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MESSAGE OF POPE LEO XIII. TO THE N.Z. TABLET

Pergant Directores et Scriptores New Zealand Tablet, Apostolica Benedictione confortati, Religionis et Justitiæ causam promovere per vias Veritatis et Pacis.
Die 4 Aprilis, 1900.

LEO XIII., P.M.

TRANSLATION.—Fortified by the Apostolic Blessing, let the Directors and Writers of the New Zealand Tablet continue to promote the cause of Religion and Justice by the ways of Truth and Peace.
April 4, 1900.

LEO XIII., Pope.

Current Topics

Why it is Orderly

A writer in a local contemporary says of a fast-rising and crimeless Amhara in Central Otago: 'This is a very orderly township, as we have neither policeman, doctor, nor lawyer, nor any other disturber of the peace.' The humor of this delightful descriptive bit may be conscious, or it may be unconscious. But in either case it is rough on law and medicine.

Bre'r Rabbit

Is Bre'r Rabbit declining in New Zealand? It seems that he is, if we are to judge by the diminishing numbers of the burrowing pest that are finding their way to the world's cooking pot and felt hat and kid glove. In our export meat trade there has been a steady decline in rabbit-figures from 6,501,997 in 1900 to a relatively paltry 3,788,576 in 1904; while the skins of the 'critters' that have been sent out of the Colony have fallen in an almost unbroken progression from 17,041,106 in 1893 to a mere 6,103,930 in 1904. The good rabbit, like the good Injun, is the dead one. In 1904 he dropped £86,931 into the pocket of New Zealand; and the current 'Official Year-Book' pleads in consequence that 'rabbits can hardly now be looked upon as wholly worthless'—which seems rather a truism.

Our neighbors beyond the Tasman Sea in Victoria are in worse, or better, case, according to the point of view. Last year they exported no fewer than 12,585,506 rabbits. The plague seems to be growing there. And the long and ever-lengthening array of rodent 'stiffs' sets us a-wondering what has become of Mr. Pounds' chicken-cholera microbe, and the Rabbit and Vermin Exterminating Company of Australasia (Registered), and the trap-yards, and the 'drives,' and the poisoned water, and the deadly pie-melon, and the strychnine and apple-jam, and the phosphorised wheat, and the arsenicated chaff and pollard and grain, and the various asphyxiating (or choke-damp) machines, and Pateman's patent rabbit-exteriorator, and the thousand and one other ways and means which were devised by our cousins across the water to get the rabbit off the local earth, or to reduce his depredations to the limits of possible toleration. 'Dey ain't no smart man,' says Uncle Remus, 'cept w'at dey's a smarter.' Bre'r Rabbit in the Australian bush, like Bre'r Rabbit in the Old Plantation, seems to know more tricks than either Bre'r Fox or Bre'r Man. But his trump card is probably (if we may use the expression) his voluminous fecundity.

Funeral Reform

It appears that there is a society to be established in New York to wean people, and especially the poor, from their present extravagant displays in the matter of funerals. 'Nowadays,' says a writer in a New York paper, 'poor people, including some of the poorest, very generally carry industrial life insurance policies, on which they pay small amounts weekly. These policies are chiefly used in the payment of funeral expenses. In the case of poor people an undertaker always requires cash or a guarantee, and the policy is practically turned over to him.' There is in Australia and New Zealand many a priest who can speak with feeling of the manner in which sorely needed allowances of benefit societies have been swallowed up in foolish, and sometimes vulgar, displays of seeming wealth between the house of mourning and the grave. We, too, need a funeral reform association, though not so sorely as our friends across the Pacific.

The idea of the 'slap-up' funeral is at root a pagan one. The mourning of the Jews for the dead was marked in early times by fasting, as well as the wearing of sackcloth and the scattering of ashes. It was only in later and more degenerate days that funeral feasts became the fashion. And the fashion, according to Josephus ('Wars of the Jews,' II. i.), reduced many of the chosen people to poverty, because they were 'forced to feast the multitude.' A big 'tangi' has full many a time made the big brown-skinned tribesmen of New Zealand suffer the penalty of conformity to a tyrant custom. The pagan Romans loved to make their funerals the occasion of lavish displays of wealth. Part of their spectacles of 'mourning' consisted of deadly gladiatorial combats. Even the tomb of Caesar's daughter was desecrated by human blood.

The Church put a stop to displays of this kind. But a whiff of the old pagan love of reckless expenditure at funerals still hangs in the air. Some fifteen years ago, for instance, an Englishwoman named Haller spent £4000 upon the shroud which was to wrap her body in the grave. Sums quite as great are said to have been spent upon flowers alone at many an American funeral. The tendency to lavish expenditure is very marked among the poor of many countries—the Italians, for instance. The feeling is, perhaps, a kindly one. But it often leads to the sinful waste that makes woful want. The custom of reckless funeral feasts is still in full vogue among the poorer classes in the North of England. And many a poor Irish peasant, who had not,

perhaps, proper sustenance during his last illness, has had to be 'buried decent' at all hazards. And did not the well-meant but mistaken hospitality of the Irish 'wake' develop at last into such an abuse that the ecclesiastical authorities had to intervene in order to save the bereaved from their friends? It was the case of the sick stag in the fable. The beasts of the forest came to condole with him, ate up all the grass, and the antlered patient died of starvation. In these countries the undertaker gets most of the 'grass.' Yes, we need funeral reform, on the lines of Christian simplicity, penitence, and charity. Some of our present funeral modes are neither common-sense nor Christian.

The Gambling Hell

The cable-man has sent over the submarine wires a story which runs substantially thus: A little Frenchman tried to become, like another 'Jubilee Juggins,' 'the man who burst the bank at Monte Cah-ahr-lo.' He staked a goodly bundle of notes on the trembling chances of rouge-et-noir. He lost. The croupier was about to rake the notes into the treasury, when the Frenchman exclaimed dramatically, 'The bread of my wife and children,' suddenly grabbed the roll, bolted, and got clean away before the officials of the Casino could recover from their surprise. The gambling tables of Monte Carlo have many ways of shearing the innocents abroad who make sheep of themselves. The little Frenchman discovered one way by which broken gamblers may draw lost money from the maelstrom of the treasury of the bank at Monte Carlo.

Another and more normal way is to dip into the fund 'for the prevention of suicides'—some thirty to forty of which take place at the great gambling hell every year. Many years ago (so the story runneth) a 'broth of a boy' from the Green Isle contrived to lose his last shilling in the gilded halls of the Casino at Monte Carlo. With despair in his eye, he strode into the Casino gardens, drew a revolver, presented it towards his face, fired, and fell. There was a hasty patter of feet. Two figures were promptly on the spot. They swiftly thrust their hands into the pockets of the prostrate form, and as quickly dashed out of sight into the adjoining shrubbery. They had scarcely gone when the 'dead corpse' arose, stuffed his hands into his pockets, found them comfortably lined with bank-notes, and went his way rejoicing. The suicide was a mere ruse—the broken gambler having fired over, not into, his head. The two dark figures were officials of the Casino Company, who have a special fund for dealing with 'dead-brokes' and self-murderers, and who are keen to lead the public to believe that the frequent suicides which disgrace Monte Carlo are not occasioned by losses at the gambling tables. The story bears repetition. And we give it as we got it. 'Vero' or 'trovato'—true or imagined—it emphasises the moral that holds good for every kind of Monte Carlo, the race-course specially included: 'There are two times in a man's life when he should not speculate—when he can't afford it, and when he can.'

Seals of Office

We have recently heard much of the Seals of Office in connection with the change of Government in Great Britain. These Seals (says the Dublin 'Freeman') 'are small metal discs, each engraved with an image or device more or less appropriate to the office of which it is a symbol. The new Minister receives the Seals of his office, which consist of a set of these Seals, from the King, in a velvet case. The Seals are known as the Signet which is affixed to Treaties, the smaller Seal used for Royal Warrants countersigned by the Secretary, and the Cachet used for the purpose of sealing letters addressed by the King to Foreign Powers on matters of business. At the Foreign Office each of the three Seals is in use, at the Colonial

Office the Signet and the smaller Seal, and at the Home Office and the War Office the smaller Seal alone. Constitutionally there is but one Secretary of State; for the five Ministers, who divide amongst them departmentally the functions of the heads of the Foreign, Home, Colonial, War, and Indian Offices are all of co-equal and co-ordinate authority, all fully authorised to transact, if need be, each other's business.'

The Man of Klondike

The mythical Jason was a sorry hero compared with many a one of the nameless units of humanity who undertake the fearful journey per mare, per terras, to reach the ice-beleagured gold-fields of Klondike. Jason, in his search for the Golden Fleece of Colchis, had only to tame a few bulls that breathed fire (like a 'Glorious Twelfth' orator), kill off a few armed men, and circumvent a stage dragon that kept a sleepless watch upon the prize. And the black magic of his ladye-love, Medea, made his expedition a picnic long drawn out. But the adventurous modern Jason who sets out to win the golden fleece from the modern Colchis, Klondike, has, without the aid of magic, black or white, to face much fiercer enemies in the shape of hunger, scurvy, perpetual ice and snow, and savage cold.

In the December number of 'Donahoe's Magazine,' a non-Catholic journalist, Mr. Arnold F. George, describes the hardships of a journey made by him some years ago over the Chilcoot Pass—through the Valley of Death, as we may call it—to the great El Dorado of the Arctic Circle. It was in the early days of the wild rush of gold-seeking adventurers to the wintry shores of far Alaska. The Jesuit missionaries were already on the spot, seeking to save, not gold, but the more precious souls of men. The name of Father Judge was already one to conjure with in Klondike. Yet, the journalist had been an hour in the city of canvas tents and had not yet heard of Father Judge. 'Well,' said a surprised friend and twelve-months' resident of the place, 'all I've got to say is that you are forgetting your newspaper business, if you've been here an hour and haven't learnt of Father Judge. I guess he's a priest. Don't know much about those things anyhow. But I do know as he's saved I don't know how many lives this winter. I reckon he was the only one of us as had time, or wasn't crazy about gold. Saved more'n a thousand. Doctors all mining, and the bummiest lot you ever saw. Charged two ounces a visit, and the sick fellows mostly broke, or they wouldn't a'been sick. Any way! You just ought to know Father Judge. He's the biggest jollier—the merriest fellow you ever met. When he runs out of medicine, he goes and gets a lot of bark and spruce boughs, and he's kept a whole lot of 'em alive up there, waiting for medicine to come in.'

The visitor went to Father Judge's hospital to greet and cheer a sick friend who had been down with scurvy for six months.

'So you've seen Father Judge!' said the patient. Then, with the confident smile of a man who knows the inevitable answer: 'What d'ye think of him?'

The journalist agreed that the big-hearted Jesuit missionary was 'sort of popular' about there.

'Popular!' echoed the patient in protest. 'Don't use the word "popular" here. He's the finest man that God ever put a soul into. Where'd we all have been this winter without him, I'd like to know? He's just killing himself trying to take care of everybody.'

'I'm sure he's a good man,' said the journalist, sympathetically. After a pause, he queried: 'You're not a Catholic?'

'Oh,' said the patient, 'that doesn't cut any figure here. Why, God bless me, here's a bunch of sixteen of us here now in the room, and not a blessed Catholic in the lot—unless it's Jack, over there. But Father Judge is making Catholics fast. Never preaches or talks doc-

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trine or forms of faith, you know, unless you ask him or show him your mind is uneasy on that score. No! He just does all a mortal man can do for you, and evidently wishes he could do more. Then he jollies you and goes to church, and you feel you'd give one of your two useless legs if you could follow him. Whist! Here he comes.'

THE WALTHAM ORPHANAGE

THE COMMISSIONER'S INQUIRY

The adjourned inquiry into the charges concerning the management of the Waltham Orphanage was resumed on Friday before the Commissioner, Mr. Bishop, S.M.

Canon Coates spoke strongly in favor of the matron. His experience had been that the children all respected and liked her. However, he thought that the supplies for the orphanage were cut rather fine.

Emily Black, a member of the Charitable Aid Board, said that she had visited the orphanage many times. Everything seemed squalid and miserable, and the arrangements for bathing were very bad. The Board did not look kindly on suggestions for reforms from the women members who sat on it. Mrs. Carpenter was not fit to be matron, as she did not appreciate her responsibilities. She was a fairly efficient inspector, but no matron. Her conversation was coarse, and her reports often ill-advised. The homes in which the children were boarded out were not satisfactory. She believed the secretary dominated the Board more than should be the case.

Mrs. Marguerite Williamson, who had been a member of the Wanganui Charitable Aid and Hospital Board, gave evidence in support of the cottage home system for children.

Thomas C. Morris, secretary to the Charitable Aid Board for the past twenty years, stated that there had always been a great deal of trouble in connection with the orphanage. The master and matron had to be dismissed about 1890. Then the Board decided to adopt the boarding-out system, and advertisements were inserted in the papers calling for applications, and demanding full particulars concerning applicants and references to responsible people. About 170 applications were received, and about 40 children were sent out, so that a very good selection was made. As many as possible were sent into the country. Witness was personally strongly in favor of boarding-out as against institutionalism. Children were best in homes, but there was a great deal of misunderstanding on the part of the public in regard to boarding-out. It seemed to be taken for granted that all children boarded-out were under the care of the Charitable Aid Board. The people overlooked the fact that hundreds were boarded out by the Education Boards and by private people. After the Board adopted the system some local ladies very kindly undertook the work of inspection. They did splendid work for about four years, but then the practice dropped into disuse. Then the Board obtained reports from reputable people in the various localities. Two Government officers had inspected a number of the homes, and both spoke very favorably of them. Dealing with the visits of inspection made by the special committee previously referred to, witness read the report adopted, which found everything satisfactory on the whole, and recommended that payment be stopped in only one instance. Payment was stopped, but the woman refused to give up the children, as they had been placed with her by their various mothers. She still had the children, and apparently the police could do nothing. A little improvement was effected in one or two cases, and three children were taken away from homes. As to the amount paid for the boarded-out children, witness said he was rather at a disadvantage, as he was an officer of the Board, and insinuations and charges had been made, which he would have to meet as best he could. After the increase from 6s to 7s a week was decided on he did not receive any instructions from the Board, and, therefore, did not pay the increase. He did so as soon as he was instructed to do so. It was not to be wondered at that some of the householders keeping children should object to having their houses inspected by seven people driving about in two four-wheeled cabs. They did not object to any one person inspecting the house, but they did object to visiting in 'wholesale quantities.' The Government adopted the boarding-out system, and paid 6d a week less per child than did the Board. In dealing with the children it was found to be a sad fact that the majority were illegitimate. If the State would take over that branch it might be better for the children. A question to be considered was: Were such children to be treated better than those of the ratepayers?

In reply to the commissioner witness said that he considered the majority of such children came under the charge of the Board.

The commissioner expressed doubts as to that. From his own experience, he knew that an enormous number of children was adopted in Christchurch—nearly all illegitimate. They did not come under the charge of the Board.

The inquiry was adjourned at this stage until 10.30 on Monday.

The inquiry was resumed on Monday.

Mr. Norris, the secretary, said the cost of maintenance of the inmates was £2 4s 8d per month so far as pensioners were concerned.

The Commissioner commented on the inclusion of funeral expenses in this estimate. Such expenses could not be said to form part of the inmates' maintenance.

Mr. Norris said he did not know how else to charge them. With regard to children, he strongly favored the boarding-out system as against the cottage homes.

Mr. Norris, secretary to the Charitable Aid Board, continuing his evidence, said he asked the commissioner to consider whether it was at all likely that he 'dominated' the Board, as alleged by Mrs. Wells. During his connection with the Board he had had to deal with about a hundred people, and with very few exceptions indeed he had never had the least trouble with them. It was hardly credible that such men would allow him to influence their action and feelings. He believed the Board would know how to deal with him should he attempt to 'boss' them. Many of the members had taken a great interest in the work, and had frequently conferred with him. If other members had cared to, they could have obtained the same information, and probably there would not have been the necessity for so much of the commissioner's time to be taken up. He had told Mrs. Wells often that he should be delighted to give her any information he could. Mrs. Henderson used frequently to talk with him about matters concerning the work of the Board, and it was always a pleasure to exchange views. He denied that his system had been one of blockade, or negation, or that Mrs. Wells had been deliberately kept off the institution's committee. Fourteen months ago all three ladies wanted to be on the Charitable Committee, but the number was limited to seven. A ballot was taken to increase the number to eight, and if the members of Mr. Harper's 'little caucus' had not all done what they promised to do, Mrs. Wells would have been left off that committee. He could not say all he felt in regard to Mrs. Wells, as he had no wish to be disrespectful. They had never quarrelled, but it was unfortunate that at times Mrs. Wells had showed strong feelings. He was afraid it was against himself. It was a very delicate subject.

The Commissioner: Say what is in your mind, Mr. Norris. Get rid of it, and you will feel better.

Witness: Well, then, I am sorry to say so, but I am fairly and honestly convinced that Mrs. Wells has been actuated by a desire to get me out of my position. Continuing, he contended that when going through the accounts it was his duty to ask for particulars when discovering a big item, without intending to stint the orphanage. Mrs. Carpenter had a free hand to order what she considered necessary, and he had never had the slightest desire to stint the orphanage of supplies. Everything was done by the order of the committee, but it seemed to be assumed that he was continually doing things of his own accord. He did not think that the public generally had any idea of the amount of work that the Charitable Aid Board had to do. Some thought he had a bed of roses, but he had been a slave to the Board, and devoted the best years of his life to it. He could not help regarding the movement as a direct attempt to get him out of his position. Witness asserted most emphatically that there had been no deliberate attempt to keep Mrs. Wells off the institution's committee. He did not think any member cared a snap of the finger whether Mrs. Wells was on the committee or not. Personally, he should be very glad to see her on the committee. It was not a fact that meetings of the institution's committee frequently lapsed owing to the absence of the chairman (Mr. Dobson). The meetings were irregular, being called as occasion required. Witness would ask the chairman if it was advisable to call a meeting, and if Mr. Dobson instructed him he would convene a meeting. There was no systematic inspection of the orphanage. The matron had practically a free hand. In regard to the town houses, where children were boarded out, it was left to the discretion of the inspector as to when any report should be made. He thought 7s 6d a week was a fair charge for boarded-out children, seeing that the Government's regular payment was 7s.

The inquiry was then adjourned.

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A Night at the Hospice of St. Bernard

On we climbed (writes the late Frances E. Willard in 'Glimpses of Fifty Years Ago'), while Mr. Smith impelled our flagging footsteps by an explosive recitation of Longfellow's 'Excelsior,' the scene of which is here. Around a sharp, rocky bend, up an ascent as steep as a house roof, past an overhanging precipice, I went, leaving the gentleman behind me in the enthusiasm of the approach, and then the gray, solemn, friendly walls of the great Hospice, which had seemed to me as dim and distant as the moon's caverns, rose before me outlined upon the placid evening sky.

