

## INTERCOLONIAL

The celebration of the King's Birthday at the Exhibition Building, Melbourne, attracted many thousands of citizens. The Catholic schools made a brave show, sending 2000 children to give a grand concert. Cycling and running amusements were provided in the arena. The proceeds go towards liquidating a debt of £6000 on the Cathedral Hall.

The consecration of the new Bishop of Rockhampton (the Right Rev. Dr. Duhig) has been fixed to take place next Sunday in the Cathedral, Rockhampton. Owing to the multiplicity of his engagements in Sydney, covering almost every day up to Christmas, it is scarcely likely that his Eminence the Cardinal will be able to go to Rockhampton.

All the witnesses in the Coal-lumpers' case before Sydney Arbitration Court were foreigners. One day, after hearing many Olesens and Hansens, the name of Bernard Jackson was called. "An Englishman at last," said counsel. But he was mistaken. Witness was a Norwegian, and probably his real name had been Jacobsen.

The venerable Bishop of Maitland (Dr. Murray) is still confined to his bed at St. Mary's Presbytery, Newcastle. It is about six weeks since Dr. Murray had to take to his bed, and a correspondent of the Sydney 'Freeman's Journal' regrets to have to state that the venerable Bishop has not made the least headway towards improvement, and has not since been able to celebrate Mass.

The Rev. Father M. A. Flemming, the popular private secretary to his Grace the Coadjutor Archbishop of Sydney, who spent several weeks in Lewisham Hospital, where he underwent a serious operation, has returned to St. Benedict's. He has been granted a few months' leave of absence by his Eminence the Cardinal, as he has been advised by his medical attendants to take a rest and change to recuperate his exhausted strength and vigor.

The Rev. Father Thomas Gray, who has been parish priest at Narrandera for the past eleven years, celebrated on Tuesday, November 14th, the silver jubilee of his ordination to the priesthood. He was presented by Mr. J. J. Quirk, on behalf of the parishioners, with an illuminated address and purse of sovereigns; also with a travelling bag and illuminated address from the Sisters and children of St. Joseph's Convent school.

The New Chum Railway mine, Bendigo, achieved the distinction of being the first mine in Australia to sink its shaft 4000ft. As previously stated, there are workings below that depth on the field, but in these cases the depth has been made up by winzes. The New Chum Railway has a centre-country winze down 4226ft., and that of the Victorian Quartz is over 4100ft deep. In the case of the New Chum Railway, however, there is now a straight shaft from the surface to the bottom at 4005ft.

Immediately after the conference of the clergy at St. Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, the other day a presentation of a fine work of art in the shape of a marble bust of himself was made to his Eminence the Cardinal. It was originally intended that the work would be the gift of the clergy on the occasion of his Eminence's golden jubilee, when the address was presented to him. Since then, however, the work has been executed in the best Carrara (Italian) marble by the famous Sydney sculptor, Mr. Nelson Illingworth, who has produced a most perfect likeness of his Eminence. The Right Rev. Mgr. Carroll, V.G., representing the clergy, in a few well-chosen words, made the presentation to his Eminence, who suitably replied.

On Friday November 17, a meeting was held in the Town Hall, South Melbourne, to express sympathy with the Home Rule movement, and to co-operate with the United Irish League in Victoria in its efforts to augment the Irish Parliamentary Fund. Dr. N. M. O'Donnell presided, and there were also present on the platform the Rev. J. B. Ronald, M.H.R., Senator Givens, J. Nicholson, J.P., Cr. Murphy, and other well-known citizens. Members of the local branches of the H.A.C.B. Society and of the Irish National Foresters were also on the platform, whilst the excellent band of the latter body enlivened the proceedings during the evening with selections of Irish national airs, which were greatly appreciated by the audience. The meeting was addressed by Dr. O'Connell, Senator Givens, Mr. Ronald, Mr. Russell, Cr. Murphy, and other gentlemen.

## Friends at Court

### GLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

- December 10, Sunday.—Second Sunday in Advent. St. Francis Xavier, Confessor.  
 „ 11, Monday.—St. Damasus, Pope and Confessor.  
 „ 12, Tuesday.—St. Melchiades, Pope and Martyr.  
 „ 13, Wednesday.—St. Lucia, Virgin and Martyr.  
 „ 14, Thursday.—The Holy House of Loreto.  
 „ 15, Friday.—Octave of the Immaculate Conception.  
 „ 16, Saturday.—St. Eusebius, Bishop and Martyr.

#### St. Francis Xavier, Confessor.

St. Francis Xavier is the patron saint of Australasia. He was the Apostle of India and Japan, was born of a noble family of Navarre in 1506. He was one of the first associates of St. Ignatius when founding his Order. At the instance of King John III., of Portugal, Pope Paul III. appointed him apostolic missionary and nuncio for India. Francis landed in Goa, the capital of the Portuguese Indies. After working some time in that city where his preaching wrought a great change, he visited the tribe of the Parawians on the fishery coast. His preaching, supported by miracles, produced wonderful effects. He founded 45 churches along the coast. After a year's residence among the Parawians, Francis passed into other neighboring countries. In all of them he effected prodigious numbers of conversions. In the year 1518 he had converted more than 200,000 pagans of India. Xavier's next mission was Japan. He landed at Kangoxima, in 1549. His preaching again was attended with marvellous results. He converted several princes to Christianity and left the Church of Japan established on a firm footing. In 1552 St. Francis set out for China. But his apostolic course was run; he expired on the island of Sancian in 1552, in the 46th year of his age. He was canonised by Urban VIII. in 1623, with the glorious title of 'Apostle of India and Japan.'

#### St. Damasus, Pope and Confessor.

St. Damasus was Pope from 366 to 384. He appears as the principal defender of Catholic orthodoxy against Arius and other heretics. He condemned the Macedonian and Apollinarian heresies, and confirmed the decrees of the General Council of Constantinople. He was very solicitous for the preservation of the Catacombs and adorned the sepulchres of many martyrs with epitaphs in verse, which he himself composed. For his secretary he chose St. Jerome, his faithful friend, and induced him to publish a corrected version of the Bible, known as the Latin Vulgate.

#### St. Melchiades, Pope and Martyr.

St. Melchiades, who was Pope from 311 to 314, was born in Africa. He presided over the Council of Rome (313) and condemned the Donatists.

#### St. Lucia, Virgin and Martyr.

St. Lucia, virgin and martyr, was born at Syracuse, Sicily. She was of a noble and Christian family. She made a pilgrimage to the tomb of St. Agatha at Catania, obtained the healing of her mother Eutychia, consecrating her virginity to the Lord, and, being accused of being a Christian, she was beheaded in 303.

#### St. Eusebius, Bishop and Martyr.

St. Eusebius, who was born in 315 and died in 370, was a native of Sardinia. Whilst Bishop of Vercelli, he zealously combated the heresy of Arius.

The late Mrs. Mary A. Evans, of Bendigo (Vic.), widow, who died on October 10, possessed of an estate valued at £1438, left by will dated June 7, 1904, her property to her children and relatives, subject to the following bequests:—£300 to the Catholic Bishop of Sandhurst for a memorial window, £100 to the Rev. Father Rooney, and £25 to the Redemptorist Fathers at Ballarat, £50 to the Colac Convent, £35 to the Convent of Mercy (Ballarat), and £10 each to St. Vincent's de Paul Society (Bendigo), Ballarat Gold District Hospital, Little Sisters of the Poor, (Northcote), and the Abbotsford Convent.