

at a time like the present, when the colonies have been horrified by the revelations made at Sydney in connection with a case of baby-farming. But into a minute examination of the subject it is impossible for us to enter. Anyone who has even a little experience of life will understand it well enough. Who, then, we ask, is accountable for the advertisement? Not, we trust, the "MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT," to whom applications with testimonials are to be addressed. A gentleman of his profession, on the contrary, should especially set his face against anything of the kind. Whoever is accountable for the advertisement it is a disgrace to him, and to the institution in connection with which it is issued—if not to the Government under whose control that institution exists.—It is much to be feared that Lord Salisbury only too truly describes Mr Gladstone's majority in the House of Commons as "motley." Sir Edward Beed, for example is one of that majority, and is included by the *Times* among the Members whom it stigmatises as "separatists." Yet here is a cablegram under date London, December 10 :—"In the course of a speech to-day, Sir Edward Beed, Liberal Member for Cardiff, said he would be willing to enlarge the system of local government for Ireland without disturbing the fundamental relations of the two countries. He warns Mr Gladstone against Home Rule and the pretensions of the Parnell section. He also warns him against the release of those in custody for dynamite outrages and the restoration of evicted tenants. He states that he represents the sentiments of many members of the House of Commons." Faction in Ireland is evidently doing its fatal part.—One of the points made by Lord Salisbury in the article alluded to above, is that possibly some of Mr Harrison's 500 sweeps, created Peers, might go wrong. We have already seen from the example of Sir Edward Beed that there are but too good grounds for such a conclusion. We now find what we fear may be a further indication of the same kind in the resignation of another "separatist," that is Mr J. S. Balfour, M.P. for Burnly. On the whole there seems to be serious cause for uneasiness as to Irish prospects.—Some little comfort, however, and especially as against the fate of Mr Fullam, in South Meath, we may derive from the success of the petition, on the ground of corrupt practices, against the election of Alderman

and Rev Fathers Goggan and Power, and the college faculty and laity, Dr Cahill, Messrs Geo. Fisher, M.H.R.; M. Kennedy, P. S. Garvey, C. N. Crombie, W. M. Maskell, O'Connor, J. J. Devine, Davis, Corrigan, McAlister, Hayward, Houlihan, Brady, and several others whose names I was not able to find out.

After a few preliminaries the following programme was gone through in a very able manner:—Selection, "Home Echoes" (S. Cimino), College Brass Band; chorus, "Gipsy Chorus" (Von Weber), College Choir; recitation, "Beth Gelet" (Spenser), Master Charles O'Galligan; overture on Irish airs (Volpi), College Orchestra under Mr Trowell; pianoforte duet, "Chilpéric" (Hervé) (Smith), Masters Eugene E. Kimbell and Nicholas B. Moloney; choré, "The Hardy Norseman" (Pearson), College Choir; recitation, "The Bells of Shandon" (Prout), Master Walter Crombie; fantasia, "L'Inna Miller" (Verdi), College Brass Band. The choir was led by Father Braxmeier, upon whom the proficiency of the students reflected great credit.

At the conclusion of this programme the Rector delivered his annual address. He said:—For the eighth time in hot succession it becomes my duty and my privilege to read to a distinguished audience the roll-call of honour, the names of pupils bearing off the rewards of industry and diligence after the work of the past academic year. In view of these lists of honour, you will readily relieve me and yourselves of the burden of a speech, more especially as we expect words weightier and more able from those highest in Church and State. Still, I must fairly claim to say that the college once more reaches the port of the holidays after twelve months' contest with those currents, and mists, and storms, inseparable from the work of education, in good health and in good time, laden with some grains of knowledge, and enriched by some broadening and deepening of character. To the skilled eye it is surprising—I had almost said disappointing—how very meagre is the exact result in the best students of a few years' teaching and learning; how very soon and very easily that result is gauged. Yet on the sound principle that education must not cease with school, much will have been done by the capable educationist if he lays in the young receptive mind a strong and solid

IF we were timid and afraid of the ground we stand on because of the lack of faith in our Goods, we would write our advertisement like this:

*City Boot Palace,
Corner George and St. Andrew Streets.*

But as we are not timid and know the value of our Goods, the knowledge makes us bold and we therefore write like this:

CITY BOOT PALACE,

Corner George and St. Andrew Streets.

J. MCKAY, Proprietor.



Davies for Rochester. Alderman Davies is a Unionist. Let us hope he may make room for a man of better principles.—Meanwhile, Irish affairs afford grounds for mingled feelings. Crime, according to Mr John Morley, speaking at Newcastle, is largely decreasing; the reduction in the number of cases for the past 12 months being 500. On the other hand, the farmers, as might be foreseen from the low prices at Ballinasloe, and at other principal fairs, are feeling the pinch of distress. They are crying out against taxation, in addition to the repetition of their time-honoured cry against the exactions of the landlords.

ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE ANNUAL DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Wellington, December 10, 1892.

THE annual distribution of prizes in connection with St Patrick's College took place in the study hall on Tuesday night last in the presence of a crowded audience. The hall was prettily decorated for the occasion with floral wreaths, festoons, mottoes, sketches, and etchings representative of the work of the pupils during the year. On the dais at the end of the hall were arranged the college choir, the college orchestra, and the band under the conductorship respectively of Very Rev Father Braxmeier and Messrs Trowell and Cimino. On a table in front of the dais were arranged the prizes, consisting in the most part of valuable books, and various other objects of value. Long before the commencement of the concert the hall was crowded, and a few minutes after the appointed time his Grace the Archbishop, accompanied by the Very Rev Dr Watters (Rector), and Very Rev Father Devoy, V.G., arrived, his appearance being greeted with applause by the students and the audience. Shortly afterwards his Worship the Mayor (Mr H. D. Bell), accompanied by the Hon Dr Grace, M.L.C., arrived, they taking their seats on the left of the Archbishop. There were also present:—Clergy: Very Rev Fathers Dawson (Adm.), Kirk (Wanganui), Smythe (Hastings), Lane (Lower Hutt),

basis of future operations; if he impresses on hasty youth the grave lesson that what we know is as nothing to what we have yet to learn; if he opens up avenues of thought and study; if he convinces his pupils that before them lies for discussion and possession the great treasure of truth. A healthy arena this for young ambition—a strong stimulus here for enlarging the boundaries of human knowledge. If at school in the budding days of life we succeed in engendering a love of learning, in showing a passage thereto, the learning itself is sure to follow. A wise system of education—while discountenancing pedantry and sesquipedalianism—will teach us how very little the average mind is receptive of, how much more it has to absorb, what attractions and possibilities there are before the student. Your knowledge is pleasure as well as power, and as has been well said, "There is no pleasure comparable to the pleasure of standing on the vantage ground of truth." Let us realise to ourselves the sacred trusts of health, vigour, energy and time; let us in a spirit of thankfulness turn to the best account for ourselves and others the inestimable gifts of faith and life. However much in principle and means the system of education pursued in this college differentiates from other schemes obtaining more widely about us—and on this point the public will allow that we have shown the courage of our convictions—I still make bold to say that one overmastering desire with us is, with the means at our disposal, to turn out of this college accomplished men, useful and loyal and self-reliant citizens. Is it vain to hope that the idyllic frame of mind neatly phrased by the bard will yet survive and actuate us all?

Then none was for a party,
Then all were for the State,
Then the great man helped the poor
And the poor man loved the great.
The lands were fairly portioned,
The spoils were fairly sold,
Then Romans were like brothers,
In the brave days of old.

At the conclusion of his address the rector heartily thanked the many donors of prizes, which were more numerous and more valuable than