

Transvaal. It quotes a number of delicious extracts from speeches by Mr. Chamberlain deprecating in strong terms the introduction of the almond-eyed Celestials into the mining districts of the Rand. But, as the world knows, Mr. Chamberlain is a past-master in the art of turning his back upon himself. 'Our Colonial Secretary,' says the article in question, 'regards as "nauseous" any reference to conscience in respect to this question, and to liken the proposed indenture system to slavery is to him like a red rag to a bull. But, in truth, what difference there is between Chinese contract labor under this Ordinance and Negro chattel slavery, as it existed in the Southern States of America, is all to the advantage of the Negro.'

In this connection we may quote the following extract from an interview accorded to the *Dunedin Evening Star* by the recently returned senior member for Dunedin, Mr. Bedford, M.H.R. :-

'The anti-Chinese movement he (Mr. Bedford) looks upon as one of the most serious current. He says that a most significant feature of the Hyde Park demonstration (at which he spoke) was that all the English speakers were what have been called pro-Boers. The pro-Boer was now the pro-Britisher, and the ex-pro-Britisher was become the pro-Chinaman. At the head of the procession which formed part of the demonstration was a representation of a dejected John Bull walking between two jubilant Celestials, and the crowd took it seriously, and howled their execration frenziedly. The British workman, says Mr. Bedford, goes mad on this question. He believes that every union in England was represented in the demonstration. The current opinion when he left Home was that the Chinese would not be introduced into South Africa, and even yet he would not be surprised to see the scheme upset. He agrees with the suggestion that the attempt to condone the injustice to the British workman by making the Chinaman a sort of salaried slave is in the nature of dividing the wrong between the two. The scheme is opposed to the humanitarianism of Britain. And he points out as an example that America put an end to her Japanese contract system on the ground that it was contrary to the principles of her Constitution. When questioned further as to his discoveries in regard to pro-Boerism in England, Mr. Bedford said he believed that the war party had won practically by exciting the lower classes; and that most of the brainy men in the Nonconformist Churches, together with the majority of the scientists, had been pro-Boers from the first. When the New Zealander, in his speech at the Hyde Park demonstration, said in an explanatory way that in this Colony we had thought it patriotic to be in favor of the war, he was greeted with cries of "Shame! Shame!" and a companion on the platform said to him, "You see you did not know so much as we did here."

The Bishops' Rejoinder

NOTICE

A 16-page pamphlet can now be procured at the 'Tablet' Office, containing the following two pronouncements by the Catholic Bishops on the Education Question :-

- I. Manifesto on the Bible-in-schools Scheme.
- II. Rejoinder to the Bible-in-schools Conference.

The pamphlet containing both pronouncements should be in the hands of every elector in the Colony. Price: 1d. each (postage 1d); 20 for 1s (postage 4d); 50 for 2s 6d (postage 10d); 100 for 5s (postage 1s 6d); 250 for 10s (freight forward); 500 for 20s (freight forward); 1000 for 40s (freight forward).

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DIocese OF DUNEDIN

The usual weekly meeting of St. Joseph's Men's Club was held in St. Joseph's Hall on Friday evening. The programme for the evening consisted of an address on the life, character, and works of Cardinal Newman by the Rev. Father Murphy, Adm., St. Joseph's Cathedral. The rev. lecturer dealt with the most important and interesting events in the distinguished convert's life, his college days at Oxford, and his religious opponents. A feature of the lecture was the graphic description of Newman's book, 'The Second Spring.' At the close of the lecture the Rev. Father Murphy was accorded a hearty vote of thanks. On Friday evening the programme will consist of short readings and recitations by the members.

The committee who organised the entertainment in aid of the funds of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, Dunedin, which, as briefly announced in our last issue, was held in His Majesty's Theatre on Wednesday evening, are to be highly complimented on the success which attended their efforts. The theatre was well filled, especially the dress circle, and the various items on the programme were given in a manner which elicited warm applause, and in nearly all instances encores. Mrs. Monkman gave a finished rendering of 'The better land,' and, in answer to an imperative recall, sang 'Two's company.' She also took part later on in a duet with Miss McNece, which was a very enjoyable item. Miss Violet Fraser, who met with an enthusiastic reception, pleased the audience so well with her singing of 'A May morning' that she had to reappear, her recall song being 'Last night.' Miss H. Sweeney was recalled for her singing of 'Dear heart.' Her second number was 'Killarney,' both being given with much taste. Miss Nellie Hall gave as a pianoforte solo, Raff's 'Cachoucha Caprice,' in that artistic style which always distinguishes her playing, and Miss Sandilands' violin solo was cordially received. St. Dominic's College orchestra played nicely an orchestral march as an opening item, this being followed by a couple of vocal choruses by the pupils of the Christian Brothers, which met with the appreciation of the audience. The pupils of the Sisters of Mercy (South Dunedin) gave a very acceptable item in the form of a graceful dance, for which they were warmly applauded. Among the gentlemen who contributed to the programme were Mr. W. W. Brunsden, who was recalled for his singing of 'The Gladiator,' the encore item being 'Rocked in the cradle of the deep'; Mr. T. Hussey, who sang 'The Bandolero' and the 'Low-backed car,' the latter as an encore; Mr. J. McGrath, who was encored for 'True till death,' and Mr. T. J. Anthony, whose humorous contributions created much merriment, as did also the coon sketch by Messrs. Mee and Sheehan. Last but by no means least were the recitations by Miss Edith Leech, who showed that he was equally at home in tragedy or comedy. Her programme item, 'The Silver King's dream,' was marked by much dramatic force, whilst her two encore numbers showed that she was equally adept at portraying the lighter shades of character. The accompaniments during the evening were played by Misses M. Drumm and Major, and Messrs. A. Vallis and L. Stokes.

All persons interested in musical matters are placed under a debt of gratitude to the well known firm of Messrs. Charles Begg and Co., of Dunedin, for their recently published catalogue of musical instruments and accessories. This publication, which is profusely illustrated, consists of 132 pages, and is, we understand, the first complete musical instrument catalogue that has been issued in the Australasian colonies. The catalogue is divided into six parts—viz.: Part 1, brass and percussion instruments; Part 2, wind instruments; Part 3, stringed instruments; Part 4, harmonic strings for all instruments; Part 5, instruments and fittings not otherwise classified, such as accordions, concertinas, harmonicas, tambourines, nigger bones, and post horns, etc.; Part 6, sundries, such as stands, music stools, carriers, insulators, piano lamps, tuners' tools, etc. Each part is neatly bound, being obtainable separately, or the complete work under one cover. An idea may be formed of the magnitude of the work when it is stated that over two and a half tons of paper were used, and that if the whole production could be laid page to page in one continuous line it would reach 140 miles, or further than from Dunedin to Invercargill. The firm is to be highly complimented on its enterprise in publishing such a comprehensive catalogue, and there is little doubt but that the public will show their appreciation in a practical manner.

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