

NOTICE.

MR E. NORTON TAYLOR, JUNR., of Christchurch, has been appointed Canvasser and Collector for the TABLET.

**ST. MARY'S GRAND ORIENTAL BAZAAR
AND ART-UNION,
CHRISTCHURCH.**

The drawing of Prizes in the above Art-Union will take place on the 23rd APRIL.

Holders of Books of Tickets are requested to forward the Blocks to the Hon. Secretary, MR. R. DOBBIN, 123 North Belt, Christchurch, so as to reach him not later than the 16th inst.

WANTED—ASSISTANT for the Bookselling, Stationery and Fancy Goods Trade. Apply, with reference,

WHITAKER BROTHERS,
Catholic Booksellers,
Wellington.

P.O. Box 91.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"BALCLUTHA."—We regret that we have no especial information respecting the lady in question. We merely know what the newspapers have published about her. A Victorian experience of some five or six months cannot be accountable for much.

"FAR DOWNER."—Our correspondent inquires if we, or any of our readers, can assist him in finding a book called, he thinks, MacSpain's History of Ireland. We do not know of such a book, nor have we been able, on inquiry, to hear anything of it.

The New Zealand Tablet.

FIAT JUSTITIA.

FRIDAY, APRIL 8, 1892.

PROGRESS AND JUSTICE IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

The Catholics of New Zealand provide, at their own sole expense, an excellent education for their own children. Yet such is the sense of justice and policy in the New Zealand Legislature that it compels these Catholics, after having manfully provided for their own children, to contribute largely towards the free and godless education of other people's children!!! This is tyranny, oppression, and plunder.

A N O T H E R C R A N K.



BISHOP MORAN delivered a discourse in St Joseph's last Sunday evening, which we publish in another column, and in this discourse the Bishop set before himself the task of explaining the Catholic doctrine on the subject of indulgences. His motive for doing this is obvious. In the beginning of this discourse the Bishop stated he entered on this question not with the intention of treating it controversially, nor even argumentatively, but merely for the purpose of explaining the real teaching of the Church. But, notwithstanding his lucid and simple explanation, a crank writes a letter to the *Evening Star*, which that paper publishes, in which it is still insisted that the Catholic Church does indeed sell indulgences. What is to be done under the circumstances? Nothing that we can see, except treat the whole affair with the contempt which ignorance and ill-breeding deserve, and take no further notice of men who, if not actually mad, are very nearly fit for a place in Sealiff.

STEPS are about to be inaugurated for raising a sum of from four to five thousand pounds for the enlargement of St Mary's Cathedral, Wellington. This project has been adopted, for sufficient reasons, in preference to the erection of a new building. An appeal will be made

MRS. DREAVER'S SPRING SHOW of the Latest Novelties in Summer Millinery, Dorothy Capes, Newmarket Jacket Flowers, Feathers, Laces, &c. Ladies should see the Goods: Beautiful and very Moderate in Price
SCIENTIFIC DRESSMAKING TAUGHT.

at an early date to the people of the diocese—more especially those of them residing in the city, who are more immediately concerned.

"It is proposed to build a church in Bome city at the side of St Peter's at a cost of four millions sterling."—A Protestant church?—to be the biggest empty building ever seen in all the world. If Barnum were still alive, he might hire it for a stupendous exhibition of vacant space. Some lunatics, it would appear, have costly notions.

THE Behring Sea row has terminated amicably—as we know it would. A war between England and America about a lot of seals would be sheer nonsense. Had anything of the kind broken out, the stakes, of course, would have been Canada. The United States, however, would possibly be averse to a union brought about by violence. It also must be amicable if it ever occurs.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Daily Times* signing himself "Presbyter" in a letter written in a singularly moderate strain and a truly Christian spirit claims that immorality in Scotland exists without the membership of the Church. Of this we have no doubt—we are convinced that a faithful conformity to the teaching of any Christian creed must be attended with uprightness of life. In rare exceptions only is Calvinism carried out to its logical conclusions. We believe—indeed we certainly know—that a good Protestant is in every respect a good and moral man or woman. We have no taste at all for these comparative statistics. They are forced on us in self-defence.

IN refutation of the oft-repeated and generally accepted fact that Scotland takes a leading place in illegitimacy, it is stated that in Scotland, alone of the three kingdoms, are illegitimate births registered as such. We doubt it. We know that in Ireland in the published registers of both the Catholic Church and the Anglican Church they are so registered, and in Ireland no Catholic and hardly any Anglican leaves a child unbaptised. What is done in the registers of the Churches is surely done also in those of the Government. But even if it were so, means are still at hand of comparing a Scotch with an Irish population. It is not, for example, in those Scotch counties where the Irish most do congregate that the statistics of illegitimacy are highest, but in counties that are more fully Scotch. As to cock-and-bull stories told of vice imported from Ireland, which we are expected to believe on gratuitous assertions, we have had no personal experience of Scotch towns. We have had abundant experience of Scotch settlers in Ireland, and we have frequently heard them acknowledge the greater virtue of the people—and occasionally ridicule it. The excess of crime or vice attributed to the Irish in Scotland is arrived at, as elsewhere, by the unfair comparisons to which we have frequently alluded. A population exceptionally and adversely situated are compared with all the other inhabitants—wealthy bourgeois, gentry, nobility, and all—and are found, in proportion to their numbers in the country, to be more numerous in committing crime—generally minor offences. This is to make figures lie with a vengeance, and the men accountable for the matter cannot be so stupid as not to know what they are about.

It is again stated—"freely," we are told this time, that Home Rule will be immediately followed by civil war in Ulster. But is not prevention better than cure? Why do not our Orange ditch-liners take time by the forelock and begin? The ditches, perhaps, are too damp, and might give them cold, so they are waiting for the fine weather. But if they would only bestir themselves betimes and kill off all the Catholics in the country—which of course they could quite easily do if they thought good—there would be nobody asking for Home Rule, and things might remain as they are. That seems the simplest plan. By the way, would New Zealand Orangemen kindly oblige by going now, as they have promised, to Ulster and giving their brethren there an example? They would look very pretty forming such a fools' contingent. And are there really people to whom it is not patent that talk like that reported is simply idiotic? The British Government would be worth very little if it could not account for the heroes in question—even if reinforced from New Zealand.

It is no wonder that works of genius should be worn threadbare by constant quotation. Whatever it may be that genius deals with is treated exhaustively and once for all, and there is no possibility of finding another example. Moliere, for instance, has given us in his doctors the model of all scientific quacks and humbugs that the world in any shape or form can ever produce. There is not, indeed, a practitioner among them in whom we cannot trace the original of Sir Robert Stout, in his reliance on bare figures and his self-sufficient contempt for everything and every one venturing to depart from his own particular standard.

We do not often see much to borrow from that dear creature "Civis," and now that he has taken to dancing jigs to the piping of