

that this was his name—when he had left. He was a swindler—left all his hotel bills unpaid, represented himself as a ship's surgeon, etc. He was a good looking, well built, rather large man, showily dressed, and a remarkably good singer—sang like a professional. Is this your Clampt? If so, tell him he is inquired after in Boston." In reply to Mr. O'Billy, whom we have to thank for his letter, we cannot answer for the identity of the individual in question, but the description given seems to suit the Christchurch hero perfectly. It may interest people in Boston to hear that if he be the man they seek he is now nearer to them than New Zealand, as he left Auckland some months ago for San Francisco. We may greatly doubt, however, as to whether, even supposing them to catch him, they would be much the better of the capture.

THE Dublin Corporation, it appears, have refused to invite Her Majesty the Queen to open a certain museum in their city—believing political discredit must result to them. It is unfortunate that the Royal family should have become identified in the eyes of the Irish people with the party opposed to them. Such, however, is the inevitable result of the action recently taken by the Duke of Fife in connection with Unionist demonstrations in Scotland. His Graces, who never before had made himself prominent in political matters, has, since his marriage, come forward markedly as a Unionist champion, and as that only. Necessarily the Irish people explain this action by the alliance formed by the Duke, and thus interpret the disposition towards them of the Queen and the Prince of Wales.

WE learn from a local paper that at the annual distribution of prizes to the pupils of the Christchurch Catholic Parochial Girls' school, the children of the infant department received their rewards first, the prizes being distributed by the Rev. Fathers Cummings, Le Menant des Chesnais, Halbwachs and Aubrey. The other scholars then assembled in the Convent, where the large schoolroom was decorated for the occasion. The children sang several choruses very sweetly, Miss Hewson accompanying at the pianoforte. A drama, "The Breton Cottage," was creditably acted by the senior pupils. The Rev. Father Cummings gave a brief address, expressing regret at the absence of the Right Rev. Bishop Grimes through ill-health, and requesting the prayers of the children on his Lordship's behalf. He exhorted them to renewed diligence in the year to come, urging them to seek after goodness as well as after knowledge, for, he said, knowledge without religion was like whitewash on the wall—a little wear and tear would soon bring it off.

THE following letter from his Eminence Cardinal Moran has been received by Mr. Wm. J. Onaban, of Chicago:—"St. Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, October 19. Dear and Honoured Sir,—On yesterday I received your esteemed invitation to be present at the Congress of the Catholic laity of the United States in Baltimore on November 11. I regret that in our present steamer arrangements it is not possible for me to be with you at that date. Were this letter to reach you before the meeting of your Congress I would most heartily wish you every success. As it is, I fear it will not reach Chicago until after the Congress shall have marked a bright page in the grand history of the American Church, and I may be permitted by anticipation to congratulate you on its successful celebration, and on the many happy fruits that shall result from it. At this side of the Pacific ocean we are endeavouring to follow, at a distance and in an humble way, the giant strides that religion is making in the United States. Every triumph of the Church with you is a triumph with us, and each step in advance in your glorious Church is a model for us to imitate at some future day. Should age, and strength and pleasure permit, I may hope some time to pay a visit to the United States, in the ranks of whose clergy I reckon so many friends of my earlier years. In the meantime, I beg to assure you that the heartiest and best wishes of the Australian Church are with your Congress, and with all the admirable works in which it shall be engaged.—Believe me to remain your faithful and devoted servant, PATRICK FRANCIS CARDINAL MORAN, Archbishop of Sydney."

THE correspondent of the *Pilot* writes under date Rome, Nov. 17:—The presence in Rome of an English representative to the Vatican is likely to occupy considerable public attention during this winter. The representative and his secretary, Captain Ross of Bladenburg, have evidently come to stay, for they have brought their wives and families with them. Sir John Lintorn Simmons, with his wife and daughter, reached Rome on the night of the 15th, and went to the apartments prepared for them at the Hotel di Parigi. This person is described, even by the Italian papers, as "Ambassador Extraordinary of the Queen of England to the Pope," and that he is the bearer "of an autograph letter of Queen Victoria." Yesterday he paid his first visit to Cardinal Rampolla, Secretary of State to His Holiness Leo XIII., and will soon be admitted to audience with the Pontiff.

WE record with great regret the death of Mr. Daniel Toohy, of Oamaru. The Irish Catholic community has lost in him an honest member, and we ourselves have to lament in his death that of a friend who did the N.Z. TABLET many a good turn.—R.I.P.

