat, and contain a great variety of suitable reading for the domestic fireside, and even for the priest's library desk. Vol. xxxviii contains, among other papers already noticed in our columns, a complete exposure of the slattery no-Popery lecturers who are now preaching their gospel of filth in Australia.

A number of charming little waistcoat-pocket booklets (1d) have also been issued, including a *Treatise on Meditation*, admirably suited for the hurried business man, the *Maxims of Blessed Sebastian Vulfre*, &c. *What is Benediction*, and *I Go Straight to Christ*, will be found very useful both to Catholic and Protestant.

The late Father Bridget's *Art of Lying* (16 pp., 1d) is a scathing reply to the familiar sets of manipulated quotations which the cheap and nasty kind of Protestant controversialist is in the habit of flinging at Catholics on the supposed authority of St. Liguori's *Glorias of Mary*.

After reading Father Sydney Smith's *Dr. Horton on Catholic Truthfulness* (55 p., 3d) one is inclined to regard Dr. Horton's coarse slander as almost a *felix culpa*, since it has produced such an admirable exposition of Catholic doctrine regarding lying, equivocation, mental reservation, &c. Mr. Britten's *Methods of a Protestant Controversialist* (Dr. Horton) is one of the most complete and thorough-going exposures we have seen for many a day of the wretched and dishonourable subterfuges resorted to by even a man of Dr. Horton's standing, when he casts in his lot with the noisy fraternity of the no-Popery party.

Messrs. M. O'Brien and Co., Christchurch, agents for the Remington bicycle, claim that this machine, owing to its special method of construction, is the strongest bicycle for its weight made. Another feature of the machine is that a high gear may be used on it with more ease and less exertion than a low gear on most others. The price has been considerably reduced, and easy terms can be arranged.—*

Advice to persons about to marry.—The thrifty young man who wants his money to go as far as possible, and sees that he gets the best value for it when making his purchases for house furnishing, we would advise him to go to a good establishment where goods of a reliable class are sold. We know of no house more suitable than the D.I.C. The best goods are kept, and they are sold at moderate prices. Every article required for a house is obtainable, from the smallest article used in a kitchen or dining-room to the largest piece of furniture. The Company are always pleased to afford customers the fullest information whether sales are affected or not. Houses can be completely furnished in a few hours. We would recommend you to try the reliable and leading establishment the D.I.C., High and Rattray streets, Dunedin.—*

I have learnt again what I have often learnt before: that you should never take anything for granted.—Disraeli's Speech, Oct. 5, 1864

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The Storyteller.

'J I M.'

It was a wet, cold December evening. A thick, unwholesome fog was rapidly closing in, veiling in dark shrouds the streets of the great metropolis in the neighbourhood of Notting Hill. The lighted lamps shone dimly like bleared stars poised in a firmament that was anything but celestial.

Hurrying along the almost deserted pavement of a small side street was a little boy, one hand thrust into a ragged pocket, while with the other he pulled his thin jacket together to keep out the biting wind. In so doing the holes in the back of his wretched garment were torn still more, and the rags beneath were not even sufficient to cover the little body.

Jim was only twelve years old, but in those years he had faced the stern realities of a life of terrible poverty, and in his little weazened face were lines that told a sad story of want and neglect. Jim was puzzling out an oft-repeated problem—how was the family supper to be provided? He had only succeeded in getting one job all day, and with twopence-halfpenny in his pocket he was going home—home to a sick and widowed mother and a tribe of starving brothers and sisters.

Things were at a deadlock, and Jim had long ago realised that no one wanted an errand boy whose clothes left knees and elbows bare, and whose toes were peeping out of boots that courtesy only entitled to the name.

The top of the street was illumined by the blaze of the flaring gas-jets of a public-house opposite the door of which a woman stood singing. She was carrying one child and two or three more dragged at her ragged skirts. The ring of despair in her feeble voice would have moved any listener to pity, but audience she had none, and the words died away unnoticed.

'Lor!' exclaimed Jim, 'if it ain't mother. Why, mother, I thought you was at 'ome.'

'I felt better this afternoon, Jim,' replied the woman, 'so I comed out to seeef I could get a few pence. The children are crying for summat to eat end there's nowt to give 'em.'

'Best come 'ome now, mother; I've got a few coppers. We'll git some bread.'

'Ketch 'old o' Bella, will 'ee Jim? She's awful tired and perished wi' cold.'

They turned away and the fog wrapped them in its icy folds.

That evening Jim's mother sat up mending his tattered jacket, while he read scraps out of a newspaper he had picked up. As he spelt out the words to himself he came upon an announcement in which it was stated that the possessor of the current issue of the paper thereby insured his life for £100, which would be paid to his next-of-kin if he was accidentally killed while the paper was in his pocket.

Jim did not understand all the long words, but as he would have said, he 'twigged what they meant,' and he thought a great deal over it. A hundred pounds! A fortune! A fabulous amount.

'Mother!' he exclaimed suddenly. Has the Queen got a hundred pounds?'

'Gracious, boy, why she's got mints and mints o' glistenin' gold. What makes you ask?'

'I was just wondering,' said Jim, and as at this moment the spluttering candle went out he crept away to bed on the heap of straw where his two younger brothers were already sleeping soundly. Jim, however, slept but little. A great idea had entered into his head by which he hoped to benefit his family. He had had plans so often, hitherto always unsuccessful, but this one was really great and could not fail. It involved a sacrifice, but his childish mind did not grasp the extent of it or the terrible nature of his idea if carried to fulfilment.

Next morning Jim went out once more to try and earn a bare subsistence. He made his way towards the more crowded thoroughfares, keeping a sharp look out as he went. Suddenly a notice in a shop attracted him. 'Wanted—a boy.'

'I answer that description,' thought Jim, and he ventured into Mr. May's grocery establishment. The shop was full of customers and he stood on one side to wait for a favourable opportunity of presenting himself.

'Now then, young rascal, what do you want? Pen'orth o' candles? Out of the way!' shouted the busy grocer as he caught sight of Jim.

'Please, sir, I'm a boy,' began Jim, standing cap in hand.

'So I see. There are too many of your kind about. What! Is the notice still up in the window. Bless my soul. What trouble you young scamps do give one to be sure. There, out you go! I don't want you.' Snatching the card out of its place against a row of bottles he elbowed Jim out of the shop.

Full of disappointment he stood for a moment looking disconsolately into the street when he heard a voice behind him.

