

# THE NEW ZEALAND TABLET

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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

### A Mighty Growth

In this year of grace 1906 there are some 23,000,000 Catholics under the star-spangled banner. Less than a hundred years ago (in 1810) there were only about 150,000, ministered to by one archbishop, four bishops, and seventy priests.

'Beneath this starry arch  
Nought resteth or is still;  
But all things hold their march  
As if by one great Will.'

The progress of the Catholic Church in the United States during the past century has been one grand triumphal march. It is now, and has long been, beyond all comparison the greatest and most energising religious organisation under the Stars and Stripes. 'Macte! I fausto pede.' May it advance to new and greater conquests, and may its paths be ever the paths of peace!

### St. Vincent de Paul Society

Few lay associations have, within the measure of their day and means, done more to soften the asperities of both the bodily and the spiritual life than that of St. Vincent de Paul. They are, perhaps, in our time the nearest approach to the noble Florentine lay fraternity—the Brothers of Mercy (Fratelli della Misericordia)—that, after long centuries of arduous work, are still one of God's special blessings to the ancient city on the Arno. In New Zealand, one of the most commendable of the many useful activities of the St. Vincent de Paul Society is its work among the 'men who go down to the sea in ships.' This good work was inaugurated by the Christchurch Conference. And there is work galore for it to do in every port in New Zealand that is visited by ocean-going vessels. The marvellous energies of St. Vincent de Paul did not overlook the sailor-man. His great heart had a tender niche within it for Jack Tar as well as for the galley-slave, and the wounded soldier, and the sick in the hospitals, and the homeless children, and the pest-stricken multitudes, and the starving poor who in their despair (as at Laon) gnawed the flesh off their emaciated arms. His mission was to every form of bodily and spiritual desolation and woe. A goodly slice of his mantle has fallen upon the shoulders of the pious lay association that so deservedly

bears the name of one of the greatest apostles of charity of modern times. A blessing upon its work!

### Another Escaped 'Nun'

A newspaper clipping sent us by a North Island correspondent contains a story to the effect that a nun named 'Patrocina de San Jose,' 'escaped' a few weeks ago from the convent at Gongoras, near Valencia, in Spain. The 'escape' was embroidered with the usual tawdry attempts at dramatic effect that make nearly all such stories mere plagiarisms one of the other. One could write forty such tales, with shut eyes, on a summer's day.

To one versed in the Spanish language, the first thing in the story, that raises the slow, wise smile of incredulity is the name of the 'escaped' nun. Achilles was vulnerable in the heel. And this latest clumsy inventor of anti-convent fiction has left himself unarmored at various points. In the first place, a plausible liar would have at least given his 'escaped' nun a probable-looking name. But 'Patrocina' is a Christian name unknown in Spanish. The words 'Patrocina de San Jose' are merely an ignorant man's blunder for 'Patrocinio de San Jose'—the designation of a feast of the Church: to wit, the Patronage of St. Joseph. The concocter of the Gongoras story evidently came across the name of the feast somewhere, mistook it for the name of a person—and trusted to his memory in the matter of spelling. In the second place, a more adroit rascal would have avoided plagiarism. And in the third place, he would have made sure that there was a convent at Gongoras. Having ascertained this, he could have made the Feast of the Patronage of St. Joseph scramble out by the window with some show of plausibility—to those who know nothing of the Spanish language or Spanish ways. But the Father of Lies is given to playing scurvy tricks upon his children. An account of this 'escape' of 'a few weeks ago' appeared in the 'Glasgow Evening News' of November 30, 1905. Our clever contemporary, the 'Glasgow Observer,' got upon its track, and the story of the Gongoras 'escape' is now in a glass case in the Anti-Convent Section of the Museum of No-Popery Fakes and Frauds. Says the 'Observer,' in its issue of January 27, 1906: 'We wrote to Gongoras, to the Rev. Mother at the supposed convent, enquiring whether there was any truth in the story, and the letter was returned to us, marked "Not known." So that the presumption is that no such convent exists, and that the whole story, like so many others of a similar character, is a Protestant fabrication.'

**BONNINGTON'S**

A CERTAIN CURE for COUGHS, COLDS,  
..... INFLUENZA, BRONCHITIS, Etc

**CARRAGEEN**

**IRISH MOSS**

### 'Soup Christians'

During the long agony of the famine years a little handful of the starving Irish peasantry—mere anatomies of death—

'Sowld their sowls  
For penny rowls,  
For soup and hairy bacon.'

But they 'came back to God' when 'the hunger was over.' In Melbourne, the Rev. Mr. Edgar also alleges that, some years ago, during a period of depression and distress, he found his way to an occasional hungry little 'Romanist's' soul through its stomach. 'Soup,' said he, 'is a grand preparation for an after Gospel service.' For many years the 'soupers' have been at work in Rome. They have had enormous funds at their disposal. Various enticing temporal inducements have been offered to little Beppo and Nino and 'Gnesina and Marietta to barter their ancient faith for a present mess of pottage. But in Rome, as in Ireland and Spain and every Catholic country, the curse of barrenness has fallen upon the labors of the 'souper,' and upon every effort made to win big and little 'Papishes' to any of the hundreds of shifting creeds that arose during and since the great religious revolution of the sixteenth century.

Churches have been built to further the propaganda of the Reformed creeds in Rome. Some of these edifices have changed hands or been closed. And all of them recall in a way what Sydney Smith said of the empty churches of the State creed of his day in Ireland. 'Though,' said he, 'I have the sincerest admiration of the Protestant faith, I have no admiration of Protestant hassocks on which there are no knees, nor of seats on which there is no superincumbent Protestant pressure, nor of whole acres of tenantless Protestant pews, in which no human being of the five hundred sects of Christians is ever seen. I have no passion for sacred emptiness or pious vacuity.' The 'sacred emptiness' and the 'pious vacuity' of the Reformed churches in Rome are never likely to be thronged by the bended knees and the 'superincumbent pressure' of Protestants of Italian race and tongue. Some months ago, in reply to a 'missionary tale' copied into a New Zealand paper, we gave the meagre dimensions of the Protestant population of the Eternal City as disclosed by the census of 1901. Here are the figures for the latest census, as given by the Rome correspondent of the Philadelphia 'Catholic Standard' (February 10):—

According to the census of 1905, the number of Protestants living in Rome was 5,993, or 1.1 per cent of the population. Thirty-four years ago, when the Protestant propaganda was commenced in earnest, they numbered 1,200. But since that day the population of Rome has increased by one hundred per cent.—it has exactly doubled itself. . . . However, we do not believe, despite the census of 1905, that there is 1.1 per cent. of Protestants in Rome. Many of the 5,993 returned belonged to the 45,000 foreigners who happened to be then in Rome waiting to witness some of the big functions in St. Peter's; for Protestants are as vigorous and persevering as Catholics in the rush for entrance tickets to the Cathedral of Christendom on such occasions. No strict idea can then be formed of the strength of Protestants living in Rome. Their "Church" is made up chiefly of Germans, Americans, and English, who spend a couple of months in Rome, and then, like birds of passage, fly from weather unsuitable to their tastes.'

The same writer estimates the number of 'soup' converts at 'something about a couple of hundred.' This would indeed be a scanty harvest after all those years of effort and expense among a population impoverished by abnormal taxation. Each 'convert' is (he adds) computed to have cost from £6000 to £8000. The Latins and the Western Celts have at least one blessed privilege left: and that is a capacity for smiling expansively at those new apostles whose first and best arguments for their peculiar brand of Christianity are bribes of 'penny rowls' and 'soup and hairy

bacon'—and such-like temporal advantages. What Sydney Smith terms 'lucrative apostasy' was not the plan of conversion followed by Christ's Apostolate long ago.

### The French Tyranny

There was at least one Emperor of Russia whose ear was not attuned to flattery. Madame de Stael committed one of her deadly sins against good statesmanship when she said to him: 'Sire, your character is a constitution for your country, and your conscience its guarantee.' The monarch's reply was a model of wit and wisdom. 'Even if that were so,' said he, 'I should never be anything but a happy accident.' All of which, being interpreted, signifieth that high character in a ruler, however desirable it may be, can never make up for the lack of just laws and sound institutions. But when rulers are devoid of character, when the law is made an instrument of tyranny, and when representative institutions are prostituted to the private ends of the enemies of all religion, then indeed a country has reached the abomination of political desolation.

Such is the case in lodge-ridden France. In that ill-starred land 'the Executive,' as an English contemporary points out, 'has powers of mischief unequalled elsewhere.' It was not by law, but by administrative decree, that Mr. Combes destroyed the teaching Orders and sent tens of thousands of persons into exile. Again: it was not by law, but by a decree of the Executive that the order (afterwards withdrawn under pressure) was issued to desecrate the Tabernacles all over France. This was an unnecessary and wholly unprovoked aggravation of wholesale spoliation by a sacrilegious profanation that is revolting to the Catholic mind and heart. 'Just what a non-religious State,' says the 'Boston Pilot' in an article reproduced elsewhere in our columns, 'wants of the vessels and vestments of our churches is not explained.' The Radical and Freemason press acknowledge with frank brutality (as we have shown by quotations from time to time) that the object of the legislative crusade against the schools and churches and religious Orders, and the confiscation of ecclesiastical property, is the utter destruction of religion in France. Ministers dare not make so open an avowal. They must discover pretexts more or less plausible for the infliction of such wholesale proscription, exile, and spoliation as finds a parallel only in the Great Pillage of Henry VIII. It is the homage which tyranny pays perforce to liberty, and the spirit of the sixteenth century to that of the twentieth. 'There's no such thing as hypocrisy in the wurruld,' says 'Mr. Dooley.' 'They can't be. If ye'd turn on th' gas in th' darkest heart ye'd find it had a good reason for th' worst things it done—a good varchous reason, like needin' th' money, or punishin' th' wicked, or tachtin' people a lesson to be more careful, or protectin' th' liberties iv mankind, or needin' the money.' Roper, the famous forger and coiner, long covered his exploits with a seraphic air of piety and bonhomie. And the historic murderer, Hooker, was arrested with a butterfly net in his hand, and gazing with a beatified air at the latest specimen of moth that had fallen into his hands. Republican France in particular seems to enjoy an evil pre-eminence for the crimes committed by her rulers in the name of liberty, ever since the days of Madame Roland.

The invasion of the people's sanctuaries—with a view to their final complete plunder and spoliation, down to the last packet of pins—has naturally aroused fierce and widespread opposition. But (as Sydney Smith has remarked) 'all rebellions and disaffections are general and terrible in proportion as one party has suffered, and the other inflicted.' We have more

"WHAT did the Grocer say?" "Simply that Houdai Lanka is his very finest Tea." Of course

"ISN'T it a Royal Tea?"—Cock o' the North, with its rich, full, splendid flavor.

THE Tea that is gradually beating all opposition is "Houdai Lanka." Its flavor and value win housewives' friendship!

than once referred to the manner in which the French Freemason crusade against religion is favored by a great many secular papers in the English-speaking world that are given to somnolent homilies on 'liberty' and 'toleration' and 'equality of treatment before the law.' Alack! There are a good many 'pious editors' besides Russell Lowell's that 'du believe in Freedom's cause ez fur ez Payris is'—or, preferably, further; and who likewise

'Du believe in bein' this  
Or thet, ez it may happen,'

so far as principles are concerned. Says the San Francisco 'Monitor' in a recent issue:—

If the churches in France 'subjected to the outrageous invasion by Government officers, were Protestant instead of Catholic, what a howl of indignation would go up from the shocked American press, on the tyranny of the thing! As matters stand, our newspapers apparently see nothing out of the way in the infamous action of the persecuting authorities. Though the present policy of the French Government in pushing its scheme of interference beyond the remotest limits of decency is fatally short-sighted and morally certain to react to the discomfiture of its authors, the fact has nothing to do with the curious indifference displayed by those eminent champions of liberty and justice, the editors of our great dailies, in the presence of an exhibition unparalleled in a half dozen generations.

The New York 'Sun' sees further into the French persecution and speaks with more fairness than the bulk of the secular papers in English-speaking countries that have expressed an opinion upon the matter. It says in a recent issue.—

'The position of Catholicism in France hereafter, will by no means be analogous to that occupied by that religion in the United States, where the national Government exercises no supervision over any form of worship. That liberty which with one hand the French civil power professes to give the Catholic Church while, withholding from it the pecuniary assistance which it bestowed for a century, it takes back with the other hand by subjecting the votaries of that Church to the system of close oversight and restraint elaborated in the laws concerning associations which have been enacted during the last few years. In a word, the treatment of the Catholic Church at the hands of the civil power in France recalls that suffered by Shylock, in the "Merchant of Venice," when, after receiving successive rebuffs at the hands of the law, he begs the Court to "give him his principal and let him go," but is sternly halted with the mandate: "Tarry, Jew; the law hath yet another hold on you." It is patent, in fact, that "a free Church in a free State" is by no means contemplated by the Radicals and Socialists who control the present Chamber of Deputies, though they have taken measures to relieve the treasury of the burden of supporting religion in any guise.'

We should like to see the London 'Times' and its colonial echoes put forth a defence of the plunder and spoliation of the Church and of religious corporations generally in France. And we are curious to know what plea they can advance that would not likewise justify the proscription and plunder of any benefit society, public company, trading association, or private owner in this or any other country.

Mr. Bryce, the Chief Secretary for Ireland (writes the Dublin correspondent of the New York 'Daily News'), is erroneously included by some of the newspapers among the Caledonians. He was born in Belfast, his mother being Irish and his father Scottish.

Messrs. Kirkpatrick and Co., of Nelson, announce to readers of the 'Tablet' that their new season's 'K' jams are now ready. No housewife need have any fear of buying 'K' jam, as the manufacturers guarantee it to be made of pure fruit and pure sugar only, and to be absolutely free from any kind of adulteration. The 'K' factory is situated in the heart of the finest fruit-growing district in the Colony, and the abundance of superfine orchard fruitage at their command enables Messrs. Kirkpatrick and Co. to produce jam and preserves of the highest quality....

