

have been the best benefactors of the country; we are the only people who are labouring to plant the leaven of Christianity in schools and consequently of social order in the country (applause). Only allow the system of godless education to continue long enough—that is, for a generation or so—and you will have no Christianity in the country, except in the Catholic body; and consequently no foundation of social order, and can expect nothing but anarchy, and commotion, and distraction of society in this country. Now, I am opposed, and have always been opposed, to this system of education—not only as a Catholic, not only as a bishop here amongst you, but I have been opposed to it as a citizen of New Zealand. I am a citizen of New Zealand, and have been a colonist for four and thirty years; and for four and thirty years I have been fighting this battle, not so much for my religion, though, of course, that is the first consideration, but I have been fighting it as a citizen and a colonist because I love the Colony, and I am solicitous for its welfare and its order (loud applause). As a citizen, therefore, and as a man, as well as a Catholic and a bishop, I denounce the system of public education existing here as tyrannical, as unjust, as unfair, as unmanly, as mean, and as opposed to the social order and social well-being of this country (applause). We have been told lately that the undenominational cause wins everywhere, that the prevailing system is secular. No such thing. Out of France and Italy, where the lodges are at present supreme, there is hardly such a thing as pure secular education in any part of the world, and the men who speak of this know not what they are talking about. They do not understand the history of the question or its present status. Why, religion is at the foundation of education in almost every country except those two. In England people would not think of having education without religion. The school boards, by the force of public opinion, had been obliged to put religion into the schools. In Austria and Germany, countries quoted against us lately, this is the fact; and there are gentlemen in this town from those countries who will bear out what I say, that religion is at the foundation of education there, and the governors of those countries would not tolerate education that shut out religion. Germany was quoted for us. Why? In Germany the children are obliged to go to receive religious instruction. The men who talk here about education have no knowledge of the subject at all. They are ignorant as to the principle and of the facts relating to it. It is a terrible evil; a terrible state of things here. We are suffering indignity and injustice and tyranny; all of which are founded upon the most profound ignorance of the question. Now, I have to apologise for delaying you so long. I thank you very much, and I only regret that the hour is so late, because I had come here prepared to speak to you at length on the subject; but I have trespassed sufficiently long, and will reserve what more I have to say for another fitting occasion (cheers).

On the conclusion of the Bishop's speech, the Christmas hymn, "Adeste Fideles," was sung by the Young Cecilians, and the company dispersed. Mr. Harry Rossiter, we may add, acted throughout the evening as accompanist, playing, also, during the intervals, some brilliant selections, and among the rest, by special request, the pretty set of waltzes recently composed by him, and to which we have more than once referred.

We append the prize list—

SENIOR ROOM.

Grade VII: Mathematics and English—Arthur J Hall. Science and phonography—Eugene J O'Neil. Vocal music and honourable mention in algebra—Nicholas B Moloney. Christian doctrine and junior mathematics—Charles Wilkins. Penmanship, geography, and history—Thomas Hussey. Special prizes (1st and second) kindly presented by Rev. Father Lynch, Administrator, for Latin, (grammar, translation and composition)—Arthur J Hall, 1; Eugene J O'Neil, 2. Freehand drawing—M Courblan.

Grade VI: The following were highest in examination for pass in the subject's appended to their names: Alfred Quelch, Christian doctrine; Patrick O'Neill, Latin, geometry, and geography; Robert Todd, arithmetic and history; Richard Cotter, writing. For high scoring in examination—John Drumm, Edward Wilkins, and John Fraser. Special excellence in penmanship—John Fagan and Francis Woods. Most progress during year—James Mee. Regular attendance—Patrick O'Neill. Good conduct—William Brown. Gymnastics—John Fagan and Andrew Costelloe.

Grade V: Best all round in examination—J M'Quillan. English Grammar—S Bernech. Greatest improvement—A Cameron. Elocution—D Buckley. Regular attendance—G Hesford. Mapping and penmanship—W Cahil.

MIDDLE ROOM.

Upper division.—Grade IV: Grammar and drawing—George Nelson. Drawing—E Clark. Arithmetic and writing—M Meenan. Arithmetic—M Parton. Grammar—S Miscall. Writing—E Keating. Geography—C Stewart. Regular attendance—B Wilson. Most popular boy—J M'Kewen.

Lower division.—Arithmetic—James Liston, James Hussey, and Thomas M'Hugh. Grammar—William Rodgers. Reading—James Leonard and Edgar Bush. Home lessons—John Wilkins and S Columb. Exercise—E Blanchfield. Improvement—C Morkane. Geography—D Columb. Singing—W Clarke. Gymnastics—J Gawn.

Grade III: Christian Doctrine—Vincent Griffen 1, William Kennedy 2. Reading—Charles Hall 1, Thomas Mee 2, Edward Petre 3. Writing—Thomas M'Cawe. Arithmetic—Percy Mills. Grammar—Oswald Bush 1, Henry Rossotham 2. Geography—John Creagh 1, Christopher Fagan 2. Drawing—John O'Connell. Dictation—Leo Biordan. Singing—Frank Hanagan. Good conduct—John Hungerford.

JUNIOR ROOM.