I stopped and listened eagerly as I approached its open door—no sound but the gurgle of a distant brook; no living object but two great St. Bernard dogs seated upon the broad, dark steps of stone.

A Gentleman

may be defined as a being always wisely and benignant—ly equal to the occasion. Such a character appeared upon the scene in the person of 'Reverend Besse,' the 'Hospitable Father' and chief of the establishment.

Our party in committee of the whole (and no 'minority report') voted him the most delightful man we ever saw. All that is French in manner, united to all that is English in sturdiness of character, all that is winning in Italian tones, united to a German's ideality, a Yankee's keenness of perception, a Scotchman's heartiness, and an Irishman's wit, these qualities seemed blended in our 'nonesuch' of a host, and fused into harmony by the fire of a brother's love toward man and a saint's fidelity to God. Young, fair, blue-eyed, he stood among our chattering group like one who, from a region of perpetual calm, dispenses radiant smiles and overflowing bounty.

So Quick was His Discernment,

and so sagacious was his decision, that almost without a question he assigned us, in detachments correctly arranged, to fitting domiciles, made each one feel that he or she had been especially expected and prepared for, and within five minutes had so won his way into the innermost recess of everybody's heart; that Mr. Jones expressed in his own idiomatic way the sense of fifty guests when he declared: 'To such a man as that even the Little Corporal might well have doffed his old chapeau.' Who shall do justice to the dinner at that L-shaped table, where the Father sat at the head and said grace, beaming upon his great cosmopolitan family with that young face, so honest, gentle, and brave?

Then came the long evening around the huge and glowing hearth-fire. How soon we felt 'acquaint'; how fast we talked in French or German, minding little how the moods and tenses went askew so that we got and gave ideas.

The Father turned from side to side answering with solicitous attention every question that we asked, so that a mosaic of his chief replies would read something like this:

'Mademoiselle asks the indications of the thermometer this August evening? I learn the mercury stands already at 45 degrees Fahrenheit, and the boundary-line of Italy is but five minutes distant. Here, Brother Jean, please provide the beds of all our guests with warming-pans.'

'Yes, lady, our Hospice was founded nine hundred years ago by Count Bernard of Savoy, who devoted 40 years of his life to entertaining and protecting, as we still try to do, the many travellers who annually pass through these mountains between Switzerland and Italy. About 20,000 were cared for each year in olden times, without the smallest charge being made to rich or poor. Now we have not so many, the facilities for travel having so greatly improved. But a great number come over the pass who are out looking for work, and there are also many beggars. These we limit to three days' entertainment. We would gladly keep them longer, but cannot. Our dogs are a cross between Newfoundland and Pyrenean.

In Winter.

travellers are obliged to wait at a place of refuge we have provided at some distance from these buildings, which is on the very top of the pass, until we send out a man and dog, with refreshments fastened to the neck of the dog, who never once loses his way, though the distance is long. The snow is often 30 feet deep, and the only guide the man has is the banner-like tail of the dog waving through the storm.

'The monks always go out in the most dangerous weather. I lead them at such times. They are not obliged to go—we make it perfectly voluntary.'

Here Kate broke in with an important question: 'How do you occupy your time in summer?' 'Oh,

mademoiselle, we study and teach—we had 50 students last season.' 'What do you teach?' 'All that a priest ought to know—theology, philosophy, the laws of the Church. We know contemporaneous events, except politics (!) which we do not read.' 'What is your age?' here chimed in the practical Jones. 'Monsieur, I am thirty-one.' ('But he does not look a day older than twenty-three,' whispered practical Sophie, and we all nodded our 'energetic acquiescence in her figures.) 'How long have you been here?' 'Eleven years, and I remain in perfect health. My predecessors in the office could not endure this high altitude—three of them left in a period of four years.' 'Why are you here?' persisted Jones. The scene was worthy of a painter—that shrewd Yankee, whose very figure was a walking interrogation point, and that graceful, urbane monk, in his long cassock, as leaning in his easy chair and looking forward and a little upward, he answered with a slow melodious emphasis, 'Brother, it is my calling, that is all.' So simple was his nature, that to have heard 'a call' from God and not obeyed it would have seemed to him only less monstrous than not to have heard any call at all! At early dawn we were awakened by men's voices in a solemn chant, led by the Hospitable Father—and never did religion seem more sacred and attractive than while we listened as through the chapel door came the words of the 'Te Deum,' consecrated by centuries of Christian song.

Thrones Without Tenants

'It is a privilege,' wrote Disraeli, a good many years ago, 'to live in this age of rapid and brilliant events. It is one of infinite romance. Thrones tumble down and crowns are offered like a fairy tale'; and one is reminded by the fact that Norway has after some difficulty secured a king, that our own generation is no whit behind its predecessors in this feature of romance.

When Disraeli wrote these words it was the crown of Greece that was going a-begging. Greece was thoroughly sick of Otho and his pampered Bavarians, and determined to have a King who understood at least the elements of fair government. Otho was dismissed, and the choice of his successor fell on Prince Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh, to whom the crown was offered. But the three protecting Powers, England, France, and Russia, had bound themselves not to allow anyone connected with their ruling families to become King of Greece, and the Prince was thus obliged to decline the alluring bait. The Greeks then transferred

Their Offer of Sovereignty

to Lord Stanley, son of the great statesman and brother of the Earl of to-day. 'It is a dazzling adventure for the house of Stanley,' wrote Disraeli at the time, 'but they are not an imaginative race, and I fancy they will prefer Knowsley to the Parthenon, and Lancashire to the Attic Plains. . . I think he ought to take the crown, but he will not. Had I his youth I would not hesitate, even with the earldom in the distance.' But the young lord refused to be tempted; and after further refusals a King was found for Greece in Prince William of Schleswig-Holstein, second son of the King of Denmark, who as King George I. is reigning to-day. A generation earlier still the Grecian throne was refused by Prince Leopold of Saxo-Coburg, father of the present King of Belgium.

When Isabella II. was driven from the throne of Spain it was almost literally hawked round Europe in search of a Prince willing to sit on it. It was offered first to one scion of Royalty and then to another—only to be declined by all. Its offer to Leopold of Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen was the cause of the terrible war between France and Prussia; and it was only when Amadeus, second son of the King of Italy, was approached that an occupant was at last found, in 1870. Amadeus, however, found the crown too burdensome for his tastes; and he resigned it thankfully after having worn it for three years, when it was accepted by Alfonso XII., the young son of the exiled Isabella. In 1866, when Prince Cuza, a man of odious character, was forced to abandon the throne of Roumania, it was with the utmost difficulty that

A Successor was Found.

Prince Jerome, who had an eye to that much more valuable prize, the crown of France, would not even look at it, in spite of the pleading and pressure of his exalted relatives; other polite but decided refusals followed, until it began to seem probable that the crown would never get a head to wear it. At last, however, Prince Charles of Hohenzollern wavered and yielded, and was proclaimed Hospodar of Roumania in April, 1866.

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Fifteen years later he was promoted to a kingship and wore a crown made from the captured cannon of the Plevna redoubts.

The crown of Bulgaria has also suffered the indignity of refusal on more than one occasion. When Prince Alexander of Battenberg, after his brief and troubled tenure of the throne, was compelled to resign it, it was offered to Prince Valdemar of Denmark, brother-in-law of the Czar, who declined it with thanks, whereupon a deputation went on a tour of the capitals of Europe with the object of finding a Prince who wouldn't mind accepting a crown. The journey was fruitless; but finally, in 1887, the perseverance of the Grand Sobranje was rewarded, when Prince Ferdinand of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha signified his willingness to take the despised emblems of sovereignty.

These are but a few examples of crowns that have gone a-begging, only to have the cold shoulder of refusal turned on them; one of the most recent cases being that of the Dukedom of Saxe-Coburg, which was refused by the Duke of Connaught for himself and his son before it was accepted by the youthful Duke of Albany.

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

February 3.

The arrangements for the celebration of St. Patrick's Day are in a very forward state. An excellent sports programme, catering for young and old, has been prepared, and no effort is being spared to make the celebration in every respect worthy of the occasion. Bro. J. W. Callaghan has been appointed secretary, and he has with him a strong and active committee.

At the conclusion of their annual retreat the clergy will be given an opportunity of hearing the new organ at the Sacred Heart Basilica. The services of Mr. Cyril Towsey as organist have been secured for the occasion, other first-class artists will contribute to the programme, and a musical treat may therefore be expected. The concert will be open to the public, but for the purpose of helping the organ fund it is probable that a small charge will be made for admission.

A meeting of the old Irish National Federation was held here on Monday evening for the purpose of considering what steps should be taken to remit pecuniary aid to the Irish Parliamentary Party. The chair was occupied by Mr. E. Carrigan. After some discussion it was decided to establish in the city a branch of the United Irish League, formed and conducted on the same lines as the Australian branches. Arrangements were accordingly made for the holding of a larger meeting on Monday next to discuss proposals.

In view of the desirableness of having in our midst some recognised Irish Association, the members of the various branches of the H.A.C.B. Society here have had under consideration for some time the formation of a properly constituted body. I understand that delegates from the Newtown, City, and Lower Hutt branches of the H.A.C.B. Society and the Catholic Young Men's Club are to meet on Wednesday evening to arrange the preliminary steps. No doubt a combined movement will follow, and an association fully representative of the Irish body will be formed.

By far the most interesting event at the annual Catholic picnic is the inter-parish tug-of-war contest for a handsome cup. At the outing on Boxing Day the final result remained undecided, and it was arranged that the Thorndon and Te Aro parish teams should pull off for the championship at a later date. This event, which caused a great deal of local interest and rivalry, took place last week, and resulted in a somewhat easy win for the men of Te Aro. On Wednesday last each member of the winning team was presented with a medal by the Rev. Father O'Shea, to whom at the same time the captain of the team handed the challenge cup, which the Te Aro parish priest will now hold until next year.

At the fortnightly meeting of the St. Aloysius' branch of the H.A.C.B. Society, held on Wednesday evening, the following members were elected to hold office for the ensuing six months: President, Bro. J. Ryan; vice-president, Bro. J. Chambers; secretary, Bro. J. J. Casey; treasurer, Bro. J. L. Murphy; guardian, Bro. D. O'Meara; sick visitors, Bros. D. O'Meara and Jos. Murphy; auditors, Bros. J. W. Callaghan and J. Delany. The election of warden was held over until the next meeting. The ceremony of installing the newly-elected officers was performed by Bro.

E. J. Fitzgibbon, P.P. One new member was elected and another proposed. Bro. J. W. Callaghan has kindly consented to deliver at the next meeting of the branch an address on the rules and conduct of the Society.

Masterton

(From our own correspondent.)

February 2.

Four Sisters of St. Brude's Convent left Masterton on Monday for Pahiatua, where they are to open a school.

Mr. A. R. Bunny, who has conducted the choir at St. Patrick's Church for the last thirty years, has resigned the position.

A concert is to be given at Carterton shortly in aid of the funds of the church. It is expected that the Rev. Father Cahill, who has been on a trip to the Old Country, will be present.

At the half-yearly meeting of St. Michael's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society the following officers were elected for the ensuing term: President, Bro. P. J. O'Leary; vice-president, Bro. E. O'Sullivan; treasurer, Bro. A. Stempa, jun.; secretary, Bro. S. O'Regan; guardian, Bro. J. Broadbury; warden, Bro. A. Kelly; auditors, Bros. B. Chapman and P. O'Leary. Bro. H. O'Leary was appointed a delegate to represent the branch on the Hospital floral fete committee.

DIocese OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

February 5.

The Rev. Father Creed, who has been transferred from Ashburton to Kumara, left for the West Coast last week.

The number of boarders already entered at the Convent of the Sacred Heart in charge of the Sisters of the Missions is in excess of the average for previous years.

At the conclusion of the retreat at the Convent of the Sacred Heart six Sisters of Our Lady of Missions made their profession. His Lordship the Bishop presided, and among the clergy present were the Very Rev. Dean Ginaty, Rev. Fathers McDermott, C.S.S.R., O'Connell, and Peoples.

On Sunday the Rev. Father O'Connell visited St. Mary's, Manchester street, and commenced the work of collecting in the interest of the Cathedral debt liquidation fund in that parish. Darfield will be visited towards the end of the month, and later on the Midland railway works.

The combined Catholic excursion and picnic committee met at the presbytery, Barbadoes street, on last Tuesday evening, the Rev. Father Marnane presiding. The secretary, Mr. E. O'Connor, read the balance sheet, which was adopted, as were also several recommendations of the executive committee regarding the disposal of the surplus accruing from the event held on Boxing Day. It was decided that Master Philip Dwyer be presented with a souvenir in acknowledgment of his heroic action in rescuing two children from drowning at the picnic, and that a suitable present be made to Mrs. Mullins for kind services rendered by her husband at the racecourse, of which he is caretaker. The sincere thanks of the committee and Catholics of Christchurch were passed to the stewards of the Canterbury Jockey Club, and also votes of thanks to the secretary of the committee and secretary of the ladies' committee, Miss Murray. The Rev. Father Marnane congratulated all concerned on the success of the undertaking, and trusted the same enthusiasm would be manifested in regard to future annual gatherings of a similar nature. The balance of the surplus funds were voted equally between the schools of the Cathedral and St. Mary's, Manchester street.

The St. Patrick's Day celebration committee met on last Tuesday evening at the Presbytery, Barbadoes street. His Lordship the Bishop presided, the Rev. Fathers Mahony, O'Connell, and Peoples being also present. Whilst thanking the committee for past efforts his Lordship urged the same energy and co-operation that characterised previous occasions. Nazareth House was very materially helped by the St. Patrick's Day celebration committee by means of the annual entertainment, and the profits accruing from this year's event would be devoted to the same beneficent object. Concluding his remarks, the Bishop paid an eloquent tribute of appreciation to the Sisters of Nazareth for all they had accomplished since coming to the city. It was decided to take the Canterbury Hall for Friday, March 16, for a purely national entertainment, and that the price of tickets should be two shillings and one shilling, with

an additional charge for reserving seats. Concert, advertising, and hall sub-committees and a ladies' committee were formed, with a recommendation to meet frequently and exert every energy to insure the success of the event. The executive committee, which has been in office since the inauguration of these celebrations, retain office, Mr. W. Hoban being president and Mr. E. O'Connor secretary.

Woolston

(From our Christchurch correspondent.)

On last Sunday afternoon his Lordship the Bishop, attended by the Very Rev. Vicar-General and Rev. Fathers Mahony and Peoples, blessed and formally opened the new Catholic school at Woolston. The building just completed was designed and erected by Mr. W. Evans, and forms quite an architectural feature of this extensive suburb. It is situated on one of the best sites possible to be selected and faces Ferry Road, the main thoroughfare of the district and route of the tram system between Sumner and the city. The new school is erected on about three-eighths of an acre, whilst the remainder of the section, measuring over an acre in extent, has been acquired by one of our energetic and far-seeing co-religionists, who generously holds it in trust, in the event of future developments. The building, which cost over £500, exclusive of extras, is substantially constructed of the best materials. The foundations are of concrete, varying in depth from two to three feet. The interior dimensions are 60 feet by 24 feet, with lofty ceiling. The walls are matchlined, stained, and varnished. Gas is laid on, and the building well lighted and ventilated. At the main entrance there is a capacious porch, which is carried up to a height of 48 feet in the form of a tower, this being surmounted with an artistic design in iron, a cross being the principal feature. Nicely designed louvres are fitted into the allotted spaces in the tower. Besides the entrance porch, which is fitted up as a cloak room, there is a room at the other end of the building entered both from within and without which, should occasion require, may be used as a sacristy, provision being also made by having a space reserved for a sanctuary. There are three large windows on each side of the building and one at the sanctuary end. Each of these is filled in mainly with plain glass, although parts of each contain figured glass in ruby, blue, and gold. The building is roofed with iron terminating in wide eaves, and is painted white with chocolate facings. Concrete steps ascend to the main and rear entrances, and an iron fence four feet high is erected at the street front, with a small gateway and a carriage entrance. Asphalt paths lead to the front entrance and around one side of the building, and a wide space at the rear is covered with the same material. There is an artesian well with complete sanitary arrangements. New desks, of an improved style, are provided, and all arrangements completed for carrying on a day school which is to open to-day (Monday) under the direction of the Sisters of the Missions.

His Lordship the Bishop was met on arrival by members of the committee, including Messrs. Gilmour, O'Connor, Murphy, Barratt, and Harphorn (secretary). After blessing the building, the Bishop, basing his remarks on the opening verse of Ecclesiasticus, chapter XVI., 'Rejoice not in ungodly children, etc.,' delivered an address on the religious training of the young. He deplored the misdirected spirit of independence so rife at the present time, and the lack of respect for authority so painfully manifest, the only safeguard against which was the Catholic school where regard for authority of parent and of society was inculcated by the religious training of the young. The children were the hope of the Church, and personally he (the Bishop) felt greater interest and greater pleasure at assisting at the opening of a school than at the opening of a church. The life of the teachers was in instruction itself, which was one of the secrets of the success of Catholic schools. Nowhere else are the faculties of the soul directed as in the Catholic school. Where the crucifix, the emblem of Christianity, cannot be placed, religion is ignored, the name of God not taught, and duty to God, to the family, and to the State is not taught. He rejoiced at the opening of their school and hoped parents would see to it that the children attended. Later on the Holy Sacrifice may be offered there, but meanwhile the building was for the children. His Lordship thanked all who were instrumental in having the building erected, especially the Rev. Father Mahony, who had taken the keenest and liveliest interest in it.

The Rev. Father Mahony, in the name of all concerned in the religious life of the district, cordially thanked his Lordship the Bishop for his presence and for presiding at the ceremonies.

Much good work has been accomplished by the ladies' committee in connection with the undertaking, for which they are warmly commended.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(From our own correspondent.)

February 2.

Monsignor O'Brien and Dean Slattery arrive here on Sunday next from Sydney.

Very Rev. Father Murray, C.S.S.R., left for Sydney last Monday where he is to conduct the retreat of the clergy of the archdiocese.

A forecast by the city treasurer shows that the city financial statement to be rendered at the close of next month will be most satisfactory.

The Redemptorist Fathers are resuming their work throughout the diocese. At Devonport next Sunday the mission will be opened by the Rev. Father Lynch and at Puhoi by the Rev. Father McGrath.

His Lordship the Bishop leaves this evening for Whangarei, where he will open the new convent next Sunday, thence he will journey overland to the Northern Wairoa, administering Confirmation at Dargaville. He expects to be away fully three weeks.

The extent which the fishing industry has attained in Auckland waters may be judged from the fact that the collector of Customs has issued licenses to 200 fishing boats. Besides this it is asserted that there are many more to be issued.

His Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Olier, S.M., Bishop of Tonga, arrived here by the 'Hauroto' last Wednesday, and leaves for Rome via Sydney next Monday, where he will join the Right Rev. Bishop Broyer, who also goes to the Eternal City. Dr. Olier is now the guest of his Lordship Dr. Lenihan.

It is with regret that I record the illness of Rev. Father O'Hara of Otahuhu, who will be obliged to stay at the Mater Misericordiae Hospital for a few weeks. During his absence the parish duties will be administered by the Rev. Father Edge, of St. Patrick's.

The Marist Brothers Old Boys' Association attended in a body and received Holy Communion at the Church of St. John the Baptist, Parnell, last Sunday. Rev. Father O'Connor celebrated Mass. After Mass breakfast was provided by the ladies of the parish, after which speeches were made by the Rev. Brother George (president) and Rev. Fathers Holbrook (chaplain) and O'Connor, and Messrs. Darby, H. Herbert, Casey, and J. Gleeson. The association has decided to hold a moonlight excursion in the harbor on Monday evening, February 19.

Master Elgar Francis O'Mahony, who obtained first place in Greek at the recent Adelaide University Junior Examination, is a pupil of the Christian Brothers' College, Perth.

Messrs. Scouler and Chisholm, Rattray street, Dunedin, call attention to their 'ideal' Chair for invalids, which has many original features to recommend it...

The conditions of the competition in connection with the Tiger Tea Juvenile League are notified in this issue. The competition is well worth the attention of our young readers...

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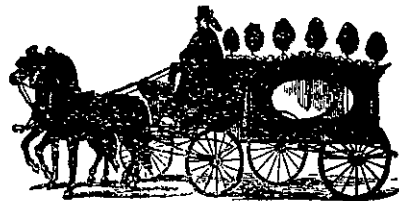
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Irish News

DERRY—Punishing the Mayor

The Mayor of Derry, who seeks re-election as a Councillor, has been placed at the bottom of the poll by the Unionist electors, who held a meeting to select candidates, because he appointed a Catholic to the position of Sergeant at Mace.

DONEGAL—Proposed Testimonial

The people of Stranoclar, County Donegal, have resolved to present the Rev. Edward M'Devitt, recently promoted to the dignity of Parish Priest of Raphoe, with a testimonial.

DUBLIN—An Appointment

The 'Dublin Gazette' announces that Lord Dudley, by warrant dated December 12, appointed Mr. Walter E. Callan to be a Resident Magistrate for County Galway, to be stationed at Gort. Mr. Callan filled the post of private secretary to the ex-Viceroy, and is a son of the late Mr. Philip Callan, ex-M.P.

A New Quarterly

There was to be issued in January from Maynooth College a new theological quarterly, which will be edited by five eminent members of its faculty of theology—Rev. Walter McDonald, D.D., Rev. Joseph McRory, D.D., Rev. John M. Hart, Rev. James McCaffrey, S.T.L., and Rev. P. J. Toner, D.D.

Rowdyism at Trinity College

On Degree Day in Trinity College, Dublin, the students enlivened the occasion with a vigorous demonstration of rowdyism, taking the form of indiscriminate groaning and cheering, the explosion of fire crackers, and a plentiful use of paper-flying machines. An interesting feature of the proceedings was the conferring of degrees on a number of lady graduates from Oxford and Cambridge Universities, whose rules preclude such ceremonies in regard to ladies.

The Royal University

The Senate of the Royal University of Ireland have passed a resolution to the effect that, whilst believing the disorderly conduct of some of the graduates and undergraduates at the conferring of degrees on October 27 was most reprehensible and deserving of punishment, they feel that in view of the legal opinions received as to their powers, it would not be advisable to take any action regarding that conduct. The Senate feel, nevertheless, the urgent necessity of obtaining powers to deal with the honor, and with all matters connected with the honor and discipline of the University.

GALWAY—Death of a Religious

After a short illness, Brother Joseph MacDonnell breathed his last at the Monastery, Kingston, Galway, on December 18.

Interpreting a Statute

There has been a very amusing correspondence between Mr. J. W. French, J.P., the chairman of the Galway District Council, and the late Lord Chancellor, over the question of a name in Irish on a cart. 'The Lord Chancellor,' says a letter addressed to Mr. French on November 2 from the Four Courts, 'has been informed that in a recent case against John Fagan for not having his name and residence legibly painted on the cart he was using, which came before the Galway Petty Sessions on the 15th and 23rd October last, you being one of the sitting magistrates, it was proved and admitted that his name and residence was not legibly painted in English characters, although painted in characters stated to be Irish.' His Lordship, the letter states, was also informed that Mr. French was apprised of the decision of the King's Bench in the case of M'Bride and M'Govern 'to the effect that in such cases the law required that the name and address should be legibly painted in English characters.' It was pointed out to Mr. French that he had refused to follow this decision, and that he had accordingly 'acted in open defiance of the law.' Mr. French was asked for an explanation. He states that he had no desire to overrule the decision of the King's Bench, and asks by what authority any Bench overrules the Statute 14 and 15 Vic., chap. 92, sec. 12, which regulates this matter and makes no specific reference to any particular language. 'The only reference it makes is to 'legibility,' and in the case of John Fagan, according to Mr. French, the legibility was undoubted.

KERRY—Clerical Appointments

Rev. J. Browne, Glengariffe, has been appointed parish priest of Glenfesk. The pastorship of this well known health resort, thus left vacant, has been filled by the appointment of Rev. T. Harrington, Castleisland. Father Harrington, who is universally esteemed in the diocese of Kerry, is a native of Castletown Berehaven, County Cork. Rev. M. O'Flaherty, Ballylongford, succeeds Father Harrington in Castleisland.

Death of a Gaelic Leaguer

From Cahirciveen is announced the death of Mr. Patrick O'Daly, who spent over six years in London. He was one of the leading members of the Gaelic League, and was highly esteemed by the Gaelic Leaguers throughout the metropolis. Mr. O'Daly was 33 years of age. The Very Rev. Canon O'Riordan, P.P., V.F., Father T. O'Sullivan, of Westminster diocese, and other priests were present at the interment.

KILKENNY—A Memorial

In St. Patrick's Church, Kilkenny, on December 17, the Most Rev. Dr. Brownrigg unveiled a grand window erected to perpetuate the memory of the late Mr. James Walsh.

LIMERICK—Death of a Well-known Priest

News has been received in Limerick of the death of the Rev. Patrick Cronin, editor of the 'Catholic Union and Times,' of Buffalo, New York. Father Cronin was an eloquent preacher, and an able and incisive writer. He was born at Pallaskey seventy years ago. His early education was received at the Christian Brothers' School at Adare. He was ordained priest in the Cathedral of St. Louis in 1862. For upwards of a quarter of a century he edited the 'Catholic Union and Times.'

MEATH—Vicar-Capitular

Very Rev. Mgr. Gaughran, P.P., Kells, has been elected Vicar-Capitular of the diocese of Meath, pending the appointment of a successor to the Most Rev. Dr. Gaffney.

TIPPERARY—Death of a Clonmel Man

A cablegram from New York announces the death of Mr. Thomas F. Dunne, Sheriff of that city. Deceased was a native of Clonmel, where his mother and relatives reside. He paid a visit to Ireland, accompanied by his daughter, during the summer. Mr. Dunne was recognised as one of the Tammany leaders in the big American city and an enthusiastic supporter of the Gaelic League movement.

WESTMEATH—Clerical Change

The occasion of the transference of the Rev. D. Cuskelly, P.P., from Castleward to Moyvore, County Westmeath, was availed of by his old parishioners to present him with a souvenir of their affection in the shape of an illuminated address and a purse of sovereigns. The rev. gentleman replied to the subscribers in a graceful speech.

WICKLOW—A Remarkable Figure

A remarkable figure has passed away at Lamberton Cottage, near Arklow, in the person of Mr. Eugene Walsh. In '48, being then in the Royal Irish Constabulary, he formed one of the escort that surrounded Thomas Francis Meagher, when that young patriot was tried for his life at the Courthouse, Clonmel. Some years later, having quitted the force, he proceeded to America, and was the champion in the goldfields of Mackey, known as the 'Silver King,' O'Brien, Flood, and Fair, all of whom became millionaires. He fought on the side of the Federals during the Civil War, and was wounded at Fredericksburg on the memorable morning of the 13th December, 1862. In later years he was out with General Custer against the Indians. He returned to Ireland some years ago on a substantial pension from the United States Government, and settling at Lamberton Cottage, remained there until his death.

GENERAL

The Gaelic League

The committee of the Gaelic League in New York, as a result of the visit to the United States of Dr. Douglas Hyde, have forwarded to Dublin a sum of £1000.

A Land of Centenarians

The 'London Mail' says that, notwithstanding all her poverty, hardships, and grievances, Ireland remains the land of centenarians. During the year 1904 the death of no less than 182 persons aged more than 100 years has been recorded in that country.

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Ireland and India

In connection with Mr. Morley's appointment to the Indian Office, it is worth recording that in his 'Life of Gladstone' he compares Ireland with India in the following terms:—'England has been able to rule India, Mill said, because the business of ruling devolved upon men who passed their lives in India and made Indian interests their regular occupation. India has, on the whole, been governed with a pretty full perception of its differences from England. Ireland, on the contrary, suffering a worse misfortune than absentee landlords, was governed by an absentee Parliament.'

Barren Results

It was suggested by the 'Irish Times' prior to the General Election that the Conservatives should contest all the Nationalist seats throughout the country. As nearly all the Nationalist members were returned unopposed it is evident the suggestion was not adopted. In 1885 the Conservatives adopted a similar course, but the results were such that it was not likely they would attempt it a second time. The story is told that Mr. 'Buckshot' Forster was one of the gentlemen engaged in bringing this statesmanlike enterprise to fruition. The following were some of the results of the starting of loyalist candidates:—In South Cork the loyalist candidate polled 195 votes, the Nationalist 4820. In Mid-Cork the loyalist polled 106, the Nationalist 5033. In North Kilkenny the loyalist polled 174, the Nationalist 4184. In West Mayo the loyalist polled 131, the Nationalist 4790. In South Mayo the loyalist polled 75, the Nationalist 4900. In East Kerry the loyalist polled 30 votes, the Nationalist 3169.

Irish Industries

Satisfactory headway (writes a Dublin correspondent) is being made with the movement for the promotion of Irish industries at home, but, considering the depleted condition of the population, it is absolutely necessary that a market should be found abroad for Irish manufactured goods, if employment on a large scale is to obtain. In Great Britain and the United States, fortunately, the movement seems to be taking hold, and if manufacturers only advertise and push their goods, much can be accomplished. Unfortunately Irish manufacturers, with a few exceptions, are not given to advertising their goods. The sale of Irish wares at Bristol recently, amounting to over £3000, should open their eyes to what can be done by publicity. A letter to his Eminence Cardinal Logue, from Mr. Myles Murphy, of New York, also emphasises this fact. He says: 'The Irish manufacturers are averse to spending money on advertising, which is vitally necessary here.'

Vital Statistics

According to the annual report of the Registrar-General for Ireland, the estimated population of the country had fallen in the middle of the year 1905 to 4,402,192. The natural increase of population, that is the excess of births over deaths, was 24,298, while, on the other hand, the loss by emigration amounted to 36,902. A decrease of 12,604 in the population would thus appear to have taken place during the year, but against this decrease there is some slight set-off of immigration of which no official record has been obtained. The marriages registered during the year numbered 22,961, the births 103,811, and the deaths 70,513. The marriage rate, which is 5.22 per 1000 of the estimated population, shows an increase of 0.01 as compared with that for the year 1903, and is 0.21 above the average rate for the ten years 1894-1903, and the highest rate for any of those years. The birth rate (23.6 per 1000) shows an increase of 0.5 as compared with that for the preceding year, and is also 0.5 above the average rate for the ten years 1894-1903, and the death-rate (18.1 per 1000) is 0.6 above the rate for the preceding year, and 0.1 above the average rate for the ten years 1894-1903.

The Duke of Norfolk attained his 58th birthday on December 27, his Grace having been born on December 27, 1847.

MYERS & CO., Dentists, Octagon, corner of George Street. They guarantee the highest class of work at moderate fees. Their artificial teeth give general satisfaction, and the fact of them supplying a temporary denture while the gums are healing does away with the inconvenience of being months without teeth. They manufacture a single artificial tooth for Ten Shillings, and sets equally moderate. The administration of nitrous oxide gas is also a great boon to those needing the extraction of a tooth.

People We Hear About

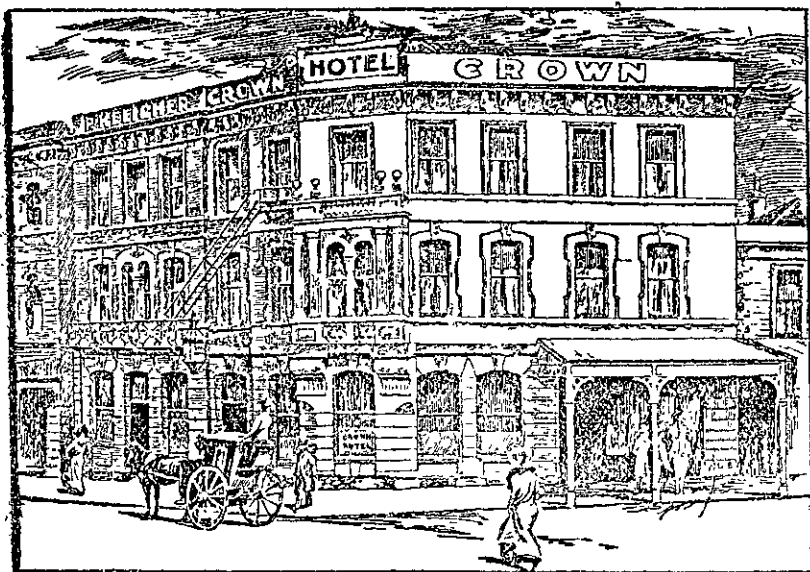
Seven out of the thirty Nobel awards have gone to Germany—a fact which sets it first among the nations; but Poland, whose nationality is supposed to have been obliterated by the partition of its territory among Russia, Austria, and Prussia, makes, all things considered, a more remarkable showing, since the prize for idealistic literature this year goes to Henry Sienkiewicz, author of the immortal trilogy, 'Fire and Sword,' 'the Deluge,' and 'Pan Michael,' commemorating the struggle between his country and Russia, and 'Quo Vadis,' which made him a citizen of the whole world of literature; while the first woman to receive a Nobel prize was a Pole, Madame Curie, the discoverer of radium.

King Christian of Denmark, who passed away last week in his 88th year, was an interesting personality, not by reason of the power he exercised, which was indeed very little, as by reason of his connection with many of the European Royal families. He was father of Queen Alexandra, the King of Greece, and the Empress Marie of Russia, grandfather of the King and Queen of Norway, the Czar of Russia, and the Prince of Wales, father-in-law of King Edward, and had remoter connections innumerable. The Crown Prince Frederick, who succeeds to the throne, was born on June 3, 1843, and is consequently in his 63rd year. He was married on July 28, 1869 to the Princess Louisa, daughter of King Carl XV. of Sweden and Norway, and his second son, Prince Karl, was married to H.R.H. Princess Maud in 1896.

Mr. Lloyd-George, President of the Board of Trade in the new Liberal Ministry, is fond of telling a story of a meeting at Flint, at which his chairman said: 'I hail to introduce to you the member for Carnarvon Boroughs. He has come here to reply to what the Bishop of St. Asaph said the other night about Welsh disestablishment. In my opinion, gentlemen, the Bishop of St. Asaph is one of the biggest liars in creation; but he has his match in Mr. Lloyd-George!' The President of the Board of Trade is a frail, nervously energetic little man, with the true Celtic temperament; his speeches vibrate with passion. But the guerilla warfare in which he has distinguished himself must now give place to official moderation and caution, and he will probably sigh at times for the freedom of Opposition.

Nine of the 33 cities of Massachusetts, including its capital, will have mayors with Celtic names during 1906; but of these only one is a native of Ireland, the others being American born. Five have been elected for the first time and two re-elected, while two were chosen last year for terms of two years each. All are Democrats. The new mayors are—John F. Fitzgerald, of Boston; James H. McMahon, of Pittsburg; John P. Kane, of Lawrence; John B. Tracey, of Taunton; and Dr. John T. Duggan, of Worcester. Those re-elected are James B. Casey, of Lowell, and Theobald M. Connor, of Northampton. The other two are John T. Coughlin, of Fall River, and Michael F. Dwyer, of Medford. The above list includes the three youngest chief magistrates of the State, Mayors Casey, 28 years old; Connor, 31; and Coughlin, 33.

Mr. Henry Labouchere's retirement robs the House of Commons of one of its most amusing and most useful figures. That combination of Radical politician, man of the world, and genial cynic was irresistible, whether in the House itself or in the smoking-room, where Mr. Labouchere was for years a raconteur favored by all parties. The nephew of the first Baron Taunton, he entered life in the diplomatic service. There are many stories of his superb nonchalance as an attaché, but he soon tired of diplomacy. He followed an American circus through Mexico, and acted as cashier, when all the receipts used to be in oranges. He was the correspondent of the 'Daily News,' the 'besieged resident' shut up in Paris in 1870. Mr. Labouchere was returned for the Royal Borough of Windsor as a Liberal in 1865. He joined Mr. Edmund Yates in the 'World,' of which he was city editor, and then started 'Truth,' the most successful weekly journal ever seen. In 1880 he was returned with Mr. Bradlaugh for Northampton, being selected, as he used to relate afterwards, to represent the 'moderate Liberals.' He has ever since been known as an ardent Radical. He was the person to whom Richard Pigott came to confess that he forged the Parnell papers.



CROWN HOTEL

RATRAY STREET, DUNEDIN

P. KELIGHER,

Having considerably enlarged and thoroughly vated this Old-established and Well-known Hotel, offers to the Travelling Public really

FIRST-CLASS ACCOMMODATION.

THE HOTEL IS CENTRALLY SITUATED, being only a few minutes' walk from Railway Station and Wharves.

COMMERCIAL ROOM,
LADIES' DRAWING ROOM,
BILLIARD ROOM, &c

DO YOU HAVE MANY VISITORS?

Then entertain them with good Tea—**"GOLDEN-TIP KOZIE" TEA**—and they will speak well of your hospitality. Don't you remember the delicious Tea you got at Mrs —'s? That was "Kozie" Tea! Coupons in every packet, too.

Cafe de Paris . . Christchurch.



MR. P. BURKE has again taken possession of the above Hotel, and will supervise the Entire Management, and by close attention to business, hopes to receive the support of his old and esteemed customers and friends.

BOTTLED ALE & STOUT

SPEIGHT'S CELEBRATED

PRIZE ALES & STOUTS.
BOTTLED BY

Messrs. Powley & Keast

HOPE STREET,
DUNEDIN,

Bottlers, Wine & Spirit Merchants.

