

to New Zealand, as must have been the case had an inadequate recognition of Mr. Robert's services as late President of the Jubilee Exhibition been intentionally made. In every respect, besides, Mr. Roberts is worthy of the greater honour, and the only rational explanation of its being withheld is, as we have said, that an error has occurred. It is to be hoped that those upon whom the duty devolves will lose no time in having the error rectified.

In our present issue we publish a full report, which we owe to our esteemed contemporary, the *Boston Pilot*, of the lecture recently delivered by the Most Rev. Dr. Keane at Harvard University. For a combination of deep thought, clear argument, profound learning, and religious fervour, the lecture strikes us as almost unrivalled. We have never published in our columns anything of the kind more calculated to convince, instruct, and edify. It proves Dr. Keane's right to rank with preachers of the highest eminence, and quite confirms the great reputation that his lordship has gained throughout the world.

THE Catholics of Naples and of the surrounding country, who surely must best understand the question, have been most energetic in denouncing the outrage recently perpetrated on the convents of the Sepolte Vive and the Trenta-tre. The guilty prefect has found himself an object of such general scorn and indignation that he is said to repent heartily of the part played by him. Catholics of all ranks and classes are united in the matter.

COMMENTING on the Barnardo case the London *Daily Telegraph* says:—In delivering judgment in the case of the Queen v. Barnardo, the Lord Chief Justice made some very strong remarks on the conduct of the amiable philanthropist who desired to save John James Jones, alias Roddy, an infant, from the Roman Catholic tendencies of his mother. No doubt the boy was well cared for and happy in his alien home, but his self-elected guardian does not, among his other privileges, possess the right to retain a child against its mother's wishes, nor yet, in the pursuance of his generous crusade, to asperse that mother's character.

THE reptile Press (says *Truth*) is endeavouring to show that the Irish cannot be in earnest about Home Rule, because they have not broken the head of Mr. Balfour during his trip to the West of Ireland. Had they done so, we should have been told that they had proved that they were not fit for self-Government. Mr. Balfour went to inquire into the distress. He is naturally not a *persona grata* to the Irish; but they received him civilly—a fact which goes to show that they are not so disorderly and lawless as the reptile organs are always assuring us.

THE glories of civilisation are still the object of testimony.—Hardly has the world recovered from the nine days' wonder, occasioned by the detestable revelations made in connection with Mr. Stanley's African expedition, when a barbarous slaughter of Indians, women and children, as well as men, is reported from America—and the latest news is that the extermination of the tribe has been determined on. The territory is included in the diocese of Archbishop Ireland, and we may well conjecture how great a cause of anguish that excellent prelate finds in the matter. In all probability many of the unfortunate people belong to his Grace's flock. Most probably the reproach of the outbreak leading to the miserable occurrences in question will be attributed to the Indians. But those who receive this as a proven fact must know little of how certain Agencies manage their business and promote their interests. We sometimes find the epithet Anglo-Saxon as applied to the American population indignantly repudiated. But in their dealings with the unhappy natives, the authorities of the country, at least, have only too truly deserved it.

A SHORT paragraph, in small type (says the *Liverpool Catholic Times*), is at present going the rounds of the English newspapers which gave such prominence to the false charges brought against the nuns at Naples. In this obscure paragraph is to be found the key to the whole affair. It is now stated that the Government, by which we suppose is meant the Municipal Government of Naples, have determined to seize the buildings of the Convent of the Sepolte Vive and turn them into a school. The incident, in fact, presents us with a very fair and accurate modern copy of the policy of Jezebel in the matter of Naboth's vineyard. Jezebel did not quite like to take the vineyard for her lord without more ado; so she got the elders of the city to suborn false witnesses against Naboth, and under cover of their lies, the vineyard was quietly annexed. So with the Municipality of Naples and the Convents; and we have no doubt that the next time a convenient site or a commodious building is wanted in Naples the process will be repeated. It is a pity that this estimable Government cannot steal the property of the Brides of Christ without first robbing them of their good name; but as long as the present Government endures in Italy we suppose there is no help for it.

