

retreat to the Sisters at the convent, left for Christchurch during the week, where, I understand, he is to preach a retreat to the clergy. The annual retreat of the clergy of the diocese of Wellington will commence in about a fortnight's time.

### THE MODEL HUSBAND.

(ELEANOR M. DENNY, in the *Ladies' Home Journal*.)

MOST wives will end their story with :

"Ah well, men are but human,"

I long to tell the secret of

A truly happy woman.

Through all the sunshine-lighted years,  
Lived now in retrospection,  
My husband's word brought never tears,  
Nor caused a sad reflection.

Whate'er the burdens of the day,  
Unflinching, calm and steady,  
To bear his part—the larger half—  
I always find him ready.

House-cleaning season bring no frown  
No sarcasm, pointed keenly ;  
Through carpets up, and tacks head down  
He makes his way serenely.

Our evenings pass in converse sweet,  
Or quiet contemplation,  
We never disagree except  
To "keep up conversation."

And dewy morn of radiant June,  
Fair moonlight of September,  
April with bird and brook stone,  
Stern, pitiless December—

Each seems to my adoring eyes  
Some new grace to discover,  
For he unchanging through the years,  
Is still my tender lover.

So life no shadow holds, though we  
Have reached the side that's shady ;  
My husband? Oh! a dream is he ;  
And I'm a maiden lady.

To secure approval and permanent patronage for the goods sent out by the City Boot Palace, a trial is all that is necessary. Such boots and shoes are their own best recommendation.

Messrs J. Muir and Co., batters and hosiers, 16 Princes street, have made extensive alterations to their premises, enlarging them considerably, and they have now opened a choice and specially selected stock of hats and mercery. We would call the attention of our town and country patrons to the above, and recommend them to call and inspect their goods before purchasing elsewhere.

President Eliot, of Harvard College, talked some American "horse-sense" when he recently said to the Massachusetts Reform Club:—"Perhaps some of you imagine that you have descended from some soft-handed or tender-footed immigrant a few generations ago, but the chances are everybody here has descended from a mechanic, a tradesman or a peasant—everybody, without exception. I know that John Harvard was the son of a butcher, and he was a pretty good immigrant. I know that my earliest ancestry in this country did attain to the dignity of a town clerkship in the town of Beverley, but I have been in small towns of a pioneer sort in the remotest part of this country, and I found that the town clerk was a pretty small kind of person. I say, gentlemen, that we are all immigrants, and that we are all descended from mechanics, farmers, peasants, trades-people. We are all descended, gentlemen, from just such people as are coming ashore every day from the foreign steamers, if only our republican form of government would let them land."—*Pilot*.

Astronomer Snyder, of Philadelphia, says that the earth collided with a comet and knocked it into impalpable smithereens (to use a scientific expression) on the night of November 23. Whereupon, Astronomer and Prophet Wiggin, of Ottawa, Canada, rises to remark that if the earth had collided with the comet, it, the earth, would be where the Republican party now is, in less than twenty minutes. Comets, according to Brier Wiggin, are not gaseous nebulae, but solid bodies like the earth itself, being "positively electrified" as the sun and planets are. Every now and again their store of electricity gets low, and they make a home run (speaking again in the language of science) to the sun, where they get recharged and sail off into space for a fresh cruise. Sometimes they tarry too long at the electrical source and get overcharged, as happened to Beila's comet some years ago, when that amiable luminary, its own worst enemy, burst into two parts and went to the dog-stars generally. Astronomer Wiggin appears to know all about comets, but like all theorists, he offers no plan for altering their dissipated orbits.—*Pilot*.

### CATHOLIC CHURCH, PALMERSTON NORTH.

(*Manawatu Standard*, January 2.)