Country Orders Punctually attended to.
Order through Telephone 979.

Sole Agents in Dunedin for A. B. Mackay
"Liqueur" Whisky.

Agents for Auldana Wines (S.A.)

Corks, Tinfoil, Wire, Syphons, and all Bottlers' Requisites in Stock.

RAILWAY HOTEL

THORNTON QUAY, WELLINGTON.

JAMES DEALY . . . Proprietor.

This well-known Hotel is in close proximity to both Railway Stations, thereby offering great facility to the travelling public of being able to leave by the early Trains.

Guests may depend upon being called in time, a Porter being kept for that purpose.

The Bedrooms are well and comfortably furnished, and the Fittings and Accommodation throughout is all that could be desired.

The Wines and Spirits are all of the choicest and Best Brands. Dunedin XXXX Beer always on Tap.

Table d' Hote daily from 12 to 2, and Meals at all hours for travellers. Free Stabling.

DELECTABLE TEA.

If you like Tea with a rich, delectable flavour, then in all probability you will be using **"GOLDEN-TIP KOZIE" TEA**. If you are not, then you should try it at once. It is better than the Tea you are using, for certain. Coupons in it, too.

YES!

IT'S TRUE that we hold the highest credentials for Tailoring, and also true that Tailor-made Garments with our name,

Samuel Smith & Co.,

Tailors,

OCTAGON.

on the tag, is a guarantee for fit, workmanship, and quality. We make all kinds of Garments at fair and square prices.

Visit us for next suit.

KEEN'S MUSTARD.

KEEN'S MUSTARD

The Best and Safest Condiment. 150 years' Reputation

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MACALISTER AND CO

(J. J. HISKENS),

CHEMISTS, INVERCARGILL.

A Complete Stock of Everything that is looked for in a first-class Pharmacy

Sole Agents for the supply of
PURE NATURAL LYMPH FOR VACCINATION.

P.O. Box 120, Telephone 90
INVERCARGILL.

FOOD FOR CHILDREN.

Improper food makes children dull, weak, and peevish. **"ROBINSON'S PATENT GROATS"** is a scientific food, containing just the elements required by Nature to build bright, strong, happy children. It promotes growth of bone, and lays the foundation for a sturdy manhood and healthy womanhood.

GOVERNMENT LIFE INSURANCE.

STATE GUARANTEED.

Bonuses accrue with each Premium paid.

TRIENNIAL DISTRIBUTION.

Bonuses allotted to £1,920,000.

J. H. RICHARDSON, F.F.A.

Contractors

COLMAN'S MUSTARD.

COLMAN'S MUSTARD

Beware of Substitutes, or something alleged to be "just as good" Colman's has been the Best for over 100 years, and is still the Best.

COLMAN'S MUSTARD

COLMAN'S MUSTARD

COLMAN'S MUSTARD

IN MEMORIAM.

WE have Purchased from Mr. H. PALMER, of Princes street, his LARGE and WELL-ASSORTED STOCK of MONUMENTS, HEAD-STONES, CROSSES, and STATUETTES.

The above has been Purchased at a Large Discount of Landed Cost, and we are in a position to offer For Sale AT PRICES which CANNOT BE EQUALLED.

Designs Sent on Application.

THOMSON & CO.,

MORAY PLACE,

(opposite First Church).

"All who would achieve success should endeavour to merit it."

WE have during the past year spared no expense in endeavouring to make our Beer second to none in New Zealand, and can now confidently assert we have succeeded in doing so.

We invite all who enjoy A Good Glass of Beer to ask for
STAPLES BEST

On Draught at almost all Hotels in the City and surrounding districts

And confidently anticipate their verdict will be that STAPLES AND Co. have successfully removed the reproach that Good Beer could not be brewed in Wellington.

J STAPLES AND CO., Limited
MOLESWORTH AND MURPHY STREETS
WELLINGTON.

Reid & Gray's Double-furrow Ploughs

Still maintain their Premier Position as the Perfection in Ploughs.
Made of Best Hammered Scrap Iron—very few bolts—with Welded
Beams. Made to suit New Zealand soils.

SEE OUR

Latest Pattern Short

Three-furrow Ploughs,

About the same length as the Double-furrow, and made of
the same material.

SOLE AGENTS for the famous **HORNSBY-AKROYD OIL ENGINES.** Send for our new 1905 Catalogue.

REID & GRAY, Dunedin, Gore, Invercargill, etc.

—OVER FOUR MILLION SOLD ANNUALLY IN AUSTRALASIA—

Marseilles Red Roofing Tiles

SALES IN NEW ZEALAND ARE INCREASING EVERY MONTH

Light, Cool, Watertight, Everlasting, Inexpensive.

Uniform Colour throughout. Every Roof Guaranteed.

Past Works.—Such as Dunedin Convent Oamaru Convent, Clyde Church, Holy Trinity Church Port Chalmers, Dunedin Car
House, Gore Post Office, Creosote Works, Invercargill, numerous Private Residences, particularly in High Street, Dunedin
and in Roslyn, **SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES**

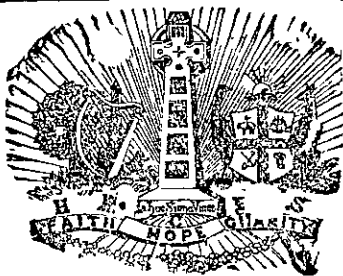
Future Works.—Such as Christchurch Cathedral, Dunedin, Bluff and Rangiora Railway Stations, Railway Library, Invercargill
and TEN (10) Private Houses in Dunedin, Oamaru and Invercargill show the increasing popularity of the line.

Estimates Given of any work. These are carried out by our **RESIDENT EXPERTS**, and **WHICH WE GUARANTEE.**

The most **PICTURESQUE ROOF** for either Private or Public Buildings.

WUNDERLICH'S PATENT ZINC CEILINGS, Cheapest, Safest, and most Artistic.

SOLE..... **BRISCOE & Co., Ltd,** Dunedin, Wellington, Christchurch,
AGENTS **Auckland, and Invercargill.**



**HIBERNIAN-AUSTRALASIAN CATHOLIC
BENEFIT SOCIETY,
NEW ZEALAND DISTRICT, No. 3.**

The Catholic Community is earnestly requested to support this
excellent Organisation, for it inculcates a love of Holy Faith and
Patriotism in addition to the unsurpassed benefits and privileges of
Membership.

The Entrance Fees are from 2s 6d to £4, according to age at time
of Admission.

Sick Benefits 20s per week for 26 weeks, 15s per week for the
next 13 weeks, and 10s a week for the following 13 weeks. In case
of a further continuance of his illness a member of Seven Years'
standing previous to the commencement of such illness will be
allowed 5s per week as superannuation during incapacity.

Funeral Allowance, £20 at the death of a Member, and £10 at
the death of a Member's Wife.

In addition to the foregoing provision is made for the admis-
sion of Honorary Members, Reduced Benefit Members, and the
establishment of Sisters' Branches and Juvenile Contingents. Full
information may be obtained from Local Branch Officers or direct
from the District Secretary.

The District Officers are anxious to open New Branches, and
will give all possible assistance and information to applicants
Branches being established in the various centres throughout the
Colonies an invaluable measure of reciprocity obtains.

W. KANE,
District Secretary,
Auckland

James Knight * **Cash Butcher**

TELEPHONE - - - 387

WHOLESALE & RETAIL

The Most Up-to-Date Establishment
in CHRISTCHURCH

HIGH STREET

I MAKE a specialty in keeping only the Prime Quality of Meat,
and having special cool chambers of the latest design, can
guarantee all Meat in perfect condition. Customers in city and
suburbs waited on daily for orders. Letters and telegrams receive
prompt attention.

TAMER JUICE

The essence of health is obtained by taking this
herbal medicine. Mr. T. Porterfield, a well known and
respected resident of Portobello, Otago, in writing to
the proprietor, says: I have suffered for years from
Indigestion, Liver and Kidney troubles; at times the
pains were such that I was nearly bent double. I was
unable to eat meat without suffering great pain and dis-
comfort for hours afterwards. Patent medicines of all
kinds I had tried, but they had no effect. A friend
visiting me one day recommended me to try DR. EN-
SOR'S TAMER JUICE as a trial, which I did, and the
result was that after taking two bottles of the remedy
I found the pains gradually disappearing, my appetite
came back, and what is more important to man than
good health?—which, thanks to TAMER JUICE, I now
enjoy. P.S. I am sending you this testimonial of my
own free will, as I think many sufferers would be glad
to try a remedy of such sterling worth.—T. Porterfield.

Isn't the weather awful?

But it doesn't matter one iota how changeable the weather may be if you wear the Hygienic Wool-woven Underwear of the Mosgiel Co. You see, it's all made of the Finest Wool, and is a positive safeguard against chills. But see that you get "MOSGIEL, and not some "just-as-good" make. Look for the trade-mark "MOSGIEL."

Commercial

PRODUCE.

Invercargill Prices Current.—Wholesale—Butter (farm), 6d; separator, 7d. Butter (factory), pats, 1s 0½d. Eggs, 1s per dozen. Cheese, 6d. Hams, 9d. Barley, 2s to 2s 6d. Chaff, £3 5s per ton. Flour, £10 to £11. Oatmeal, £11 10s to £12. Bran, £4. Pollard, £5 10s. Potatoes, £7. Retail—Farm butter, 8d; separator, 9d. Butter (factory), pats, 1s 2d. Cheese, 8d. Eggs, 1s 3d per dozen. Bacon, 9d. Hams, 10d. Flour: 200lb, 22s; 50lb, 6s; 25lb, 3s 3d. Oatmeal: 50lb, 7s; 25lb 3s 6d. Pollard, 9s 6d per bag. Bran, 5s. Chaff, 2s. Potatoes, 9s per cwt.

Wellington, February 5.—The following cable has been received by the Department of Industries and Commerce from the High Commissioner, dated London, 3rd inst.: 'The mutton market is very unsettled, River Plate mutton being in large supply. Stocks of New Zealand mutton on hand are light. The average price to-day for Canterbury mutton is 4½d per lb for light weights (of which there is a limited supply), 4d per lb for heavy weights, and for other and North Island mutton 3½d per lb. The lamb market is quiet, the stock on hand being heavy. This season's New Zealand lamb is quoted at 5d (nominal). The average price of Australian lamb is 4d per lb. The beef market is very dull. The average price to-day for hindquarters of New Zealand beef is 3½d per lb, and for fores 2½d. The quotations for New Zealand beef are nominal. The butter market has collapsed, American renovated and mixtures being in large supply and seriously affecting the market, which is weak. Holders are anxious to sell, but buyers are holding back, expecting prices to go lower. Supplies will be moderate. The price of choicest New Zealand butter to-day is 10½s per cwt, and Danish 11s. The cheese market is quiet, prices being slightly weaker. Transactions in cheese are very limited, New Zealand being quoted at 60s per cwt. The hemp market is firm, light shipments being expected from Manila. The price of New Zealand hemp, "good fair Wellington" grade on spot to-day per ton is £33 10s, and for January to March shipments, £33. Buyers have been offering for cocksfoot seed more freely, and stocks on hand are light. The average price to-day for bright, clean New Zealand cocksfoot seed, weighing 17lb per bushel, is 5½s per cwt.'

Messrs. Donald Reid and Co. (Limited) report:—

We held our weekly auction sale of grain and produce at our stores on Monday. Although the attendance was good, there was only limited competition, and in consequence part of the catalogue had to be passed in for private sale. Values ruled as under:—

Oats.—Since our last report a very limited business has been done. There is little or no inquiry from exporters, and as millers' requirements are just now exceptionally small, almost the only sales being made are in the direction of feed lines for local use. We quote: Prime milling, 2s to 2s 1d; good to best feed, 1s 11½d to 2s; inferior to medium, 1s 9d to 1s 11d per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat.—There is no new business of any importance to report. Millers are not disposed to operate heavily, and confine their attention for the most part to lines of undeniable condition. Late quotations are practically unchanged, but fowl wheat, being extremely scarce, has a tendency towards better prices. We quote: Prime milling, 3s 5d to 3s 6d; medium to good, 3s 4d to 3s 5d; whole fowl wheat, 3s 2d to 3s 3d; broken and damaged, 2s 11d to 3s 1d per bushel (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—The influx of American consignments, combined with heavy arrivals from North Otago, has augmented supplies to such an extent that it has been impossible to maintain late values, and in order to

clear consignments considerable reductions have been necessary. We quote: Best freshly-dug lots, £6 to £7; best imported, £4 10s to £6; others, £3 to £4 per ton (sacks and cases included).

Barley.—The quantity offering is not large, but maltsters are now looking forward to the new crop from northern districts, and the demand for old grain is not keen. We have made several sales of last year's crop on the basis of late quotations.

Chaff.—Consignments have not been so heavy of late, but many local consumers, having already large supplies on hand, are out of the market. In consequence sales are not so readily effected, but prices show little alteration. Prime oatens sheaf continues to find most favor, while lower qualities have little attention. We quote: Best oatens sheaf, £3 15s to £3 17s 6d; choice, to £4; medium to good, £3 5s to £3 12s 6d per ton (bags extra).

Pressed Straw.—We quote: Oaten, 42s 6d to 45s; wheaten, 35s to 37s 6d per ton.

Messrs. Nimmo and Blair report as follows:—

Wheat.—Little or no business has been doing during the past week, millers not caring to operate to any extent. Fowl wheat is scarce and in good demand at quotations. We quote: Prime milling, 3s 5d to 3s 6d; medium to good, 3s 4d to 3s 5d; whole fowl wheat, 3s 2d to 3s 3d; broken and damaged, 2s 11d to 3s 1d per bushel (sacks extra).

Oats.—The majority of the sales passing through are for lots for local consumption; outside business is quiet. We quote: Prime milling, 2s to 2s 1d; good to best feed, 1s 11½d to 2s per bushel (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—Notwithstanding the big drop in values supplies continue to arrive in quantities in excess of the demand, and for anything other than good-conditioned Oamarus there is but poor demand. We quote: Prime freshly dug Oamarus, from £5 5s to £5 10s; others, £5 to £5 2s 6d per ton (sacks in).

Pigs.—Baconers, 3½d; overweights, 2d to 2½d; porkers, 3½d to 3¾d per lb.

Butter.—Dairy, 7d; separator, 8½d; milled, 8d per pound.

Eggs.—In firm demand at 1s 3d per dozen.

Poultry.—Fair demand. Hens, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; roosters, 3s to 4s; ducks, 3s to 4s per pair; turkeys, hens, 5d, gobblers, 7d (live weight).

WOOL.

DUNEDIN WOOL SALES.

Messrs Donald Reid and Co., report as follows:—

The third wool sale of the season's series was held in the Victoria Hall, Agricultural Buildings, on Tuesday. The number of bales catalogued for the sale made 8534, being 2093 bales in excess of the number offered at the corresponding sale last season. There was again a very full attendance of buyers, who bid with commendable spirit throughout the sales. Our catalogue, which comprised 1567 bales, was made up of crossbred, halfbred and merino wools, and contained some very choice lots, notably the clips from Messrs. R. Smith (Berwick), Thomas T. Bagrie (Waipahi), James Prentice (Berwick), W. Littlejohn (Waiwera), James Irvine (Clinton), Robert Cowie (Wetherstones), and George Clark (Moonlight), which were all of really nice quality, clean, light, free from all deleterious matter, and well and carefully put on the market. They were much admired, and made record prices. The above lots deserve special mention, but, taking the catalogue as a whole, the display was a very satisfactory one. Competition throughout our sale, although somewhat irregular, was, on the whole, very brisk for all classes of fleece wools, and prices realised were the highest of the season, and may be quoted at from par to ¼d per lb advance. Prices, however, showed no material alteration, and in several cases were barely equal to values ruling at our previous sale, but altogether the sale must be considered entirely satisfactory from a grower's point of view. Of the 1567 bales catalogued by us, 1503 bales were sold at auction, and 64 were passed in, bidding not being quite up to valuations.

LIVE STOCK

DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS.

Messrs. Wright, Stephenson, and Co. report

As was to be expected, after our special horse sale on Friday, we had a very mixed muster of horses, both light and draught, forward for last Saturday. The attendance was fairly good, and, notwithstanding the poor selection, a fair amount of business was done. Our principal transaction was a splendid pair of heavy draught geldings, aged three and eight years respectively, at £101 for the pair. We quote: Superior young

South British Fire and Marine Insurance Company.

OF NEW ZEALAND.

Capital	£1,900,000
Paid up Capital, Reserves & Undivided Profits Exceed	£420,000
Net Annual Revenue Exceeds	£285,000

SECRETARIES:—J. BATGER, Esq., R. A. CARR, Esq., J. EDSON, Esq., W. C. W. McDOWELL, Esq., C. C. McMILLAN, Esq., J. PEACOCK, Esq., J. H. UPTON, Esq.

BRANCHES IN NEW ZEALAND:—AUCKLAND, A. S. Russell, Manager. WELLINGTON, G. W. Benbow, Manager.
CHRISTCHURCH, C. H. Croxton, Manager. DUNEDIN, B. M. Clark, Manager. NAPIER, A. E. Knight, Manager.
NELSON, H. Edwards, Agent. WANGANUI, Morton Jones, Manager. HOKITIKA, J. W. Wilson, Agent.
GREYMOUTH, J. Nancarrow & Co., Agents

Branches and Agencies throughout the World. Fire and Marine Risks of every description accepted at Lowest Current Rates.
JAS. KIRKER, General Manager.

Ladies!

who are careful of their personal appearance will be delighted to know of "Neapolitan Massage Cream." It is not a "cold cream" or vaseline preparation, but a genuine toilet medicine. Its use is in removing wrinkles and crow's-feet, freckles and blackheads. By cleansing, it beautifies the skin, and takes away sunburn and tan. It is Healing, Nourishing, and Beautifying. Every lady should have it on her toilet table. In jars, 3s 6d; posted in plain wrappers with directions for use, 3s 9d.

A. M. HENDY,
Toilet Specialist,
PRINCES ST., DUNEDIN.

SILVERINE

A perfect substitute for Silver at a Fraction of the Cost.

SILVERINE

Is a Solid Metal, takes a High Polish and Wears White all through. More durable than Electroplate, at one-third the cost!

SILVERINE

Has given Immense Satisfaction thousands of Purchasers.

