

INTERCOLONIAL

His Eminence Cardinal Moran administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to 427 candidates at St. Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, on Palm Sunday.

A bazaar in aid of the convent building fund, Nowra, made about £350, of which sum £100 was realised from the sale of cattle donated by farmers in the district.

Our Sydney exchanges report that the Right Rev. Dr. Higgins, Bishop of Rockhampton, has recovered from his recent indisposition, and is now able to attend to the affairs of the diocese.

Mr. Joseph Scully, a young man employed as groom at Eaglehawk, near Bendigo, has received word that under his deceased father's will he has inherited a fortune of £16,000 and a large wine and spirit business in Kilbeggan, Ireland.

The result of the bazaar held recently in aid of the building fund of the Elmore Catholic Church proved very satisfactory. Over £600 was taken and at a meeting held a few Sundays ago donations to the amount of £514 were promised.

Rev. Father Rouillac, the sailor priest, whose wonderful achievement in navigating his 19-ton craft from the Solomon Islands to Sydney and back a couple of years ago gained him universal admiration, is at present doing duty at Mount Morgan, North Queensland.

The Sydney University has awarded the P. N. Russell scholarship to R. Power, a student of St. John's Catholic College (within the University). The scholarship is worth £75 a year for four years. Mr. Power has been reading at Nudgee, Brisbane, with Mr. Hugh Macrossan, B.A., a former student of St. John's, and a favorite pupil of Mr. Carlos and Mr. J. de Burg O'Reilly.

The receipts from the St. Patrick's night concert in the Town Hall, Melbourne, totalled over £200, the proceeds being in aid of the Foundling Hospital, Broadmeadows. Among those present were his Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne, who presided, his Excellency the Governor-General and Lady Northcote, and the Lord Mayor and Lady McEacharn.

A book has been returned to the Melbourne Public Library after an absence of seventeen years (says the Melbourne 'Herald'). It is a 'Life of St. Patrick,' and had been given up for lost long ago. The Library authorities do not know by whom it was carried off, or who returned it. All they know is that it mysteriously disappeared from its allotted place, and as mysteriously reappeared in the precise place it had originally occupied.

Archbishop Dunne, of Brisbane, speaking recently, said that King Edward was doing good work in the direction of removing a number of prejudices which had existed in the past, and his Grace was pleased to be able to say that all classes and creeds worked together harmoniously for their mutual welfare. The freedom which Catholics enjoyed throughout the Empire was particularly noticeable in Australia, where, with the exception of a few fanatics, all classes and creeds sank their little differences of opinion and religion, and did all they could to assist one another.

During the past 15 months (writes the Melbourne correspondent of the Sydney 'Freeman's Journal') his Grace the Archbishop has expended no less a sum than £18,400 on the property bounded by Brunswick and Young streets, Fitzroy, which includes the Cathedral Hall, club rooms, school, etc. There is a debit balance of £10,000 on the hall, and an appeal is now being made throughout the Archdiocese to meet the liability. The hall will be opened by his Grace on Sunday, April 10th, when it is anticipated that fully half of the liability will be wiped out.

The proprietors of the 'W. A. Record' of which Mr. Gratian Grey, well known in this Colony, has just been appointed editor, contemplates effecting considerable improvements in the literary department of that paper as soon as arrangements can be completed for securing the requisite additions of machinery. Mr. Grey (says the Melbourne 'Advocate') has filled many important literary positions on the New Zealand press. For many years he was chief of the 'New Zealand Hansard' staff. He has also occupied important literary positions on the 'Argus' and 'Age,' and for the past two years he has been a weekly contributor to the columns of this journal. His 'Travels in Two Hemispheres,' depicting the scenes that he witnessed in his recent travels in America and Europe, has been followed with great interest. We congratulate the 'Western Australian Record' on securing the services, as editor, of such a capable journalist as Mr. Grey.