YESTERDAY morning (says the *Nelson Colonist* of January 8) the children of St. Mary's Girls' Orphanage were taken out to Waka-puka for their annual treat. The party was a large one, but all were driven out in seven vehicles supplied by Mr. James Canning of the Crown stables. Between seven and eight o'clock last night the children returned, and the procession of vehicles—a large coach being in the van—passed through town, the children who had adorned the carriages with ferns, etc., giving evidence of their happiness. Altogether there were about 120 girls who enjoyed the treat, and these belonged either to the Orphanage or Industrial School. The whole were under the direction of the Very Rev. Father Mahoney and the Sisters of the Convent, who looked carefully after the comfort and pleasure of the youngsters. Ample provision was made to satisfy the appetites of all the children, and their appearance certainly bore testimony to the fact that they are well cared for under the direction of the Sisters. Mr. M. Hunt, who has proved himself a true friend to the little ones, was also present with them. His efforts have been largely instrumental in the providing for these annual treats, and the Very Rev. Father Mahoney and the Lady Superior are desirous of again thanking the public of Nelson generally, for having so generously responded to Mr. Hunt's appeal to provide the children with such an excellent and hearty Christmas treat.

THE excitement still existing in Chicago on the subject of the Cronin murder (says the *Pilot*) was illustrated by two large meetings held on the anniversary of the legal murder of Allen, Larkin, and O'Brien in Manchester. One of these meetings was presided over by John F. Finerty, and was addressed by other representative Irish-Americans. It devoted itself wholly to the Irish question and the subject of the Manchester executions. The other, of which Mr. P. W. Duane was chairman, was a tremendous gathering, bent on denouncing the murderers of Dr. Cronin. A fearful arraignment of "The Triangle," who were attacked by name, was made by the chairman, Mr. Duane, the Rev. Daniel Toomey, of Polo, Ill., Captain E. O'M. Condon, Pat Grant, and John Devoy.

THE Emperor of Germany has again spoken in the interests of peace. To preserve the peace of Europe it seems it is necessary to keep the war spirit well alive. The Emperor, in addressing the garrison at Berlin, informs them that while striving for peace, every man in the army must be ready to hasten to the frontier. But even supposing German soldiers were capable of maintaining such a self-contradictory disposition, the effect to be produced on France is evident. The Emperor—Emperor Ego as they call him—seems to be either a supreme hypocrite or a consummate fool. It is an argument in favour of Republicanism to see the fortunes of the world committed to such hands.

WE have received from Mr. M. Noloney a draft for £60 13s, net proceeds after deducting expenses, of Sir Thomas Edmonds's meeting at Nenthorn, from the Rev. Father O'Leary £101 7s, net proceeds of the meeting at Lawrence, and from Mr. Stark, £42 13s 5d, proceeds of the meeting at Winton. We give in another place a summary of the gross amounts subscribed generally throughout the colony, so far as they have up to the present been ascertained.

Leo XIII. has just convoked a General Council in Japan. It will be held in January next year.

A congress for the consideration of sacred music was held recently at Brixen in the Tyrol, Austria.

When Sir Robert Peel (says *Truth*) introduced his scheme for the Repeal of the Corn Laws in 1846, Prince Albert went down to the House of Commons to hear the Minister's speech, and it was generally understood that his presence in the Gallery was meant to signify that the Court heartily approved of the new policy. Lord Beaconsfield, in his "Political Biography" of Lord George Bantick (one of the most entertaining works ever written) severely censured the Prince for his unconstitutional conduct, and thereby incurred the lasting resentment of H.R.H. I am reminded of this episode by the announcement that the Duke of Fife is to take the chair at the dinner which is to be given at Edinburgh next month to Mr. Balfour. I hear from a person who is very well informed in such matters that the Duke of Fife has been requested to preside simply because he has married a daughter of the Prince of Wales, and so that his presence in the chair may be held to signify the sympathy of the governing members of the Royal Family with the objects of the gathering. It is for no other reason that he has been selected, and he did not consent to accept the position until after he had obtained the permission of his wife's "exalted" relatives. The Unionist leader in Scotland is the Duke of Argyll, and the Duke of Buccleuch has always been at the head of the Tories, whereas the Duke of Fife held no political position whatever (and, in fact, was known to the public only as a prominent member of the Marlborough House set) until his marriage; but he has since discovered himself as a violent, if not an eloquent opponent of the Liberal policy.