SILVERINE

Posted Free to any part of New Zealand at following prices:

Tea, Afternoon and Egg Spoons	5s doz
Dessert Spoons and Forks	10s doz
Table Spoons and Forks	15s doz

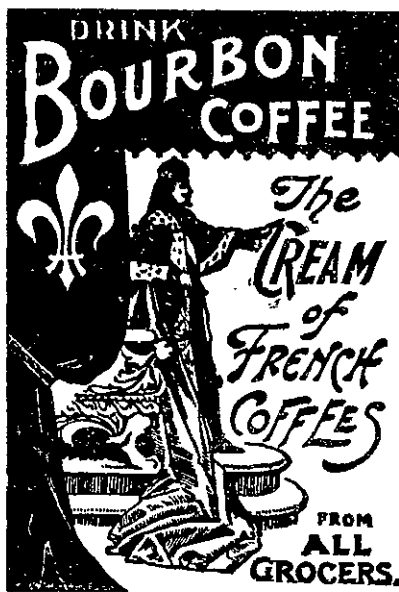
SOLE AGENTS

EDWARD REECE & SONS
FURNISHING AND GENERAL
IRONMONGERS,
COLOMBO ST., CHRISTCHURCH

A SUPPER FOR THE AGED.

Elderly People will find "ROBINSON'S PATENT BARLEY" most suitable for supper. It is easily digested, rich in nutriment, and delightful in taste.

Medical Authorities Recommend It.



In 1lb Air-tight Canisters.

A. DURIE & Co, Coffee Specialists
OCTAGON, DUNEDIN.

S. McBRIDE,

TIMARU.

Direct Importer of MARBLE and GRANITE MONUMENTS from the best Italian and Scotch Quarries.

A large stock of the Latest Designs to select from at lowest prices.

UNION STEAMSHIP COMPANY OF NEW ZEALAND LIMITED

Steamers are despatched as under (weather and other circumstances permitting):

LYTTELTON and WELLINGTON—
(Booking Passengers West Coast Ports)—
Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

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Late Burnside Stock Report

Per favor Messrs. Donald Reid and Co.

Fat Cattle.—173 head yarded. A large proportion of these were prime bullocks, the balance being medium weights. Prices were about on a par with last week's rates. Best bullocks, £9 to £10 10s; medium, £6 to £8 10s; best cows and heifers, £7 to £8 10s; others, £3 10s to £6 10s.

Sheep.—1300 head yarded, the most of these being medium wethers, with a pen or two of prime. Prices were about 1s per head easier than those ruling last week. Best wethers, 18s to 19s 6d; extra prime, up to 22s; medium, 15s to 18s; best ewes, 15s 6d to 17s 6d; extra prime, up to 18s 6d.

Lambs.—The yarding was a large one, 800 being penned. Prices ruled easier. Best lambs, 13s to 14s; others, 10s 6d to 12s.

Pigs.—125 yarded, these being mostly porkers and baconers. Prices were somewhat higher for these, but small sorts ruled easier. Suckers, 7s to 11s; slips, 13s to 16s; stores, 19s to 24s; porkers, 28s to 35s; light baconers, 38s to 42s; heavy do, 41s to 49s; chop-pers, up to 53s.

FEILDING

(From an occasional correspondent.)

There was a large attendance of the Catholics of Feilding and surrounding districts on Sunday, January 28, to participate in the blessing and formal opening of the fine new convent and school just completed. The Very Rev. Father Lewis, S.M., V.G., of Wellington, officiated at the ceremonies. On the following day the first term commenced under the Sisters of St. Joseph, the community being a branch from the Wanganui house of the Order. The pastor of the district, the Rev. Father O'Meara, who is keenly alive to the importance of having a Catholic school in the town, is to be congratulated on seeing the realisation of his cherished desire, and also in having as teachers so eminent an Order as the Sisters above mentioned. The following description of the new building is given by the Feilding 'Star':—The building, which is a two-storey one, stands in a spacious section adjoining St. Bridget's Church. The front elevation, which faces Derby street, is designed with a square oriel window on the ground floor and a stained-glass window on the first floor, which gives a very good effect to the building. The ground floor consists of reception, music, and school-rooms, also refectory, kitchen, scullery, etc. The schoolroom is large and exceptionally well lighted and ventilated. The first floor is reached by a broad flight of stairs, which are lighted by a neatly designed stained glass window. On the first floor are the sleeping apartments, consisting of two large dormitories and single bed-rooms. There is also a bath and lavatories. The main feature of this floor is the private chapel, which is worthy of inspection, as its appearance is very pleasing. The altar is placed in front of the stained glass window mentioned as being in front of the building. The room is diagonal lined, being painted a warm pink, and the mouldings, etc., which are of picked rimu, are flat varnished. Every detail necessary to complete the building has been carefully attended to, while the furnishing is also worthy of special mention.

'The' publication of an advertisement in a Catholic paper shows that the advertiser not only desires the patronage of Catholics, but pays them the compliment of seeking it through the medium of their own religious journal.' So says an esteemed and wide-awake American contemporary. A word to the wise is sufficient.

Attention is directed to the advertisement in this issue of four well-known and reliable preparations which have been on the market for some time, and have won the approval of thousands who have tried and been benefited by them. The medicines are procurable from all chemists and storekeepers throughout the Colony, and wholesale from the Tussicura Manufacturing Co., Dowling St., Dunedin....

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THORLEY'S FOOD is a Condiment for all stock and must be used in mixture with the ordinary food.

Thorley's Food has a reputation for the past 47 years among the leading Horse-owners, Cattle-breeders, Pork-raisers, Sheep-breeders, and Poulterers of Great Britain, and is the finest preparation made for fattening cattle, putting horses into good condition, and making fowls fit for exhibition, etc.

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Yours faithfully,

THOS. JENKINS.

THANKS.

With reference to the above, I have to THANK MY CLIENTS for their Patronage during the number of years that I have been in Business in Dunedin, and trust that they will accord the same hearty support to my successor.

I am, yours faithfully,

WALTER ILES.

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Candidates for admission are required to present satisfactory testimonials from the parochial clergy, and from the superiors of schools or colleges where they may have studied.

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4. THOMAS LYNCH, Timaru.

The College RE-OPENS on THURSDAY, 15th FEBRUARY.

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EDITOR'S NOTICES.

Send news **WHILE IT IS FRESH.** Stale reports will not be inserted.

Communications should reach this Office **BY TUESDAY MORNING.** Only the briefest paragraphs have a chance of insertion if received by Tuesday night's mails.

ADDRESS matter intended for publication 'Editor, TABLET, Dunedin,' and not by name to any member of the Staff.

ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATIONS are thrown into the waste-paper basket.

Write legibly, **ESPECIALLY NAMES** of persons and places. Reports of **MARRIAGES** and **DEATHS** are not selected or compiled at this Office. To secure insertion they must be verified by our local agent or correspondent, or by the clergyman of the district, or by some subscriber whose handwriting is well known at this office. Such reports must in every case be accompanied by the customary death or marriage announcement, for which a charge of 2s. 6d. is made.

MARRIAGES

MCCARTHY—LUTJENS.—On Monday, January 15, 1906, at St. Patrick's Church, Greymouth, by the Very Rev. Dean Carew, Kate, youngest daughter of the late John Lutjens, to Bernard McCarthy, second son of Mrs. McCarthy, Manaia, Taranaki.

FOGARTY—GALLIGAN.—On Wednesday, January 31, 1906, at St. Patrick's Church, Kumara, by the Rev. Father O'Hallohan, assisted by Deacon Gilbert, Annie, eldest daughter of Mr. Galligan, Dillmanstown, to Thomas Patrick Fogarty, eldest son of Mrs. Fogarty, sen., Greymouth.



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

LEO. XIII. to the N.Z. TABLET

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1906

THE GREAT PILLAGE



SILENCE is sometimes golden. But there are also times when it is not even silver. It is, for instance, difficult to commend the sewn-up lips with which, as regards editorial comment, the great body of the secular press in Great Britain and the Australasian colonies have received the remarkable developments that have taken place in the relations between State and Church in France. From the legal standpoint, nothing more revolutionary has

taken place in modern times except, perhaps, the Great Pillage of Henry VIII. and the red riot of the French Revolution. The London 'Morning Post' characterised the whole movement for what it is—not alone anti-Catholic, but anti-Christian. So did the 'Saturday Review' and two of the leading Anglican Church papers. A few of the rag-tag-and-bobtail of British and Australian 'religious' journalism openly rejoiced over the seeming triumph of atheism. M. Yves Guyot has been on visits to England—the official agent (so it is said) of the Grand Orient Freemasonry—to arouse public opinion in favor of the measures taken in the French Legislature against the Church. He is the editor of the aggressively atheistic Paris daily, 'Le Sicle.' But that circumstance has not prevented his being taken to their hearts by prominent Nonconformists like the Rev. Dr. Clifford and Mr. Perks. His mission seems to have had at least a measure of negative success. The British press, as a whole, has tied up its editorial lips in regard to the great drama that is being played beyond the Straits of Dover. It is, perhaps, one of the cases in which (as Farquhar puts it) the man talks most who says nothing.

There were sundry matters of public notoriety in France on which enterprising secular newspapers in other countries might have been reasonably expected to enlighten their readers. They might, for instance, have mentioned that the long-drawn campaign that culminated in the Separation Act was part and parcel of the openly avowed purpose of French Freemasonry to crush religion in that lodge-ridden land. The rest has been merely a means to an end. Four years ago an Act was passed which drove the religious Orders of men and women out of France and stole their land and houses and auctioned their books and clothes and pots and pans. The revocation of the Concordat between the French Government and the Holy See is merely another step in the crusade—one that, as its Freemason authors frankly avow, is intended to cripple and disorganise the Church in France. The slender stipends of the clergy are stopped by the new Act. The payment of these salaries was no mere act of grace on the part of the French Government. They were a small but covenanted percentage paid upon the property plundered from the Church during the Great Revolution. That property was not readily saleable, partly because of defective title, partly because Catholics were naturally unwilling to expose themselves to the censures of the Church by purchasing or retaining stolen lands and buildings and chattels that had been devoted to sacred uses. The Holy See did for France in 1801 what it had done for England in the days of Queen Mary. It gave a clear title to this property. But there was a condition attached—the payment of State stipends to the French bishops and clergy. This agreement was ratified between the French Government and the Holy See, and was embodied in the provisions of the Concordat in 1801. The Church gave vastly more than it received. There is not one code of morality for the individual and another for the State. The contract was a bilateral one. It bound the national conscience. And, in all its circumstances, its abrogation by one of the parties to it—without compensation, without reference to, and in despite of, the other—constitutes an act of national repudiation.

'It will be remembered,' says the New York 'Free-man,' writing upon this subject, 'that our own Government, when the country was in the throes of a civil war, issued bonds, many of which were bought with greenbacks when the greenback was worth fifty cents, measured by the gold standard. When these bonds were issued the Government pledged its faith that it would redeem them at their face value. If the United States Government, in the days of its prosperity, had refused to recognise that the holders of these bonds had any claim upon it, it would have placed it-

self in the position the French Government now occupies in refusing to pay the salaries which in 1801 it pledged itself to pay in return for great financial advantages it received from the Holy See consenting to remove the cloud that rested upon very valuable property.' But that is not all. All church property of every kind in France (presbyteries, seminaries, episcopal residences, churches, public oratories, institutes of charity and education, etc.) have been confiscated, with the sole exception of what came into ecclesiastical possession since 1801. Moreover, public worship is now placed in the hands of associations. 'What,' asks a French Senator, Admiral de Courbeville, 'will be the character of the associations? No one can tell.' But (as the New York 'Freeman' points out) it is safe to predict that an attempt will be made to utilise them in such a way as to disorganise and impede the Church in her work in France. 'The Law for the Separation of Church and State,' says our New York contemporary, 'has been so framed that the Government can bring great pressure to bear upon these associations, which henceforth will have the control over Church property that formerly was vested in the hierarchy.' Any doubt as to the intention and temper of the Freemason and Radical 'Bloc' that are the real rulers of France may be deemed to be set aside by the recent editorial declaration of one of its organs, the 'Lanterne': 'It is foolish to hope for a rapprochement, or even for a simple truce. Whether the Clericals accept the Law or revolt against it, we shall none the less continue to combat them without mercy.'

The secular press in the United States views the situation in France with more editorial sympathy than that of Great Britain and the Australasian colonies. In Australia and New Zealand, silence has become, on this theme, practically 'a mother-tongue' (to use Goldsmith's bold expression). In the 'Reformed Church Messenger' (American), Professor Vollmer, a non-Catholic, recently summed up the situation in the following words:—

'Let no American reader suppose that the separation of Church and State in France is of the self-same nature as in our own country. Far from it. The motive in France is deep-seated hatred of all religion, and the Bill in its final shape will work more hardship to the Protestants, for whom it was not intended, than to the Catholics. As in the so-called 'Culturkampf' in Germany in 1873, the Catholics are meant in the passage of several provisions, but while they will find means of escape, the Protestants will suffer the most. But even in its imperfect form, the Bill will prove a blessing in disguise to all religious bodies. They will become more independent, and being so, will be able to exert a more powerful, distinctly religious influence upon the people, although they may lose some political influence.'

So may it be. But the object of the enemies of all religion in France is the extinction, not the revival, of religion. We find a star of hope in the demonstrations now being made in France against the sacrilegious hands of the Government menials who have been sent to grope and burrow and fossick and make inventories even of the contents of the Holy of Holies. Such resistance was not expected. It has upset some of the calculations of the Ministry and compelled them to threaten and explain. The lessons of the early eighties have not been forgotten. And Brittany and the Auvergne are yet to come. Catholicism in France, like Catholicism in Germany, may, after all, march to victory and peace through defence of her sacred fanes and the rude but chastening experience of blow and bruise and prison-cell.

On Thursday evening at Wellington Captain R. Seddon, son of the Premier, was presented with an address expressing warm appreciation of his qualities, and hearty congratulations upon the vindication of his character. Accompanying the address was a cheque for over £700.

Notes

Our Suicides

We are 'getting on' in New Zealand. In 1900 there were 68 suicides in the Colony. In 1901 the number had risen to 70. The current 'Year-Book' counts just a hundred persons in New Zealand who threw aside the burden of life without waiting for heaven to give the summons. It appears, on the other hand, that self-slaughter, once so prevalent among the Maori, is now on the decline among the brown-skinned men. So may it be. But it is a curious reversal of conditions to see the Maori setting a lesson in civilisation to the pakeha. Great Britain, France, Germany, and the United States are content to sit humbly at the feet of Japan and learn from the lately despised 'yellow monkeys' the art of war. Well, the degenerate white man may learn some lessons in a still nobler art from other 'inferior races' that we know of—the art of bearing patiently the big mischances as well as the smaller blisters of life.

A Warning Lesson

California does not allow into its public schools the Protestant or any other version of the Bible, or any 'emasculated caricature' thereof. But the spirit of our (Protestant) Bible-in-schools movement has got its grip upon the western State. And it 'gets there' in its own way. The School Board of Pasadena, for instance, makes careful inquiry into the religious beliefs of candidates for appointments to the teaching staffs under its jurisdiction. The religious tests for these public appointments is made to operate so consistently against Catholics in that Catholic region, that for the past ten years not one member of the proscribed creed has held the position of teacher in Pasadena. It seems to be an attempt to perpetuate in the West the open and scandalous boycott of Catholic teachers that constitutes the disgrace of the Bible-in-schools States of Old New England. Catholics in Pasadena are starting a crusade against this violation of the national Constitution. If such things can happen in the green wood of California, what might not occur in New Zealand under the sectarianising scheme of Dr. Gibb and his friends?

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

The parish schools re-opened after the Christmas holidays on Monday.

The new Catholic church at Centre Bush in the parish of Winton will be blessed and opened by his Lordship the Bishop on Sunday, February 25.

The Rev. Fathers Carey and Murphy, of Melbourne, arrived in Dunedin in the early part of the week and left on Tuesday for the cold lakes district. They return to Melbourne early next week.

There was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Joseph's Cathedral on Sunday from the last Mass until Vespers, after which there was the usual procession. The preacher in the evening was the Rev. Father MacDonald, of Christchurch, who delivered an impressive sermon on 'Penance.'

The annual schools' picnic took place at Wingatui yesterday. The children, accompanied by a goodly number of adults, were taken in a special train, which left for Wingatui at a quarter to ten o'clock. An energetic committee had made very complete arrangements for the entertainment of and catering for the children. The day was fairly fine, and young and old enjoyed themselves.

A bazaar in aid of the Gore Catholic church is to be held some time about the beginning of June (says the 'Mataura Ensign'). This is the first call of such a nature that has been made upon the public for fully four years, and no doubt the effort to be put forth will be liberally supported. At a meeting of the congregation held recently, when a bazaar was decided upon, Mrs. Poppelwell was appointed president, Miss Fraser treasurer, and Miss N. Johnston secretary.

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A contingent of the Dunedin branch of the Hibernian Society, consisting of 43 members, paid a friendly visit to their brethren of the Milton branch on Saturday afternoon, January 27. A start was made at three o'clock from the Custom House Square in three drags supplied by Messrs. Sheehy and Kelleher, of the Rink Stables. The party arrived in Milton—a distance of 36 miles—about nine o'clock. The visitors were met some miles outside the town by a number of the local members, and after reaching Milton were escorted to the branch room, where a splendid repast was partaken of, Bro. J. P. Lynch, of the Milton branch, occupying the chair. 'His Holiness the Pope' was proposed by the chairman and responded to by the Very Rev. Father O'Neill, who in an eloquent speech explained the great pleasure it gave his Holiness to see Catholic young men joining Catholic societies. Father O'Neill also extended a hearty *cead mile failte* to the visitors, and said he would do all he could to advance the cause of Hibernianism in Milton. The toast of the 'Visitors' was proposed by Bro. Lynch and responded to by Bros. McDermott, O'Connor, and Marlow; and the 'Milton Branch,' proposed by Bro. Hally and responded to by Bros. Ducey, Horan, and Lynch. The visiting and local members in regalia, and headed by the banner of the Dunedin branch, met at the branch room—at half-past ten on Sunday morning and marched in procession from there to the Very Rev. Father O'Neill's residence, thence to the church to attend the eleven o'clock Mass. The procession was a long and imposing one, and will not be forgotten in Milton for some time. At three o'clock a start was made for the return journey, and, after cheers and counter cheers were given, the visitors bade good-bye to Milton for the present, all expressing satisfaction at the hospitable manner in which they were received and entertained by the members of the Milton branch.

WANGANUI

(From an occasional correspondent.)

February 5.

The schools re-open to-day. Brother Virginius has taken Brother Patrick's place in the Marist Brothers' schools.

As the priests of the parish are going on their retreat next Wednesday Rev. Father O'Dwyer will act in their absence.

Last Wednesday the members of St. Mary's choir met at Very Rev. Dean Grogan's invitation to make a presentation of a silver-mounted walking-stick and a silver matchbox to Mr. E. Reade, one of the members, who is leaving the district. In making the presentation Dean Grogan referred to Mr. Reade's services to the choir.

NEW ZEALAND: GENERAL

In an appeal case in Christchurch Mr. Justice Deniston held that milk to which a quantity of water had been added could not be described as 'pure' milk.