Grade II—Division 1: Christian doctrine—R M'Quillan 1, E Casey. Reading—J Tarleton 1, F M'Cormack. Spelling—A Connor 1, E Power. Writing—Joe Bidmead 1, W Day. Arithmetic—J Montague 1, V Johnson. Drawing—K Kennedy 1, W Dwyer, J Bernech. Good conduct—J M'Lean 1, J Trower. Division 2: Christian doctrine—W Banks 1, P M'Cawe, J Fagan. Reading—J

Callan 1, N Ryan, W Black. Spelling—A. O'Connor 1, E Turner, T Keating. Writing—A Carr 1, W Murphy, E Hestford. Arithmetic—E Quelch 1, A Creagh, C Morkane. Grammar—D O'Neill 1, J Whitty, J Brennan. Geography—J Cleary 1, Joseph Beard. Drawing—J Mason 1, D Beard, P Treston. Good conduct—X Perrin 1, D Rogers, M Kennelly.

The following generously contributed to the prize fund:—Most Rev. Dr. Moran, Rev. Father Lynch, Adm., Rev. E Donnelly, Dunedin Catholic Literary Society, Mesdames Cotter, Liston, Haydon, Bush, Fagan, Mills, Miss Scollard, Messrs J. B. Callan, Gourley, M'Kay, Petre, Tynan, N. Smith, W. D. Woods, John Day, and Captain Bernech, W Gasquoine, and three other kind friends.

ONE WOMAN'S NERVES.

LOOKING backward to a certain lonely and unhappy time, a lady says:—

"I dragged on on this miserable condition for years, until I got tired of doctoring and taking stuff that did me no good. One physician attended me for eighteen months, giving me but little relief.

"I slept only in a broken fashion, and arose in the morning very little the better for having gone to bed. There was often severe pain in my head and over my eyes, and an almost constant sense of sickness. The skin gradually got dry and yellow, the region of the stomach and bowels felt cold and dead, and the natural energy and warmth appeared to be ebbing out of me like the water out of a river at low tide.

"In June, 1889, whilst living at Moredown, Bournemouth, I had a worse attack than any I had before. I was taken with a feeling of cramp, as if pins and needles were running into me, all over my body. I could not move, and had to lie helpless in bed. The doctor was sent for, and attended me every day, but did not seem to know what to make of my case. In fact, he was puzzled, and finally said, 'I don't really know what your complaint is.'

"I trembled and shook and felt as if I should fall to pieces. I was first hot and then cold, and so dreadfully nervous I could not bear any one in the room with me, and yet I did not wish them far away in case I should call out for help. Every time one of these spasms came on I said to myself, I am sure I shall never get up again."

"I took nothing but liquid food, and yet could not retain even that on my stomach. By this time I was nothing but skin and bone. My legs went clammy, as if I had no blood left in me. My memory completely failed. I never expected to recover, and that was the opinion of my friends. After they had called to see me they would go away saying, 'She will never get better.' My head ached so dreadfully I thought I should lose my senses.

"I had given up all hope, when one day my friend Mrs. West, of Bournemouth, called and asked what I was taking. I said, 'Oh, I'm tired of taking things; it's no use; I shall die.' Then she told me she was once ill much as I was, and was cured by Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. 'Well,' I said, 'I'll try it if you will send for it.' She did so, and I seemed to feel better on taking the first dose, and after three days I was able to walk across the room, and by the end of the week I went down stairs. Now I am well as ever. All my nervousness has left me, and I can eat and digest my food without feeling any distress.

"I want to say finally, that I knew about Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup, and should have tried it years before if certain acquaintances hadn't said, 'Oh, don't take it, for it will do you no good.' They said that because it was advertised, not because they knew for themselves. It was bad advice for me, and cost me years of torture. From what I have said—which is but part of my story—the people may infer what I think of this remedy. I thank God that I did resort to it at last before it was too late." (Signed) Mrs. Jane Foster, Darracott Road, Pokesdown, Bournemouth, Hants. March, 1890.

It is only necessary to add that the malady from which Mrs. Foster suffered was indigestion, dyspepsia, and nervous prostration. Brought on originally by grief and shock at her husband's sudden and violent death, her system did not rally until Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup removed the torpor of the digestive organs, and thus enriched the blood and fed the nerves. It always has this effect in like cases. We can only regret that she foolishly procrastinated in the matter of using it. Her statement of facts may be relied upon, as the case has been thoroughly and impartially investigated.

An oil well has been opened at Findlay, Ohio, which flowed over 1000 barrels the first hour, and in seven hours filled 6,340 barrels. This breaks the record of oil wells in Ohio, if not in the world.

The Comte de Paris was magnificently entertained in Montreal. He made a speech in which he said he saw signs ominous to France, but that Canada's future is bright and promising.

According to Cardinal Newman there are two kinds of fools, viz., "the born fool, and the self-made idiot." The self-made idiot's usual method of degradation is drink, or opium, or vice. But laziness, if it is enough, will do the trick as well as gin or laudanum and my own opinion about Mr. Balfour is that, though he was not by any means born a fool, he is very fast becoming one. We have had almost all sorts at the head of affairs, prigs and geniuses, and plain men of sense, strong men, and weak. But since the Revolution we have never had a mere loafer at the head of affairs, and it is hardly likely that we ever shall. My notion is that Mr. Balfour's most considerable achievement will be to add a new verb to the language. We all know what the phrase to "Boss a Business" means. Well, to "Balfour a Business" means just the opposite. It means not to attend to it, to leave everything to clerks, never to look in at the office except in the afternoon, and then only for a glass of sherry and a biscuit. Many a man "Balfours" his business. But usually not for long.—*Truth*.