## THE FRENCH PERSECUTION

### 'HUMAN STUPIDITY AND FOLLY'

Perhaps no more brilliant example of human stupidity and folly, masquerading under the title of statesmanship, will ever be seen (says the Boston 'Pilot') than the present exhibition of France. Posing as leaders of a people they deliberately began a crusade, unnecessary and harmful, as a policy, however desirable from the standpoint of free thought propaganda, whose only gain so far has been hatred and ill will.

The scenes in the churches, enacted at the beginning of taking the inventories last week were what might have been expected, which were, no doubt, desired by the atheistic hierophants, and which they will use as excuses for fresh attacks. But they serve at least as proofs that the worm will turn, though the Catholics of France have been long-suffering and patient.

First the schools were laicised. That was unnecessary, because the children were all Catholics, and because the people were satisfied. Then the Church built schools of its own, which rapidly became more popular than the State schools. While the school question was simmering the hospitals, prisons, refuges, and asylums were laicised. That again was unnecessary. No one was complaining except the atheistic wolf who shrieked that the Catholic sheep was biting him.

Soon the chaplains were removed from the army and navy. Neither the soldiers nor the sailors asked for that, but the free-thinking feelings were hurt at hearing of any one else practising his religion, and of course

#### Free-thinking Intolerance

has always managed to awaken a great deal of sympathy.

Then the way was open to crush the Church schools. The people were enjoying them, so the associations law was passed, the schools closed, the property confiscated, and the teachers exiled.

All this time the Catholics had been wonderfully patient. As the Government drew up the voting lists, counted the votes and handed in the returns, it was difficult to beat it. Then came the 'Separation' law, which should be entitled a 'law to control the Church without expense to the State,' for your French atheist is a thrifty person, except when it comes to spending other people's money or taking other people's property. The so-called separation law was never advocated before the people as a policy, the Government never dared to refer it to the people. It was 'jammed through' in the closing days of a Parliament. The avowed object was to free the State, the actual one was to wipe out Christianity.

The first touch of the new law is the taking of inventories of Church plate, sacred vessels and vestments. Just what a non-religious State wants of the vessels and vestments of the churches is not explained. One can imagine the joy of a typical French functionary, a rampant unbeliever, enabled to wound and

#### Insult the Feelings

of pious Catholics to his heart's content, from behind the secure shield of the law.

Of course the Government would not acknowledge that it intended to persecute people, so in reply to an interpellation in the Chamber of Deputies Rouvier indignantly declared that they would use all tact and moderation possible. In truth tact and moderation were the things least desired. The work has been done so far with the aid of troops.

Much bad feeling has been aroused; men who should be good friends have become estranged, and the worst division which can exist for a people that along religious-political lines has been made. Instead of a united people the French are separating into two hostile camps. The Catholics are being obliged to submit to bitter humiliation, and yet more is in store for them.

The end no man can foresee, because submission on the part of the Catholics is taken as satisfaction, and fresh exactions are made. Resistance through the ballot box is as possible for them as political preferment is possible for the blacks of the South. Resistance through the only way left will be crushed out by police and troops. So the only hope for religious freedom in France seems to be in revolution, and this forcing of a large, stubborn, persistent section of the French people into the ranks of revolt is what some people choose to call statesmanship.

YOUR family can appreciate good tea. Get them the superb Hondai Lanka, and you'll delight them. "I DON'T care who you are!" Cock o' the North Tea will give you satisfaction and refreshment. "GOOD TEA is absolutely essential to a Happy Home." Cock o' the North is the Happy Home Tea.

## Presentation to Father O'Reilly at Oamaru

A social gathering, which was very largely attended, was held in St. Joseph's Schoolroom, Oamaru, on Wednesday evening of last week for the purpose of saying farewell to Rev. Father O'Reilly, who had been for four years in Oamaru. The chair (reports the 'Mail') was occupied by the Right Rev. Mgr. Mackay, and besides the guest of the evening there were also present Rev. Father O'Neill, Messrs. Cooney, Corcoran, Rooney, Duggan, O'Neill, and O'Grady. Musical items and recitations were given during the evening by Misses Cartwright, Sweeney, Hannon, Donovan, Taylor, Monsignor Mackay, Father O'Reilly, and Messrs. J. Curran, A. Black, Moriarty, and Duggan.

The following address from the parishioners was read by Mr. O'Grady:—

'Dear Rev. Father,—With keenest sorrow, we, the parishioners of Oamaru, have heard that the sphere of your ministrations is to be removed to the Cathedral parish at Dunedin. Of the four years you have labored in Oamaru only very few months were needed to establish you with a lasting firmness in our affections. In you, we soon found a sympathetic friend, a sharer in our joys, a condoler in our sorrows—ever ready with both consolation and even with material aid in the hour of bereavement and affliction. What wonder, then, that parting with you—a true Sogart Aroon—is a rude severance of tender cords in the Celtic heart. Yes, Father, we grieve at this parting, but with a submission born of faith, we bow without murmur to the voice of authority. We are sincerely grateful for the innumerable kindnesses and benefits we have received at your hands; for your zealous and priestly labor in directing us by your counsel and example in the paths of virtue and rectitude. We thank you for the interest you have taken in our schools, manifesting your earnest desire that our children should be equipped by a sound Christian education that in after life they may tread their various paths in a manner worthy of the best traditions of our race. And, finally, on behalf of the citizens of Oamaru—for we assure you, dear Father, that the grief at your departure is by no means confined to the Catholic body—we thank you for your influence in maintaining those feelings of charity and kindness which happily exist in so marked a degree in North Otago. Now, dear Father, we beg to offer you the accompanying purse as in some small measure a tangible expression of our gratitude and esteem. We fervently pray that God may long spare you to carry out His work, and that it will sometimes be our privilege to see you, if only for a short visit, amongst your loving people in Oamaru.'

Mr. O'Grady said that before their guest had been among them any length of time he had succeeded in impressing them with the spirit of nationality, with which he was imbued. He had since proved an excellent worker among his people, and his efforts in their behalf had been marvellous. He had visited the poor and the sick and made their homes brighter by his cheery manner and his ministrations. The parish was losing a great man and one whose removal would cause the utmost regret.

Mr. Cooney (treasurer of the fund) then handed over to Father O'Reilly a purse of 100 sovereigns, in the acceptance of which he said he hoped the Rev. Father would find as much pleasure as it had afforded the contributors to give.

Monsignor Mackay congratulated Father O'Reilly on the many and deserved compliments paid him during the evening. Father O'Reilly had been in Oamaru for four years, and during the speaker's absence had been in charge of the parish for one year, and so successfully did he manage during that time that affairs were running very smoothly on the speaker's return.

Mr. Duggan eulogised the work of Father O'Reilly, and referred more particularly to his enthusiasm in connection with the school, where he had frequently been of the most assistance in interesting parents and children in the work, and where his kindly thought for the children had always been thoroughly appreciated. The Hibernian Society was another institution which had benefited from the stay in Oamaru of their guest, and during the past four years it had regained something of its pristine fame, thanks mainly to Father O'Reilly.

Father O'Reilly said that he felt touched, deeply touched by the warmth of the welcome extended to him; did he not feel thus touched he would not be human, and, because of that feeling, he found it impossible to give adequate expression to the thoughts and sentiments which burned within him. The brightest and happiest years of his life had been those spent among his people in Oamaru, for not only from his Catholic

friends but also from the people generally he had received nothing but courtesy and genuine hospitality. It was this which had made his stay here four years of unalloyed happiness, but it had made the parting painful in the extreme. He was unconscious of having done anything to merit the sentiments expressed that night concerning him, and the exceedingly kind feelings exhibited towards him, but less than all was he deserving of their more than generous gift. For this extreme and wondrous generosity he knew not what to say. But why should he eulogise Oamaru generosity? There were many monuments in Oamaru to the devotion and unlimited generosity of its townspeople. There was one to whom he wished to pay a tribute, and he was glad of the opportunity to do so. He referred to Mrs. Desmond and those with her. It had been his duty to visit the hospital on all occasions and at all times, and he had always found Mrs. Desmond and her staff kindly, capable, and sympathetic in carrying out their work of mercy. He thanked his hearers for the kindness they had extended to him during his stay, and thanked Monsignor Mackay, who had always been considerate and ready to make the speaker's path easy and smooth. He congratulated the teachers and pupils on the success attained in the schools, often under adverse circumstances, and impressed upon his hearers the necessity for fully realising the benefits conferred on them by the Catholic schools. Father O'Reilly bespoke a warm welcome for his successor, Father O'Neill, a welcome such as only Irish hearts could extend. In him they would find a friend ready to sympathise in time of trouble or to rejoice with them in their happiness.

Father O'Neill acknowledged the kind words spoken on his behalf by Father O'Reilly, and trusted that he would receive the same kindness from the people as had been extended to his predecessor.

The gathering broke up with cheers for Rev. Father O'Reilly.

## Diocesan News

### ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

March 17.

The Rev. Father Mahony, of Nelson, has been in town during the week. He is to be located shortly in the parish of Wanganui.

The Rev. Dr. Watters, formerly Rector of St. Patrick's College, was recently re-elected President of the Catholic University School, Dublin.

Since its appearance a few weeks ago, the pastoral on 'Socialism' by his Grace the Archbishop has won favorable comment from several outside the Church.

Mr. Robert O'Connor and his son (Mr. A. C. O'Connor) returned to Wellington on Tuesday after a trip round the world, extending over ten months, during which time they visited Australia, the Philippines, China, Japan, United States, Canada, Ireland, and England. The return trip was made via Suez, calls being made at Colombo, Fremantle, and Sydney. Three months of the tour were agreeably spent on a shooting expedition in Ireland.

The results of the musical examinations, conducted by the representative of the Royal Academy and Royal College of Music, London, in the Wellington Centre, are to hand, and as usual the pupils presented by the Sisters of Mercy are well to the forefront. The following pupils were successful in their respective divisions (unless otherwise stated the passes are for pianoforte playing):—School examination.—Elementary division: Olive Young, Gladys Fitzgerald, Greta Bajomez, Eileen McKittrick, Rita Bunny, Myra Hodgins, Alice Hodgins, Rose Segrief, singing (St. Mary's Convent), Mabel Bourke (singing), Kate Jamieson (singing), Ethel Cooper (St. Joseph's Convent, Wellington South), Nellie Parrish, Winifred Hall (St. Joseph's Convent, Otaki). Distinction: Kathleen McGrath, Agnes Segrief, singing (St. Mary's Convent).

Lower Division.—Vera Chalmers, Norma McGrath, Tuiwa Bunny, Kathleen Daniel, Mary Young (St. Mary's Convent), Clarice Nash (St. Joseph's Convent, Wellington South), Eileen Tompsitt, Lilian Williams (St. Joseph's Convent, Otaki). Higher Division.—Muriel Hodgins, Violet Lamarcit (singing), Isabella Jones (singing), Marion Browne (singing), Margaret Maxwell singing (St. Mary's Convent), Lucy McKeigan, Eileen Barton, Kate Jamieson (St. Joseph's Convent, Wellington South). Distinction—Annie Flanagan (St. Joseph's Convent, Wellington South).

Local Centre.—Intermediate grade: Ethel Manning, Mary Harnett, Eileen Truman, Marion Browne, Sylvia

**GEO. T. WHITE**  
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Williams (St. Mary's Convent), Mabel Fownes (St. Joseph's Convent, Wellington South). Honors—Doris Stapleton (St. Mary's Convent). Advanced grade—Kate Gray, Maude Vincent (singing), May Gudgeon, Florence M. Jones, Edith Martin (singing), Althia A. Cundy, singing (St. Mary's Convent). Honors—Rita Rabone (singing), Sheila Clarry (singing), Alice McDonald, singing (St. Mary's Convent).

Teachers' Certificate Examination (L.A.B. degree)—Matilda Evans, Elizabeth Coles (St. Mary's Convent).

An analysis of the whole results shows that in the school examination, elementary division, of 30 successes our convents claim 15; in the lower division, 8 out of 24; in the higher division, 9 out of 14; in the Local Centre intermediate grade, 7 out of 14; in the advanced grade, 9 out of 20. In the honors class of the advanced grade the whole of the successes go to the convent pupils. These are facts that speak eloquently for the high standard of musical training imparted by the Sisters who have charge of our schools. They are successes of which we may well feel proud.

(By telegraph from our own correspondent.)

March 20.

The sports held at Day's Bay on Saturday, under the auspices of the local branches of the Hibernian Society, were favored with excellent weather, and attracted a very large attendance. A procession formed of Hibernians and school children, and headed by the Garrison Band, made its way from the Buckle street church through the principal thoroughfares to the ferry wharf, which was left at 10 o'clock. Large numbers arrived at the Bay during the afternoon, and the gathering reflected great credit on all concerned. The spot chosen proved suitable in every way and afforded an ideal ground for the many picnic parties. His Grace the Archbishop and the local clergy were present during the day, and took a great interest in the proceedings. His worship the Mayor paid a visit to the grounds during the afternoon. The morning was devoted to sports for the children, and in the afternoon a special programme of events for adults was carried out. The wrestling events (Cumberland style) proved highly exciting and up to a fine standard. The light weight event was won by Sneddon, the heavy weight by Thompson. The tug-of-war contest between the teams from Te Arc and Newtown parishes was watched by a very large crowd, and caused considerable interest. After a close and exciting pull victory went to the Newtown men. The arrangements left nothing to be desired, and the trips across the harbor were made without accident. The outing might well be described as the best undertaken by the Hibernians for many years.

### DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

March 19.

In the Cathedral on Sunday evening the Rev. Father Peoples preached a panegyric on the Apostle of Ireland to a large congregation.

Included in an excellent programme of music rendered by the Garrison Band at the Sydenham rotunda last week were selections of Irish melodies in honor of St. Patrick's Day.

In place of the customary 'Faith of our Fathers,' the choir and congregation after Vespers at the Cathedral on Sunday evening sang the hymn, 'O glorious St. Patrick.' The great congregation stood, and the effect was most inspiring.