Friends at Court

CLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

- April 17, Sunday.—Second Sunday after Easter. St. Anicetus, Pope and Martyr.
 „ 18, Monday.—St. John Damascene, Confessor and Doctor.
 „ 19, Tuesday.—St. Leo IX., Pope and Confessor.
 „ 20, Wednesday.—St. Isidore, Bishop, Confessor, and Doctor.
 „ 21, Thursday.—St. Anselm, Bishop, Confessor, and Doctor.
 „ 22, Friday.—SS. Soter and Caius, Popes and Martyrs.
 „ 23, Saturday.—St. George, Martyr.

St. Anicetus, Pope and Martyr.

St. Anicetus was Pope from 157 to 168. He was a Syrian by birth, and suffered martyrdom under Marcus Aurelius. He was visited at Rome by St. Polycarp of Smyrna. These two saints had some dispute in regard to the date of the feast of Easter, a discussion which did not alter their friendship.

St. John Damascene, Confessor and Doctor.

St. John Damascene, the last of the Fathers of the Church, was born towards the end of the seventh century at Damascus, from which city he received the surname 'Damascene.' By the Saracens he was called 'Mansur,' and on account of his eloquence was surnamed 'Chrysorrhœas' (Gold-streaming). He received his education from a pious and learned monk named Cosmas, who was taken prisoner and brought to Damascus. Like his father, he held a high office under the Caliphs. His zeal in defending the sacred images against the Iconoclasts, exposed him to the resentment and persecution of the Emperor. He resigned his office, distributed his wealth among the poor, and retired into the laura of St. Sabas, where, after some time, he was ordained priest. He died about the year 754. John Damascene has left many works which, on account of their solid learning and great literary merit, have been held in high esteem in both the Latin and the Greek Churches.

St. Leo IX., Pope and Confessor.

St. Leo IX. was Pope from 1048 to 1054. With his accession to the Papal throne began the dawn of better and brighter days for the Papacy. He resumed and carried on, with untiring zeal, the great work of reformation begun by Clement II. His pontificate was one continued journey, undertaken for the purpose of everywhere enforcing ecclesiastical reform. He held numerous Councils and presided over them in person. Several laws were enacted for the extirpation of the then prevailing vices of simony and clerical incontinence. He was defeated and captured by the Normans at Astagnum, near Civitella, June 18, 1053. The conquerors, beholding in their captive the Vicar of Christ, knelt before him, asked his blessing, and then set him at liberty.

St. Isidore, Bishop, Confessor, and Doctor.

St. Isidore, who was born at Carthagera, in the South of Spain, about the middle of the sixth century, belonged to a most holy family, his two brothers, Leander and Fulgentius, and his sister, Florentina, being all numbered among the saints. From his youth he was distinguished for virtue and learning, and having embraced the ecclesiastical state, devoted himself with his brother Leander to the conversion of the Visigoths. This great work he had the happiness of seeing accomplished before the close of his apostolic career. Upon the death of his brother St. Leander, Isidore succeeded him in the See of Seville, which he governed for 36 years.

St. Anselm, Bishop, Confessor, and Doctor.

St. Anselm, Archbishop of Canterbury, was born at Aosta (Italy), in 1033. Whilst Abbot of Bec in Normandy he was appointed to the See of Canterbury. In consequence of the English King not fulfilling certain promises and also to his refusal to recognise Urban II. as Pontiff there was a rupture between him and St. Anselm, which lasted for a considerable time. A reconciliation took place eventually, but fresh aggressions compelled Anselm to have recourse to the Holy See. Whilst on a visit to Rome he took part in the Councils of Lateran and Bari. He remained a voluntary exile from England until 1100, when, upon the accession of Henry I., he returned to his See, but finding the new monarch obdurate with regard to the right of investiture, Anselm went into exile a second time. At last, through the good offices of the King's sister, a compromise was effected, and Anselm returned once more to England, where he resided until his death in 1109.