

that in any former instance such haste was shown in the explanation. The *London Tablet*, for example, in the self same issue, as we have said elsewhere, in which it gives the authorised translation, publishes an authoritative and emphatic decision from Canon Moyes that infallibility is not exercised. In the case of the *Tablet*, moreover, this is especially remarkable. When a much less important document was published, for example, one referring to a particular people only, and even among them to a particular matter, that is, the Papal rescript dealing with the Plan of Campaign, the *Tablet* made no such explanation. On the contrary, it has always referred to that rescript, at least indirectly, as if it were infallible, and has invariably condemned those whom it accused of disobedience to it of sacrilegious impiety. For ourselves, as we have said, it is not our part to pronounce in the matter. We have neither the requisite knowledge nor the authority needed for the task—though, most probably, as the question has been raised elsewhere, we shall in due time publish an explanation possessed of the necessary qualities. For the time being what we perceive from the words of the Encyclical is that the Pope makes a special claim to write with the authority of the Holy See. "We approach the subject," he says, for instance, "with confidence, and in the exercise of the rights which belong to us." Are not these words alone sufficient for all faithful Catholics?

THIS is how that bright light and leader of Orangeism Mr De Cobain explains his refusal to meet the abominable charge that has been brought against him. We quote from the *London correspondence of the Otago Daily Times*. "The authorities are now engaged in procuring the necessary evidence that De Cobain is evading the service of the warrant against him; and as soon as it is complete a motion will be made for its production, and the First Lord of the Treasury will move the expulsion of the member for East Belfast. A letter bearing no address has been received by the secretary of the East Belfast Conservative Association from De Cobain, in which he says:—'I do not feel that the Lord points out to me as a path of duty to meet my accusers and peril my life and liberty by swearing in self-defence against a crowd; and even to please my friends I cannot, in light of God's guidance, sacrifice myself. Besides, my physical condition is such I could not come were the warrant cancelled to-morrow. To assume that, because my friends believe in me rather than in the perjured ruffianism that has sold its evidence for briber's gold, I should place myself under arrest, is a sacrifice no true friend would wish me to incur.'" The gentleman is eminently fit for the office that has been found for him—that of preaching Evangelicalism to the benighted Spaniards. The Spaniards, benighted though they be, will know how to appreciate that phase of gospel truth that inspires such missionaries. Widows, De Cobain, O'Gorman, Chiniquy.—The list is a goodly one. Is there not, by the way, a name or two among ourselves in Dunedin that might justly be added to it?

THE death of Miss Larnach, eldest daughter of the Hon. W. J. M. Larnach, which has occurred at Wellington from typhoid fever, is very widely regretted. The young lady was deservedly held in affection by a large circle of friends. Sincere sympathy is felt for Mr Larnach and his family in their bereavement.

WE learn with regret that Mr Byrne, teacher of the Catholic school at Lawrence, feels himself obliged by delicate health to resign his situation.

THE following letter has been written to the *Wellington Post* by Mr. Vincent Pyke:—"The opponents of the Private Schools Bill do not appear to recognise the dilemma in which they involve themselves by their contention that granting assistance to such schools would be destructive of the National system. If the teaching of religion in a few schools would bring about such a result, what a rotten system the State school system must be, and if the arguments of its supporters are valid in this respect, nothing but good could result in a radical change. But the fact is, the subsidising of private schools in large centres of population would beneficially affect the public schools, by inducing a healthy spirit of emulation."

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Dunedin Evening Star*, signing himself "Wickliffe," in a letter published on Monday, charged the *NEW ZEALAND TABLET* as follows:—"In the issue of the 17th inst, it covertly suggests that one of our own citizens should be dynamited." Our reply is, this charge is gross, infamous, and lying. There is no foundation or pretence whatever for it, as the writer must have known perfectly well when he made it. The person to blame principally for the publication, however, is the Associate Editor of the *Evening Star*, who should have ascertained the truth before he allowed such a charge against a contemporary—plainly an actionable libel—to appear in his columns. But, on the one hand, we have "Wickliffe," a representative of flatulent Evangelicalism; on the other hand the Associate Editor of the *Evening Star*, a representative of that class of men who,

having lost their own ancient faith, though strangely retaining the fury of their forefathers against the Messiah, lead the attempt to destroy Christianity in every civilised country. The union, as we have before now remarked, proves the truth of the Saviour's word that Satan cannot be divided against himself. Evangelical, Jew, Turk, and Infidel will unite against the Catholic Church.