In reference to the number of letters from abroad to the clergy, inquiring about relatives and friends, the Very Rev. Vicar-General in the Cathedral on Sunday emphasised the importance of those removing from one parish to another, or in the event of a frequent change of address in a city, leaving particulars concerning themselves and their movements with the parish priest.

A scheme recently drawn up by the engineer of the Lyttelton Harbor Board with a view of connecting Christchurch with the sea by means of a ship canal was discussed at considerable length by the Board at a meeting held last week, and it was ultimately decided to obtain the best possible advice on the subject by some eminent engineer to be selected in England by the High Commissioner.

In honor of Ireland's patronal feast day members of St. Patrick's branch of the Hibernian Society approached the Holy Table in a body at the Cathedral on Sunday morning. The Very Rev. Vicar-General on the previous Sunday at the half-past nine o'clock Mass spoke at some length on the aims, objects, and achievements of the Society and its claims to consideration on the part of our young Catholic manhood.

His Lordship the Bishop left on Friday for Grey-mouth for the purpose of blessing and opening recent additions to the fine church of St. Patrick in that progressive town. The principal feature of these additions is a tower, provided for in the original plan of the building.

The Rev. Father Peoples presided at a meeting of parishioners at Halswell on Sunday when a new church and school committee was formed. The existing liabilities on the church property, which is under £50, was considered, and steps are to be taken to liquidate it. As an earnest of this good resolution about half the amount was subscribed at the meeting. The school accommodation is taxed to its utmost limit, the attendance of children this year being a record one.

St. Patrick's Day was celebrated by the Tennis Club, in connection with the Christchurch Catholic Club, by an enjoyable out-door gathering at the courts, Sydenham. A variety of amusements were provided, afternoon tea was dispensed by the lady members of the club, and the proceedings enlivened by instrumental music. A short sports programme, arranged and conducted by Mr. E. F. Heydon, created great interest, the winners of various events being Miss O'Connell, Miss H. Canavan (2), and Mr. T. O'Connell. About 100 persons were on the grounds during the afternoon and were the guests of the club.

Canterbury Hall was filled to its utmost capacity on last Friday evening on the occasion of the national concert in celebration of the feast day of Ireland's patron saint. Although the great majority of the vast audience were our co-religionists, there were many others present to whom a good programme of Irish national melodies invariably appeals, and of those latter it is pleasing to note that their number is increasing year by year. The scene, too, of these annual gatherings has, so far as this city is concerned, been raised to a standard which is markedly appreciated. The committee who had in hand the arranging of our annual celebration are to be commended for the high-class programme presented. Not only were the items well selected and appropriate, but they were rendered by the very foremost talent of the city. Mrs. Gower Burns was thoroughly at home in the Irish songs selected by her, and was in splendid voice. She sang 'Killarney' in the first part most artistically, and in her encore number, 'The ninepenny fidil,' a pretty little song, she achieved a pronounced success. It was, however, in Moore's well known melody, 'The harp that once,' that Mrs. Burns was heard to the greatest advantage. For an encore she sang 'The last rose of summer' very finely indeed. The effect of the first song was greatly heightened by the harp accompaniment, charmingly played by Miss Katie Young. Madame Agnes Paddon's fine voice and finished style of singing made her interpretation of 'Kathleen Mavourneen' very successful, and she was also excellent in her encore number, 'Genevieve.' In the second part Madame Paddon gave what was one of the gems of the evening, 'The songs my mother sang.' Miss Laura Treleaven sang 'The dear little shamrock' excellently, and was also very good in 'Erin, my country.' Miss Tolia Sommers' singing of 'Come back to Erin' was excellent. The quaint little Irish melody, 'My first love,' sang for an encore, was also a success. Mr. Frank Graham's fine robust tenor was heard to great advantage in 'Bianca,' and also in the encore, 'Then you'll remember me.' Herr Heinrich Kahn contributed two excellently played violin solos, and was also very good in his encore number, a short solo by Wienawski. Mr. Reg. Vincent sang 'Asthore' capitally, and was encored, repeating the last verse, and Mr. Hamill gave 'Off to Philadelphia' with a good deal of spirit and success. Mr. W. Coombs played a cornet solo, 'The minstrel boy,' admirably. Mr. Winter Hall was to the fore with two finely delivered recitations, and Mr. W. Densen discoursed very amusingly regarding the obtrusive theatre hat. Two selections of Irish melodies, spiritedly played, were given by Mr. Rössler's orchestral band. Miss Katie Young was accompanist. During the evening the Very Rev. Father Le Menant des Chesnais, V.G., thanked those taking part in the programme and the audience for the very material assistance they were giving the great institute of charity, Nazareth House.

### Timaru

(From our own correspondent.)

March 19.

The annual St. Patrick's Day celebrations were arranged to take place this year on Thursday last, but owing to the wet weather the sports had to be postponed till Saturday. The concert, however, was held in the Theatre Royal on Thursday evening, and was



well patronised, the house being well filled. The programme (arranged by Miss E. McGuinness) was a lengthy one and well up to, if not above, the average. Several new singers graced the stage for the first time and met with encouraging receptions. Perhaps the most interesting item was the dumb-bell drill by a dozen of the Marist Brothers' boys, who were dressed in white with blue sashes. The following contributed to the programme:—Mrs. Edwards, and Mrs. J. G. Venning, the Misses Steward and Dennehy, and Messrs. De Looze, Healey, McDonald, Jordan, and Coombs. Mr. Fitzgerald and his pupils gave an eight-hand Irish reel, which had to be repeated. The Garrison and Marine Bands played some selections outside the theatre before the performance.

The picnic and sports were held on the Caledonian Grounds on Saturday, the children marching to the grounds from the church at 10 o'clock, about 350 taking part in the procession. The programme was a good one, old and young being catered for. Keen interest was taken in all events, the prizes being of a substantial character. Mr. W. Mangos, the secretary, is to be felicitated on the completeness of his arrangements. The school championship cup was won by T. Mason, quite a little fellow, whose points totalled 13 for the three distances run. In the hop-step-and-jump, C. Hartnett covered the creditable distance of 32½ feet.

## DIocese OF AUCLAND

(From our own correspondent.)

March 16.

The Hibernians will hold their general Communion on Sunday, March 25, to commemorate St. Patrick.

His Lordship the Bishop will re-open the Rotorua church on the 25th inst. This pretty little church has been greatly enlarged and improved.

The sad news comes to hand from Gisborne of the serious illness of Rev. Father Mulvihill, who has so zealously labored in that district for several years.

The work of the Sisters of St. Joseph at Whangarei is being properly appreciated. Over seventy children are now attending the school, which was opened only a few weeks ago.

The Very Rev. Father Clune, C.S.S.R., is at present in Ellerslie, conducting a mission which is to close on next Sunday morning. Rev. Father McDermott, C.S.S.R., is conducting a mission at Onehunga. A mission will be opened at Te Aroha on Sunday, March 25.

His many friends will sympathise with the Very Rev. Father Clune, C.S.S.R., in the loss he has sustained in the death of his aged father, news of which arrived in Auckland on Wednesday. His Lordship the Bishop made feeling reference to the sad event on Thursday at the Ellerslie mission.

St. Patrick's Day celebrations begin to-night with a national concert in the Federal Hall, at which the Mayor of Auckland, his Lordship the Bishop and clergy will be present. To-morrow the usual procession will be held, and sports in the Domain for the adults and children. On Sunday evening Very Rev. Father Clune preaches on St. Patrick, when the Hibernians will be present. St. Benedict's parishioners go to Motutapu Island.

## Presentation to Father Geary at Lawrence

There was a large and representative attendance in St. Patrick's Schoolroom, Lawrence, on Thursday evening (says the 'Tuapeka Times'), the object being to afford the people, among whom the Rev. Father Geary labored for five and a half years, an opportunity of saying farewell and at the same time presenting him with a tangible token of their esteem and goodwill. The arrival of the guest of the evening, accompanied by the Very Rev. Mgr. O'Leary and the Rev. Father Lynch, was the signal for a most enthusiastic demonstration of welcome.

Mr. B. Hart, who presided, after briefly explaining the object of the gathering, quickly got the programme under way, and from the beginning to the close the proceedings, which were of an enjoyable character, never flagged. Songs were contributed by Mrs. Delany and Messrs. Mullins and Woods. Mr. P. Hastie played a cornet solo, and Miss Hart assisted with her phonograph, on which a number of excellent records were produced.

Mr. J. J. Woods said he had a pleasant duty to perform, viz., to present Father Geary with a farewell address and purse of sovereigns. They had heard of

Father Geary's triumphal march through the parish during the past week, when he had captured all the strongholds and had received numerous golden offerings, all testifying to the high appreciation in which he was held in the other centres of the parish. He had now reached the metropolis (Lawrence), where the good people had determined not to be outdone in their manifestations of loyalty and devotion to the esteemed servant of their Church. He then asked Father Geary's acceptance of a purse of sovereigns and accompanying address as a token of their goodwill and esteem towards him. The following was the address:—

'Rev. and dear sir,—On behalf of the parishioners of Tuapeka parish, residing at Lawrence, Waipori, Tuapeka West, and adjoining districts, we desire most respectfully to present you with an address and purse of sovereigns, as a mark of respect and esteem for you as a priest, also as a small token of our appreciation for the services you have rendered to the cause of religion during your sojourn here as curate for the past six years. Your departure from Tuapeka was so sudden that we were unable to give you an official "send-off" or say farewell as we would have wished, but as true soldiers to our Divine Master we fully recognise that priests must at all times be prepared to obey their marching orders, no matter how difficult it may be to sever the ties of friendship or kinship. As curate of this extensive and scattered district your priestly duties must have been arduous and trying, while your weekly journeys to Waipori, Miller's Flat, and Roxburgh, at all seasons of the year, were a physical strain, requiring more than ordinary courage and devotion to the cause of religion. While you had the advantage of every counsel and assistance from our beloved parish priest, the Very Rev. Mgr. O'Leary, yet, from the scattered positions of the outlying districts, your responsibilities in carrying out the duties of your sacred office must from time to time have caused you more than ordinary anxiety, and graver responsibility in the care of souls. In this district, perhaps the most trying part of a priest's duties is attending to sick calls, especially at long distances, and on these occasions the priest may be truly looked upon as a father, and is brought into immediate contact with those placed under his spiritual care. We readily acknowledge your devotion and kindness when visiting the sick and dying, while many can testify their gratitude for your unwearied exertions at those trying times. Your good Bishop has deemed it expedient to remove you to a more important parish, and, we are pleased to say, one where you will be less exposed to the rigors of winter. We wish you every happiness and prosperity in your new sphere of labor, asking you to remember us in your prayers and occasionally to bestow a kindly thought on the friends you have left behind in Tuapeka.'

The Rev. Father Geary in responding, said it was impossible to convey to them in words the feelings of gratitude he felt towards them for the many kind references made to him by the speakers and in the address. He was not conscious that he deserved them, and he thought they had been spoken more from their hearts than their heads. He wished all the good things said of him were deservedly true. However, he thanked the people of Tuapeka for their generosity and esteem. Since he had come among them he had experienced nothing but extreme courtesy, kindness, and hospitality, not only from his own people, but from non-Catholic friends. The past five and a half years had been the happiest of his life, and he felt the parting sorrowful and hard in the extreme. While he regretted his departure, he was pleased that it had given them an opportunity of showing their sincere faith and attachment to the grand old Catholic faith. He accepted their compliment, as to the priest and not to the man—as a token that he would live in their memories and occupy a warm corner in their hearts. He concluded a feeling speech by again thanking them all, and especially Monsignor O'Leary, for the many kindnesses and consideration he had always received from him, and commended Father Lynch, his successor, to their good offices. On resuming his seat Father Geary was loudly applauded.

The Very Rev. Mgr. O'Leary, on being called upon for a few remarks, said he had come to the meeting not to make a speech but to listen to others—in short, to be entertained. He endorsed everything said by Mr. Woods and in the address in reference to Father Geary. He was sorry they were losing him, but, as they knew, this was a world of change. He was pleased at the extreme kindness and goodwill shown towards Father Geary by the people of this district, and he was also pleased to be the parish priest of so kind-hearted and generous a people.

Father Lynch expressed his pleasure at being present to witness the evidence of their people's kindness and generosity towards their departing priest.

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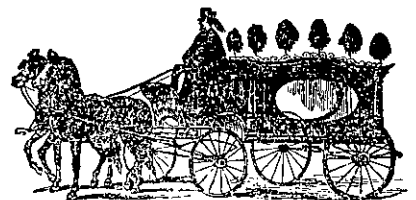
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# Irish News

## OUR IRISH LETTER

(From our own correspondent.)

Dublin, January, 1906.

For a whole month we have read elections, talked elections, thought elections, breathed elections; nothing else has been in the air to breathe, so that it is now a comfort to have the atmosphere free of them and mind at rest as to results.

In England the excitement has been intense, while the upheaval brought about by the swing of the pendulum is almost unprecedented in Parliamentary history. But all the hubbub makes very little difference here in Ireland where, as far back as my memory of politics goes, there has been but one ruling idea, one purpose amongst the mass of the people, come Tory, Whig, Liberal, Conservative, what not: 'Who's going to let us mind our own business?' ...

This idea has, as of course you knew long ago, returned 83 Home Rule members to Parliament and 20 anti-Home Rulers, the latter including two from Dublin University. This is the whole General Election work, as far as Ireland is concerned.

The Elections were tame, very tame. The days of O'Connell and Vesey Fitzgerald, cracked heads and faction fights are gone for ever, and with them, somehow, all the wit and fun of old election times in Ireland. The candidates of rival politics and the voters of rival Home Rule or Orange colors are as sweet and polite to each other as if they were not in deadly earnest at all; all the hard knocks (and they really are not many) are given on paper, and it is no longer worth a man's while to make a bitter but witty joke at his opponent's expense. Business is business, and the Irish electors just vote as they have done now for a generation, let parties change and play see-saw as they will in England.

