

INTERCOLONIAL

The Westralian gold output for August was 201,536 gross ounces, valued at £715,455, compared with 206,617 ounces for August, 1903. The total output for the eight months of the present year was 1,571,971 ounces.

Colonel Murray (Sydney), who has gone to New Guinea as Chief Judicial Officer, has applied to be placed on the unattached list, and, his request having been granted, Major Freehill will be appointed to the command of the Irish Rifles. During Colonel Murray's absence in Africa Major Freehill was in command for about twelve months. He has also been in command on several occasions while the Colonel was away on circuit.

A curious case of trance is reported from Victoria. A domestic servant, named Annie McCarthy, was brought down to Melbourne from Werribee in a state of trance. She fell asleep on the previous evening, and was only aroused at the Melbourne Hospital late the following night by means of a galvanic battery running full strength. The girl had been reading lately about the Kyneton trance case, and doctors state that the present is a singular manifestation of auto-hypnotism.

The members of the Celtic Club, Melbourne, inaugurated their taking possession of new quarters in Elvabeth street, by a reunion. Mr M O'Sullivan was in the chair, and amongst the speakers were the ex-Postmaster-General (Mr. Hugh Mahon, MHR), Senators Dawson and Trenwith, Mr J. B. Ronald, M.P., Messrs. Evans, M.L.C., Prendergast, and Elmslie, M.L.A., all of whom felicitated the club on its work and endorsed its policy in regard to Home Rule for Ireland.

A replica of one of the famous crosses of Monasterboice was on exhibition at the Cathedral Fair, Sydney. His Eminence Cardinal Moran obtained this example of Irish art during his last visit to Ireland. The best example of Irish high crosses are to be found at Monasterboice, in County Louth, where there are three. The highest, measuring 22ft, is known as the 'Great Cross'. The second, and most noteworthy, is that of which a faithful replica is now to be seen in Sydney, and is known as the 'Cross of Muredach' from the Irish inscription on the cross, 'Pray for the soul of Muredach, by whom this cross was made'. It is 15ft high, and 6ft in breadth at the arms. The shaft at base is 2ft broad and 1ft 9in thick and is divided into panels by twisted bands containing sculptured figures, tracery, and animals.

A large collection of curios from the Cardinal's Palace was shown at the Cathedral Fair. The curios included the nyx-cover in which Father O'Flynn, the first Catholic priest in Sydney, retained the Blessed Sacrament. The chalices used by the old pioneer priests, Fathers O'Neill, Therry, and Archdeacon McEnroe, were also exhibited, as well as the watches of Father Damien (the hero of Molokai) and Oliver Plunkett (the martyred Archbishop of Armagh, whose canonisation is under examination). There was a fine exhibition illustrative of Irish art as expressed in stone, brass, and silver work, together with specimens of manuscript illumination, for which Ireland was so famous. Mary Queen of Scots' prayer-books were also to be seen, together with the loads of a Kilkenny Bishop of the penal days. Another very interesting object was a chalice of pewter used in Ireland in the times of persecution, manifesting the necessities of the Irish Church during the era of oppression. There was also a Bible dated 1511, several years before the Reformation. In this collection of famous and historic curios were Irish pikes taken from Vinegar Hill, also some of the bullets from the siege of Athlone, and other souvenirs of '98.

The great Fair, in aid of the building fund of St. Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, was opened in St. Mary's Hall on Saturday afternoon, September 3, by his Eminence Cardinal Moran, who was accompanied by the Archbishop of Melbourne, the Coadjutor-Archbishop of Sydney, the Bishops of Goulburn and Armadale, the Coadjutor-Bishop of Armadale, and a large number of the clergy. Short addresses were delivered by his Eminence, the Most Rev. Dr. Carr, Mr. Justice O'Connor, and the Hon. John Hughes, M.L.C. There were over 30 stalls, which were laden with a varied, valuable, and artistic collection of goods. It was said that the work of the organisers had surpassed all previous efforts both as regards the magnificent display in the various stalls and the unique and elaborate decorations of the hall. During the fifty years occupied in building St. Mary's Cathedral the sum of £230,000 has been expended upon it, and there now remains on the sacred edifice a debt of £11,000, which it was hoped would be liquidated by the receipts from the Fair.

Friends at Court

GLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

- September 25, Sunday—Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost. St. Eustace and companions, Martyrs.
- „ 26, Monday—St. Eusebius, Pope and Martyr.
- „ 27, Tuesday.—SS. Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs.
- „ 28, Wednesday.—St. Wenceslaus, King and Martyr.
- „ 29, Thursday.—Dedication of the Church of St. Michael the Archangel.
- „ 30, Friday.—St. Jerome, Confessor and Doctor.
- October 1, Saturday.—St. Gregory, Bishop and Martyr.

St. Eustace and Companions, Martyrs.
St. Eustace, a Roman general, suffered martyrdom, together with his wife and two sons, shortly after the beginning of the second century.

St. Eusebius, Pope and Martyr.

St. Eusebius, who succeeded St. Marcellus on the Papal throne, was banished by Maxentius to Sicily, where suffering and privation soon caused his death, A.D. 310.

SS. Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs.

These two saints were brothers, born in Arabia, and renowned for their skill in medicine. They were remarkable for their charity, and for the zeal with which they endeavored to propagate the Christian religion. They were both beheaded in the persecution of Diocletian, about the year 303.

St. Wenceslaus, King and Martyr.

St. Wenceslaus, Duke of Bohemia, was remarkable for his devotion to the Blessed Sacrament. His zeal for the propagation of the true Faith led to his death at the hands of his brother, A.D. 982.

Dedication of the Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel.

The dedication of the famous Church of St. Michael, on Monte Gargano, in Italy, gave occasion to the present feast, but the Church also proposes to our devotion on this day the veneration of all the angels. Today, therefore, we are called upon to give thanks to God for the glory and happiness which the angels enjoy, and to join with them in adoring, blessing, and praising Him.

St. Jerome, Confessor and Doctor.

St. Jerome was born at Striden, in Dalmatia, in 310. His youth was passed in Rome, whither he was sent to complete his studies under Aelius Donatus, a celebrated grammarian. His thirst for knowledge caused him to visit foreign cities, among others Treves, where he transcribed for his friend Rufinus a commentary on the Psalms and a treatise on Synods by St. Hilary. In 381 Jerome went to Constantinople to study the Holy Scriptures under St. Gregory Nazianzen, and thence returned to Rome. He was the intimate friend of Pope Damasus, who appointed him his secretary. At the Pope's request, Jerome began his revision of the old Latin, or Italic version of the Bible. After the death of Damasus he set out for Palestine, where he founded and superintended several monasteries until his death which occurred at Bethlehem in 420. He was buried amid the ruins of one of his monasteries, which had been destroyed by the partisans of Pelagius. St. Jerome, who is called by the Church 'the greatest Doctor raised by the Divine hand to interpret the Sacred Scriptures,' was the author of the Latin translation of the Bible, known as the Vulgate. Of all his writings this is the most useful and most widely known.

St. Gregory, Bishop and Martyr.

St. Gregory, Apostle of the Armenians, was born about 257 at Valarshabad, in the province of Ararat, Armenia, and educated at Caesarea, Cappadocia. In 302 he baptised King Tiridates, and, with the aid of Greek priests, propagated the Faith throughout the whole country of Armenia. Having been consecrated bishop by Leontius, Archbishop of Caesarea, in Cappadocia, and constituted Metropolitan of Armenia, he consecrated a great number of bishops (it is said about 400) for the converted nation. He left the Church of Armenia in a flourishing condition when he died in 332.