'What did you want in the shop, little boy?'

He turned and saw a little girl of about his own age, but his exact opposite in appearance, as she was well and warmly dressed, and her chubby cheeks shone like rosy apples.

'I wanted a job, Miss,' replied Jim. 'To carry a parcel or summat o' that.'

'Papa could not give you any parcels to carry,' she answered gravely. 'Your clothes are not good enough, and your hands are so very dirty. But you may have my orange, 'cos I've got two.'

She thrust the orange into his hand and ran away.

Jim was very grateful to his little friend, and prompted by her remark as to the state of his hands, he went to a pump hard by and washed them. He then returned to the neighbourhood of the grocer's shop, hoping his benefactress might chance to see that his once grimy fingers were now almost as pink as her own. Sure

enough the first thing he saw as he came round the corner was Mr. May standing in his doorway, holding his little daughter by the hand.

'Father,' she said, 'there's the boy whose boots are broken. His hands are clean now, though.'

Jim grinned and pulled his forelock.

'You're the boy who was here just now,' cried May in his hasty way. 'I won't have you hanging about. Be off!'

'Please, sir,' said Jim respectfully, 'I didn't come to beg, only to ask if you could let me do an errand for you. Do, sir, for pity's sake.'

'Yes, father, do let him; he does want to,' put in Jim's little friend.

'What a child you are to coax your daddy,' replied the grocer fondly. 'Well, boy, you can take this parcel then; wait for an answer, and come back sharp, or I'll make it hot for you.'

On arriving at the house to which he had been sent, Jim was told by a servant who eyed him scornfully that he might wait in a small outer room, and perched upon an empty box he made himself as comfortable as he could and had plenty of time to remember how hungry he was. He took out his orange, smelt it, pinched it, and even nibbled a little bit of the peel off near the top, but he would not eat it now while he was on duty, and as he thrust his hand into his pocket he felt the scrap of newspaper which he had kept carefully after reading it on the previous evening. All his great plan rushed back into his mind with renewed force. He thought of the wretchedness of his home, his poor sick mother with her starving children and the aching disappointments that each day met every effort to earn enough to stop the craving for food.

Jim felt convinced that it lay in his power to rescue those he loved from this distress, and for them he thought out his plan to the end, even to him a bitter end.

Jim turned home happier that evening, for Mr. May, though he rated him for being so slow, had given him threepence, which goes a long way when carefully laid out. The golden fortune of which the paper spoke recurred continually to his mind. He passed a church on his way home where the choir were practising for Sunday, and attracted by the singing he went in and sat down in a corner to listen.

The melody rose and fell till the whole air seemed filled with heavenly voices; a delicious drowsiness crept over him and he felt himself in a world where everyone was warmed and fed and had nothing left to wish for. Then the voices ceased, there was a noisy clatter of feet, a door swung back and there was silence.

Jim roused himself. Why should not this Paradise be his? Yet how?

A large illustrated text caught his eye.

'Greater love hath no man than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.'

Again his hand rubbed against the newspaper containing the insurance coupon. What was this that tempted him? Why must he think of it? The atmosphere of the church was soothing and brought with it a sensation of ease. His head slipped back and a change came over his wan, white face as he passed into the unconsciousness of sleep. He seemed to be walking in a beautiful garden, where all was bright, where the air was soft and fragrant and the flowers rich in colour and profusion. He looked round and saw an angel by his side, who smiled upon him so that he had no fear, and together they walked through the garden. Many of the flower-beds were quite filled, but presently they came to one which had only just been planted. The angel stopped, and Jim, looking at the flowers, seemed to fancy he had seen some like them before. He was filled with wonder, and then the angel explained it all to him.

'This is the garden of your soul, my child. Every good act of your life lives here for ever as a beautiful flower. Your garden is as yet young and unplanted, and you must daily endeavour to sow good seed in it, and do your life-work on earth bravely and well.'

The words seemed to echo through the air as the vision became dim and faded away. Jim rubbed his eyes and opening them met the kindly glance of a Sister who was bending over him.

'You are tired, my child,' she said, 'yet the church is not to sleep in.'

'Where is my garden?' he said. 'Where am I?'

Quietly she drew from him the story of his dream, then noticing the paper in his hand she led him to open all his heart to her, he half wondering the while whether he was still dreaming.

The Sister's face grew very grave and pitying when she understood the terrible significance of the idea that had crept into the boy's innocent mind, and gently she pointed out to him the dreadful error of his misguided fancy.

'You are my angel,' said Jim, as he clung to her and knew that help had indeed come to him. 'I never thought of the wrong it would be, and only meant mother to save the money if I got into an accident. Come home with me, do, Sister; don't leave me, I'm frightened.'

The Sister went home with him, and thanks to the interest she excited on behalf of the poor child, brighter days dawned, and the dire distress was over, and Jim always looks back with thankfulness to the day of his dream and his rescue by his life-long friend, Sister Agnes.—*Catholic Preside.*

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ment.—*.*

THE BOOK OF KELLS.

THE MOST BEAUTIFUL BOOK IN THE WORLD

THE manuscript of the Four Gospels, known as the *Book of Kells*, is probably the most complete triumph of illuminative art which the world has ever seen. The highest possible tribute has been paid it by Professor Westwood in his work on *Miniatures and Ornamentation of Anglo-Saxon and Irish Manuscripts* in designating it 'the most beautiful book in the world.' Though the period of its production is still a disputed question, it is traditionally ascribed to have been written by Columba, Ireland's artist-saint, who flourished in the sixth century. In the Christian legends of Ireland it is stated that the book was written at the dictation of an angel, and that the designs traced on its leaves were revealed to the artist in heavenly visions. It is imperfect as it exists at present and probably with the portion now missing perished the record of the time and circumstances under which this remarkable volume was produced. It may, however, indisputably be assigned to a period between the sixth and ninth centuries.