### The Late Chief Secretary.

After West Belfast, which Mr. Devlin wrested from the Orangemen of that city, the most interesting contest we have had was that in South Dublin, where a bitter Orange faction whipped up every power Unionism could muster to insure the election of Mr. Walter Long, late Chief Secretary for Ireland, a man who was rejected by three constituencies in England and whose brain-power may be gauged by the too truthful want of tact shown by him in an electioneering speech made by him in Dublin when addressing a Unionist audience: 'I am not,' he said, 'ashamed to confess that I found, during my tenure of office, not alone that there were interesting problems to be solved, but that to live in Ireland, as the Minister responsible for the Government, was to spend a very pleasant and agreeable time. I do not wish to blow my own trumpet—but while I managed to do a good deal of work, I also managed to get a great deal of fun, and I regret very much that I am no longer able to follow; an Irish pack of hounds or to travel over Ireland and meet Irishmen in various conditions and positions in society and spend, as I have spent, many pleasant days and evenings. . . . As Chief Secretary I have had the privilege of enjoying a delightful residence in the Phoenix Park; it has been my privilege to have sumptuous apartments in Dublin Castle; it has been my privilege, and a very important one, to draw a very fat salary out of the Imperial revenue as Chief Secretary.'

Mr. Long's candid definition of his idea of a Chief Secretary's duties in Ireland, in return for a delightful residence in the Phoenix Park, etc., did not hinder the Dublin Conservatives from voting for him to a man and returning him by a large majority.

The principal matter to be noted in these General Elections, as far as they regard us, is that before and during the fray in England and in Ireland the Conservatives hammered at one assertion, namely: that every man who voted for a Liberal candidate, that every man who voted for Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman gave a vote for Home Rule in Ireland, and a fortnight ago the 'Times' wrote: 'Let there be no shadow of doubt about it, Home Rule is an issue of the General Election of 1906.'

Now, we are told that what is logically plain to every mind must be true, ergo, as, after such an appeal, the English electors have returned such a vast majority of Liberals to Parliament, it must follow that they have returned them in order that they may give Ireland Home Rule. Yet we all know well that it is not so; we know that the English have voted Liberal because they want free food; because they are sick of

the Ministry that made the South African War, and because they love to play see-saw and are tired of Conservatism; they want change, in fact. But, be this as it may, the Home Rule herring failed to draw, neither did it provoke any sign of disapproval.

### A Sad Event.

There was one very sad event at the election for North Galway, where Colonel Nolan was opposed by a Mr. Higgins, a Nationalist. Just before the close of the poll, Mr. Higgins was taken ill, and a few minutes after the Sheriff had proclaimed him elected by a large majority he expired. The incident, so strikingly illustrative of the vanity of human ambition, the awful nothingness of worldly things, made a deep impression on the public.

### Revival of an Old Industry.

An effort is about to be made towards the revival of a once flourishing trade in Ireland, that of glove-making. Fifty years ago there were in Cork alone 500 glovers and 40 master-glovers: to-day there is one master-glover who employs just a few hands in his factory. And yet, the articles produced by this factory are quite equal to anything we get from France: they are durable, fine in quality, well cut, and no dearer than the same class of foreign gloves. It is hoped that means will be found to bring back the old prosperity to the trade by once again teaching the country people to value and care their goats and to properly flay and preserve kid skins, by opening workshops for the various processes of the glover's trade, and last, but not least, by encouraging the sale and purchase of the home-manufactured article. The matter is being taken up by a prominent member of the Board of Technical Instruction, so that probably some State aid may be at first forthcoming for preliminary encouragement and help.

In days gone by, 'fairings' were a great custom in Ireland, and a favorite fairing for gentlemen in Counties Limerick and Tipperary to bring to their lady acquaintances was a pair of Limerick gloves. These were marvellously fine chamois gloves; so fine, in fact, that they were sold enclosed in a walnut shell, tied with a true lover's knot of pretty riband. The contents of the little walnut cost five shillings. I happened to possess two pairs of these now rare gloves, and it is through this fact becoming known that I have learned that the old industry is again to be fostered.

### Picturesque and Historic Old Dublin

is fast disappearing, at least the picturesque and historic parts associated with the old city that grew around Christ's Church, the Castle, around St. Patrick's Cathedral, the famous 'Close' where Dean Swift was in by-gone days a familiar figure; Patrick street, the Coombe, the centre of our once famous tabinet, or Irish poplin, weaving, Kevin street, where Curran and his 'Monks of the Screw' held revel; Fishamble street, in whose theatre, Handel produced his great 'Messiah'—all these classic localities fell so low, grew so poverty-stricken, that—though picturesque in very truth, from quaint architecture and the vivid coloring given by innumerable old clothes shops—the tottering gables became a danger to their swarms of inmates, and the red, blue, gold, white, violet, green, all colors and shapes of draperies that hung out and fluttered on the breeze gave a disease-laden odor to the zephyr that came along, wafted from the Liffey. And so, in spite of the sighs of artistic-souled citizens, who lived far from the scenes and only came now and then to revel in the scenic; in spite of the sighs and real heart-burnings of the denizens of the old houses, it was decided by the modern improvement men amongst the City Fathers that the picturesque must go, must give way to soap and water, baths, small parks, model lodging houses, and all the rest of it, and going it is, with a vengeance. Yes, with a vengeance, from the hordes of the very poorest of the poor traders who catered for their kind on 'The Stone Counter' (the flags of Patrick street), on which goods of every kind were laid out and sold by general auction on Saturdays—a rare sight too. Whither the poor souls thus rooted and routed out have slunk away to I have asked, but, so far, cannot find out; but I pity them. And I sigh, too, for the picturesque, the gaudy rags and tatters that made my streets in Cairo of old St. Patrick's street, Wine-tavern street, and so on.

M.B.

### COUNTY NEWS

#### CLARE—Death of an ex-Asylum Official

The death is reported of Dr. Richard Phillips Gelston, aged sixty. Deceased was Superintendent of Ennis Asylum, and resigned in 1899 on pension.

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**CORK—A Presentation**

A handsome piece of solid silver and crystal and an illuminated address have been presented by the staff of the Fishery School, Baltimore, as a mark of appreciation, to Rev. Father Hill, who has retired from the managership to take up pastoral charge of Timoleague.

**DUBLIN—A Nice Point**

Lady Dockrell is chairman of the Blackrock Urban Council, and enjoys the distinction of being the first Irish lady to receive such an honor in Ireland. She has devoted much time and energy to the interests of the township. Her election raises a nice point. 'Chairmen of Urban Councils, by virtue of their office, hold the Commission of the Peace, and now the question arises—can a J.P.-ship be held by a lady?

**Boycotting the Lord-Lieutenant**

The London 'Evening News' publishes prominently a story which has reached it from Dublin to the effect that the King has heard that it is the intention of many Irish people to boycott Lord and Lady Aberdeen, and not to attend any of the Castle festivities. 'It is stated,' says the 'Evening News,' 'that his Majesty was so annoyed on hearing this that he said he would make a point of going to Dublin towards the end of the season and holding a drawing-room, or rather a Court, in person, and that none of those people who kept aloof from the Viceregal entertainments would be allowed to attend.'

**Death of an Artist**

The death took place recently at St. Vincent's Hospital, Dublin, of Mr. William Jones, the well known black and white artist. He was a brother of 'Thaddeus,' the famous artist, whose pictures of Gladstone, Pope Leo XIII, and the present Pope gained such admiration. The brothers were very much alike in personal appearance. The late Mr. Jones possessed remarkable ability, and most of his work was notable for its delicacy of touch and correct drawing. Personally he was of a quiet and yet most genial disposition, and he had hosts of friends in the city to whom the news of his death in the fulness of his powers will come as a great shock.

**KERRY—Fire in a Church**

A serious fire occurred on January 29 at St. John's parish church, Tralee. The damage was estimated at £500.

**SLIGO—Tenants Purchase their Holdings**

On January 26, in the Land Judge's Court, Dublin, Justice Ross had before him the case of the estate of H. C. Lloyd, situated in the county of Sligo, in which thirty tenants are anxious to purchase their holdings. The Receiver stated that they were most respectable men, that they had heretofore paid their rents regularly; and those in arrear were so through no fault of their own. The Rev. Father Gallagher gave evidence on the tenants' behalf. Mr. Justice Ross said his terms were the payment of 3½ per cent. on the purchase money from November 1, 1903, to the date of the completion of the sale; 23 years' purchase for tenants who had had their rents fixed since 1896, and 21 years' for the others.

**TIPPERARY—Sale of an Estate**

The tenants on the Harden estate, Borrisoleigh, have agreed with the landlord's agent to purchase their holdings on the following terms: First term tenants to pay 20½, and second term tenants 22½ years' purchase respectively of present rents. Negotiations for the sale of this property were opened about twelve months ago, but fell through owing to the landlord's demand of 27 years' purchase.

**GENERAL****Practical Sympathy**

American congratulations on the result of the elections (says the 'Freeman's Journal') takes the substantial and satisfactory form of a contribution of £2000. Never was the Irish movement stronger on the other side of the Atlantic; never more confident. The United Irish League of America, announcing the subscription, cables to Mr. Redmond:—'Your splendid leadership endorsed by Irish America, and confidence of winning Home Rule under your guidance stronger here than ever. America sustains united, pledge-bound party, no other.' In the struggle that is before the Party, under circumstances unprecedented in the history of the movement, this sympathy and support of Irish America is in truth an invaluable asset. In Canada and Australia support of the Irish cause is not less strong than in the United States.

**People We Hear About**

Sir James Matthew's retirement leaves the English Bench without a single Judge appointed during Mr. Gladstone's administrations. Only one survives in Ireland—Chief Baron Palles, also a Catholic.

The most Irish island in the West Indies is Montserrat, an English possession known as 'Little Ireland.' All the old Irish names are represented—Ryan, Reilly, Roach, O'Brien, and others—and borne by the vast majority of the 11,000 inhabitants. Even localities are known by the names of the owners of the neighboring sugar mills—O'Farrell's, Daly's, Furlong's, etc.

Great interest has been aroused, especially in the Catholic section of society in the United Kingdom, by the announcement of the engagement of Lord Ninian Crichton-Stuart, only brother of the Marquis of Bute, whose heir-presumptive he is, to Viscount and Viscountess Gormanston's only daughter. Lord Ninian is nearly twenty-three, his fiancée, who recently acted as one of the young Marchioness of Bute's bridesmaids, being about the same age.

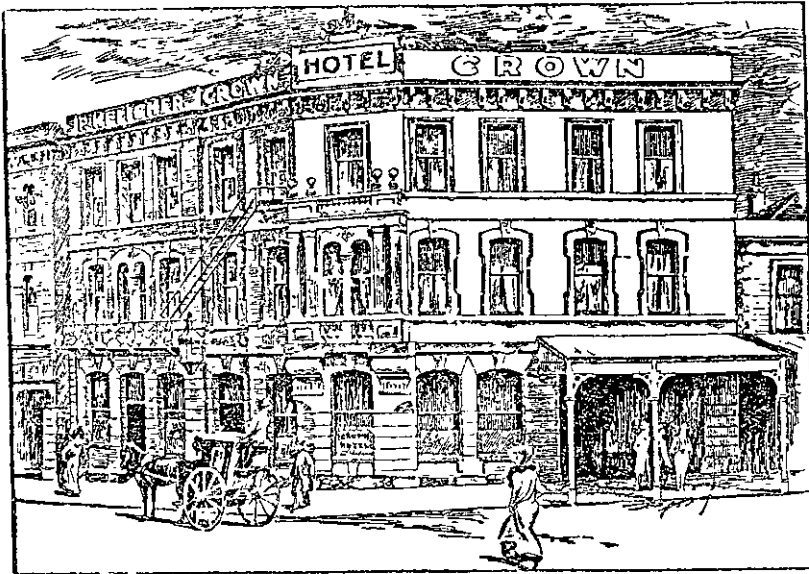
A remarkable feature of the new House of Commons will be the large number of literary men and journalists among its members. Mr. A. E. W. Mason, the well known novelist, has been returned for Coventry; Sir G. Parker, who has made the Canadian North-west familiar to the British public, is the member for Gravesend; Mr. Hilaire Belloc, whose 'Path to Rome' entranced so many readers, represents Salford South. Other well known writers in the new House are Mr. H. Paul, the well known historian, essayist, and critic; Mr. C. F. Masterman, and Mr. Henry Norman.

Mr. Joseph Patrick Nannetti, Member of Parliament for one of the divisions of Dublin, Lord Mayor of Dublin, and chief compositor of the 'Freeman's Journal,' was born in 1851, and is the son of an Italian sculptor and modeller. He was educated at the schools of the Christian Brothers, Dublin. He was apprenticed to the printing trade, and was afterwards employed in Liverpool, where he was one of the founders of the Home Rule organisation. Later he became secretary and afterward president of the Trade Council of Dublin, a member of the Corporation of Dublin and of the Port and Docks Board.

Mr. Hilaire Belloc, the brilliant young writer, who has wrested South Salford, after an exceedingly warm contest, from a powerful local brewer, has held a prominent place in literature and journalism in recent years. He is partly of French origin, and served for a time as a driver in the French Artillery, as described in his 'Path to Rome.' After this experience he came back to England, and had a distinguished career at Balliol, where he was the centre of an active group of Liberal undergraduates. After leaving Balliol he devoted himself to journalism and literature, and has long been known as a brilliant critic of recent 'Imperialism.'

Lord de Clifford, who recently married an actress of the Aldwych Theatre, is the twenty-fifth baron of his house, the creation dating back to 1299, the first Baron, who was also Earl Marshal of England, falling at the Battle of Bannockburn. The present Baron, who is twenty-two years of age, succeeded his father twelve years ago; and as the title has several times been in abeyance (once in the 17th century for 86 years) for want of a male heir, the introduction of new blood into the line by the latest holder of the title renders the marriage all the more noteworthy.