THE following cablegram must be taken as representing the theological acquirements of the cable agency. It is not necessary for us to comment any further on it:—"Rome, July 25. The Pope has sanctioned forgiveness of sins to pilgrims visiting the 'Holy Coat' of Treves, in Rhenish Prussia."

THE Rev. Mark Guy Pearse, a London missionary who is making a tour of New Zealand, and who lately visited Dunedin—where, however we heard comparatively little about him, has been talking rank heresy at Wellington. One of the dailies reports him as follows:—"The church that will make the best use of its women is the church that holds the future. Protestants often complained of the aggression of the Church of Rome, but so long as the Roman Catholic Church was willing to make sacrifices for the Lord Jesus Christ, which Protestants refuse, they had no right to wonder or to complain. In the Catholic Church men of position are expected to give one of their daughters to the service of Christ with a dowry just as if they were going to be married, while they (the Protestants), as a rule, were content with giving a small donation for the employment of Bible women. The culture, the love, the tact, the tenderness, and the thousand gifts of their girls were withheld from the service of the poor." This contrasts nobly with the estimation in which the heroic devotion of Catholic women is frequently held. Not to speak of the O'Gormans, and other viragoes of either sex, set up from time to time to belie and insult them, we find just now that the memory of one who was chief among such women is grossly outraged, to the approbation of many people. We allude to Mr Calderon's foul painting of the "Dear Saint Elizabeth," a woman who renounced royal state to give herself up to the service of the poor and sick, and whose example has inspired a multitude of those to whom Mr Pearse has sympathetically pointed.

CATHOLIC CONCERT AT PALMERSTON.

(From the correspondent of the *North Otago Times*.)

A GRAND vocal and instrumental concert took place in the Town Hall, Palmerston, on Friday, the 24th July, before a crowded house, numbers being unable to gain admittance. Mr Scott, Mayor of Palmerston, in a few words explained the object of the concert. He said he was greatly pleased to see the liberal response that was made to the call of charity, and added that the Rev. Father Donnelly was pastor of the mission, and although but a few months amongst them he was highly respected by all creeds and classes, and this full house proved the esteem in which he was justly held (great applause). The programme arranged for the evening was a long one, and comprised some of the choicest selections from the principal works of the great masters, and he would not detain them any longer from hearing their friends who had come from Dunedin to give them a treat.

The concert was opened with one of Haydn's best compositions arranged as a duet, and played by Mesdames J. O. Mackenzie and Murdoch. These gifted ladies played it in a most faultless, artistic, and finished manner. The duet was a most difficult one, and brought out the execution and perfection of the players, who played it with the true appreciation of the composer's meaning, and they were loudly applauded for it. Mr J. Jago, who is a concert in himself, gave "The Highlandman's Toast," which brought down the house. Then the great baritone gave as an encore "The Long Shore Man" with equal success. The song, "Bid me Good-bye" was sung by Miss Elizabeth Fagan sweetly, and in a manner which evidenced her possession of true musical feeling. The duet "Excelsior" was sung by Messrs Umbers and Jago, and was encored. "Il Segretto" was sung by New Zealand's foremost contralto, Mrs Angus, which was the greatest treat ever a Palmerston audience had heard. She was encored, and gave "Katie's Letter," which delighted every one. "A Hundred Fathoms Deep," sung by Mr Young, with his rich, well-trained bass voice, was a musical treat, and was applauded again and again. A ladies' trio "Ye shepherds," was sung by Mrs Angus, and Misses Beane and Blaney, and was encored. "The Englishman" was sung by Mr Umbers in right good English style. He possesses a rich voice, of fine quality and good range. He was encored, and sang "Father O'Flynn," which brought down the house. A recitation by Mr J. G. Findlay was given in a most pleasing, natural, and eloquent manner, which delighted all, and was loudly applauded. Miss Rose Blaney sang "The Land o' the Leal." This lady possesses a remarkably well-trained, clear, and sweet soprano voice, which is a treat to listen to. The song was one of the gems of the evening. Prolonged applause followed all her songs. Never has such a voice been heard in this district, and we hope soon to hear her again. Thalberg's "Last Rose of Summer," was played by Miss Mary