The members of the Dunedin branch of the Hibernian Society, on their return journey from Milton on Sunday week, witnessed an exhibition of perseverance on the part of a weasel that would scarcely be appreciated by the owner of the article it was purloining. The little animal (writes a correspondent) was quite close to a farm house and was endeavoring to carry an egg up an incline. It held the egg between its snout and fore legs and then would advance by jumping on its hind legs, but apparently got tired, for the egg dropped and rolled down the hill again until intercepted by the weasel. This process of dropping and intercepting the egg continued for about fifteen minutes until at length it succeeded in getting its booty under the cover of a gorse bush and out of sight.

The estimate of the population of the Colony on December 31 last is 937,892, comprising 496,853 males and 441,039 females. These figures, however, include a Maori population set down at 43,143, together with 12,292 inhabitants of the Cook and other Pacific Islands. The estimated population within our own shores (excluding Maoris) was therefore 882,457 on the date mentioned—an increase of 24,918 in the twelve months. This increase was made up by an excess of births over deaths amounting to 15,616, and an excess of arrivals over departures to the extent of 9302. The birthrate for the Colony in 1905 was 27.21 per 1000 of mean population (the highest on record), and the death rate 9.26. The number of marriages (excluding those contracted between Maoris) solemnised in 1905 is estimated at 7234 or 8.31 per 1000 of the mean population—a record.

It is estimated by the Registrar-general that there are 2847 Chinese in the Colony, of whom 50 are females.

Sir Joseph Ward was entertained at a banquet at Winton on Thursday evening, and at the same time was presented with a sword by the Winton Rifles, of which he is honorary captain.

Mr. John J. Daly, of Christchurch, in a letter to the 'North Otago Times,' adds his testimony to that of Messrs. Anderson and Hedley, to the efficacy of the rain rotting method of exterminating Californian thistle. Mr. Daly states that about 1892 he had a full crop of Californian thistles on a farm of 60 acres in the Ashburton district. With a garden hoe he cut them down when in bloom, just below the ground; the root stems were hollow and caught some rain and the water rotted out every root. He advises that stock should be kept off the ground after cutting the thistles, or they will tread soil into the root tubes and choke them from receiving rain water. The 'North Otago Times' states that it is informed that this root-rotting process is precisely that which is adopted in Canada, and our contemporary wants to know why the Agricultural Department are not aware of that fact.

The inquiry into the management of the Waltham Orphanage was concluded on Tuesday. At the close of the evidence the Commissioner (Mr. H. W. Bishop, S.M.) said there was nothing at the orphanage likely to be of use in training the girls for domestic work. The appointments were of the poorest description, and the crockery was of a very haphazard character. Hardly two cups were alike, or two dishes. He was not speaking in disparagement of Mrs. Carpenter. The excuse she gave was that there were so many breakages that it was not worth while getting anything decent. However, the little refinements of life did not cost much, and were very acceptable. He expressed his pleasure at the admirable spirit which had characterised the inquiry. Throughout the whole long, and to some, wearisome, inquiry, there had not been the least friction. His duty now would be to present his report, and he was not looking forward to that with any great pleasure, as whatever the recommendations he made they were likely to be assailed on all sides. However, he had no intention of trying to please everybody. He had strong views in regard to certain matters, and should have no hesitation in expressing them.

'All Hallows Annual,' the magazine issued by the celebrated Irish missionary college, contains within its 170 odd pages a great deal of matter which will be found not only of interest to former students but also to the general public. There is a special memoir of the late Mr. Henry Bedford, M.A., who had been actively engaged for well nigh half a century in the work of the college, during the greater part of which time he was a prominent figure in Catholic literary, scientific, and social circles. Mr. Bedford was an Anglican clergyman, and in 1851 was received into the Church, the same year which saw the conversion of the late Sir Vere de Vere, Lady de Vere, and Mr. Aubrey de Vere. In 1852, at the invitation of the late Bishop Moriarty, Mr. Bedford became connected with All Hallows, and then until his death last year he lived his long life of active effective work as professor of natural sciences, treasurer, and one of the college directors. Under the heading 'Mission Field,' we have items from various parts of the world, whilst in 'A Satchel of Letters' are extracts from the correspondence of former students now laboring in many climes. The record of the work of the college during the year occupies considerable space, and in 'The Memory of the Dead' we have an account of those who passed away during the previous twelve months. The annual both from an artistic and literary standpoint is highly creditable to the great missionary college from which it emanates.

The annual report of the Wellington Chamber of Commerce states that the value of the exports for the year has reached a total substantially in excess of any previous year's, the result being entirely due to the increased price of wool. In wool alone there is an augmentation of £1,210,711. There is also a slight increase in sheepskins, dairy produce, hemp, and timber, while each of the other lines shows a measure of falling off. The value of the wool exported totalled £5,542,182, against £4,331,471 in 1904; frozen meat was £2,749,285, as against £2,798,965 in 1904; gold, £2,085,291, as against £2,052,059 in 1904; kauri gum, £508,091, as against £542,321 in 1904; hemp, £728,585, as against £706,012; timber, £310,206, as against £246,763. The total value of the exports during the past twelve months amounted to £15,674,136, as against £14,581,436 in 1904. The following are the quantities of the more important products:—Wool, 146,889,767 pounds; frozen meat, 1,729,307cwt; butter, 318,497cwt; cheese, 79,296cwt; tallow, 15,944cwt; kauri gum, 10,080

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tons; hemp, 29,740 tons; wheat, 823,995 bushels; oats, 1,386,597 bushels. The increase in the weight of wool would, at previous year's prices, have added only £18,000 to the total value of this line, so that to the extent of over £1,000,000 the enhancement is due to increased values. This is a factor which has also affected sheepskins in an equal degree, adding fully £90,000 to the total of that item. The value of exports from Wellington for the year was £2,956,246, an increase of £169,448 over the figures for 1904.

Across the Atlantic in Four Days

If any evidence were needed to prove that these are go-ahead times it has been furnished (says an exchange) by the new turbine steamer 'Virginian,' of the Allan line, which has so recently knocked a whole day off the Atlantic record—reaching Cape Race, in Newfoundland, four days and six hours after leaving Moville, in Ireland. One cannot help wondering what our good forefathers of two or three generations ago would have said if they had been told that many a child then living would be able to cross the Atlantic in a few hours over four days.

Why, it was the talk and wonder of the world when, in 1819, the good ship 'Savannah,' of 350 tons, fitted with an auxiliary paddle steam-engine—the first of all ocean-going steamships—made the passage from New York to Liverpool in 26 days. In those early days of steam navigation it was stated as a thing to marvel at that 'some steamboats actually voyaged from Glasgow to Inverary, partly through a strong sea, performing the journey of 110 miles in 60 hours, and touching at stopping-places with almost the regularity of a stage-coach. No serious accident has as yet occurred, and if the boilers of cast-iron should give way, a piece of cloth is firmly wedged into the hole and the vessel proceeds without any danger to the passengers.' But the 'Savannah' was not destined to hold

The Supremacy of the Atlantic,

for after she had led the way so gallantly two other vessels put her performance quite into the shade. One of them was the 'Sirius,' a Cork packet-boat of 703 tons and 270 h.p., with the wonderful speed of eight and a half knots an hour, and the other was the 'Great Western'—the largest and most powerful ship then afloat—of 1310 tons and 700 h.p.

It was on April 1, 1838, that the 'Sirius' started from Queenstown on her venturesome voyage (she had never before been out of the Irish Channel) across the Atlantic, and four days later her big sister and rival, the 'Great Western,' left Bristol in pursuit of her. Never was a more gallant race on the high seas; the little 'Sirius' fought every league of the way, her engineer stoking his fires with everything he could lay hands on, and she anchored in New York Harbor just two days before her pursuer on the 23rd, the larger vessel having brought the Atlantic record down to fourteen and a half days, or nearly half the time taken by the 'Savannah' some years earlier.

This was the first of 61 trips across the 'herring-pond' made by the 'Great Western,' and before she was withdrawn from the service she had reduced the passage to within a few hours of twelve days. Her plucky little rival, the 'Sirius,' never repeated her performance; she was sent back to her humbler Irish Channel work, and a couple of years later went to the bottom of the sea outside Queenstown, carrying many of the passengers with her. It was in this year (1810) that

The Pioneer Cunard Steamers

began to run—four wooden paddle-vessels, each about 230ft long, of 1100 tons and 700 h.p.; and of these the 'Britannic' made her first outward trip in 12 days 10 hours, while her return passage was made in the phenomenal time of 10 days.

The year 1874 saw the production of the 'Germanic' and 'Britannic,' of the White Star fleet, vessels which, however small they might appear in comparison with the leviathans of to-day, were giants indeed compared with their pioneers, the 'Savannah' and 'Sirius.' These boats quickly made the ten days' record look very foolish, the 'Britannic' reducing the time for the eastward passage to a shade under seven days eleven hours. But the 'Britannic' in turn had to yield the palm to still swifter vessels. The 'Servia' reduced the record to ten minutes under seven days; the 'City of Paris,' of more than twice the 'Britannic's' tonnage and nearly four times her horse-power, knocked more than a day off the 'Servia's' time, crossing in five days nine-

teen hours eighteen minutes; and to-day there are several vessels, such as the 'Deutschland,' 'Lucania,' 'Campania,' and 'Cedric,' which can bridge the Atlantic in a few hours over five days. In view of this startling breaking of records, one feels little surprise on being told that before long an Atlantic passage that occupies more than four days will be considered slow.

It may be interesting to note that several of the old clippers made some remarkably quick passages. Half a century ago the 'Red Jacket' crossed from New York to Bristol in thirteen days; while the 'Dreadnought,' in 1862, anchored at Queenstown nine days and seventeen hours after leaving Sandy Hook, thus proving that in her day sails were no mean rivals of steam.

The Lead Pencil

The six lead pencil factories in the United States employ more than 2000 persons, pay £140,000 per annum in wages, turn out 12,000 gross daily, the annual output being worth close on £500,000. These factories make as many pencils as all of Europe combined, and yet despite the importance of this industry (says an American exchange), there are few who can tell how this indispensable little article is made.

Structurally speaking, the lead pencil consists of an outer shield or covering and of an inner piece of round solid graphite. The wood, which is of prime importance, must be durable and compact, straight grained and soft, so that it may be alike easy to polish and whittle; if it is fragrant, so much greater its value. Now of all the trees in the world our Virginia or red cedar, which grows so luxuriantly in the South, particularly in Alabama and Florida, is the only one whose wood meets all these requirements. Our pencil manufacturers own their own cedar mills, but the European makers, much to their dislike, are obliged to purchase their pencil covering from us. In order to place themselves on an equal footing an attempt was made to transplant the Virginia cedar. Germany devoted 100 acres to that purpose some forty years ago, but the climate proved unfavorable and a few stunted trees with wood as hard as oak, proclaimed the experiment a rank failure.

On the other hand, we go to foreign markets for our graphite, the best qualities of which come from Eastern Siberia, Mexico, Bohemia and Ceylon. Our largest factory, taking advantage of the cheaper labor market abroad, has all of its graphite prepared in Germany and sent here ready for use. Nor is cheap labor the only consideration, for the German graphite makers, like the wood carvers of Switzerland and the toy makers of Nuremberg, follow the trade from father to son; take to it quite naturally and leave the rest of the world behind in expertness.

Pencil lead consists of a mixture of clay and graphite, both undergoing a careful and separate treatment before they are united. The raw graphite, after being reduced to a fine powder in a mortar, sifted and freed from impurities by mineral acids, is washed and fired to a bright red heat. The next step is to add water to the preparation, and pour it into a vat, where the heavier particles sink. From this vat the water carries the lighter particles into another at a lower level, and then on into one or two more, where the heavier particles drop to the bottom and the finer particles are carried over. The graphite drawn from the last vat in the series is in a state of extremely fine division, and its value reserves it for use in the best pencils only.

The clay, purged of sand and iron, goes through somewhat the same process, and then it is mixed with the graphite, the proportion varying all the way from equal parts to two of clay for one of graphite—the amount of clay depending strictly on the degree of hardness or softness wanted for the pencil leads.

When the particles of clay and graphite are thoroughly incorporated and ground together they are placed in bags and squeezed to the consistency of dough by a hydraulic press. The formless substance, ready to be shaped into pencil rods, is forced by a piston in continuous threads through the many apertures of a strong upright brass cylinder, each of the apertures being of exactly the same size as the leads that are to be fitted in the pencils. The long threads of graphite are received and arranged on straight grooves of a wide board and left to harden until they become as stiff as rods. Afterward they are cut into requisite pencil lengths—seven inches as a rule—packed with charcoal in a covered crucible and submitted to a high furnace heat.

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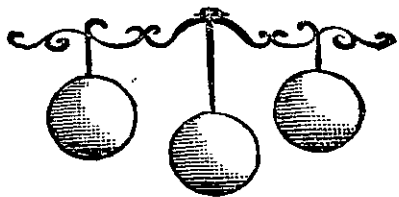
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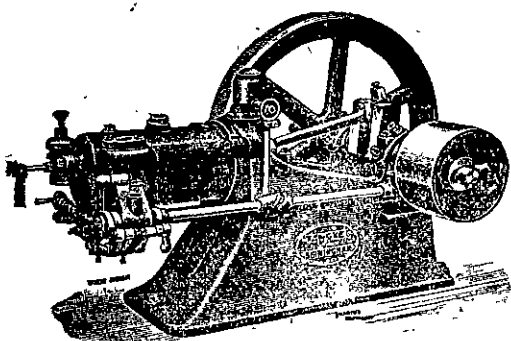
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The Storyteller

TAMING MRS. TAGGART

To an intense little person like Mrs. Richard Redding the events of every-day life hold possibilities of joy or pain quite incomprehensible to those of more phlegmatic temperament. Her husband, big and unemotional, who could have seen their pretty suburban home burn to the ground with less expenditure of nervous force than she gave to the purchase of a new drawing-room rug, found the infinite variety of her moods an unending source of interest.

One crisp October evening she ran to meet him, evidently brimming over with news of great import. But he was late, and as both young people stood in wholesome awe of their cook, it was not until they were seated at the dinner table that he began, tentatively:

'Well, Dot, what now?' Then, as he tasted his first mouthful of soup, he went on: 'Oh, I see! A new soup, isn't it?'

'Now, Dick,' his wife remonstrated, 'I've not been excited over a new soup for ages. You're always making fun of me, but this time you'll have to acknowledge that something really important has happened.'

'Do tell me!' he implored. 'You've got me all "nerved up," as Aunt Melissa used to say.'

'Well,' said Dorothy solemnly, 'Mrs. George Selden was here to-day to tell me that I've been elected one of the managers of the Old Ladies' Home.'

'You don't say so!' exclaimed Dick, startled for once out of his habitual calm. 'What on earth can they want of a kid like you?'

'I wish you wouldn't call me a "kid," Dick,' returned his wife reprovingly. 'Mrs. Selden says that they want to interest young people in the home, and they chose me to be a director because—because they thought the old ladies would like me,' she ended, blushing.

'That's very strange,' said Redding gravely. Then, as she looked at him, half-puzzled, half-appealing, he dropped his bantering tone. 'Of course they'll like you. But can you manage the old ladies, or will they manage you?'

'I don't know,' Dorothy faltered, 'but Mrs. Selden says that it's every one's duty to spend part of one's time in philanthropic work.'

Redding laughed.

'Well, Dot, go ahead, and good luck; but don't let the old ladies and their trials and tribulations get on your nerves.'

A week later Dorothy met him with a troubled face.

'Oh, Dick,' she exclaimed, 'I've been at the home to-day! I was put on a committee to go through the old ladies' closets and bureau drawers; and to reconcile them to this invasion of their privacy we decided to offer a prize of a five-dollar gold piece to the one who kept her room and belongings in the best order. Most of the inmates seemed delighted to throw open their rooms for our inspection, but we have a dreadful time with one of them.'

'This Mrs. Taggart has always been a thorn in the flesh of the directors and matron, for she's been in a constant state of rebellion against the rules ever since she came to the home; and this visit of inspection made her simply furious. She's an energetic little old woman, and though she is over seventy, her hair is black and smooth and shining, and her eyes as sharp as gimlets.'

'They say she's a "perfect staver" at working, so I believe she left her things purposely in disorder. Her room contained the queerest collection of odds and ends you ever saw; it was like nothing so much as a magpie's nest; and among other articles was a most forlorn, moth-eaten fur cape. The other members of the committee decided that the cape was worthless and only bred moths, so they confiscated it, and said that I must take it with me, because as we live in the country I could make a bonfire of it. I never was so scared, for the poor old woman glared like a wild animal deprived of its young. Oh, dear me, Dick, I wish I'd never gone in for philanthropy!'

Redding consoled her as well as he could, but on the day of the next Board meeting she was so late in coming home that he grew quite uneasy, and when at last she appeared, she threw herself into his arms, wailing:

'Oh, Dick, since we took away her fur cape Mrs. Taggart has been acting worse than ever! She was so angry at the old woman to whom we gave the prize—I suppose Mrs. Nixon did give herself airs—that one day,

when the others were at supper, she went into her room and snipped every blossom from a beautiful fuchsia that was the dear old soul's pride and joy.'

Dick chuckled, but Dorothy looked reproachful. 'How can you laugh, Dick?' she asked tragically. 'The managers decided that Mrs. Taggart must be punished by being sent to Coventry for a week or so, and to-day not one of them spoke to her. She was in the hall when we arrived, and the first thing she did was to march straight up to me, lay her hand on my fur coat, and examine it closely. "Pears to me," she said, calmly, "that your jacket's a little mite longer than it was last time you was here, ain't it, Mis' Redding,?"'

Dick laughed, and Dorothy said reluctantly:

'Of course it was absurd of her to accuse me of piecing out the beautiful seal coat you gave me last winter with that forlorn old catskin cape, and the other directors were in fits of stifled laughter, but when I looked down at her poor wrinkled hand, all crippled with rheumatism, smoothing the soft fur so wistfully, and thought of all I have to make me so happy, and that I'd deprived her of the few relics of a time when life was bright for her, too, I ran out of the house, hid myself in the carriage, and cited all the time that the other directors were holding their meeting. They were very kind to me when they saw how badly I felt, and they explained how necessary it was that discipline should be maintained. I know they're right, but every time I think of that pathetic old hand I'm just heart-broken.'

After dinner Dorothy said wistfully:

'Dick, dear, I've been thinking about Mrs. Taggart, and I've made up my mind that what ails her is that she's just like me.'

'Just like you!' he echoed. 'The idea of that old termagant being like you! What on earth do you mean?'