The manuscript, originally consisting of 354 pages, is 11 inches long and 10 in width. Of these pages, however, five were lost during the various vicissitudes through which it passed ere it came to its present resting-place in Trinity College, Dublin. The initial of every sentence throughout the Gospels is artistically wrought, several of these letters, varying in size and design, being generally presented on one page. The letters are of the semiuncial or rounded type generally used by Irish and other Celtic scribes of the early school. The writing in the *Book of Kells* is mainly in single column across the entire page, inks of black, red, purple, and yellow being used. The ornamentation consists chiefly of the interlacing of bands, or serpents, and of the divergent spiral or trumpet pattern, which gives it a distinctively Irish character. The designs of the ancient school of art in Ireland are generally considered as twofold; firstly, the arbitrary or geometrical, of which the trumpet pattern, the triquetra, the interlaced curved lines, and the designs formed of right lines are examples; and, secondly, the patterns derived from natural forms, such as foliage, birds, reptiles, fish, quadrupeds, imaginary or monstrous animals and man. Every design in the *Book of Kells* belongs to either of these two classes. Sometimes we have a whole page filled with mutually connected spirals, alternately expanding and contracting in peculiar trumpet shape. The introduction of natural foliage, too, with its intricate entwining of branches, is eminently characteristic of the Celtic spirit which compelled even the human figure to submit to the most impossible contortions. There are many examples of the system used in Irish manuscripts of carrying portions of long lines from below to fill blank spaces left by shorter lines above. These inserted lines were separated from the concluding ones of the preceding paragraph by a symbol known as 'head under the wing' (in Irish, *ceann fa'c'ic*), or 'turn under the path' (in Irish, *cur fa'cosan*). The form of these symbols were various, but those used most generally in later times resemble inverted C's facing each other.

This manuscript is particularly valuable on account of the various pictorial representations of different scenes in the life of our Saviour, delineated in genuine Irish style, of which several of the MSS. of St. Gall, and very few others, offer analogous examples. In addition to the pages occupied with the illumination of large initial letters each Gospel is preceded by a portrait of the Evangelist; there are also three groups of evangelical symbols and three central pages containing miniatures of the Virgin and Child, the temptation, and the betrayal. At the beginning of the volume there are several pages filled with Eusebian canons, written in narrow columns enclosed between highly-ornamented pillars supporting rounded arches, on which the evangelical symbols are again introduced.

Unless the colouring be reproduced no illustration can give any adequate idea of the brilliancy and elaborateness of the execution. The skill with which the colours are blended is particularly striking when we notice that there is a complete absence of gold in the *Book of Kells*, whilst it is in the profusion of gilding that the chief beauty of the Oriental manuscripts consists. Sometimes the colouring is negative—that is, the ground coloured and the design formed by the natural tone of the vellum. The text is far more extensively decorated than in any other ancient copy of the Gospels now existing. A perfection of touch and minute accuracy, which could result alone from the keenest artistic perception, is everywhere visible. To us the minuteness of detail is simply bewildering. The more powerful the lens with which it is examined, the more thoroughly the consummate skill of the work is realised. There is not the slightest error in the formation of the spirals, not a single fault of interlacement which can be detected throughout the entire book. What the instruments were like with which such a marvellous work was executed is a problem which remains yet to be solved.

Not less astonishing than the perfection of the execution is the extraordinary wealth of imagination displayed. For instance, the simple word *et* is treated hundreds of times, and yet no two examples are quite alike. However, as if to show that the artist's inventive powers were inexhaustible, advantage is taken of every available space left by an unfinished line to insert a figure, perhaps of a bird, or dog, or other animal, not indeed true from a naturalist's point of view, but always ornamental and tastefully coloured. The infinite fertility of imagination, the exquisite harmony of colouring, and the perfection of execution seem almost to verify the tradition that the *Book of Kells* was the work of an angel. 'If you look closely,' says Geraldus Cambrensis, an historian by no means prejudiced in favour of Irish merit, 'and penetrate the secrets of the art you will discover such delicate and subtle lines, so closely wrought, so twisted, and so interwoven, and adorned with colours still so fresh, that you will

acknowledge that all this is the work of angelic rather than human hands.'

In addition to its interest as a masterpiece of Irish art, the *Book of Kells* has still another claim on our interest. Its existence is a proof of the high state of civilisation and proficiency in art which had been attained in Ireland at so early a period, and it is moreover a link between the Christianity of the East and the West.

The ornamentation of the Scriptures by writing them on purple-stained vellum was usual in the earliest days of Christianity. When Constantine transferred the seat of the Roman Government to the eastern portion of his empire, Byzantium became the first capital of Christendom. New types of the art of illumination were then developed, and in these Byzantine manuscripts of the fifth century we find the first traces of that Oriental splendour of decoration which became so intricate and so various in the hands of Western illuminators. The earliest art of this kind of which traces remain flourished contemporaneously in the extreme east and west of the Continent of Europe: The style of the Byzantine manuscripts soon became a debased mixture of Eastern, Roman, and Christian art, lacking both vigour and originality. Thus it continued for more than a thousand years without any further development, till the last faint traces of Christian art disappeared on the fall of Constantinople into the hands of Moslem conquerors. With the Western scribes, on the other hand, an extraordinary variety of idea, progressing with an advancing civilisation, infused fresh instinct and vitality into their work. For many successive centuries books were illuminated in Ireland—principally in the monasteries—which in skill and artistic execution have never been surpassed.

In the eleventh century the magnificent shrine within which the *Book of Kells* was enclosed nearly proved its destruction. The *Annals of the Four Masters* recorded that the large Gospel of Colum Cille was sacrilegiously stolen at night out of the great Church of Kells. Fortunately, however, the manuscript itself sustained little injury—less than it sustained in the hands of the modern binders of our own century. After 'forty nights and two months' it was found; but the precious *cumdaoh*, or cover of gold and jewels, was gone. During the eleventh and twelfth centuries a few of the unwritten pages were utilised for recording some charters and grants relating to the monasteries of Kells and Ardbraccan.

The *Book of Kells* received its present name from having belonged to the Monastery of Cennanus or Kells, in the County Meath. The foundation of the establishment has been ascribed to St. Columba, but it would appear not to have been of much importance till the early part of the ninth century, when the incursions of the Norsemen on the Island of Iona caused the community who dwelt there to provide a place of refuge in Ireland. Under the presidency of Ceilach, the nineteenth successor of Columba as Abbot of Iona, a new city of Colum Cille was constructed at Kells. This became the chief station of the Columban community, and the Abbot of Kells was long known and recognised as the legitimate successor of St. Columba.