THE Palmerston Catholic Church has been beautifully decorated for the Christmas and New Year's services, and the interior presents a really imposing spectacle. One of the most striking features should be mentioned, is a pretty crib, which has been placed in the ladies' chapel and is in the shape of the stable in Bethlehem. The infant Child, in the manger, and snugly wrapped up in swaddling clothes, reclines gracefully upon the straw. A beautiful figure of the Virgin, with arms crossed, and contemplating her God, also stands out prominently. The ox and the ass, apparently breathing upon the infant, is another especial feature. Surrounding the infant appear a number of beautiful angels with fluttering wings, suspended in the air, and apparently playing upon trumpets and singing the praises of the infant. At the head of the child a golden nymbus rests, and above the cave a red cross. Underneath, and fronting the cave, is a florid inscription "A child is born unto us." A picturesque swinging lamp, burning night and day, and placed at the head of the cave, gives a solemn but at the same time bewitching effect to the whole. The snow, ice, and holly, clustering around the outside, add considerable attraction to the master work. Above the cave another tasteful inscription, "Christ is born; let us rejoice and adore," catches the eye and stands out in bold relief. The altar also has been artistically decorated, the taste displayed being admirable. Flowers of every description, resting in pretty vases and sending forth their delicious fragrance, stand adjacent to the ornamental candlesticks. Another conspicuous work of art is the device, "Gloria in Excelsis Deo," placed over the arch; the lettering, interlaced with beautiful designs, presents a most attractive appearance, and reflects the greatest credit on the artist. Last night when the interior of the church was illuminated, the scene enchanted beholders, and its like has not been surpassed in the Colony. Father Patterson, who has spent considerable time in beautifying the church and bringing it to its present state of perfection, has received some compensation by the words of praise which has repeatedly fallen from the lips of his large flock. The services held during the holidays have been of a most successful description, the Church being crowded on every occasion with an earnest congregation. The choir and the organist (Miss Hollis) have rendered signal services, the sacred music surpassing all previous efforts, and has met with that appreciation which the meritorious nature of the work deserves.

The oldest Egyptian monuments show that the saw was in use at least 1000 years before Christ.

Early in February an important pilgrimage from La Plata, South America, will be received at the Vatican.

Mr Morrrough O'Brien has been appointed Land Purchase Commissioner in succession to Mr John George McCarthy.

The annexation sentiment in Canada is growing, particularly among the French Canadians.

Capetown and Johannesburg, in the South African Republic, are connected by railroad—the first in that country.

An Armenian nun has just died at the age of 115 years in a convent at Jerusalem. According to official documents supplied by the ecclesiastical authorities, this nun entered the convent at the age of seventeen, and had not once crossed the threshold of the house for ninety-eight years.

A large meat-stall has been erected in Mount Bellevue by Sir Henry Grattan Bedlev, and large quantities of beef and mutton are disposed of each week at very low rates.

The president of the Local Government Board recommended the construction of public works to relieve the distress among England's unemployed working-men.

The nine points of law are, according to a recent Irish authority:—1, plenty of money; 2, stock of patients; 3, good cause; 4, a good lawyer; 5, poor opponent; 6, true witnesses; 7, a well-disposed jury; 8, a favourable judge; 9, good luck. With these nine points success ought to be assured.

Rev Louis A. Lambert, of Scottsville, N.Y., the eminent controversialist, is about to re-enter the field of journalism. A new Catholic journal, to be known as the *Catholic Times*, is being established in Philadelphia, of which Father Lambert is to be the leading editorial writer.

The Hon Horace Plunket, M.P., chairman of the Irish Village Committee, and Mr Peter White, hon secretary of the Irish Industries Association, have sailed from Queenstown for Chicago. They take with them the plans and specifications for the erection of the Irish Village at the forthcoming World's Fair, and have been empowered to make all necessary arrangements for its erection.

MYERS AND CO., Dentists, Octagon, corner of George street. The guarantee highest class work at moderate fees. Their artificial teeth give general satisfaction, and the fact of them supplying a temporary denture while the gums are healing does away with the inconvenience of being months without teeth. They manufacture a single artificial tooth for Ten Shillings, and sets equally moderate. The administration of nitrous oxide gas is also a great boon to those needing the extraction of a tooth. Read—[ADVT.