'I mean that she feels little troubles just the way I do, so we must have the same kind of disposition,' persisted Dorothy earnestly. 'The others are different. They are so glad to know that they will have a good home and care so long as they live that they don't mind little annoyances; but when people are born like Mrs. Taggart and me, it is the little things that count. And Dick,' she added coaxingly, 'would you mind giving me the money you would have spent on a Christmas present for me, and letting me use it to buy Mrs. Taggart a new fur cape?'

Redding pulled out his pocket-book with delightful promptness.

'Oh, Dot, Dot,' he laughed. 'I knew how it would be! Help yourself. But so long as clients continue numerous I shall not allow your vagaries to deprive me of the pleasure of giving my wife a Christmas present.'

Dorothy hugged him. 'I'll take the cape to Mrs. Taggart Christmas morning, and bring her back with me to dinner!' she announced.

'Oh, come now, Dot,' her husband protested, 'that's a little too much!'

'But, Dick,' she said softly, 'think if it were I who was left alone, and old and poor.'

'Don't Dot. I can't endure thinking of a little tender thing like you being left alone.'

'But I shall not always be young, Dick, and we do not know what may come to me "amid the changes and chances of this mortal life."'

'I wish you wouldn't be so fanciful,' he said, frowning impatiently, 'but you may bring on your old lady. On the whole, I'm rather curious to see her,' he conceded.

Christmas morning Mrs. Taggart, according to her invariable habit, had locked and double-locked her door, electing to spend the day in gloom and semi-starvation, thereby reducing the kind-hearted matron to despair. When Mrs. Redding arrived, announcing her intention of taking the old woman home with her to spend the day, Miss Green shook her head.

'It's no use,' she averred. 'Mrs. Taggart won't ever come out of her room on holidays—not even on Fourth of July,' she added, as if that gunpowdery festival of noise and riot was specially dear to the hearts of nervous old ladies.

But Dorothy persevered, and to Miss Green's surprise she heard the bolt drawn and the door cautiously opened. The truth was that the look of sympathy in Dorothy's eyes that day of the directors' meeting had been unmistakable, and Mrs. Taggart could not resist the soft voice.

Nevertheless, when Dorothy entered, tugging a large box, Mrs. Taggart regarded it suspiciously with the expression of some wary little animal not unacquainted with traps.

'I s'pose that's the "good warm shawl" you folks promised me to take the place of that handsome cape,!'

she snorted. 'Land, there don't anybody seem to think I'd like to have a mite o' style about me if I am livin' in a home, an' shawls ain't been worn in the flight o' ages!'

'It isn't a shawl, Mrs. Taggart,' Dorothy interposed timidly, 'and I hope you will like this cape, though I'm afraid yours may have been a present from some one you loved. My mother gave me a set of furs just before she died,' she continued, a shadow coming over her sweet face. 'I was only eight years old, but I'll never forget how I felt when moths got into them and my aunt took them away.'

'My husband bought me that cape last time he ever went outdoors,' said Mrs. Taggart briefly. 'Then, as Dorothy took from the box a long cape of glossy black fur, the old woman gave a gasp of unqualified amazement.'

'You ain't goin' to give that to me?'

'Yes, I am,' said Dorothy happily, 'and I want you to put it on and let me take you home to dine with us.'

She laid the cape over the bowed shoulders, but Mrs. Taggart pulled away from her and turned her back abruptly.

'I'll come,' she said in a curiously muffled tone. Then she snapped, 'But I wish you'd get out o' here till I'm ready! I do hate to hev folks al'ays and forever underfoot!'

The words were not encouraging, but Dorothy smiled as she meekly retired to the reception-room to await the coming of her guest.

When Mrs. Taggart at last appeared, she had evidently done her little best in honor of the occasion.

The dinner passed off successfully, Mrs. Taggart having fortunately 'taken' to Dick from the first; and as for him, he was openly infatuated with the strenuous old woman. Soothed by the influence of a dinner which was one of Katy's masterpieces, and pleased by Dorothy's exuberant and unaffected gratitude for the promise of a receipt for plum pudding which had been a secret in the Taggart family for generations, Mrs. Taggart found herself left alone with her hostess after dinner. She listened for a time to Dorothy's pretty, gentle chatter and then she said, with visible effort.

'Mis' Redding, I s'pose I hev acted like sixty ever since I come to the home, but the fact is, it's bad enough to be an inmate without having folks snoopin' round the whole endurin' time. Snoopin' is somethin' I never could stand. I had a neighbor once that was al'ays at it.'

'Land,' she sniffed, with reminiscent rage, 'how I did despise that woman! My husband al'ays said that I was as good a housekeeper as he could wish to see, but course there was some days when everything was in the suds. An' sure as such a day come, that woman would skitter 'cross my back yard, comin' kitty-cornerin' so't I couldn't see her in time to lock the door. Then she'd set down, and I'd try to interest her in conversation; but all the time her eyes'd be travellin' round takin' in every fly-track on the window, an' I was lucky if she didn't hatch up some kind o' an excuse to go all over the house from garret to cellar.'

'Well, it does seem's if every one o' the managers was just like that woman—present comp'ny excepted—for they're al'ays an' forever a-snoopin'. I'm one o' them that when I see anythin' that needs to be done, I want to do it, an' as the hired help to the home is slower'n cold molasses, I'm apt to whirl in an' wash dishes or peel potatoes, though we ain't expected to do nothin' but keep our own rooms in order. Well, I never come up from that kitchen, all tired and het up, that I don't meet a manager just comin' out o' my room. An' she'll al'ays say, in a kinder high an' mincin' voice, "O Mis' Taggart, if you'd only keep your room in such exquisite order ez Mis' Nixon does hers!," Huh, she don't ever do a hand's turn for anybody 'cept them plants o' hers!'

'It does seem hard,' agreed Dorothy sympathetically, 'and I know just how you feel about people going into your room to examine your closet and bureau drawers, for I had the same experience when I was at boarding-school.'

Mrs. Taggart looked interested. It was wonderful how much she and this lovely, dainty little creature had in common.

'As I've told you,' Dorothy went on, 'my mother died when I was a child, and my father and the servants combined to spoil me. I was sent to boarding-school at fourteen, and when I found I was expected to keep my own room in order I rebelled. I felt insulted at the matron's going through my belongings every day, and giving me a black mark if she found anything out

of place. I was about to write my father to take me home, when fortunately one of the teachers learned of my intention.

'I wish I could explain it all to you as she did to me, but I'm afraid I can't,' said Dorothy, humbly. 'She told me a story of a girl who was visiting an army encampment hearing the officer tell one of the men that a tent-peg was an inch out of line. The girl said she didn't see what difference a little thing like that could make, but the officer told her that the most important truth a soldier had to learn was the absolute necessity of subordination and uniformity. Miss Gray said that men learned this more easily than women, who, as a rule, were undisciplined, but until they did learn to submit to discipline, for the good of the whole, they would never contribute to the world's progress. She talked to me for a long time; but this story was what made the greatest impression, for the thought that all those brave soldiers had submitted to a surveillance much more severe than any I would ever be called on to undergo put an end to my rebellion.'

Mrs. Taggart laid down an unwieldy crazy-quilt which she had insisted on bringing with her, in spite of Dorothy's suggestion that she give herself a day of complete rest.

'I wasn't brought to the home by my own shiftlessness, but by the breaking of a bank, Mis' Redding,' she had replied, austerely. 'I haven't ever been visitin' without my pick-up work, an' I ain't goin' to begin now.' She surveyed Dorothy meditatively before remarking, with some hesitation:

'Well, I declare, if a pretty little creature like you an' all them big, smart men can stand folks a-snoopin', seems as if I might, doesn't it?' Then she broke out with startling energy, 'Land o' Liberty, let 'em snoop, if it's any comfort to 'em! They won't never have no more trouble with me, Mis' Redding.'

And to the unbounded astonishment of directors, matrons and inmates, they never did.—Exchange.

The Catholic World

ENGLAND—Self-denial

The example of the fifty Children of Mary of Melior street, Bermondsey, who, in 1904, promised total abstinence for life from intoxicating drink as an act of homage and reparation to the Blessed Virgin Mary on the fiftieth anniversary of the promulgation of the Dogma of her Immaculate Conception, has borne fruit. The young people of St. Patrick's, Plumstead, did one better this year. On Sunday within the octave of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception 51 young women and 51 young men performed a similar 'Heroic Act of Sel-Denial.' In presence of the Blessed Sacrament, with lighted candles in their hands, they edified a large congregation by solemnly promising to adhere for life to the principles of the League of the Cross.

FRANCE—The Vacant Sees

Our Radicals and Republicans who, for the last two years (writes a Paris correspondent), have lost no opportunity of abusing the Church and who have now put the finishing touch to their work by their vote on the Separation of Church and State question, are beginning to fear that they have not been quite as clever as they might have been. One of their favorite occupations was to gloat over the fact that there were 19 French Bishoprics without Bishops, and to congratulate themselves over the difficulties which the Church was thereby experiencing. They did not see that, by allowing episcopal vacancies to accumulate in that way, they were accumulating the odds against themselves for the time when the separation would come. The separation being now an accomplished fact, the Pope will be free to appoint to all these vacant Sees such candidates as will seem to him and to the French clergy best fitted for the post, without being required to consult the French Government, and without being swayed by political considerations. Anti-clerical hatred and the tricks and quibbles of M. Combes have thus turned to the advantage of the Church and to the discomfiture of her foes who now cannot forgive themselves for not having seen this before.

Cardinal Richard

The state of health of Cardinal Richard, Archbishop of Paris, not permitting him to make his ad limina visit, his Vicar, the Abbe Foges, has gone to Rome as his delegate. It is said that the Abbe is the bearer of important documents relative to the question of separation between Church and State.

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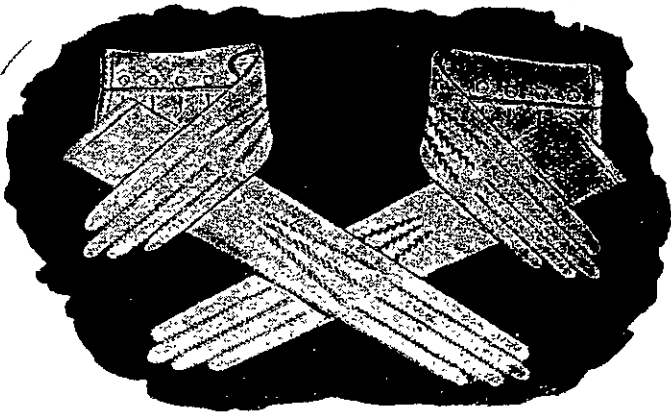
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Loss and Gain

While the Government officials (says the 'Catholic Times') are busy making their inventory of the spoil, the ecclesiastics may well ponder over the situation opened up by the Separation Law. It brings them some good. Their Bishops will now be appointed by the Pope alone; an enormous gain. And the Bishops will be free to leave France without the Government's permission. They will be able to publish their pastorals and decrees at will; to hold synods; and to travel beyond the limits of their diocese at pleasure. They will become free men, in a word. And that is no small gain; for they will thus be in a position to supervise and advance the interests of the Church. But, on the other side, they will be poor. And poor, too will be their clergy. Nor is it likely that the Government will allow the Separation Law so to work its effects as that the Church and the priests may derive much benefit from it. The local associations will not be permitted to become too active, and there are ominous threats that the priests are to be deprived of their rights of citizenship. Already it is being suggested in anti-clerical circles that the priests shall not be allowed either to vote or to teach. On the ground that they are subjected to obedience to what the Freemasons are pleased to call a foreign power, it is proposed that the clergy throughout France should be held incapable of exercising the franchise. And from many quarters comes the warning that, if the Separation Law proves too weak to muzzle the Church, its rigors should be increased and extended.

JAPAN—A New Cathedral

A Catholic Cathedral is to be erected at Tokio on a site given by the Mikado.

POLAND—A Papal Encyclical

The Pope has issued an Encyclical to the Bishops of Russian Poland, calling upon them to exhort the people to work steadily for the restoration of peace. The Holy Father cherishes sentiments of paternal affection for the entire Polish nation, and recalls the fact that the Poles were ever loyal to the Holy See. 'The massacre of the Jews is strongly condemned, and the Emperor is praised for his ukase conferring freedom on all the people of his dominions. The Pope promises to use his influence with the Czar and his Government for the religious and moral good of the Polish population.'

ROME—Cardinals Created

A secret Consistory was held at the Vatican on Monday, November 11. In his Allocution the Holy Father referred in the language of regret to the state of affairs in France, and said he would deliver his grave and solemn judgment in another form. Four new Cardinals have been created—Joseph Samassa, Archbishop of Erlau, aged 77; Monsignor Cagiano de Azevedo, Major-domo at the Vatican, aged 60; Marcello Spinola y Maestre, Archbishop of Seville, aged 70; and Joachim Arcoverde de Albuquerque Cavalcanti, Archbishop of Rio de Janeiro, aged 57. Episcopal appointments already announced were proclaimed, including those of the Co-adjutor Bishop of Leeds and the Auxiliary Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle.

The Apostolic Blessing

When receiving in audience the new Rector of the Irish College, Rome, Very Rev. Dr. O'Riordan, the Holy Father directed him to convey the Apostolic Blessing to the Bishop of Limerick and his clergy and people.

Norway and the Holy Father

King Haakon has sent an official notification of his accession to the throne of Norway to the Pope. Particular interest attaches to this act, and it is the first occasion on which the Vatican has been authoritatively recognised by Scandinavia since the era of the Reformation.

A Life of the Late Pope

Mr. Marion Crawford, the well known novelist, together with Count Edoardo Soderini and Professor Giuseppe Clementi, is compiling the life of Pope Leo XIII., from unpublished documents, which the late Pontiff entrusted to the Count before his death. The work will consist of four volumes, two of which will summarise the history of the Pontificate of Pius IX., and the whole four will, in the opinion of those who have read the documents, revolutionise the general feeling with regard to the attitude of the last two Popes towards the unity of Italy.

Codification of Canon Law

A Rome correspondent states that the codification of the Canon Law of the Catholic Church, which is now proceeding, is an enormous task, upon the prosecution of which his Holiness Pope Pius X. has set his heart. The work is one in which the whole Catholic Church is

deeply interested, as it affects the government of the Church in every country. It is not unlikely that the Vatican Council, which was prorogued thirty-five years ago, may be re-opened at the conclusion of the labors of the Pontifical Commission, so that the new ecclesiastical legislation may be read before the assembled Bishops of the Catholic world.

The Widow's Mite

The 'Tablet's' correspondent in Rome, writing on December 3, says:—Last Monday Father Brandi, editor of the 'Civiltà Cattolica,' made his fifth Calabrian visit to the Holy Father with over 80,000 francs in his inside pocket—a sum which brought the 'Civiltà' subscription to over 550,000 francs. The Pope was agreeably surprised, and as he took the printed list from the Jesuit to look over it he remarked: 'There must be some large offerings here to make such a fine total.' 'Yes, Holy Father,' replied the editor, 'but you will find that the largest offering is from a poor woman,' and he pointed at the foot of the page to the only letter which has been printed in connection with this very successful subscription—just a few lines from a parish priest to explain that the five pence enclosed reached him too late to be sent with the offering from his parish. It was from a poor woman who had been present in the church when the appeal was made but who had not even a penny to give. A couple of days later, however, she managed to earn half a franc, and at once hastened with it to the Parroco begging him to send it to the poor sufferers in Calabria. Thus her five pence came to figure in the 'Civiltà' list wedged in between sums of thousands and hundreds of francs. The Pope read the letter. 'Yes, Father,' he said, deeply touched, 'you are right; that is the greatest offering you have received, for it is the Widow's Mite over again.' Then he pulled open a drawer of his desk and took out a big silver medal struck in commemoration of the second year of his Pontificate, one of those usually presented every year to the Cardinals and the high officers of the Papal Court, and handed it to Father Brandi. 'Send this to her from me,' he said, 'and tell her that the Pope thanks her for her great generosity and sends her a warm blessing.'

SCOTLAND—Interesting Ceremony

In the large vestry of St. Andrew's Cathedral, Glasgow, on Sunday, December 3, a most interesting ceremony took place. Professor Philmore, the Greek professor at the Glasgow University, who recently joined the Catholic Church, and also a distinguished lady convert, received the Sacrament of Confirmation from the Most Rev. Dr. Maguire.

Papal Distinction

A distinguished mark of Papal favor has just been conferred upon a Scottish gentleman. Mr. Stuart A. Coats has been appointed Private Chamberlain to his Holiness Pope Pius X.

The Archdiocese of Glasgow

The archdiocese of Glasgow has 267 priests, 11 of whom are members of religious Orders. The latest annual return of baptisms (1904) is 13,771, and of Confirmations (1905) 8674. The children presented in religious examination (which is practically the average attendance at the Catholic elementary schools) were 54,400. The total estimated Catholic population of the archdiocese is about 380,000. Its schools number 109, with 152 departments. There are 87 missions or parishes, with 117 churches, chapels, and stations. The charitable institutions are 16.

SOUTH AFRICA—Church Progress

A hundred years ago—in 1805—Revs. Jaannes Lanskink, Jacobus Nelissen, and Lambertus Prinsen landed at Cape Town by permission of Commissioner General de Mist. They were the first priests who were permitted to celebrate Mass in South Africa. In the following year, when the Cape fell under British rule, they were expelled by the Governor, Sir David Baird. To-day the Catholics can point to five Vicariates and two Prefectures-Apostolic, one hundred and sixty-five churches and chapels, and two hundred and fifty-three priests.

UNITED STATES—Archbishop Ryan and the Jews

Archbishop Ryan, of Philadelphia, has contributed 500 dollars to a fund being collected for the Jews in Russia. In addition to sending his cheque, Archbishop Ryan issued an appeal for contributions to the fund.

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BELFAST MANURES

—AGAIN TO THE FORE—

At the Ashburton Winter Show, Farmers
using **BELFAST MANURES** took
the following Prizes:

WEDE TURNIPS, (10 entries)—1st Prize, grown with Belfast.

GREEN-TOP YELLOW ABERDEEN (8 entries)—1st Prize, grown with Belfast

IMPERIAL GREEN GLOBE (11 entries)—2nd Prize, grown with Belfast.

WHITE-FLESHED TURNIP, any Variety (4 entries)—1st Prize, grown with Belfast; 2nd Prize, grown with Belfast.

HEAVIEST TURNIP (5 entries)—1st Prize, grown with Belfast; 2nd Prize, grown with Belfast.

YELLOW GLOBE MANGELS (17 entries)—1st Prize, grown with Belfast; 2nd Prize, grown with Belfast; 3rd Prize, grown with Belfast.

LONG RED MANGLE (15 entries)—1st Prize, grown with Belfast.

WHITE CARROTS (6 entries)—1st Prize, grown with Belfast; 3rd Prize, grown with Belfast.

HEAVIEST CARROT (2 entries)—1st Prize, grown with Belfast.