Is Lord Salisbury a German constable or a British Minister? (asks *Truth*). He was good enough to send our fleet to aid the Germans to destroy our trading establishments in East Africa on the plea that this was to put down the slave trade abroad. He has now bombarded Witu at the bidding of his German masters. One Künnstl, a filibustering German scamp, went there, and abused the ruler and his people. A fight ensued, and the ruffian was killed. For this Witu and several villages have been destroyed by our fleet, aided by the "soldiers" of the East African Chartered Company. It would not surprise me if, in return for these friendly barbarities, a few more of our Royalties, or even his Lordship himself, were made Honorary Colonels of German regiments. Since Lord Salisbury actively interfered to promote the Triple Alliance against France, we have truckled to Germany and snubbed France.

Those friends who have kindly undertaken to dispose of tickets for the Palmerston art-union are requested to send in blocks and remittances as soon as convenient to the Rev. Father Donnelly. It has unfortunately been found necessary to post-pone the drawing, and the date to be fixed for it depends on the returns to be sent in. The object for which the art-union has been set on foot is a very urgent one, and efforts made to promote its interests are truly meritorious.

THE situation relating to Behring Sea decidedly grows more interesting. Something like a small fleet is being prepared at San Francisco, as we learn, for the purpose of enforcing American rights in the waters referred to. The English Government, meantime, is also preparing ships for the occasion, and, perhaps, as further indicating the alliance that recent events in Africa seem to reveal, the German Government are said to be sending a fleet there. Even Russia is reported of as equipping vessels, but it would not seem extravagant to conjecture that this may be for the purpose of aiding the Americans, should the need arise, rather than for that of taking part against them. Russia claimed the right over the sea which America claims as purchased from her, and it is not likely she will now repudiate her former action. The situation, then, as we have said, is interesting. But yet we do not expect that anything more than some hot diplomacy will come of it. Still, while the whole world is in a constant state of preparation for hostilities, it would be rash to be over-positive in predicting an inviolable peace.

PERSONS who had tickets for the Hibernian Society's Pic-nic at Sawyer's Bay on Boxing Day are expected to assemble at the Christian Brothers' School, Dunedin, on next Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock, when the suite of furniture will be given away. On behalf of the Society we are requested to return thanks to the following business firms, who generously presented prizes for the pic-nic:—Messrs. Brown, Ewing and Co.; Nelson, Moate and Co.; J. Fleming, Dunbar; Br. & F. Meenan, H. Driver and Sons, Kearns, Son and Co.; P. Keligher, W. Stewart, W. Lane and Co., Phoenix Confectionary Co., Mrs. Loft, Low and Co., James Dunbar and Co., Ahlfeld Bros., and E. Carroll.

Mr. James Muir, Prince's street, Dunedin, calls attention to his select stock of clerical collars and soft felt hats suited for clerical wear. Mr. Muir's general stock contains the latest novelties in every line embraced by the hatter and hosier's business.

Messrs. J. Hardie and Co., corner of Princes and Rattray streets, Dunedin, being under the necessity of enlarging their premises, are holding a clearing sale of their extensive and excellent stock of clothing and bonnets. Great reductions have been made in the prices, and the public will find the advantages offered them well worthy of consideration.

Mr. Michael Flannigan, a well-known Edinburgh Catholic, has been returned to the City Council. We believe he is the first Catholic returned to that body since the Reformation. Mr. Flannigan was the adopted candidate of the Liberal party.

Sir B. F. Burton, the famous Orientalist and traveller, was received into the Church on his deathbed. The prayers of the faithful were asked for the repose of his soul in all the London churches last Sunday. Sir Richard owed this grace, under God, to his devoted Catholic wife.

Deputy Moreau's bill looking to the entire abolition of titles in France by taxing them heavily, offered on Monday, October 27, in the Chamber, proposes an annual impost, thus graded:—For the prefix of "de," 500 francs; for the title of "baron," 5,000 francs; "vicomte," 10,000 francs; "comte," 20,000 francs; "marquis," 30,000 francs; "duke," 50,000 francs; and for that of "prince," 100,000 francs. Dukes or counts who desire to use the prefix Highness will be asked to pay 200,000 francs for that in fable privilege. A similar handle to his title will cost a prince 250,000 francs annually.

The German Socialists, since the inoperation of the laws against them, have adopted a more reasonable programme, with a view to an alliance of forces with Herr Windthorst's Catholic party on matters of mutual concern. Windthorst agrees with them substantially on all measures affecting the good of the working people, the regulation of the hours of labour, of the labour of women and children, and the pensioning of the superannuated. The Socialists have gained an amazing growth in the empire, but with it has come a conservatism with which they have not been credited.