During the Tudor suppression of monasteries, that of Kells was surrendered to the Crown in 1539 by Richard Plunket, its last Abbot. The *Book of Kells*, which was doubtless the most valued possession of the monastery, soon after came into the hands of Gerald Plunket, of Dublin, from whom James Ussher, afterwards Primate of Armagh, received it. During the rebellion of 1641, Ussher's library, which counted this famous volume in its manuscript collection, was in Drogheda, the archiepiscopal residence, where it narrowly escaped destruction, as the town was besieged for four months. Shortly after the raising of the siege, for greater safety, Ussher had his books transferred to Chester, and thence to Chelsea College. Here, however, they proved to be less safe than in Ireland. Owing to a sermon preached by the Archbishop against the Assembly of Divines, the House of Commons inflicted on him the severest punishment possible in his case by confiscating his library. Happily two of the Assembly were more kindly disposed than their compatriots, and contrived—either by obtaining a grant or purchasing it for a small sum—to preserve it for the Primate. Later on, when Ussher was appointed preacher at Lincoln's Inn, he was able to place what remained of his literary collection in the apartments assigned to him. It had been his intention to bequeath it as a legacy to Trinity College, Dublin, where he had been educated, but having met with serious losses in those troublous times he was obliged to bequeath it to his daughter, Lady Tyrrell.

The fame of this library was widespread, and on the death of Ussher, in 1656, when the probability of its sale became known, both the King of Denmark and Cardinal Mazarin made very large offers for it. Through the interference of Cromwell, however, it was not allowed to leave the Kingdom. It was afterwards bought by the Army in Ireland, who wished to present it to Trinity College. Here Cromwell again interferred and prevented the bestowal of so costly a gift, saying that he intended to erect a building for its reception. But neither the spirit of the times nor of the people was suited for such a work. The library lay for about five years in Dublin Castle, during which time some of the books and manuscripts were either lost or stolen. It was probably at this period that the pages which are now missing from the *Book of Kells* disappeared. On the restoration of Charles II. the Irish House of Commons moved that the library should be disposed of according to the original wishes of Archbishop Ussher, when it was accordingly transferred to Trinity College, Dublin, where it has since remained.

Of this magnificent library, needless to say, the *Book of Kells* is the most valued treasure. It is the proudest memorial of Erin's golden age.—L. M. CULLEN, in *St. Peter's*.

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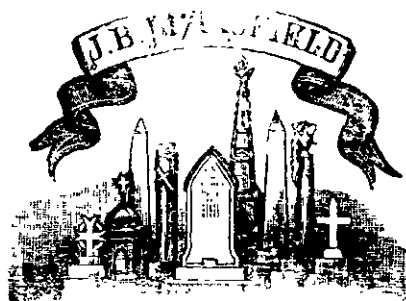
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BIOGRAPHICAL GLEANINGS FOR NEXT
WEEK'S CALENDAR.

(Written for the N. Z. TABLET.)

- MAY 14, Sunday.—Sunday within the octave of the Ascension.
St. Carthagus, Bishop and Confessor.
.. 15, Monday.—St. Dymphna, Virgin and Martyr.
.. 16, Tuesday.—St. Brendan, Abbot.
.. 17, Wednesday.—St. John Nepomucene.
.. 18, Thursday.—Octave of the Ascension.
.. 19, Friday.—St. Peter Celestine.
.. 20, Saturday.—Vigil of Pentecost.

ST. BRENDAN, ABBOT.

DID HE DISCOVER AMERICA?

BRENDAN of Clonfert was a native of Kerry, where he was born towards the close of the fifth century.

The legend of his Western voyage and discovery of America is the most interesting part of his history. It runs as follows:—

'We are informed that St. Brendan, hearing of the Western voyage of his cousin, Barinthus, in the Western Ocean, and obtaining from him an account of the happy isles he had discovered in the far West, determined, under the strong desire of winning souls to God, to undertake a voyage of discovery himself. And aware that all along the western coasts of Ireland there were many traditions concerning the existence of a Western land, he proceeded to the Islands of Arran, and here remained for some time, holding communication with the venerable St. Enda, and obtaining from him much information on what his mind was bent.'

There can be little doubt that St. Brendan proceeded northward along the coast of Mayo, and made inquiries along its bays and islands of the remnants of the Tuatha-de-Danaan people, that once were so expert in naval affairs, and who acquired from the Milesians, or Scots, that overcame them, the character of being magicians from their superior knowledge. At Inis-glora Brendan set up his cross; and in after times, in his honour, were erected those curious remains that still exist. Having prosecuted his inquiries with all diligence Brendan returned to his native Kerry, and from a bay sheltered by the lofty mountain, now known by his name, he set sail for the Atlantic land, and directed his course towards the south-west in order to meet the summer solstice, or what we call the tropic. After a long and rough voyage, his little barque being well provisioned, he came to summer seas, where he was carried along without the aid of sails or oars for many a long day. This, it is to be presumed, was the great Gulf Stream, which brought his vessel to shore somewhere about the Virginia Capes, or where the American coast trends eastward and forms the New England States. Here landing, he and his followers marched steadily into the interior of the country for fifteen days, and then came to a large river flowing from east to west—no doubt the river Ohio. And this river the holy adventurer was about to cross, when he was accosted by a person of noble presence who told him he had gone far enough, that further discoveries were reserved for other men, who would, in due time, come and Christianise all that pleasant land.'

WAS IT TRUE?

Traces of ante-Columbian voyages to America are continually cropping up. There are no fewer than eleven Latin MSS. in the Bibliothèque Imperiale at Paris, the dates of which vary from the 11th to the 14th centuries in proof of this discovery, while several more in French, Dutch, German, Italian, and Portuguese abound on the continent. If any further testimony were wanting, the work of Professor Rafn at Copenhagen, published in 1837, may be deemed conclusive on the subject.

We see no just grounds for disputing St. Brendan's claim as the first European discoverer of America. The Irish monks were great navigators, and explored all the coasts and bays of the northern shores of Scotland, and the Shetland and Faroe islands, even venturing, in their missionary zeal, across the North Atlantic to Iceland.

