

INTERCOLONIAL

The Christian Brothers intend opening a high school in South Melbourne early in the coming year.

A novel sight was witnessed in King William street, Adelaide, recently. A queen bee lighted on the hat of a cyclist, and the whole swarm settled on his hat and back. He waited for an hour until the swarm had become calm, and he then rode away with the intention of hiving them.

The Rev. P. Sheehy, late of St. Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, has been transferred to Moss Vale. The Rev. Father Sherin, of the Sacred Heart, Darlinghurst, has been removed to the Cathedral; and the Rev. Father Conaghan, of Moss Vale, is appointed to the Sacred Heart parish.

The Very Rev. P. Murphy, President of St. Patrick's College, Manly, has been appointed parish priest of Braidwood, in succession to the late Archdeacon D'Arcy. His Eminence the Cardinal has been pleased to confer the dignity of Archdeacon of the Archdiocese of Sydney on Dr. Murphy.

The Sydney 'Freeman' reports that Mr. Dan Fitzgerald, of Fitzgerald Brothers' Circus, who had been seriously ill for some weeks in Melbourne, underwent an operation in a private hospital. The operation was successful, and Mr. Fitzgerald was reported to be as well as could be expected.

Speaking at the opening of a bazaar in Sydney the other day Cardinal Moran said he was sure that the friends of peace and charity throughout the world would rejoice that that entente cordiale was a pledge of peace for the world, and a pledge that the development of civilisation would go on in its course of harmony and concord.

Speaking of the persecution of religion in France, his Eminence Cardinal Moran, in opening the Carmelite bazaar in Sydney the other day, said: 'I am not afraid of persecutions; we come of a race that has been persecuted for religion, and that has triumphed over all those persecutions; and, like St. Cyprian of old, the friends of religion will see that persecution only serves to purify and to render more perfect the pure gold that is tried in the crucible.'

Mr. Daniel Roche O'Sullivan, B.A., barrister-at-law, who left Sydney the other day for America, was engaged on the literary staff of the 'Evening News' for some years. Ill-health prevented him from following the legal profession, hence he took to journalism. A native of Tralee, County Kerry, he studied medicine in Dublin, but half way through his course he gave it up for the law. His grandfather made a fortune by taking over the coach and car routes in Ireland from the celebrated Bianconi, and his father still carries on a prosperous business in the tourist traffic in Kerry.

The foundress of the Convent of Mercy, Wilcannia, Rev. Mother Mary Paul, died there on Thursday, November 23. She was a native of Rochford Bridge, Westmeath, Ireland. She was a member of a Huguenot family, but became a convert on attaining her majority, and founded the Convent of Mercy at Tullamore, Ireland. Later on she founded in her ancestral home the Convent of Rochford Bridge, her father's house there being now the Deaf and Dumb Asylum. At the invitation of the Right Rev. Dr. Lanigan, Bishop of Goulburn, the Rev. Mother Paul went to Yass, where she founded the Convent of Mercy in 1875. In 1890, at the invitation of the Right Rev. Dr. Dunne, Bishop of Wilcannia, the deceased lady founded the Convent of Mercy at Wilcannia, and there ended her days, beloved by all who knew her.

The Right Rev. Dr. Duhig, Bishop of Rockhampton, was enthusiastically welcomed to Ipswich recently and presented with addresses, vestments, and a magnificent pectoral cross and chain. Dr. Duhig, after his ordination in Rome, was appointed to Ipswich, and he served for seven years under Father Andrew Horan, P.P. He was welcomed by all classes and creeds, and Protestants as well as Catholics assembled to honor him and congratulate him on his appointment to the See of Rockhampton. Father Horan, who presided, said that if he himself had the selection of a Bishop for Rockhampton—even if there were 10,000 other candidates—he believed that the guest of the evening was the very man he would choose. He hoped that he would be a grand Bishop, and he believed he would be if God gave him his health. He would have very hard work to perform in his new sphere, but he (the chairman) believed he would perform his duties with great credit to himself and great honor to the Catholic Church. The impression made on him by Dr. Duhig during the seven years he was associated with him was that he was a priest who never did anything for himself, but all he did was for God.

Friends at Court

CLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

- December 24, Sunday.—Fourth Sunday in Advent.
 " 25, Monday.—Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord.
 " 26, Tuesday.—St. Stephen, the first Martyr.
 " 27, Wednesday.—St. John, Apostle and Evangelist.
 " 28, Thursday.—The Holy Innocents, Martyrs.
 " 29, Friday.—St. Thomas, Bishop and Martyr.
 " 30, Saturday.—St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Widow.

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

To-day the Church rejoices over the birthday of her Divine Founder—the Redeemer of mankind. The time appointed for the entrance of the Son of God into the world having arrived, Mary and Joseph were led by Divine Providence to Bethlehem. Failing to obtain admittance into the inns, they were compelled to take refuge in a grotto, which served as a shelter for cattle. There our Blessed Saviour was born to a life of poverty, humiliation, and suffering. He came to redeem the world and to draw to Himself the affections of men, and therefore He presented Himself in the most amiable form, that can be imagined—that of an innocent, helpless babe.

St. Stephen, the First Martyr.

St. Stephen was one of the seven who were chosen to assist the Apostles in the daily distribution of alms, and who, by the imposition of the Apostles' hands, were raised to the Order of Deacons, and qualified to discharge some of the inferior duties of the sacerdotal office. By his zealous efforts for the propagation of the Gospel, he stirred up the hatred of some of the Jews, who stoned him to death. He thus had the honor of being the first among Christ's disciples to seal his faith with his blood.

St. John, Apostle and Evangelist.

St. John was the brother of St. James the Greater, and is mentioned in the Gospels as 'the disciple whom Jesus loved.' He was one of those faithful few who stood by the Cross, and it was to him our dying Saviour recommended the care of His mother. After the Ascension St. John remained chiefly in Jerusalem, though he sometimes undertook long and arduous journeys for the purpose of spreading the knowledge of the doctrines and sufferings of Christ. The closing years of his life were spent at Ephesus, where he died about the year 100. He wrote his Gospel to refute the heresies of his time, and is also the author of three Epistles, which form part of the New Testament.

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs.

On this day we commemorate those innocent children whose martyrdom is mentioned by St. Matthew in the second chapter of his Gospel. Herod, wishing to destroy the new-born Saviour, 'sending, killed all the male children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the borders thereof, from two years old and under.'

St. Thomas, Bishop and Martyr.

St. Thomas A'Beckett was born in London in 1117. Having embraced the ecclesiastical state, and given proof of singular ability and fervent piety, he was soon called to occupy very important positions in the Church. In 1157 he was appointed Lord Chancellor of England by King Henry II., and in 1162 was elected Archbishop of Canterbury. Though remarkable for humility and meekness, he did not hesitate to boldly defend the rights of the Church against the unjust attacks of the English king. His firmness cost him his life. He was murdered in his Cathedral by four knights at the instigation of the king, A.D. 1170.

St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Widow.

St. Elizabeth was the daughter of the King of Hungary, and the wife of Louis, Landgrave of Thuringia. She was remarkable for her charity, and took a special delight in serving the sick with her own hands. On the death of her husband, St. Elizabeth was driven from her home, and reduced to take shelter with her children in a building that had been used for swine. These and other privations she bore uncomplainingly. She died in 1231, in the 24th year of her age.

Mr. J. Meagher, Tattersall's Hotel Buildings, Christchurch, has the freehold of a valuable hotel in Canterbury and a general store for sale...