TURNIPS, MANGELS, and POTATOES, grown with **Belfast Manures** secured ELEVEN PRIZES at the DUNEDIN WINTER SHOW.

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INDIGESTION CURED.**CONSTIPATION CURED.****FLATULENCE CURED.**

This is a big order, but we guarantee **Johnstone's Syrup of Sacred Bark** to do it. For a number of years it has worked wonders with this complaint. It removes waste matter from the system, strengthens the digestive organs, and makes eating a pleasure. Give it a trial.

Price per Bottle, 1s 6d.

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Manse Street, DUNEDIN.
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DEAR ME!

forgotten that SYMINGTON'S COFFEE ESSENCE, whatever shall I do? Call at the nearest Store you pass. They all Keep It.

Science Siftings

By 'Volt'

A Cheap Safety Lamp.

About five fires per week were caused in London last year by kerosene lamps. This gives importance to the problem of producing a cheap safety lamp, and an association of the leading English grocers has offered a handsome prize for a lamp, costing not more than 50 cents., that shall be as safe as a common candle under all conditions of ignorance or carelessness. Though this is the fifth time the prize has been offered, no satisfactory invention has been found.

Wonderful Flight of Birds.

Dr. F. H. Knowlton, of the United States National Museum, says that perhaps the longest straightway flight made by birds in their migrations is accomplished by some of the shore and water birds that nest in the islands of Behring Sea, and spend the winter at Hawaii and Fanning Island, 2200 miles away. As some of these birds live entirely on the shore, and are probably unable to rest on the surface of water, they must, says Dr. Knowlton, accomplish the whole distance in a single flight. Yet, although there are no landmarks for them upon their long journey over a waste of waters, they make their way to their destination with the precision of a rifle bullet.

Sunlight and Cancer.

Artificial light is to find a powerful rival in sunlight for coming sanatoria. Preparing for an operation for cancer on the external ear, Dr. Hirschberg, a Frankfurt surgeon, visited Caux les Territet, on Lake Geneva, where he was exposed to the sun's rays for many hours a day, and the effect was so unexpected and surprising that he extended his stay to several weeks, when his ear became completely healed without the operation. Other cases—including throat treatment by passing sunlight through the open mouth—have given similar remarkable results. It is explained that cells of cancer and other diseased tissue, being unable to protect themselves by absorbing coloring matter from the blood and becoming pigmented, are killed by the sunlight; and that mountain resorts are especially favorable because the intensity of the light is greater, there is less vapor, and the air is free from germs.

The Development of Mining.

Perhaps in no line of human effort have modern developments brought more striking results than in mining. Lecturing the other day on modern and ancient methods, an English engineer, Bennett H. Brough, pointed out the progress that has made it profitable to mine copper ore in the Lake Superior district at a depth of 5000 feet, gold ore at the New Chum Railway Mine in Victoria at a depth of 4226 feet, and coal at the Pendleton Mine, near Manchester, at a depth of 3000 feet, to work with profit at Kimberley rock yielding one-tenth of a carat of diamonds per load; to work with profit at the Atlantic Mine, Lake Superior, rock containing seven-tenths of one per cent. of copper ore; and for a gold mine at Bendigo to pay a dividend on a yield of two pennyweights to the ton of ore.

An Invisible Wire.

Invisible platinum wire is stated to have been drawn by the late Henry F. Read a third of a century ago. Several yards were made, in lengths of three feet or less, and when wound upon a white card it could be felt but ordinarily could not be seen, although its shadow was visible. The wire was drawn through as fine a hole as could be conveniently drilled. When the platinum was reduced to this size, it was coated with silver and again drawn through the die. This was repeated as many times as necessary, when the silver was dissolved away, leaving the fine platinum wire. The product was intended for the cross-threads of optical instruments. The animal hairs employed were affected by dampness, but the brightness of the metal proved an even more serious disadvantage, so it never came into use.

HOW TO PAINT A HOUSE CHEAP.

Carrara Paint In White and Colors, Mixed Ready for Inside and Outside Use. **CARRARA** retains its Gloss and Lustre for at least five years, and will look better in eight years than lead and oil paints do in two. **USE CARRARA**, the first cost of which is no greater than lead and oil paints, and your paint bills will be reduced by over 50 per cent. A beautifully-illustrated booklet, entitled 'How to Paint a House Cheap,' will be forwarded free on application.

K. RAMSAY AND CO., 10 Vogel Street, Dunedin.

The Home

By 'Maureen'

Tea-Drinking.

A London medical practitioner of thirty years' standing—Mr. J. H. Clarke—has been making some sweeping assertions on the subject of tea-drinking. He solves the problem why so many people have such an appetite for tea when they have a distaste for any other meal as follows:—The sinking, empty feeling, accompanied often by irritability, low spirits, and shortness of temper, means that the stimulating effect of the last dose of tea is passing off and the stage of reaction setting in. It is just the same with the tea-drinker as it is with the alcohol-drinker; when the effect of the last dram is passing off, another must be taken to keep up the stimulating effect. Thus the vicious circle is kept up. And what is the effect of it? The effect is an increased wear and tear on the nervous system. Tea belongs to the group of nerve stimulants, of which coffee and cocoa are also members, that enable a person to get more out of himself in the shape of mental or bodily energy than he would be able to get without them. This is drawing a bill on the bank of his nervous system, of course, and the bill will have to be met. If the emergency is a passing one, the bill will be met by food and rest, and no great harm will be done. But this is not the usual case, and when once a habit is established an abnormal rate of wear and tear will go on, and this results in a fruitful crop of cases of that latter-day fashionable complaint, neurasthenia. Tea is the parent of much neurasthenia. Allied to neurasthenia, and nearly always associated with it, is dyspepsia of the nervous or flatulent type. Tea can produce any one of these and all combined. Another effect of tea is to produce anaemia.

Tea contains not only theme—the active principle which has the stimulating action on the nerves—but also much tannin. It is owing to this latter that much of its indigestion-causing properties are due. Tea turns meat into leather. The cheaper teas so much in use now—those which give people 'the most for their money'—contain the most tannin. A tea taster informs me that if the infusion of these teas is left in the tasting cups for any time, it will eat off the enamel. From which it is easy to understand the effect the infusion produces on the human stomach. It would almost seem that the human animal is determined to assert his superiority over all the rest of creation by the ingenuity he displays in discovering or manufacturing pleasant poisons for himself. The great majority of mankind are the slaves to one or more poison habits. Of these habits, the tea habit is one of the most subtle, insinuating, and injurious.

The Heroism of a Smile.

Once there was a woman who worked as hard to seem gay, as her husband worked hard to keep the little home together. Some of her efforts were unsuccessful, and there seemed nothing to smile about, and no one to smile back at her. But she kept up her courage, and started to search for something that might aid her. One day she found an advertisement in a magazine, the picture of a small boy laughing broadly. It was a funny sketch, and she pinned it up near her bed so that the first thing in the morning she could smile back at the smiling boy, and remember that through the day it should be her talisman. Then out of periodicals and newspapers she made a collection of pictures all of smiling and laughing faces, and placed them around her tiny home to inspire and help her in her quest of cheerfulness. Her husband finally caught the infection, and with it a more hopeful view of life. His wife insists that from deliberately looking cheerful she has learned to feel cheerful, and that no one has any right to inflict a woebegone face on the public at large, and particularly on those near and dear to her.

Maureen

Bad Breath

Bad breath is a most offensive thing both to yourself and your friends. If you are troubled in this way try DR. ENSOR'S TAMER JUICE for Bilioussness, Indigestion, and all Stomach Disorders.

Stock Exchange Speculation

There are probably people still living (says an exchange) who can recall the railway mania of just sixty years ago and the widespread ruin that followed so quickly on its heels. 'Never since the days of the old South Sea Bubble,' declared a stockbroker of the time, 'has wild speculation run so rampantly mad as when George Stephenson had placed his first locomotive, the Rocket, on the metals of the Liverpool and Manchester Railway.' It was the signal for the projecting of hundreds of impossible and fraudulent railway schemes—as many as 457 new projects were registered in one month, September, bringing up the total for nine months to 1035.

From John o' Groat's to Land's End thousands of people were seized with the gambling fever; the shares of bogus companies were run up to fabulous prices, and fortunes were made and lost every day. Towards the end of October it was found that more than half of the 1263 companies were unable even to find money enough for the requisite Government deposit; the bank rate was put up to a prohibitive figure—and then the crash came.

It was like a stampede of wild cattle rushing before a prairie fire; holders of stock were madly eager to get rid of it at any price; in the Stock Exchange the sound of the hammer declaring defaulters was going all day; while outside, throughout all the country, thousands, who a few months earlier had thought their fortunes made, were hopelessly ruined.

A more disastrous year still was that of 1720, branded for all time as the year of the South Sea Bubble, and of hundreds of other schemes just as fraudulent and nebulous, the collapse of which brought ruin and desolation to thousands of families.

So inflamed were people with the fever of speculation that no scheme was too wildly impossible to find delirious support; and the daring of the sharks who floated companies knew no limits. In one case, for instance, a company was formed 'To carry on an undertaking of great advantage, but nobody to know what it is.' The capital was £500,000 in 5000 shares of £100 each, each subscriber, on depositing £2 a share, to be-

come entitled to £100 a year for life. Never was a more daring and impudent bait dangled before a credulous public. And yet before three o'clock in the afternoon of the first day the projector had received £3000 in £2 deposits, and had decamped with the lot.

In order to see to what extremes of gullibility speculation would go, a wag opened 'an office in Change Alley and invited applications for shares in a company the object of which was to be a profound secret. Within a few hours an enormous sum had been deposited with the projector, who then declared that he had only been making an experiment to see 'how many fools could be caught by such a silly bait in a day,' and invited the speculators to call for their money.

'The Bubbler's Mirror, or England's Folly,' gives a list of some of these wild-cat schemes of that remarkable year. Here are a few of them: 'Extracting Butter from Beech Trees,' 'Air Pump for the Brain,' 'Drying Malt by Air,' 'Insurance of Marriage from Divorce.' One company with a million capital was formed to provide a wheel for perpetual motion; another to import jackasses from Spain to improve the breed of mules; a third for the manufacture of square cannon-balls and bullets; and a fourth for trading in human hair.

But, of course, the most disastrous of all these schemes was the South Sea Bubble, which burst with such terrible effects. A few years earlier the shares in this company were quoted at 1 to 1½; by the middle of May, 1720, the price had leaped by bounds to 500; before the end of the month it was 710; and still soaring, rocket-like, it passed the 1000, and on August 9 was 1200. Then came the burst of the bubble; within a few days the quotation had dropped to 700, and by October it was down to 86.

The resultant ruin was pitiful. Rich men were reduced to beggary. Lord Chandos, who had invested £300,000 in the stock, might have cleared 100 per cent. profit, but waited too long and lost every penny; while the poet Gay, who was presented with £1000 stock, refused to sell for £20,000, and ultimately lost all. Hundreds of victims committed suicide in their despair; and thousands who, before the bubble came to dazzle their eyes, were well-to-do depended on charity for their very bread.



The Great End - of - Season

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Commences on MONDAY, JANUARY 29, and will continue for

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Every Article Reduced in Price * * All Goods marked in Plain Red Figures for Cash.

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Cash Buyers of Old Metals. Highest price given for Old Lead, Zinc, Copper, and Brass.

INTERCOLONIAL

Additions to the church at Dubbo were solemnly opened on Sunday, January 21, by his Lordship the Bishop of Bathurst. The subscriptions amounted to over £700.

Rev. Father Flanagan has been transferred from Kelso to Bathurst, where he will take the place of Father McGee, who is leaving for Rome, to join the Society of Jesus. Genuine sorrow is felt in Father Flanagan's extensive parish over his departure.

The Rev. T. Lynch, of St. Mary's East St. Kilda, who accompanied Dean Phelan on a trip to Europe about 12 months ago, is in very indifferent health, and as a consequence he has been compelled to delay his return for some time. Father Lynch is at present staying in County Kerry, Ireland.

Sir George Errington, formerly M.P. for Longford, and once unofficially sent on a diplomatic mission from England to Rome in a critical period of Land League history, passed through Sydney recently. He and Lady Errington are on a flying visit to Australia to escape the cold of the Northern Hemisphere.

Alexander Juett, student of the Christian Brothers' College, Perth, has been placed third in order of merit on the list of Government University and Senior Exhibitions by the Education Department. Leslie Reedy and Angus Ferguson, of the same college, have been placed fourth and fifth respectively.

The amount of the O'Doherty Memorial Fund (says the Brisbane 'Age') now reaches £400, with many donations to come in. It is intended to erect a memorial over Dr. O'Doherty's grave at Toowong Cemetery, but it will not be a pretentious monument, and the remainder of the fund will be used to smooth out the declining years of Mrs. O'Doherty.

His Eminence Cardinal Moran has announced that he intends to make provision in the new standard of proficiency to be issued for the primary schools within a few weeks for the teaching of Irish history, etc. It is the Cardinal's intention, in order to prevent interference arising from outside bodies, to provide special prizes for these subjects, and to have the examinations conducted exclusively in connection with the diocesan examinations for the Cardinal's prizes.

The Rev. Father T. O'Reilly, of Parramatta, who is about to celebrate the silver jubilee of his ordination, leaves on February 10 on a trip to Ireland. He will sail in company with their Lordships Drs. Dunne and O'Connor, of Bathurst and Armidale respectively, the Hon. John Meagher, M.L.C., and Mr. Jas. Dalton, Rev. Father O'Donoghue and other priests. The people of Parramatta have decided to present Father O'Reilly with an address and a purse of sovereigns prior to his departure. He has been 17 years in Parramatta, and 25 years in Australia.

Recently the gentlemen associated with the presentation to Monsignor O'Haran were entertained at afternoon tea by Cardinal Moran at the Palace at Manly. The Cardinal received his guests and very graciously explained to all the paintings and priceless ecclesiastical relics with which his museum abounds. The latter include a chalice used by the Venerable Oliver Plunkett, that used by Archpriest Therry, and the pectoral cross presented by Cardinal Weld and worn by Archbishop Polding for nearly forty years. 'But this,' said his Eminence, reverently, holding a chalice and patten of discolored pewter in his hand, 'is the most precious relic of the whole collection. Intrinsicly it is probably worth a few pence, but the articles were used by martyr-priests in the Penal Days of Ireland.'

Still another charitable institution (says the Sydney 'Freeman') has been added to the list of those that already exist under the auspices of the Church in and around Sydney. On Sunday afternoon, January 21, his Eminence the Cardinal-Archbishop, accompanied by the Right Rev. Dr. Doyle, Bishop of Lismore, and the Right Rev. Mgr. O'Haran, Prothon. Apos., drove to North Shore, and blessed and opened a new children's hospital at Willoughby Road, which will be conducted by the Sisters of Mercy. The total expenditure on the institution has been over £1500, and the sum on hand, including donations received at the ceremony, was about £200. The building was formerly the North Shore Hospital, and was purchased for £1250. For the present the hospital will be conducted by four of the Sisters of Mercy and a matron—Miss Glasheen, a native of Tipperary, who had been for six years at the Sydney Hospital, and for some years has been engaged in her profession as a private nurse.

Friends at Court

CLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

- February 11, Sunday.—Septuagesima Sunday.
- „ 12, Monday.—St. Telesphorus, Pope and Martyr.
- „ 13, Tuesday.—The Prayer in the Garden.
- „ 14, Wednesday.—St. Agatho, Pope and Confessor.
- „ 15, Thursday.—St. Martina, Virgin and Martyr.
- „ 16, Friday.—St. Gregory X., Pope and Confessor.
- „ 17, Saturday.—St. Fintan, Abbot.

Septuagesima Sunday.

The third Sunday before Lent is called Septuagesima Sunday, like Sexagesima and Quinquagesima, from its distance (reckoned in round numbers) before Easter.

St. Telesphorus, Pope and Martyr.

St. Telesphorus was Pope from 127 to 138. He was a Greek by birth, an anchorite of Mount Carmel, became the successor of Sixtus I., and died a martyr in Rome under Hadrian. He instituted the practice of saying three masses on Christmas Day.

The Prayer of Our Lord in the Garden.

'Kneeling down, he prayed, saying, "Father if thou wilt, remove this chalice from Me; but yet not My will, but Thine, be done." And there appeared to Him an angel from Heaven, strengthening Him, and, being in an agony, He prayed the longer.' (Gospel of St. Luke).

St. Agatho, Pope and Confessor.

St. Agatho, Pope and Confessor, was born at Palermo, Sicily. His legates presided at the sixth Ecumenical Council (Constantinople), which condemned Monothelism, in the year 680, and which had assembled at the request of Constantine IV. (Pogonatus), to whom the Pope had written a remarkable letter to refute the new heresy.

St. Martina, Virgin and Martyr.

St. Martina is one of the principal patrons of Rome, where she suffered martyrdom in the third century. It is to be regretted that but little is known of her life and suffering.

St. Gregory X.

St. Gregory X. was Pope from 1272-1276. No sooner had he ascended the Apostolic Chair than he summoned the Fourteenth Ecumenical Council, which met at Lyons in 1274. The declared objects of the Council were: succor to the Holy Land, the reconciliation of the Greek Church, and reformation of morals. The council opened with great solemnity, the Pope himself officiating. For the succor of the Holy Land, a tenth of all ecclesiastical revenues was voted for six years. In the fourth session, the re-union of the Greek Church with the Latin was solemnised; and the Council, besides passing 32 canons regulating the discipline of the Church, and providing for the reformation of morals. Also a new constitution providing for the speedy and concordant election of a Roman Pontiff received the approbation of the Council.

St. Fintan, Abbot.

The distinguished Abbot Fintan was one of the family of Niall, of the North of Ireland. He was placed at the school of Bangor, under St. Comgall, and afterwards he studied at the school of Kilmore-Deathrib, which Columbkille is supposed to have governed for some time, before his departure from Ireland. The reputation and sanctity of the monks of Iona, under Columbkille, had made such an impression on him that he resolved to join their community in order to lead a life of greater sanctity in the quiet retirement of their monastery. St. Fintan was far advanced in years when he died on October 21, 635, leaving after him a distinguished reputation for sanctity and perfection in piety and godliness.

At a meeting of the stallholders of the Spring Carnival, held in aid of the Christian Brothers' School, St. Kilda, a balance-sheet was presented showing a profit of £1040.

Mr. Andrew Carnegie, who is now 68, was born in Dumfermline, in humble circumstances. He emigrated to America when only 13, and made an enormous fortune out of iron. He has returned to his native land, and now lives at Skibo Castle, Sutherland.

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CONVENIENCES OF A FIRST-CLASS HOTEL.

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 every satisfaction.

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 to give directions and other assistance to
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 opposite the Theatre Royal. A good table
 kept. All Wines and Spirits of the Best
 Quality. Free Stabling accommodation.