With regard to St. Brendan, it may be objected that the Irish in his time had no vessels of sufficient tonnage to cross the Atlantic. Any person conversant with Irish history is fully aware that they possessed, both for trade and military purposes, vessels of considerable size—in fact, much more commodious than yachts and smaller vessels that cross the Atlantic in our day; otherwise, how could they have traded to Africa and Asia, or how could Niall and Dathu have transported their large armies, with supplies and horses, across the channel? It is recorded that St. Brendan had several companions with him, and that in all he spent seven years upon his voyage. We should not therefore feel surprised if they crossed the Atlantic and made new discoveries. Another objection likely to be raised is that they could not find their way without the compass, which was then unknown. The Phœnicians traded without the knowledge of the compass over different seas and even across the Atlantic Ocean. Besides, we have learned from some of the oldest seamen in America that, at the present time, the best sea captains are more guided in their course by the planets and the elements than by the compass. The fable of the lost Atlantis, which word, in Celtic, means 'Shore of the Western Land,' and Hy-Brasil, were but the growth of some tradition handed down by the early navigators. Not only the Irish, but the Scandinavians, have established a strong claim to the discovery of America, five centuries before Columbus set out on his remarkable voyage.

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WITH reference to the above, we feel that it is hardly necessary to assure our Friends and the Patrons of the 'City' that no effort will be spared on our part to merit the Patronage so liberally bestowed on our esteemed predecessor.

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Insist upon having NOONDAY.

THE POPE AND THE PEACE CONFERENCE.

In the present number of *The Review of Reviews* Mr. Stead writes an article entitled 'The Peace Conference and Church Bickerings,' in which he advocates in characteristic manner that the Pope should be represented at the Peace Conference. He says:—

The very meeting of the Conference has been jeopardised in the last month by the sudden and unexpected objection taken by the Italian Government to the presence of the Papal delegates at the Hague. The exact position of the question is involved in some obscurity, but the following appear to be the salient outlines of the controversy which has been very widely discussed during the last month. Originally the Rescript was only handed to Powers who had diplomatic representatives at St. Petersburg, but one exception was made to this rule. The negotiations which had been going on for some time between Russia and the Vatican for the appointment of a Papal Nuncio at St. Petersburg were not yet completed. Russia is diplomatically represented at the Vatican, but the Vatican is not diplomatically represented at St. Petersburg. Under those circumstances, it was decided by the Emperor that the Rescript should be despatched to the Pope; and it was accordingly delivered by M. Tchaikoff, the diplomatic representative of the Russian Government at the Papal Court. The Pope replied at once, assuring the Emperor in the most cordial terms of his determination to do everything that he possibly could in order to promote the success of the great undertaking to which Russia had invited the Powers. The Italian Government, although well aware that the Pope had received a copy of the Rescript, and had made such response, took no exception to a summons which seemed in one way to confirm the justice of their contention that the Italian occupation of Rome had in no way impaired the sovereignty of the Pope.

THE QUESTION OF THE TEMPORAL POWER.

At that time the only thought of the Italian Government was to safeguard themselves against the danger that the Papal delegates might raise the question of the restoration of the temporal power: in which case the Italian delegates were instructed to put on their hats and walk out of the Conference. Both at the Quirinal and at the Vatican I found the most confident expectation that in one way or another the Papal delegates would succeed in raising the question of the temporal power. The Italians frankly admitted that they judged the Pope by themselves. They remembered well how at the Congress of Paris, although the consideration of the Sardinian question had been absolutely forbidden, Count Cavour did succeed in raising the question in the Conference, and what Count Cavour did Leo XIII. would certainly be able to accomplish. The protest might be ruled out at once, but it would have been made, and in the pages of history the record would stand.

VIEWS AT THE VATICAN.

At the Vatican, or rather among those ecclesiastics who were cognisant of the aspirations of the Roman Curia, without being checked by the weighty responsibilities which tie the tongues of Secretaries of State, the expectation was not less emphatically expressed that the Peace Conference would give the Pope a chance. 'Remember,' said one of them to me, 'that the position of the Pope as to his temporal sovereignty is perfectly clear, consistent, and logical. He can point to the fact that when the Holy See was despoiled of the patrimony of St. Peter, Rome solemnly arraigned the sacrilegious act, and predicted that, as the consequence of this violation of international law, the nations would be plagued by ever-increasing armaments and by ever-deepening revolutionary discontent. To-day Rome sees with a certain grim satisfaction the fulfilment of her prophecies. The *causa causans* of all the troubles of the modern world is, in the opinion of the Vatican, the destruction of the temporal power, that broke up the very foundations of peace, and established lawless licence in place of international law as the rule of life in Europe. You now see the consequences. What can we do but call upon you to retrace your steps, to restore your steps, to restore order and peace in Europe under the aegis of the temporal sovereignty of his Holiness the Pope.'

PROTEST OF THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT.

Of course, it is impossible for such intense convictions, so passionately expressed, not to make themselves audible in the public Press. The *Osservatore Romano*, the Papal organ, at last throwing discretion to the winds, ventured plainly to express somewhat of the sentiments which were undoubtedly felt in high places in the Vatican. This gave the signal for alarm to the supporters of the Italian Kingdom. If the Pope were going to the Peace Conference solely in order to deliver a protest against the consummation of

Italian unity, then it became a matter for Italy to consider whether or not she should nip the Papal conspiracy in the bud by flatly refusing to attend the Conference if the Papal delegates were invited. After a certain period of dubitation, this course was finally adopted. After the receipt of the second Russian circular, which, equally with the first, was despatched to the Vatican, the Italian Government made up its mind to put its foot down, and the Russian Government was informed that if the Pope was invited to the Conference the Italian Government would be unable to send representatives. This, of course, was equivalent to burking the Conference altogether. No Peace Conference could meet from which one of the great Powers ostentatiously stayed away, especially when the abstaining Power was in closest alliance with two other of the great Powers of Europe.

PRECEDENTS AS TO PAPAL REPRESENTATION.

There are several precedents relating to this right of the Pope to be represented at International Conferences, but two will suffice, as they are in opposition to each other. The first was the Brussels Conference upon the Slave Trade. This Conference was really held at the initiative of Cardinal Lavigerie, who, acting in accord with the Pope, had made a veritable propaganda among the nations in favour of international action for the suppression of the slave trade. Nevertheless, when the Conference met, Cardinal Lavigerie was not invited, neither was the Pope represented, and much was the heart-burning and not a little the chagrin felt in the Roman Church. So far, however, from damaging the Pope, his exclusion tended to confirm the justice of his contention that some small modicum of temporal power is indispensable in order to secure for him the *entrée* into those assemblies in which he is undoubtedly, from his influence and authority, well qualified to render service to humanity and civilisation. These considerations probably weighed with the German Emperor, who, although an ally of the Italian Kingdom, nevertheless did not hesitate to summon the representative of the Pope to the Labour Congress that was held in Berlin. The Bishop of Brussels, who was nominated as the Papal representative, attended the sittings of the Congress, and by universal consent did his work very well.

