

DEATH.

KELIGHER—On June 26, at his residence, Crown Hotel, Rattray street, Dunedin, Patrick Keligher, native of Bawnboy, County Cavan, Ireland, the beloved husband of Mary Clare Keligher, aged 70 years. Deeply regretted—R.I.P.



To promote the cause of Religion and Justice by the ways of Truth and Peace.

LEO XIII. to the N.Z. TABLET.

THURSDAY, JUNE 30, 1904.

THE BISHOPS' REJOINDER



RESTRICTIONS of space prevent us doing much more than to refer our readers to the pages of this issue on which appears the admirable rejoinder of the Catholic Hierarchy to the recent manifesto of the Bible-in-schools League. But their Lordships' latest pronouncement on this thorny theme needs neither note nor comment. It furnishes its own gloss, and is a model of lucid and decisive thinking and of plain and temperate speech.

The two weighty documents thus far issued by the Bishops have, we venture to say, served their intended purpose to an extent beyond their Lordships' early hopes. In the first place, our Prelates succeeded in unmasking the callous partisan principles that actuate the Bible-in-schools League, whose exposition and attempted justification of its position must be regarded as a serious blow to the very cause which it was intended to serve. In the second place, the Bishops—thanks to the fair-minded spirit of the secular press—have placed under the eye of the great body of the electors of New Zealand two documents—logical, statesmanlike, and complete—which (as the 'N.Z. Times' says) ought to exert a powerful influence in shaping public opinion. And, finally, they have alighted upon the happy discovery that, in the struggle against the sectarianism of the public schools, there stand side by side with us a great body of thoughtful men of every creed, and practically the whole of the secular press—so far as it has a voice in this matter—together with the vast mass of public opinion which it moulds or represents. The Bishops deserve the warmest thanks of the community,' says the 'Lyttelton Times.' 'The honours of the controversy,' says the 'Otago Daily Times,' 'so far as it has gone, between the Roman Catholic Bishops and the Bible-in-schools Conference, on the education question, rest decidedly with the Bishops.' These opinions are typical of others that have come to hand. Their Lordships have done what is acknowledged to be, both in its substance and in its manner, a valuable service to the country, and the national, rather than the denominational, standpoint which rules their utterances cannot fail to commend itself to fair-minded people of every class and creed. It now remains for the clergy and the laity to continue, each in its proper way, the good work which their Lordships have begun in the struggle to maintain rights of conscience and to defeat the attempts to inflict upon New Zealand a particularly odious form of 'State-endowed sectarianism.'

Messrs Baldwin and Rayward are now directly represented at the seat of the Federal Government, and have special facilities for the conduct of applications for patent of the Commonwealth of Australia. A handbook of patents is obtainable free on application from any office of the firm....

Notes

A Great Builder-Bishop

A cable message in Tuesday's daily papers announced the death of the Right Rev Dr Moore, Bishop of Ballarat. The deceased Prelate's ministrations, both as priest and Bishop, were constantly associated with Ballarat from 1859 till the time of his death. He was, in fact, one of the institutions of the City of Gold, and his death is as the passing of one of its great landmarks. The city is dotted over with noble monuments of religion that will perpetuate his name to future generations. He was, indeed, a master builder. His episcopate passed, by exactly two months, the even verge of twenty years. But in that comparatively short period there was spent on Catholic religious edifices in Ballarat alone the enormous sum of £223,000 sterling. Few episcopal cities in new countries are, in proportion to Catholic population, furnished with so many and such noble edifices of religion. The late Bishop Moore has seen the Church expand from small beginnings in the wide region that forms the diocese of Ballarat. To its great work the twenty years of his administration and the zeal of an able and zealous clergy have contributed in a remarkable degree, and he leaves after him one of the best manned and best equipped dioceses under the Southern Cross. May he rest in peace!

That Runaway 'Nun'

The 'Feilding Star' is an occasional snapper-up of such unconsidered anti-Catholic trifles as the following, which we take from its issue of the 23rd instant:—

'The "Boston Citizen" of April 2 states that Sister Annette, a nun, while teaching music in the parochial school at Burlington, Iowa, fell in love with one of her older pupils. She was transferred to the home of the mother superior at Cedar Rapids recently. Harold Stevenson, the pupil, stood the separation as long as he could, then went to the Cedar Rapids, where he managed to communicate with her. Under cover of darkness, after all had retired, she stole down the fire escape to the waiting arms of her sweetheart, and together they boarded a fast train for Chicago, where they were married.'

And, of course, they 'lived happily ever afterwards.' For is not that the traditional and proper ending of all fairy tales? The story quoted above was flashed to at least one Iowa paper before it crawled into the belated columns of the 'Boston Citizen.' There is nothing wrong with the tale except this: that it was concocted by some favorite son of the Father of Lies, and that it is a fabrication from start to finish. The malignant lie was promptly run down and choked to death, as our Feilding contemporary might have known had it been awake and reading the American papers, Catholic or secular, during the past two months. The facts of the case, as officially set forth in the Milwaukee 'Catholic Citizen' of April 2, and other papers in our possession, are as follow: The Sister Annette referred to is now in Dubuque. She never had a pupil named Stevenson. She was not sent to Cedar Rapids, as stated. The whole of the cheap, melodramatic romance of love, elopement down a fire-escape, and marriage is, through and through, a fabrication. Legal advice was taken by Sister Annette and others interested, with the result that at least one Iowa paper has had to swallow the whole story raw, and with very bitter sauce. Similar interesting developments were awaiting other editors when our American exchanges last referred to the evil tale. We hope the Catholic readers of the 'Feilding Star' will see that due publicity is given to the contradiction of the vile calumny on a lady to which—we hope quite innocently—it gave publication.

Chinese Slavery

The May number of the 'Westminster Review' contains an interesting article on the yellow slavery in the