A correspondent of the Edinburgh 'Catholic Herald,' writing with reference to Lord Lovat, says: 'Lord Lovat's grandfather was a Catholic, but his great-grandfather was not. He married a Miss Leslie, or Duguid-Leslie, of Balquhan, a lady of an old Catholic stock, who still inherit that property, as well as property in Derbyshire, which they got by marriage to a lady of the Eyre stock. These Frasers were descendants of the Lovat stock through a son of Lord Lovat's, in the reign of Queen Mary. This son was Fraser of Knockie, near Fort-Augustus, not then built. He married a lady who brought him the estate of Strickers, which in due time came by direct descent to Thomas Fraser, the son of the Catholic lady named Leslie. On the failure of the descendants of the Lovat of '45 (who was beheaded), Thomas Fraser succeeded by a deed of entail granted by the Hon. the Master of Lovat, who should have been Lord Lovat had the peerage not been attained through his father's share in the rebellion. Thomas Fraser was grandfather of this Lord Lovat. He got the attainder removed and claimed the peerage, and in this way the family, which had been long Protestant, became again Catholic.'



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

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LADIES' DRAWING ROOM,  
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The Proprietors of "KOZIE" TEA give a Cash Discount to regular Customers in the shape of 48 Cash Prizes every half-year—three First Prizes of £5 each, and 45 others from £3 to 2s 6d each. Save your Coupons, and at the same time drink a Tea that is Delectable.

## 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.

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SPEIGHT'S CELEBRATED  
**PRIZE ALES & STOUTS.**  
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DUNEDIN,

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THORNTON QUAY, WELLINGTON.  
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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.

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

## AN EASILY DIGESTED FOOD

is a necessity for Infants, Invalids, and Aged People. "ROBINSON'S PATENT GHOATS" supplies the need. It makes a delicate and pure gruel, richer and more easy of digestion than gruel from the best Scotch oatmeal. Nor is it liable to turn sour on the weakest stomach.

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**Tailors,**

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

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THE LEADING DRAPEE,  
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Keep your eye on this house and your mind on our Bargains.

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In use for over a century as the World's Best Condiment.

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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.

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**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.

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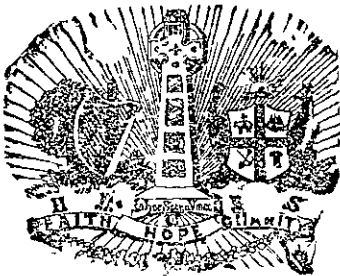
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In addition to the foregoing provision is made for the admission of Honorary Members, Reduced Benefit Members, and the establishment of Sisters' Branches and Juvenile Contingents. Full information may be obtained from Local Branch Officers or direct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

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## Commercial

### PRODUCE.

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

We held our weekly auction sale of grain and produce at our stores on Monday. There was a moderate attendance of buyers, to whom we submitted an average catalogue. For oats and wheat competition was slack, and only a few sales were effected. Potatoes and chaff had more competition, and nearly all the lines on offer were cleared at quotations. Prices ruled as under :—

Oats.—There is no change either in values or demand. The export trade being done is on the smallest possible scale, and as only a limited quantity can be placed locally, consignments are not readily disposed. Threshing has now begun, but so far the only samples received are from northern districts. Quotations: Prime milling, : old oats, : 1s 11d to 1s 11½d; good to best feed, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; medium, 1s 9d to 1s 9½d per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat.—Millers are supplying their immediate requirements with new wheat from early northern districts at prices which show a considerable reduction on late values for old wheat in this market. The latter class is therefore difficult to deal with even at a slight sacrifice in value. Fowl wheat is not offering plentifully, and, in comparison with milling quality, commands good sale. Quotations: Prime milling, 3s 3d to 3s 4d; medium to good, 3s 2d to 3s 3d; whole fowl wheat, 3s 1d to 3s 2d, broken and damaged, 2s 9d to 3s per bushel (sacks extra).

Barley.—There is good inquiry for prime, bright new season's milling quality. So far most of the samples to hand from the north are more or less discolored, but sound lines (plump and bright) can be placed at a slight improvement on late quotations.

Potatoes.—Fair supplies have come forward during the past few days, and late quotations are not maintained. At to-day's sale we submitted several lots of good white sorts, which realised £8 10s to £9 for best lines, and for medium £7 to £8 per ton (sacks included).

Chaff.—Prime oaten sheaf has not been quite so plentiful, and, with fair local demand, prices have advanced about 2s 6d per ton. Medium and inferior lines are still quite neglected, and are in over-supply. Quotations: Prime oaten sheaf, £3 12s 6d to £3 17s 6d; medium to good, £3 to £3 10s per ton (bags extra).

Pressed Straw is offering at a slight reduction on late values.

Messrs. Stronach, Morris, and Co. report :—

Oats.—No change to report in this market, quotations being as follow: Prime milling (old oats), 1s 11d to 1s 11½d; good to best feed, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; medium, 1s 9d to 1s 9½d per bushel.

Wheat.—There are several lines of northern wheat (new season's) now on the market, and in consequence values all round show a considerable reduction, viz., prime milling, 3s 3d to 3s 4d; medium to good, 3s 2d to 3s 3d; whole fowl wheat, 3s 1d to 3s 2d; broken and damaged, 2s 9d to 3s per bushel.

Potatoes.—The market has been better supplied during the last few days, and in consequence prices are somewhat easier again, viz., best white sorts, £8 10s to £9; medium, £7 to £8 per ton.

Chaff.—Supplies are not quite so plentiful, and prime quality shows a rise of 2s 6d per ton, although medium and inferior is still hard to place at late rates. Quotations: Prime oaten sheaf, £3 12s 6d to £3 17s 6d; medium to good, £3 to £3 10s per ton.

Messrs. Nimmo and Blair report as follows :—

Wheat.—Most of the demand is for new season's wheat from northern districts, consequently the demand for old wheat has gone off considerably. Although fowl wheat is not offering freely buyers are not over anxious to operate extensively at quotations. We quote: Prime milling, 3s 3d to 3s 4d; medium to good, 3s 2d to 3s 3d; whole fowl wheat, 3s 1d to 3s 2d; broken and damaged, 2s 9d to 3s per bushel (sacks extra).

Oats.—Business continues quiet. The bulk of the sales going through are for local consumption, there being little or no export demand. We quote: Prime milling, old oats, 1s 11d to 1s 11½d; good to best feed, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; medium, 1s 9d to 1s 9½d per bushel (sacks extra).

Chaff.—Consignments are not coming to hand so rapidly and values have hardened. We quote: Prime oaten sheaf, £3 12s 6d to £3 17s 6d; medium to good, £3 to £3 10s per ton (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—The market is only moderately supplied, and unless supplies come in more freely values can be expected to firm. We quote: Prime potatoes, £8 15s to £9; medium, £8 to £8 10s; stale and other sorts, £7 to £7 10s per ton.

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

Butter.—Dairy, 7d; prime milled, 8d to 8½d; separator, 8½d to 9d per lb.

Eggs.—In firm demand at 1s 5d per dozen.

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

### WOOL.

Messrs. Stronach, Morris, and Co. report :—

Rabbitskins and Sheepskins—No sales since last report.

Hides.—We offered a catalogue of 231 at our sale on Tuesday last, 13th inst., when competition was good, and prices compared favorably with those ruling at last sale. Our top price for ox was 6¾d, and for cows 5½d.

Tallow and Fat—All coming forward meets with a ready sale at late rates.

## Late Burnside Stock Report

Per favor Messrs. Donald Reid and Co.

Fat Cattle.—123 head yarded. There was a brisk sale for prime bullocks and heifers, but medium sorts were dull. Best bullocks, £9 5s to £9 17s 6d, medium to good, £7 10s to £8 15s; others, £5 10s to £6 15s, best cows and heifers, £6 15s to £8 5s; medium to good, £5 5s to £6 5s.

Sheep—1160 yarded, a fair proportion of these being ewes and medium to good wethers. Prices were about on a par with last week's rates. Best wethers, 18s to 22s 6d, a pen of extra heavy sold at 26s; medium to good, 11s to 17s 9d, best ewes, 15s to 17s; extra heavy, up to 19s 3d.

Lambs—570 yarded. Prices for prime sorts showed an advance on last week's rates. Prime lambs, 14s to 15s 3d; extra heavy, 16s 3d; medium to good, 11s to 12s 6d.

Pigs—96 yarded, only one pen of these being suckers, the balance consisting of porkers and baconers. Prices at the beginning of the sale were in advance of those ruling last week, but eased somewhat towards the finish. Suckers, 8s to 10s 6d, slips, 12s to 16s; stores, 19s to 23s, porkers, 28s to 34s; light baconers, 38s to 42s; heavy do, 44s to 48s.

A list of the winning numbers in the Temuka art union is published in this issue.

This is an age of progress in all mechanical arts, when the minds of men are busy in inventing all kinds of appliances for the saving of manual labor, and of lessening the cost of production. In the past the man of an inventive turn of mind had many difficulties to contend with before he could hope to reap any reward from his labors. Nowadays he can consult a patent agent who is in a position to give him practical advice as to the probable value of his invention, and the steps necessary to secure to him the results of his skill. Mr. Henry Hughes, who has been in the business for nearly a quarter of a century, will be pleased to give information on patents, trade marks, and designs to all inquirers. The head offices are at Queen's Chambers, Wellington, with branches at Hereford street, Christchurch, and A.M.P. Buildings, Dunedin and Auckland...

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Capital ... .. £1,500,000  
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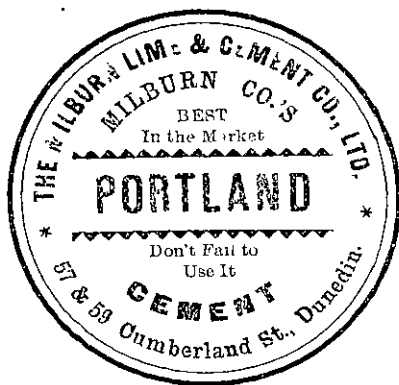
Ladies whose figures have suffered from the ravages of disease should use "VELVITA." It produces plumpness and symmetry. "VELVITA" gives a well-developed and gracefully-rounded bust. "VELVITA" fills up the hollows in neck and shoulders, giving handsome queenly appearance. A strictly scientific remedy, feeding the tissues and Softening the Skin.

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 NAPIER, GISBORNE and AUCKLAND— Tuesdays and Fridays.  
 SYDNEY, via WELLINGTON and COOK STRAIT— Every Thursday.  
 SYDNEY via EAST COAST PORTS and AUCKLAND— Every Tuesday  
 MELBOURNE via BLUFF & HOBART— Every Sunday.  
 ONEHUNGA and NEW PLYMOUTH, via Oamaru, Timaru, Lyttelton, & Wellington— Corinna Fortnightly.  
 WESTPORT and GREYHOUTH via Oamaru, Timaru, Lyttelton, and Wellington (cargo only)— Every Thursday.

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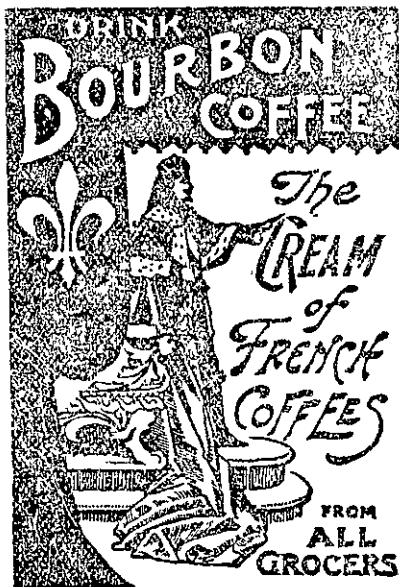
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56a	VIII.	60 0 00	5 6	8 5 0
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Subdivision 22.				
64a, 65a	IV.	278 3 06	7 6	52 5 5
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66a, 67a and 68a	IV.	790 3 05	8 3	163 1 11 *25 5 0
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70a, 71a	IV, VII.	1102 3 16	4 6	124 1 5
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District Lands and Survey Office,  
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MANAGER *N.Z. Tablet.*



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

LEO. XIII. to the N.Z. TABLET

THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 1906

**OLD AGE PENSIONS**



**L**AST week the British House of Commons affirmed the principle of providing old-age pensions out of funds raised from taxation. It was a more or less academic resolution. It binds parties to nothing, and it may possibly afford timorous or incapable political leaders a cheap means of putting off till to-morrow, and the day after, and many days after, the pressing social reforms that

they have not the courage or the brains to squarely face to-day. None the less, it is a sign of the times that such a resolution should emanate from a Parliament that within living memory—or a little beyond it—legislated the British worker into a state of abject slavery and of physical and moral degradation such as has never been witnessed in any age or country. We believe, with Boyle O'Reilly, in the ultimate triumph of the masses of the people in their struggle against the tyranny of modern feudalism for the God-given right to live humanly. The conquest of the full measure of natural rights may be here and there delayed. But (as the great Boston poet and seer puts it) it 'will end, as all natural contests must end, in the triumph of mercy, morality, and freedom, for these are the law of God.'

In no country has labor been more deeply wronged than in England; in no country is it entitled to demand a heavier reparation. The days of its degradation and impoverishment began—as it began in Germany—with the Reformation. In one of his lectures, Professor Thorold Rogers (the great authority on labor problems in history) points out the successive steps by which the beggary and ruin of the British worker was accomplished: by the extravagance of Henry VIII. and his dissolution of the monasteries; by the confiscation of the trades' unions' lands, the issue of a debased coinage, and the re-introduction and legalisation of slavery under Edward VI.; and by the savage repressive legislation of Elizabeth's days, which made England a physical hell-of-the-damned to the working man from the time of the 'Virgin Queen' till the nineteenth century had almost reached its meridian. We have more than once traced the story of the grinding degradation of labor in Great Britain from the evil days of 'the great Eliza' till close up to the year of grace 1850. It is a heart-riving story. Almost at the close of the first half of the 'century of light and progress,' Engel compressed the bulky volumes of official reports (1833-1812) into a tabloid story of 'children and young people in factories overworked and beaten as if they were slaves; of diseases and distortions only found in manufacturing districts; of filthy, wretched houses where people huddle together like wild beasts. We hear,' he adds—still compressing the Blue-Books and Reports—'of girls and women working underground in the dark recesses of the coal-mines, dragging loads of coal in cars, in places where no horses could go, and harnessed and crawling along the subterranean pathways like beasts of burden. Everywhere we find cruelty and oppression, and in many cases the workmen were but slaves bound to fulfil their master's commands under fear of dismissal and starvation. Freedom they had in name—freedom to starve and die; but not freedom to speak, still less to act, as citizens of a free State.' 'In fact,' says Gibbins in his 'Industrial History of England,' 'the material condition of the working classes of England was at this time in the lowest depths of poverty and degradation.'