THE WESLEYAN PRESIDENT.

It is, therefore, not surprising that the Russian Government should desire to have the Pope represented at the Conference of Peace. The Pope is a great spiritual sovereign, even although his territorial sovereignty has gone by the board. The head of no other religious body can for a moment compare with his claims to exercise moral and spiritual influence through the nations. The question is asked sometimes, If the Pope were summoned, why should not the President of the Wesleyan Conference also be invited? The answer to that question is simple. On the day in which the President of the Wesleyan Conference is recognised by every Government in Europe as the Power who holds in his hands the ability to restrain revolutionary forces within the nations and to exercise a great and sometimes deciding influence in disputes which involve the question of peace or war between the nations, then the President of the Wesleyan Conference may well be invited to an International Peace Conference, but not till then. The Archbishop of Canterbury and the President of the Methodist Conference are the only two Protestant notables who could even claim to be represented under any pretext, and the moment their claim is contrasted with that of the Pope, it is seen that there is no international analogy. The Pope is a great political power in nearly every country in the world, and as such it would be useful to rope him in to the chariot of peace. . . . We live under the empire of opinion, and all those who can influence opinion must be taken into account, nor can any sectarian prejudices be allowed to stand in the way of our utilising such material as is available for the purpose of achieving the desired end.

THE IMPOSSIBILITY OF IGNORING THE POPE.

We may object, of course, very much to the fact that the Pope should exist. We may deplore extremely the existence of the Papacy, and we may consider that, if we had been consulted in the management of the affairs of men, we should have made them much too wise, too rational to follow the leading and guidance of what Carlyle called 'the three-headed chimera of the Vatican.' But as we were not consulted on the making of the world, and have merely to do the best we can in endeavouring to govern it decently, without too much throat-cutting, we have to take things as they are, and to recognise that as a matter of fact, however monstrous and anomalous it may be, there is one sovereign in Europe, a spiritual sovereign, whose voice is more potent for peace or war than that of almost any other territorial sovereign. That being the case, as his position is exceptional and unique, and there is no other that

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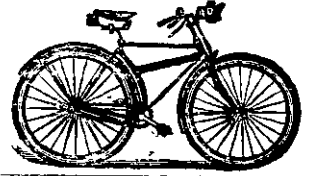
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can be compared to it, the Russians surely did not act unwisely in endeavouring to secure the presence and support of the Pope's representative at the forthcoming Conference. The Tsar, I see, has just telegraphed to the Pope congratulating him upon his recovery from the painful operation through which he has passed. In that telegram the Tsar expressed the hope that many more years of life may await the Pontiff who, with his authority and moral influence, is one of the most powerful workers for the triumph of peace among the peoples.

THE EXAMPLE OF ORTHODOX RUSSIA.

In this surely Russia sets us a very fair example. The Russians are certainly more anti-Papal than any body of men in Europe. I think, with the exception of an Orangeman of Belfast, or the editor of *The Methodist Times*, you could seldom meet with a more fanatical anti-Papal person than a thorough-going Greek Orthodox Slavophile. Nevertheless the Emperor, finding that he has to deal with a question in which the Pope can help him, does not hesitate to appeal to the Pope for his help; and the Pope, setting thereby a great example to many political and social saints, made no stipulations or reservations, but frankly and loyally offered the Tsar his co-operation in the work in hand. What will come of it of course it is at present impossible to say. The chances seem to be very heavy against the appearance of the Pope's representative at the Conference. If this result could be arrived at it would occasion considerable chagrin at the Vatican, where hopes have been raised only to be disappointed, and would not tend to increase the popularity of the Peace Rescript among the ministers and diplomatists in Russia. For Russia has her own Catholic population to consider in Poland just as we have our Catholics to consider in Ireland, and it will not conduce to the pacification and content and smooth working of the affairs of Russia if an ugly raw should be established between St. Petersburg and the Vatican.

The Catholic World.

CHINA.—Fearful Treatment of a Catholic Missionary.

—Dr. Robertson, an English medical man, who arrived recently in Victoria, British Columbia, from China, on being interviewed respecting the treatment of foreign missionaries there, said 'I examined the body of Father Victorien, the Belgian priest, who was murdered at Hweih. The murderers led Father Victorien to the post in front of his home and cut slices from his thighs and cooked and ate them in his presence. They then fired bullets into non-vital parts, after which they destroyed his eyes by burning them. Next they disembowelled him, and, finally, they decapitated him. The unfortunate priest was thirty years of age.'

ENGLAND.—Temperance Mission.

—The Very Rev. Father Hays, Rector of the Church of the Sacred Heart, West Bridgeford, who last year lectured on temperance in various centres in Ireland, and has won for himself the name of 'The Second Father Mathew,' concluded recently an extended temperance mission among the Irish Catholics in the North of England. At St. George's Hall, Millom, he gathered an audience of over one thousand persons of all classes, creeds, and politics, and the local Press declared it was the largest and most representative meeting ever held in the town. Father Hays said that the highest and holiest and best aspirations and interests of the people were bound up with the temperance movement, which was so closely connected with the great social questions of the age which to-day were casting their shadows over the land. Evidence in its favour was drawn from every sphere of human intelligence. The blighting, blasting, withering curse of drunkenness was like a deadly cancer eating into the heart of the nation, poisoning its life-blood, and bringing upon it decay and death. It was a frightful curse, and more than any other causes or complication of causes it frustrated the efforts and baffled the hopes of all who had at heart the happiness, the social, moral, and religious welfare of the people.

FRANCE.—Abbe Perosi in Paris.

—Abbé Perosi's stay in Paris, during the early part of March, was a series of triumphs. Before his departure M. Delcasse conferred on him the decoration of Chevalier of the Legion of Honour.

Soldiers and their Easter Duty.

—The French military authorities issued a circular, before the commencement of Lent, to all the garrisons ordering the officers to give their men all the facilities necessary for the fulfilment of the Easter duty. While for ordinary Catholics the limits prescribed by the Church in France are from Passion Sunday to Easter, for soldiers the period extends from Ash Wednesday to Pentecost.

GREECE.—Pilgrimage to Rome.—Mgr. de Angelis, Archbishop of Athens, is organising a first general Pilgrimage of the Catholics of Greece to the shrines of the Apostles. It is expected that the pilgrimage will arrive in Rome some time this month.

