

INTERCOLONIAL

A new Catholic hall has just been opened in Hobart. It cost close on £1400, half of which had been in hand prior to the opening ceremony.

A very old identity is a resident of Wombat, in the Young district (writes the Sydney 'Freeman's Journal' correspondent), in the person of Mrs. Lawler, a native of Ireland. The old lady does not know her age, but it cannot be less than 100. The old lady lives by herself, can be seen any day walking about doing her shopping, and is a regular attendant at Mass. For some years the old lady has kept her coffin under her bed, and her tombstone has been erected in the Young cemetery, with the name engraved thereon, leaving the vacant place for the date of her death.

The Rev. P. C. Cregan, senior of the clerical staff of St. Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, has been appointed to a professorial chair at St. Patrick's College, Manly. The Rev. Father Condon, of St. Peter's, Surry Hills, who has been in delicate health for some time, goes to the country for some time to replace the Rev. Father Cassidy, of Moruya, who has asked for relief from duty in order to undergo medical treatment. The Rev. P. J. Sheridan, just out from a trip to Europe, takes charge of Camden parish. The Rev. Father Hyland goes from Camden in charge of Queanbeyan, and the Rev. Father Collender, of the latter district, takes charge of Surry Hills.

His Eminence Cardinal Moran blessed and opened the addition to the church of the Marist Fathers, Hunter's Hill, a few Sundays ago. The Rev. Father Ginsty read a statement of finances of the new building. He said the original contract for the additions amounted to £1020, the cost of the belfry was £130, the cost of the gallery £30, architects' fees, £60. This with minor expenses, raised the cost to £1200. A debt on the Church of the Blessed Chancel amounted to £800, which made the debt on the whole district £2050. Against this they had received subscriptions amounting to about £448 or £449. The subscriptions received at the ceremony amounted to £520.

The death of ex-Queen Isabella of Spain (says the Melbourne 'Argus') recalls an incident which showed her practical sympathy with the Catholics of Australia. On June 28, 1865, the Catholic Cathedral in Sydney, which marked the starting point of Catholicism in this part of the world, was destroyed by fire. Telegrams of condolence from all quarters poured in upon Archbishop Polding, and monetary assistance was promised on all sides. An appeal was made by Senor San Just, the Spanish Consul in Sydney, to Queen Isabella, and in 1876 a magnificent gold chalice and set of altar plate of the finest workmanship, and valued at £2000, was sent to the Archbishop by the Queen, accompanied by a sympathetic letter. The service was used by Archbishop Polding on the great festivals of the Church, and was afterwards used by Archbishop Vaughan at the last Mass said by him at St. Mary's in 1883. At his death it passed into the hands of Cardinal Moran, and is now the most prized of his treasures.

In the course of the eighth annual report on the liabilities of the Port Augusta diocese the Right Rev. Dr. Maher says—Looking back for a moment to the beginning of our diocesan history, there has been a continuous lessening of the capital of inherited debts from the original £18,095 9s in August, 1889, to 3rd April, 1895, when the balance stood at £5561 12s 9d. At the latter date his Grace the Archbishop of Adelaide (the Most Rev. Dr. O'Reilly) handed over to me the temporalities of the See. During the period which has since elapsed we have had to deplore a succession of bad years in a very large portion of our territory, precluding, as I several times noted, any great effort being made to cancel our obligations with the alacrity which characterised the first periods of our financial struggle. Still the eight intervening years, or thereabouts, which may be called the lean ones, have witnessed a gradual reduction in our aggregate liability by the sum of £2190 3s 9d, besides paying our way in the meantime, and meeting the new needs as they came.

The man who drives the royal mail,
The maid who carries the milking pail,
The stockman on the cattle run,
The sportsman with his dog and gun,
The watchman going his nightly round,
The miner working underground,
All make themselves from colds secure
By using WOODS' GREAT PEPPERMINT CURE.

The very worst cough or cold succumbs to Tussicura.
Obtainable from all chemists and storekeepers.—***

Friends at Court

GLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

May 15, Sunday.—Sunday within the Octave. St. Dymphna, Virgin and Martyr.
" 16, Monday.—St. Brendan, Abbot.
" 17, Tuesday.—St. John Nepomucene, Martyr.
" 18, Wednesday.—St. Venantius, Martyr.
" 19, Thursday.—Octave of the Ascension.
" 20, Friday.—St. Bernardin of Siena, Confessor.
" 21, Saturday.—Vigil of Pentecost.

St. Dymphna, Virgin and Martyr.

St. Dymphna was the daughter of an Irish chieftain. Having vowed her virginity to God, she fled to Belgium to escape the snares to which she saw herself exposed at home. She was followed, however, and put to death by those to whom her virtue had rendered her hateful.

St. Brendan, Abbot.

St. Brendan was a native of Ireland and a disciple of St. Finian. Passing into England he established there two monasteries. On his return to Ireland he contumaciously the same good work, and founded, among others, the famous abbey of Clonfert. He died in 578, in the 94th year of his age. According to a legend, accepted by some historians, St. Brendan voyaged to America, and landed in the neighborhood of the present State of Virginia.

St. John Nepomucene, Martyr.

St. John Nepomucene, patron of Bohemia, was born at Nepomuk between 1340-50. Having become priest, he refused three bishoprics and accepted only a canonicate of Prague. Refusing to reveal to King Wenceslaus the secret of confession of Queen Joane, his wife, whose fidelity the King suspected, he was thrown into prison, then drowned in the Moldau, March 20, 1393. He was canonised by Pope Benedict XIII. in 1729.

St. Venantius, Martyr.

St. Venantius, who was born near Ancona, Italy, was beheaded for the faith during the persecution of Decius in 250.

St. Bernardin of Siena.

St. Bernardin of Siena was a Franciscan religious. He was a famous preacher of penance. He conducted missions in nearly all the cities of Italy, and the effects which his sermons everywhere produced are said to have been overwhelming. He was surnamed 'The Trumpet of Heaven,' 'The Evangelical Preacher.'

Octave.

The eight days assignen for the celebration of a feast are called the Octave. During this time is repeated every day a part of the office of the feast, as the hymns, antiphons, or verses, with one or several lessons referring to the subject. On the eighth day the Octave, properly speaking, the office is more solemn than that of the preceding days. Generally the most solemn feasts, like Christmas, Easter, Pentecost, Corpus Christi, the feast of the patron saint, are accompanied by an Octave.

Vigil

The day that immediately precedes a feast is called a vigil because in ancient times the faithful assembled in the churches on the eve of the solemnities, and passed therein a part of the night in praising God by singing psalms and reading Holy Scripture. Several abuses having crept into these nocturnal assemblies, the Church suppressed them, with the exception of the vigil of Christmas. The office commenced generally about nine o'clock in the evening and ended about one o'clock in the morning. The Church has instituted the fast of the vigil of certain great feasts, in order that detaching ourselves through penance and mortification, from the inordinate love which we have for our body, we may elevate ourselves more easily to spiritual and divine things, and celebrate more worthily the great mysteries of religion. If the vigil of a feast falls on a Sunday, as, according to the apostolic constitutions, it is not permitted to fast on this day, because it is a day of rejoicing, the fast is advanced and kept on Saturday. Some vigils are celebrated without fasting, like that of the Epiphany and of the Ascension; the reason why the Church has not prescribed fasting on these days, is because it appears incompatible with the joy with which the birth and resurrection of Christ inspire us.

You can protect yourself from any serious after effects arising from a bad cold by taking TUSSICURA.—**