The Reform Act, the growth of trades' unions, the Chartist movement, all contributed to win back for the British worker sundry, grudging instalments of the rights that were theirs as a matter of course in the days when England was at the same time Catholic and 'Merrie England.' But at this moment no great industrial country probably lags behind the van of humanitarian factory and labor legislation as does Great Britain. In no civilised country is pauperism (that dread heritage of the Reformation) so widespread an evil and so grave a problem. And there have been very few periods, if any, during the past fifty years when distress among the workers was so acute and general, and when the problem of the unemployed commanded to such a menacing extent the attention of the public. 'The wealth of a nation is not,' says an authority on political economy, 'to be measured by the amount of riches in the hands of a few, but by the degree of prosperity generally diffused throughout the population.' Hunger and cold and starving children must have been a terrible logic in the angry brains of the ten thousand workers that recently paraded the principal streets of London, singing the 'Marseillaise' and demanding work—not the pauper's dole. The New York 'Freeman' aptly translates the grim cry of anguish of this sodden mass of humanity in Swinburne's lines:—

'Ye whose meat is sweet  
And your wine-cup red,  
Us beneath your feet  
Hunger grinds as wheat,  
Grinds to make you bread.  
'Ye whose night is bright  
With soft rest and heat,  
Clothed like day with light,  
Us the naked night  
Slays from street to street.'

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For generations class legislation in England has been steadily sharpening the contrast between the House of Have and the House of Want (as Henry George calls them). Boyle O'Reilly thus sounds the note of warning as to its possible results:—

'Beware with your Classes! Men are men, and a cry in the night is a fearful teacher;  
When it reaches the heart of the masses, then they need but a sword for a judge and preacher.  
'Take heed, for your Juggernaut pushes hard; God holds the doom that its day completes;  
It will dawn like a fire when the track is barred by a barricade in the city streets.'

It is easy for Parliament to pass academic resolutions, and for Ministers to talk unctuous platitudes about 'prudence' and 'patience'; but in the meantime the workers in the street and their children in the rookeries of the big cities are starving. With the lead given by New Zealand and Australia and Switzerland and Holland and Germany, we hope that the British Parliament will go, and go speedily, beyond the mere affirmation of principles. A Parliament that spent £250,000,000 in money (plus thousands of useful lives) to increase the fat dividends of a coterie of mostly foreign mining magnates on the Rand, might reasonably be expected to invest a small fraction of that sum to mend and end a condition of things that is a standing reproach to Britain.

## Notes

### Socialism

In the 'Otago Daily Times' of last Monday the place of honor is held by an exceedingly able and well-written leading article on the recently published pastoral letter on Socialism by the Archbishop of Wellington. Our esteemed local contemporary gives strong support, practically all along the line, to the views expressed by his Grace regarding the phase of socialism with which he deals. Not alone the destructive, but the constructive, criticism of the Archbishop is greeted with a hearty endorsement by the 'Otago Daily Times.' It accepts, as the ultimate settlement of a very vexed and complicated question, the plea of the pastoral for 'social reform along the four lines of protected labor, of organized labor, of insured labor, and, lastly, of diffusive ownership.' 'Of these,' says our morning contemporary, 'the fourth is the most important.' And it views with approval the following proposition contained in the pastoral:—

'The majority of the people should not live merely from hand to mouth, but should have, each family, its small capital—some partnership, shares, or stocks, but principally a small plot of mother earth, from the size of a garden to the size of a small farm, that no creditor could touch, that belonged to the family rather than to the individual.'

New Zealand leads the world in the success of its efforts for a wider diffusion of wealth directly in the matter of the usufruct or ownership of land, indirectly by means of its industrial legislation. Much has been done among us for the organisation, protection, and insurance of labor. But much still remains to be done before ideal conditions are attained. The policy of diffusive ownership still tends with us towards the little sacrosanct family capital—the New Zealand equivalent of the 'three acres and a cow.' Well, perhaps Micah's prophecy is not, after all, so far off from fulfillment: 'Every man shall sit under his vine and under his fig-tree, and there shall be none to make them afraid; for the mouth of the Lord of hosts hath spoken.' Yes, that is it. The Lord of hosts must be in the new social reform if the pleasant idyll of good men's hopes is ever to be realised—if it is ever to be more substantial than the stuff that dreams are made of.

## DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

On Wednesday the annual sports meeting in connection with St. Patrick's Day took place in Lawrence, the annual concert being held in the evening.

The handsome new church being erected in Naseby (parochial district of Ranfurly) is approaching completion. We understand that it will be blessed and opened shortly after Easter.

At a meeting of St. Joseph's choir on Thursday evening a presentation of a travelling rug was made to Mr. B. Stevens, who has been connected with the choir for a number of years. The presentation was made by Mr. P. Carolin.

The new Catholic chapel at Waikaka (says the 'Southern Standard') is approaching completion, and is to be blessed and opened shortly by the Right Rev. Dr. Verdon. The building, which occupies a commanding position in the township, is 40ft long by 22ft wide, the contractor being Mr. M. Hay, of Gore, and the architect Mr. W. Willis.

The following (says the 'Wakatip Mail') are the results of the harmony examinations in connection with the Trinity College, London, held last December at the Dominican Convent:—Junior grade—Pearl Evans (honors), Chrissie Bonner (honors), Mary M'Carthy, Jack Aldridge. Preparatory grade—Rita M'Neill, Georgina and Letitia Constable, Colleen Evans, Mary Boyle, Nellie O'Connell, Florence Layburn, J. M'Chesney, and Daniel M'Mullan.

The annual concert in aid of the funds of the Waikaka Catholic church was held in the Coronation Hall on Friday evening (says the 'Mataura Ensign'), and proved one of the best of similar events for a long time. Mr. John Maher presided, and the Rev. Father Keenan closed the proceedings with a happy speech. The concert programme (every item of which was encored) was as follows:—Songs—Misses Brown, Dunn (Riversdale), Logan (Gore), Gulliver (Dunedin), and Herlihy (Waikaka), Messrs. Delargey, Sproat, and Rawlinson. The various accompaniments were tastefully played by Misses Leahy, Brown, and Delargey, Miss Brown also contributing an excellent violin solo. The committee, consisting of Messrs. J. Maher, Herlihy, Delargey, Monaghan, O'Reilly, and Crowley, all worked most assiduously to secure the success of the entertainment and the enjoyment of the very large audience patronising it.

For some time past (writes an occasional correspondent) the ladies of Macraes had been energetically preparing for a bazaar, and on St. Patrick's Day the result of their efforts took a practical shape. The display of goods, useful and ornamental, was the admiration of all, and it is needless to say that such an exhibition was a pronounced success. The one large stall on the stage had a splendid stock of goods of all kinds, and the ladies in charge, Mrs. Cowan, Mrs. Callery, and Mrs. Fraser, were assisted by a number of young ladies belonging to Macraes, while the Misses Ryan, O'Connell, and Kenny came from Hyde. Besides the bazaar, the usual St. Patrick's Day sports were held, and in the morning the local choir was assisted by the Hyde choir, so that St. Patrick's Day on this occasion was becomingly celebrated in the quiet old digging township of Macraes. At the close of the bazaar Father Lynch paid a well-merited compliment to the workers in general, and thanked the public for their very liberal patronage and the graceful manner in which they had assisted to make the bazaar such a remarkable success.

On Sunday, which was the next following the feast of St. Patrick, there was Solemn High Mass at St. Patrick's Basilica, South Dunedin, at 11 o'clock. The Rev. Father O'Reilly was celebrant, Rev. Father Howard, deacon, Rev. M. Ryan, subdeacon. Rev. Father Cleary was master of ceremonies, and also preached a sermon appropriate to the occasion, 'taking for his text 'Let us give praise to men of renown.' The choir, under the conductorship of Mr. T. Deehan, gave an excellent rendering of the music—Farmer's Mass in B flat. Mr. E. H. Eagar (choirmaster) presided at the organ. At the nine o'clock Mass and also at the Mass on St. Patrick's Day the children sang the music in the Gregorian chant. There was a very large congregation at Vespers when the Rev. Father O'Reilly preached, taking for his text, 'Go out of thy country; leave thy father's house, and go into the land that I will show thee.' The preacher in an eloquent peroration gave a history of the Catholic faith in the Green Isle from the time of St. Patrick, portraying in vivid terms the many vicissitudes undergone, through which the faith instilled in the hearts of the Irish people by St. Patrick remained unshaken. During the offertory the choir rendered a hymn of praise to St. Patrick, using the old traditional melody. At the close the congregation sang the hymn 'Faith of our fathers.'

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Without doubt (writes an occasional correspondent) the most enjoyable and best attended social ever held in Cromwell took place on Saturday evening, in the Athenaeum Hall. Over 160 persons were present. A number of the competing volunteers for the Goldfields' Challenge Shield, which was fired for during the day, were present as guests of the local corps. Several songs were rendered during the evening, Mrs. Dr. Morris, who sang 'Kate Kearney' in splendid style, being vociferously applauded. An excellent supper was provided by the ladies. The sum of £13 was taken at the door.

As is usually the case, and as was generally expected, the concert in connection with the Irish national festival was a success from every point of view. His Majesty's Theatre was packed in every part with a sympathetic audience, and nearly all the items were encored, which showed that the efforts of the performers were thoroughly appreciated. The opening selection, 'The beauties of Ireland,' by the Kaiorai Band, was really a splendid item, and, including as it did some of the best and most popular national melodies, appealed in a special manner to the majority of those present. In the opening of the second part of the programme the band was again most successful in 'The smithy in the wood,' in which the descriptive work was given with fine effect. That pathetic ballad, 'Rory Darlin,' was sung in a most sympathetic and finished manner by Miss Violet Kraser, who had to respond to a well deserved recall. The only other lady soloist was Mrs. W. Connor, concerning whose singing the audience had formed high expectations, and in this they were not disappointed, as she sang both the programme and encore items, 'The last rose of summer,' 'The dear little shamrock,' etc., with great taste and feeling, and with a thorough appreciation of their requirements. A clever little maiden, Miss Patricia Higgins, gave an exhibition of step-dancing which was described on the programme as an 'Irish jig,' but most of its movements were not familiar to exponents of Irish dancing. A feature of the entertainment was the recitation, 'Napoleon's tomb,' by Mr. A. C. Hanlon, which was given in his best style, and naturally the audience wanted more, to which he responded with Bracken's 'Not understood.' The Christian Brothers' singing class, assisted by Messrs. Hussey and Carolin, gave two very acceptable harmonised items, 'The Coulin,' and 'Rich and rare.' Mr. T. J. Hussey sang in his usually finished style 'Come back to Erin,' 'Believe me, if all those endearing young charms,' and 'Eileen Alannah.' Mr. B. Stevens got a well merited recall for his sweetly sung item. The remaining soloist was Mr. P. Carolin, who was also recalled for his singing of 'Eun, my country.' The balance of the programme was made up of a quartet, 'The harp that once,' by Misses Drumm, Hebernan, and Messrs. Hussey and Carolin, a trio, 'The minstrel boy,' by Messrs. Hussey, Carolin, and Lemon, and humorous songs by Mr. Percy James. The last-mentioned vocalist is a clever and versatile humorist, but the greater part of his audience rightly took a strong exception to his final selection, a rough piece with the sort of coarse humor that might be at home upon the variety stage, but ought never to have been presented before such a gathering as faced the performer on last Friday night. Mr. James mistook his audience. The accompanists during the evening were Misses M. Drumm and C. Hughes. The success of the entertainment was in a great measure due to the committee entrusted with the arrangements, and especially to the energetic hon. secretary, Mr. W. Rodgers.

**Oamaru**

(From an occasional correspondent.)

March 19.

A very edifying sight was witnessed at St. Patrick's Basilica here last Sunday, when the members of the local Hibernian Society to the number of about 40 approached the Holy Table in a body in honor of the feast of their patron, St. Patrick.

A very successful concert was held in St. Joseph's Hall here on Saturday evening last (St. Patrick's night). The hall was comfortably filled by an enthusiastic audience, and the items by the different performers were highly appreciated. The following programme was gone through:—Songs, Misses J. Sweeney, K. Cagney, M. Rodgers, and Mrs. Lynch (Timaru); Messrs. Curran and Halpin; Irish dances by Misses H. Sweeney, Mulloy and Cagney; duet (violin and piano), Miss Cartwright and Mr. McBride; recitations, Mrs. Donovan and Messrs. Mulvihill and Moriarty. One of the most pleasing items of the evening was the sing-

ing of the school children in 'The shamrock.' Besides this item the children contributed others in the shape of club swinging and dumb-bell exercises, both of which were much admired.

**Invercargill**

(From an occasional correspondent.)

On last Sunday his Lordship Bishop Verdon administered the Sacrament of Confirmation in St. Mary's Church, Invercargill, to a number of children of the town and suburbs. The allotted ground-floor and the galleries were closely filled by the parents and friends of the large number of candidates. The ceremony took place at 2.30 p.m. The Bishop confirmed 235 candidates—112 males and 123 females. His Lordship expressed himself as much pleased and gratified with the careful preparation and the knowledge of their religion shown by the young people. He exhorted them to keep up their religious knowledge and to go on in the good dispositions which now filled their minds. All this they might do by avoiding bad conversations, bad literature and dangerous company, and by cultivating with persistence a spirit of piety, through daily prayer, reading good books and papers, frequenting the sacraments, and by that self-denial which should characterise every good Christian. An act of self-denial which he particularly recommended to those confirmed that day, was the keeping of the pledge of the League of the Cross. The Bishop recited the words of the pledge and asked the children to take and keep it. He was much gratified with the unmistakable progress religion was making in the capital of Southland. Already the Catholic congregation was the largest in this flourishing town, and the vast number, intelligence, and truly Catholic demeanor of those confirmed that day, were evidence of what the future of religion in Invercargill was going to be. On Monday afternoon 29 children were confirmed at the Bluff.