ROME.—The College of St. Bede.—The College of St. Bede, for the training of converts from the Anglican ministry who desire to become priests, continues to flourish. The works are now almost completed (writes a correspondent) and the new apartments may be put in requisition before long. It is expected that there will be a large number of students next year, and that some may even come before the present year is up. Those now in the College are well satisfied with it, and seem to very much enjoy their rightful liberties which the Papal Constitutions allow them on account of their age and previous conditions.

SCOTLAND.—Consecration of the Bishop of Aberdeen.

—There was a distinguished congregation in the Catholic Cathedral of the Granite City on the occasion of the consecration of Mr. Chisholm as Bishop of Scotland's Northern See. His connection with the diocese, the eminent position he occupied as Principal of Blairs, his scholarly attainments, crowned as they were by an honorary degree from Aberdeen University, and his general suitability for the Episcopal office, all combined to render the appointment made by the Holy Father a singularly felicitous one. Not alone in the Catholic body, but outside of it was there evidence that the consecration of the Bishop was regarded as an event of public importance. The City Chamberlain of Aberdeen, the Chief Constable, the president of the Society of Advocates, as well as representatives of the non-Catholic clergy and of the Professoriate of Aberdeen University, were among those who formed the congregation. Archbishop Macdonald was the consecrating prelate. Bishop Maguire, of Glasgow, preached the consecration sermon, and the attendance also included Bishop Smith, of Dunkeld, Bishop Turner, of Galloway, Bishop George J. Smith, of Argyll and the Isles, the Lord Abbot of Fort Augustus, Mgr. Clapperton, Dundee; Grady, Edinburgh; and Lennon. Father Chisholm, of St. Peter's, Aberdeen, was the Master of Ceremonies, and Father McGregor, of the Cathedral, was assistant-priest to the Bishop-elect.

SOUTH AMERICA.—The Plenary Council.

—The South American prelates who have notified their intention to take part in the Plenary Council of South America to meet in Rome on the 28th inst. are as follows:—From Bolivia, one archbishop and three bishops; from Brazil, two archbishops and 11 bishops; from Chile, one archbishop and three bishops; from the Argentine, one archbishop and eight bishops; from Peru, one archbishop and seven bishops; from Columbia, one archbishop and 11 bishops; from Uruguay, one archbishop and two bishops; from Venezuela, one archbishop and five bishops; from Ecuador, one archbishop and six bishops; thus making a total of 10 archbishops and 59 bishops from every part of the Continent. It is almost impossible (says the *London Tablet*) to exaggerate the far-reaching consequences which a Council of this magnitude may have on the future of the Church in South America.

SWEDEN.—The Sisters of St. Elizabeth.

—The Sisters of St. Elizabeth completed last February (says the *London Tablet*) the silver jubilee of their charitable work for the sick in Malmo, the well-known seaport of South Sweden. How highly their services are appreciated in this thoroughly Lutheran town is seen from the gratifying circumstance that the local association of medical men sent a deputation of their number, consisting of Dr. Lindan, Dr. Lindberg, and Dr. Bjorling, to represent them at the jubilee festivities, and to present the following address:—'On this auspicious day, when you are able to look back upon five-and-twenty years of labour in the care of the sick, the Association of Physicians in Malmo feels impelled to express to you its full appreciation of the self-denying and unwearying zeal with which you have exercised your philanthropic and beneficent activity, for which the Association feels itself obliged to offer you the expression of its most especial gratitude. On behalf of the Association of Physicians of Malmo, L. Nilson, president, E. Bjorling, secretary.' Things are indeed changed since the days when in one of the Malmo churches was to be seen a life-size painting of Luther, under which was written the verse:—*Pestis eram vivens, moriens tua mors ero Papa!* which translated is—'Living I was a pest to you, dying I will be your death, O Pope! Luther is dead, and the religion which he established is split up into hundreds of opposing sections, whilst the Papacy exists, more people acknowledging to-day the spiritual sovereignty of the Pope than at any other time in the history of the Church.'

UNITED STATES.—Death of a Distinguished Nun.

—The death is reported of Rev. Mother Mary Isidore, of Mercy



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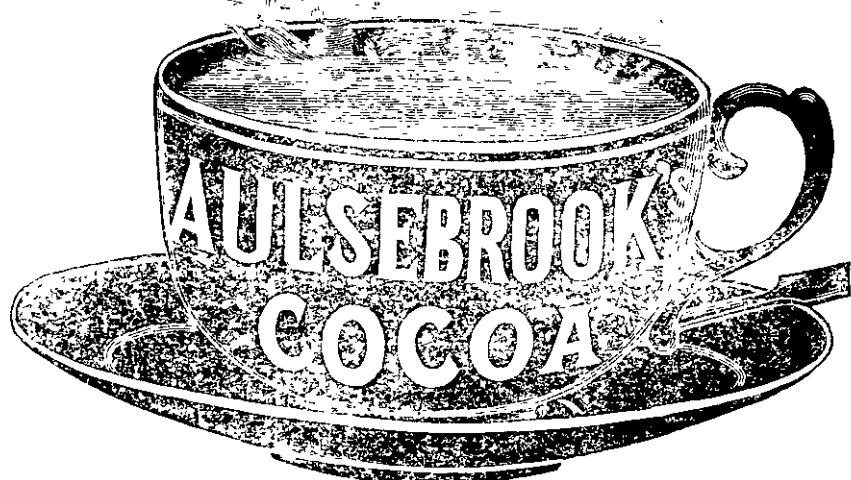
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Hospital, Iowa City, Iowa. The deceased, whose name in the world was Letitia O'Connor, was a remarkable woman in many ways. Despite the fact that she had almost reached four score years, despite the agony consequent upon a fall over 11 years ago—since which time she had never known a really painless day—Mother Mary Isidore was as active and energetic, as thoughtful and careful in her business affairs as many a woman a generation younger. She was a woman of wonderful intellectuality. A brilliant French scholar, she translated many works, especially historical ones, from the Gallic tongue into that of her adopted country. She was the author of *The Life of Mother Francis* and numerous other productions of great interest and value. Her knowledge of the languages was equalled only by that of law and medicine. Indeed, as a literary and scientific woman, in all fields, her rounded education made her phenomenal. The reverend mother was educated in a convent in Dublin, where her father was a lawyer of eminence.