**Milton**

The annual concert in Milton in honor of the patron saint of Ireland (says the 'Bruce Herald') never fails to draw a large audience, and that given in St. George's Hall on Friday evening proved no exception to the rule. The Milton Brass Band rendered selections outside the hall prior to the concert. The committee which had the arrangements in hand had spared neither pains nor expense in providing a first-rate programme, and the audience was enthusiastic and appreciative, encores being demanded with such frequency that the programme was extended to about twice its original length. The proceedings opened with the singing of 'National airs' by the school children, after which a pianoforte duet was skilfully executed by convent pupils (Misses E. Ward, E. Coleman, M. Walls, and N. Angus). Miss Carter (Dunedin) was next heard to advantage in the song, 'The Irish reel,' while as an encore number she sang 'Idle words.' Mr. J. B. McClymont's rendition of 'Jack's the boy' earned for him an encore. Miss Jean Dunsmuir (Dunedin) sang 'Angus McDonald,' earning a well deserved encore, in response to which she sweetly sang 'I may or I may not.' Miss Angus then played a pianoforte solo, 'Irish airs,' after which Miss Brady (Dunedin) sang 'Eileen Alannah,' and as an encore number 'The meeting of the waters.' A shamrock song and dance by the little tots met with due appreciation. Miss H. Sweeney, A.T.C.L. (Gore) delighted the audience with her singing of 'Rory darlin,' and was enthusiastically encored. The first part of the programme was brought to a close by Mr. A. Bryce, singing 'The low-backed car,' with an encore number.

After a brief interval the second portion of the programme was proceeded with, as follows. Chorus, school children; pianoforte solo, Misses E. Coleman and M. Walls; Irish jig, Mr. J. Powley (encored); song, 'Kil-larney,' Miss Dunsmuir (encored); song, 'Vanity,' Mr. J. B. McClymont (encored); chorus, 'Dear little shamrock,' six convent pupils; song, 'Avourneen,' Miss Sweeney (encored); recitation, Mr. J. Parlane (encored); song, 'The wearing of the green,' Miss Richmond (Dunedin); song, 'The march of the Cameron men,' Mr. A. Bryce. The duties of accompanist were discharged by Miss Scanlan, to whom a special word of praise is due.

During an interval the Very Rev. Father O'Neill said he was extremely pleased to see such a splendid house. He expressed his thanks to the performers, who had given their services willingly; to Messrs. Coombe Bros. for the use of the hall, and to the members of the Milton Brass Band for their services.

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### Ashhurst

(From an occasional correspondent.)

A very enjoyable social was given to ex-Constable Franklin, who had been recently retired from the service on pension, after serving 26 years in the police force. The social was held in Duley's Hall, which was nicely decorated for the occasion, the tables being heavily laden with the best of good things. The chair was taken by Mr. Lynch, of Ruma, who proposed the toast of 'The King,' which was responded to by Mr. Peterson. The toast of the evening was that of the guests, Mr. and Mrs. Franklin, who were presented with an illuminated address, the work of Master Duley, 'which is a credit to a boy of only fifteen years of age. Mr. Franklin was also presented with a gold chain and pendant, which were made to order, and Mrs. Franklin with a pearl and sapphire pendant.

In replying to the address Mr. Franklin said it was a difficult matter to reply to the farewell message contained therein, and the very kind remarks of the chairman and other friends; he could not express the feelings he felt, and thanked his Ashhurst and Pohangina friends for the kindness they had always shown him, which he could never forget.

The presentation was made by Mr. F. West. The address to Mr. Franklin was as follows:—

'On behalf of the residents of Ashhurst and Pohangina, we desire to express the regret we feel at your departure from our midst, and express a hope that wherever you may go you may be as highly esteemed as you have been here. While regretting your departure from us we would express a wish that yourself, Mrs. Franklin, and family may enjoy good health and prosperity.'

The address was signed by sixty-seven of the principal residents of Ashhurst and Pohangina.

On Saturday night the Ashhurst Brass Band, under Bandmaster Curreen, played a number of selections in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Franklin, who left for their new home at Manaia on March 15.

### Wanganui

(From an occasional correspondent.)

The annual concert in connection with St. Patrick's Day was held in the Opera House on March 16. There was a very large attendance, and the concert was quite up to the usual standard. Miss Pinches sang 'Sweet Asthore' with much taste and expression. Another excellent item was Miss Kiely's 'Dear Land,' for which she was recalled. Madame Morley sang 'Kathleen Mavourneen' and had to submit to an encore. Mr. A. C. Lennard contributed 'The dear little shamrock' in his usually finished style, and in response to a demand for more repeated the last verse. 'Believe me' was nicely sung by Mr. McGonagle, who as an encore number contributed 'The city of sighs and tears,' and Mr. Harris Trigger sang 'Come back to Erin.' In the instrumental part of the entertainment, a violin solo was given by Father McDonald, whose artistic playing was greatly enjoyed. A violin solo, 'Killarney,' was also played by Mr. Gilby, and Mr. E. Baldrey scored a well merited encore for his banjo solo. St. Mary's choir contributed three choruses. The Irish jig was spiritedly danced by three boys of the Marist Brothers' School, to the accompaniment of the bagpipes, and the comic element was supplied by Mr. Groombridge, who scored an encore for his contribution 'Trifling occurrences.' Last on the programme, but not least, was Mr. Harris Trigger's performance of feats of strength. Mrs. Lloyd and Mrs. O'Hara played the accompaniments in their usually artistic style, and a very enjoyable evening's entertainment was brought to a close with 'God Save the King.'

### Palmerston North

(From our own correspondent.)

March 18.

St. Patrick's Day passed off very quietly in Palmerston, numbers attending at Holy Mass at 9 o'clock in St. Patrick's Church. The usual St. Patrick's Day sports were held at Raumai and at Awahuri, and were largely attended.

We are about to lose the services of Bro. Stephen John Barry, V.P. of the Hibernian Society, and delegate to the Friendly Societies' Council, who has been promoted by the Railway Department to New Plymouth. Bro. Barry was the recipient of a silver match-box at the last meeting of the Friendly Societies' Council on severing his connection with that body.

At a general meeting of the men of the parish, held in the Zealandia Hall on Friday last, the Rev. Father Costello in the chair, the following were elected as a parish committee: Messrs. C. A. Loughnan, M. Kennedy, W. Devine, H. Aisher, P. Garrity, M. Hodgins, P. J. Redwood, W. Scanlon, E. Higgins, L. Hanlon, J. Hurley, J. McLean, A. Rickard, W. Brophy, M. Power, Hy. Butler, M. Hickey, A. McKewan, W. Ryan, V. A. Dallow, R. Mulnooney. At the close of the meeting the rev. chairman made a few remarks as regards the financial position of the parish, and thanked all for their attendance and the interest they had evinced in parish affairs, and for electing such a splendid body of men to assist him in the financial part of the work of the mission. He said he had quite enough to do to look after their spiritual wants in such a large and fast-growing parish, and that in taking their own affairs into their own hands the various debts and liabilities of the mission would soon be a thing of the past. At a meeting of the newly elected committee Mr. C. A. Loughnan was unanimously appointed chairman, with Mr. M. Kennedy and Mr. W. Devine as secretary and treasurer respectively. The following sub-committees were set up:—Finance—Messrs. R. Mulrooney, F. Aisher, N. Hanlon, M. Hodgins, P. Garrity, and J. Hurley; hall—Messrs. F. Aisher (chairman), W. Scanlon, W. Devine, A. Rickard, and M. Hickey.

### The Late Constable Keaney, Mataura

A correspondent supplies us with the following particulars of the career of the late Constable Joseph Keaney, of Mataura, whose death, due to taking a carbolic lotion in mistake for medicine, was briefly reported in last week's issue of the 'N.Z. Tablet':—News of the sad event was received with feelings of the keenest sorrow throughout the various parts of Southland, where deceased was well known and highly respected. The late Mr. Keaney was the eldest son of the late Hugh Keaney, of Drumshambo, County Leitrim, and was 48 years of age. He arrived in the Colony in 1878, and soon after proceeded to Greymouth, which was the first scene of his labors, and from thence to Christchurch. Joining the police force 25 years ago, he was stationed at first in Invercargill, then in Orepuki, and finally in Mataura, where he was for the past 15 years. He was highly esteemed by all who knew him, and his many kind acts will be long remembered by the people of Southland. He was a practical Catholic, and was always foremost in works of religion or charity. He was an ardent supporter of the 'N.Z. Tablet,' and none of Ireland's exiled sons loved the land of their birth dearer than he. Telegrams of condolence were received by his sorrowing wife and family from all parts of the Colony. The funeral was largely attended, mourners being present from all parts of Southland, Dunedin, and Wellington. Members of the local lodge of Oddfellows carried the coffin to the railway station, and Inspector Mitchell with 27 men in uniform met the remains at Invercargill, when six of the men acted as pall-bearers. Rev. Father O'Donnell, of Gore, officiated at the graveside. The deceased leaves a widow and five children to mourn the loss of an affectionate husband and kind father. He is also survived by two brothers and two sisters—Mr. P. Keaney, Rotorua, and Sergeant J. Keaney, Roscommon, Ireland, and Mrs. J. McWilliams and Miss E. Keaney, Wellington.—R.I.P.

The concert and sports at Kaikoura in connection with St. Patrick's Day were very successful.

Misses Mary and Teresa Rasmussen, pupils of the Sisters of Mercy at Refton, have been successful in obtaining a partial pass in Class D. examination for teachers, and this without any training in the practical part of the teachers' work. This is quite an exceptional result for schoolgirls. They and their teachers are to be complimented on the brilliant success they have achieved.

The Railway authorities notify that excursion tickets in connection with the Easter holidays will be issued on the Hurunui-Bluff section from April 10 to April 16, and available for return up to May 15.

Particulars of the Steward Settlement, North Otago, will be found in our advertising columns. The settlement has an area of 21,345 acres, and is subdivided into 42 farms and 5 small grazing runs.

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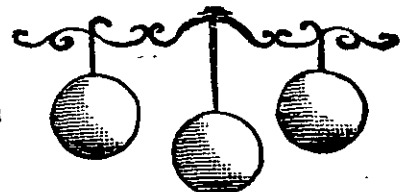
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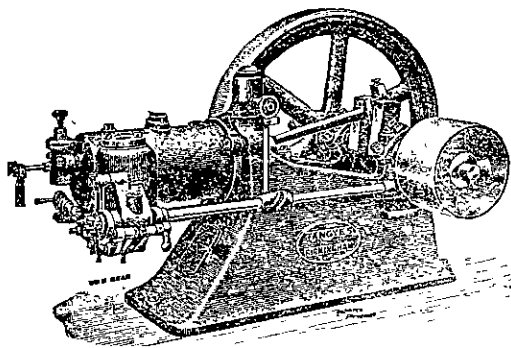
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# The Storyteller

## THE INTERPRETER.

(Concluded from last week.)

The third officer was a young man and he was afraid. He began to explain to the young mother why she must give up the body of her child, speaking at first gently, even tenderly, and then, exasperated by the total lack of comprehension in the sullen eyes, raising his voice to threaten and command. She stared from his face to the bank of gaping faces behind him, and beyond them to the ominous sea. She saw hostility everywhere, in the strange and heavy faces, in the hunger of the black waters, and clasped her cold baby tighter, trying to warm it, singing to wake it. She understood nothing except that they wanted to take it away from her and give it to the cruel gulfs that cried out for it.

The officer's hands, taking advantage of her abstraction, were already rending her shawl. She wrenched herself free from his itching fingers, and then, defying them all, she slowly unwound the crimson shrouding and uncovered her dead for them to see. She held it out in front of her as a defence, the pinched and purpling little face knotted in a final contortion of pain, the small body stiff and stark in her extended arms.

Murmuring, the crowd fell back a pace. The officer turned away in instinctive repulsion. The stricken mother had entrenched herself behind a barrier of death that neither he nor any of the others dared to pass. They were all bound by a spell of horror, and for a time no sound broke the sobbing of the sea.

Suddenly Mrs. Whiton pushed her way through the throng.

'Leave her to me,' she commanded the dazed officer, 'and send these people away.' She spoke so imperiously that the young man turned at once to obey her. Then she stepped forward and faced the girl over the outstretched body of the dead child.

As she looked at the little form, so ghastly and so pitiful, all the agony of her own desolated motherhood surged from her heart into her eyes. She lifted her face to meet the hard and suspicious gaze of the other mother, and for a few seconds they regarded each other steadily, each discovering in strange eyes a loneliness like unto her own. The sullen child-face gradually softened, and when the older woman opened her arms, with an abandon that expressed all their emptiness, the other placed her dead baby within them with a perfect trust.

Mrs. Whiton did not shrink from the touch of the alien dead. She took the little body gently from the girl's stiff clasp, smoothing down the crumpled clothing and trying to stroke the tiny face into lines of peace. She forgot that it was the corpse of an exile's child. She forgot the steerage deck and the peering faces, and spoke aloud the love words that had been stifled on her lips too soon. She forgot even the girl at her side until she felt awkward fingers caressing her black gown and looked into eyes that gave her back a mute but compassionate understanding. And she only remembered then that they were two mothers, bereft together.

An hour later, when Mr. Whiton went seeking his wife, he found her in a sheltered corner of the steerage deck, one arm around a yellow-haired Slav, the other pillowing the stark form of a dead baby. The girl was staring out with dry eyes upon the sea, and the woman was shedding the first tears she had shed since her own bereavement.