THE HIBERNIAN SOCIETY.

ANNUAL MOVABLE MEETING.

THE annual movable meeting of the H.A.C.B.S. was opened in the Hibernian Hall, Melbourne, on Wednesday, April 19. Brother E. J. Hayden, Chief President of Australasia, presided.

The Chief President, in declaring the meeting opened, said the society had made steady progress during the year. Nine additional branches had been established, the total membership over Australasia had increased by 847 members, and additional assets, valued at £3,642, had been acquired. At the present time the total membership numbered 15,676, and the assets represented no less a sum than £92,507. A proposal had been made by the Ancient Order of Hibernians of America to amalgamate with the Australian order, and if it were not agreed to in that form, at least reciprocal relations with the American order should be established. The amalgamation of the Ballarat and Melbourne districts had been effected during the year, and would doubtless result in a large increase of members. The order was, in the truest sense of the word, federated, and, although it was a non-political association, the individual members appeared to take a lively interest in the federation of the Australasian colonies, and were endeavouring to make history for the land of their birth and adoption by assisting in building up one grand Australian Commonwealth.

The Executive Directory Officers in their report said:—In presenting for your consideration, this, the 28th Annual Report of the Society, it is our pleasing duty to congratulate you upon the Society's continued progress, both numerically and financially during the past year. Our Society now consists of 246 Branches, being an increase of 8 Male Branches and 1 Ladies' Branch, and comprising in all 201 Male Branches, 32 Ladies' Branches and 13 Juvenile Contingents, with a numerical roll respectively of 13,926, 1,499 and 260, making a grand total of 15,685 members, an increase for the year (returns incomplete) of 847 members. The Funds (returns incomplete) of the District and Branches amount to £90,554 6s 1d, the Executive Directory Funds amount to £1,933 2s 5d; making a grand total to the credit of the Society of £92,507 2s 6d, showing an increase for the year of £2,612 6s 3d. From the December reports of the New Zealand district, we find that the District Funds have a credit of £3,989 19s 11d. The Branch returns for September quarter amount to £8,475 3s 6d, making a total of £12,465 3s 5d. We regret that owing to many of the Branches in this District not having furnished their returns to the D.S. in time for their insertion in his return, we are unable to state the true position of the District. They have 23 Male and 3 Ladies' Branches with a roll of 972 members. They have opened one new Branch during the year.

Regarding the decease of the much-respected District Secretary for New Zealand, the Report says:—We deeply regret having to report the death of Bro. P. Kearney, who for many years held the position of District Secretary of the New Zealand District. He was a

true Hibernian, and commanded the respect of all with whom he was associated, and his loss will be severely felt by that District.

In compliance with the instructions of the last A.M.M., we communicated with the Ancient Order in America, and we are pleased to say that our correspondence has been promptly attended to by the National President, Mr. J. T. Keating. We have received from him the Constitution and Bye-laws of their Society, also letters which will be laid before you to-day, asking that some agreement be entered into to bring about the unity of the two bodies, such agreement to be ratified at the National Convention, to be held at Boston, in May 1900, to which accredited delegates from the H.A.C.B.S. are invited.

The Revision Committee brought up a set of proposed amendments to the laws, involving the repeal of all existing regulations in favour of the new proposals.

On the motion for the adoption of the preamble, an amendment was moved by Bro. P. Tighe, D.V.P. (Melbourne), seconded by Bro. J. W. Ryan, D.S. (Melbourne), that the proposed amendments could not be legally dealt with, on the ground that the Executive Directory, in forwarding the amendments for the consideration of the annual meeting, had not complied with the law providing that all proposed alterations should be submitted to its half-yearly meeting.

A long discussion ensued. Several deputies stated that there was a danger of the registrars of friendly societies in the other colonies declining to pass the laws adopted in Victoria.

The amendment was negatived on a division by 27 votes to 6.

It was ultimately decided to alter the preamble, giving the various intercolonial districts power to make laws for themselves, which would be subject to the approval of the Executive Directory.

The sub-committee reported various small alterations in laws 14, 20, 23, and 27. They also suggested that clause 5 of rule 32, referring to the government of districts be struck out; that rules 33, 31, 35, 36 and 38 up to 45 be struck out; that clause 3, 4, 5 and 6 of rule 37 referring to district secretaries be struck out; that rule 48 be excised, and that rule 49 should stand. The whole of these recommendations were agreed to. It was decided to send a delegate to the Convention of Ancient Hibernians at Boston next year. The election of officers resulted as follows:—Chief president, Bro. M. Fennessy; deputy chief presidents, Bros. W. White and J. Tooney; chief treasurer, Bro. J. Whelan; corresponding secretary, Bro. T. W. O'Shea; auditor, Bro. A. G. O'Keefe.

It was decided to hold the next meeting in Sydney.

The youthful King of Spain is brought up strictly in accordance with the laws of hygiene, and hopes are entertained that by-and-by he will completely outgrow the delicacy of constitution from which he has hitherto suffered. His amusements are like those of most boys of his age. One of his hobbies is gardening, and he has a pronounced liking for roses, enjoying experiments for the purpose of modifying their colour and perfume. 'The King and his comrade a watchman's son, who shares His Majesty's amusements, work together at amateur gardening,' writes one who knows King Alfonso. 'It is interesting to watch the two running about with little spades or rakes, wheelbarrows or shovels, garden scissors or flower baskets. One day some trees in the royal garden were being pruned, and the King's humble companion having gone off for a few minutes on an errand of his comrade and monarch, reappeared wearing a leafy crown over his hat, which he had improvised out of a somewhat gauded bow. "What's that round your hat?" asked the King. "That's my crown," replied the boy comrade, "it nearly tore the ribbon round my hat as I pruned it. There are plenty more up there where they are pruning the trees. Would you like me to get you one?" and the boy's eyes sparkled with pleasure as he spoke. "No, thanks, not any for me"; a pause, and then—the only crowns I can put on are heavy ones that are worn on the bare head; besides, I don't want my skin torn like the ribbon of your hat." The King usually rises at 7 or 8 o'clock, and begins his Latin lesson at 10, afterwards taking his lessons of religion. But before studies of any kind he goes to Mass every day with the Queen Regent in the private chapel of the palace.

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ANY ARTICLE OF FURNITURE, SUITABLE FOR COTTAGE OR

MANSION :

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GLASS,

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