The baby was buried next morning. Despite all Mr. Whiton's arguments and his wife's entreaties, even in the sight of the mother's dumb despair, the captain had resolutely refused to carry the tiny corpse to port. 'Why, my dear sir,' he said to Mr. Whiton, 'these steerage babies die at every crossing. If I created a precedent in favor of this one, my ship would become a morgue for dead infants.'

So the barren burial service of the sea proceeded. A number of passengers from the first and second cabin gathered to witness it, and a curious crowd from the steerage filled out the silent circle that surrounded the little coffin. The mother's scarlet shawl fluttered inconspicuously against its blackness.

There was no lingering over the perfunctory ceremony. The third officer said a brief prayer, a few lines of a hymn were chanted raucously by three or four sailors, and the tiny deal box was lifted in silence. It swung for a moment on its ropes, scraped against the deck railing, and splashed into the waiting sea.

'The mother seems very young,' sighed Miss Stanley to Mr. Eddington as they turned to answer the lun-

cheon gong. 'But how dull and unfeeling she looks!'

'I told you these people have no capacity for feeling,' the young man triumphantly reminded her. 'I suppose it's a blessing.'

His companion nodded with a backward look at the young Slav. She was standing by the railing at the spot where her baby had been lowered to the waves. Her childish eyes, hard and strained, had watched the sudden opening of the waters as the coffin touched them and had followed the rift to a ripple and the ripple until the broad trail of the ship had swallowed it. There her gaze wandered helplessly. Her baby was lost. The ship was plunging faster and faster away, leaving it behind, leaving it all alone, so little and so cold, in the wide and cruel sea.

Her foot was already on the second railing, her hands a pivot for the downward spring, when some one pulled her back. She turned furiously, but her desperate eyes fell before Mrs. Whiton's compassionate reproach, and she submitted drearily to be led away from the sight of her despoiler.

Dinner was over before Mrs. Whiton rejoined her husband. Her eyes were still wet and pitiful.

'Oh, John, that child!' she cried, with a break in her voice. 'I can't bear to leave her. She can't understand her misery. She feels that no one else, in this world or another, wants her baby, and that they have taken it away from her only because she is alone and helpless, because she has no weapons against them I know—she caught her breath—because even I felt so when my baby was taken from me.'

He noted the use of the past tense, and was glad.

'You see,' she went on, 'it isn't the loss of the baby alone, though heaven knows that is enough! She is afraid to face her husband. From what I am able to gather, she was going out to him with the child. It had not come when he left, and she wanted to follow when her little one was born. She started too soon, before it was able to bear the journey, and now part of her dumb misery is remorse. She feels in some dim but acute way that if she had waited it might have lived, that its death is to be laid at the door of her haste to get to him. He told her to come with the baby, and now that she must meet him without it I believe she thinks she has lost her right to come at all. I know that she is mortally afraid.'

Mr. Whiton frowned his perplexity. 'But how do you know? I thought nobody could understand her.'

'Ah, mothers don't need words,' she answered. 'They carry an interpreter in their hearts.'

He looked at her with the humility he always felt before the mystery of her intuitions. 'You must have been a great help to her,' he commented, receding to surer ground.

'She has been a great help to me! Why, John—she turned to him with a quick impulse of contrition—'I had forgotten that there was another sorrow in the world. It seemed to me that no one could suffer as I had suffered, could lose what I lost. And now to find this stolid child in a trouble so much greater than mine—Oh, I—'

She broke off with a sob. Her husband stroked her hand tenderly, as it lay on his arm. 'If she makes you reproach yourself I can't agree that she's helped you,' he said.

'Well, you never reproached me! Why didn't you, John? During all these months when I haven't given a breath or a thought to anything else in the world—Why didn't you reproach me?'

He met her question bravely. 'Why should I reproach you?' he asked. 'Because you had to bear all the brunt of a sorrow as much mine as yours? I only reproach myself that I could not share it more.'

She leaned over and pressed her cheek against his sleeve. 'Poor old John!' she murmured, and they were both silent in the understanding that follows a long estrangement.

'That's why you mustn't let that poor girl be afraid of her husband,' he resumed, after a pause. 'It can't mean as much to him as it means to her. It is always the mother's loss.'

'I've tried to make her understand that, but she only shivers miserably and shakes her head. She flays herself with the thought of his grief. It is terrible to her that he has not even seen it, that now he can never see it. Well, at any rate, he shan't abuse her,' she exclaimed, with sudden energy. 'I'm going to land with her.'

'Oh, I say, Helen!' he protested. 'Isn't that carrying it a little too far?'

She looked at him with eyes in which pity had taken the place of indifference. 'I think she wants me to,' she pleaded, 'and you must help me to manage it. I must see her through now.'

It was easier for Mr. Whiton to overcome his own unwillingness than to prevail against official reluctance, but his persistence so triumphed over precedent that on the day the first landing was made he and his wife joined the bewildered immigrants in their jostling progress down the gangplank. They were met by many curious glances and compelled to explanations at every turn during the tedious delay caused by the preliminary investigations of the immigration officers. 'I'll never say again that the United States is careless about letting the alien in,' Mr. Whiton remarked, by way of drawing attention to the silence of his endurance. His wife smiled absent-mindedly. She was tense with the excitement of the girl beside her, whose hot hand clasped hers convulsively until a movement in the front ranks of the new arrivals signified that they were at last to be permitted to see their friends. Then she strained forward and dropped her friend's hold with a cry as she caught sight of the blonde young giant who was making straight toward her.

Her dull face was suddenly bright with joy as she ran forth to meet him. She rubbed her cheek against his shoulder, and then drew back to look him up and down, her eyes shining with the pride of his height and his girth and the ruddy fairness of him. He greeted her with a rough and shame-faced gladness, quickly disguised. There was no other demonstration between them, but the girl's dumbness fell away from her and she began to chatter eagerly, breathlessly, as if there were not years enough to make up for the months of silence.

Mr. Whiton watched the transformation with astonishment. 'Hush!' whispered his wife vaguely, as he was about to speak. 'Don't interrupt them!'

And in a moment, even as she chattered in the first joy of reunion, the girl remembered. The old mask of misery closed over the brightness of her face as she drew back with a piteous shrinking, casting one aflight look behind her to where through an opening in the distance there was a glimpse of the sea whose cruelty she had briefly forgotten. 'She fell silent as suddenly as she had burst into speech.

The young man seemed to be questioning her, and for answer, bringing her hunted look back to his, she only opened wide her arms, as if to ask his pity on their emptiness. Still he did not understand, and she groped about for words to enlighten him. One by one she found them, bringing them forth painfully and slowly, each syllable afraid to follow the other and each afraid to break off into silence that held their judgment.

Mrs. Whiton leaned forward and watched narrowly the husband's face. She saw bewilderment gradually give way to a dull comprehension. For a moment there was the boy's disappointment when some anticipated pleasure is denied him at the moment of realisation. But almost before the shadow had time to settle it was superseded by an expression that could be interpreted only as relief. He patted his wife's shoulder kindly, concerned at the vehemence of her grief without being able to fathom it, but it was plain that her tidings somehow relieved him.

Mr. Whiton sighed, and the young mother, quite inexplicably it seemed to Mr. Whiton, broke into a passion of dry and wrenching sobs. He was hurrying forward, but his wife grasped his arm.

'Oh come away!' she cried. 'Don't you see she'd rather he killed her than take it like that?' 'Come away.'

The man looked down at her in bewilderment. He opened his lips to speak and kept them parted in sheer inability to frame a question, as he meekly turned to follow her impulsive movement of flight. But even as they turned the big Slav strode forward and blocked their way. He addressed the lady, so slowly that his words had the effect of sullenness.

'She—say—you—know,' pointing over his shoulder at his weeping wife. 'Her—babe—dey 't'row—to de sea—an' you—only you—cry.'

The perspiration started to his forehead in the effort to make himself understood. He finished with a sentence in his own tongue that was evidently meant, from the bow that went with it, to be an expression of thanks.

Mrs. Whiton's eyes were stung with a rush of salt tears. 'Oh, be good to her!' she cried. 'Be good to her! Aren't you sorry, too, for your poor little baby lost in the sea?'

'Me?' He looked at her tears and from her to the heaving figure in the red shawl that had crept up behind him. Then he turned to Mr. Whiton with an air of deprecating fellowship. When he spoke it was instinctively to the man.

'Work—iss—bad,' he explained.

Mrs. Whiton crossed over to the girl and led her away to where she could look out upon the wide sweep of the sea. 'I am going home to my baby's grave,' she whispered. 'You, poor child, haven't even a grave.'

When they left the exiles to each other the wife was again rubbing her wet cheek against her husband's shoulder. He was trying to comfort her, repeating over and over again the English words he had evolved to account for his resignation to a Providence that had spared him another mouth to feed.

'Work—iss—bad.'

His simple satisfaction in this practical comfort changed to dismay as the girl broke away from him and ran breathlessly after her friends. She clutched at Mrs. Whiton's arm, stroking her black dress with a motion of passionate tenderness and appeal. The elder woman stooped and kissed her, but shook her head in answer to the prayer in the pitiful eyes, and gently led her back to her husband.

Mr. Whiton watched the little pantomime in perplexity. His wife smiled into his puzzled face as she rejoined him.

'She knows I understand,' she explained simply.

'But he is her husband and he speaks her tongue.'

She looked at him with the large maternity in which her own loss was henceforth to be merged.

'But I am a mother,' she said.—'Donahoe's Magazine.'

## The Catholic World

### BELGIUM—Death of a Cardinal

A message from Brussels reports the death of Cardinal Goossens, Archbishop of Malines. Cardinal Goossens was born at Perk, in the Archbishopric of Malines, on July 18, 1827. He was created Cardinal by Leo XIII. on May 24, 1899. He was a member of the Congregation of the Index.

### ENGLAND—Church Music

Dr. Casartelli, Bishop of Salford, has addressed a letter to the clergy and choirs of the diocese on the subject of church music. He has also issued a supplemental list of music approved by the Diocesan Advisory Committee, which became obligatory early in February. The Bishop says that these lists are not to be considered as final. Further approved compositions will be published from time to time, and he adds that local compositions of merit will be welcomed. He wishes to afford the broadest scope for individual choice and local exigencies, and while the larger churches are expected to substitute male for mixed choirs, there are, he is aware, many smaller churches where the change would be impossible under present circumstances. 'But,' Dr. Casartelli adds, 'it must be understood clearly that even in such cases female solos are most strictly forbidden, and indeed solos of any kind, except brief passages, are not allowed in reformed ecclesiastical music.' He encourages congregational singing, and also refers to the desirability of teaching school children to sing simple unison Masses.

### A Presentation

Monsignor Martin Howlett, D.D., has been the recipient of an illuminated address and a purse of one hundred guineas from the people of the mission of Our Lady and St. Joseph, Kingsland, amongst whom he has spent twelve years of his missionary life.

### Catholics in Parliament

Lord Edmund Talbot has retained his seat at Chester by an increased majority. Col. Ivor Herbert has been successful as a Liberal in South Monmouthshire, though bitterly opposed by the Protestant Alliance. Altogether some six or seven Catholics are now members of Parliament in England.

### French Benedictines

Appley House, a fine residence overlooking the Solent, with grounds of about twenty acres, has been purchased by the expelled religious from the Benedictine Convent from Solesmes, France.

### ROME—The Sacred College

On January 20 there reached Rome news of the death of Cardinal Spinola y Maestre, Archbishop of Seville, whose creation had been a recent event. About the same time the intelligence of the serious illness of Cardinal Gotti, Prefect of Propaganda, became public property. On January 24 news was published of the alarming illness of Cardinal Vaszary, the Hungarian Primate. Next day, with the obituary notice of Cardinal Goossens, Archbishop of Malines, appeared most

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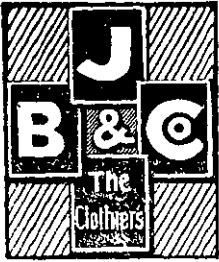


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disquieting reports about the health of Cardinal Callegari, Bishop of Padua, a man of delicate health, whose condition had caused concern last summer, and of Cardinal Moran, Archbishop of Sydney. Happily, Cardinal Gotti rallied about January 25, and the improvement has steadily continued.

### The Swiss Guard

On Sunday, January 21, took place the first of the fetes in celebration of the fourth centenary of the founding of the Swiss Guard. The commemoration commenced with Mass in the Vatican, celebrated by the Holy Father, at which only the Swiss Guard and its officers were present. 'At ten o'clock a 'Te Deum' was sung in the chapel of the corps at the German Cemetery. At noon a tablet commemorating the occasion was unveiled with great ceremony in the Swiss barracks at the Vatican. In 1505 Pope Julius II. obtained a permanent company of 200 men from the Swiss cantons to guard his vast household. Michael Angelo was commissioned to devise a costume for the new guard, and shortly afterwards the great artist had them clad in the black and yellow uniforms which look so picturesque to-day in the great halls and corridors of the Vatican. Twenty-two years subsequent to this event—in 1527—Rome was taken and sacked by the hordes of the Constable de Bourbon. History tells us that some thousands of those fierce soldiers attacked the Square of St. Peter's and were gallantly held at bay for six hours by the faithful Swiss Guard. When overwhelming odds at length prevailed, the Guard was slaughtered to a man. The heroic fidelity to the person of Christ's Vicar has been frequently displayed since, especially during the invasion of 1860 and 1870 by Victor Emmanuel.

### Visitors from Many Lands

One never realises the power and majesty of the Church (writes the Rome correspondent of the Philadelphia 'Standard and Times') until he has spent some time in Rome, and even then his idea of it is but imperfect and faint unless he has been here during the first days of the new year. During these days the divine commission of 'teaching all nations' given to the Twelve is shown in its fruit in the strange faces to be seen in Rome. We shall not go to the greater or lesser basilicas, to the gorgeous temples or beautiful churches for an instance of the universality of the Church. We go instead to the English-speaking Church of St. Sylvester's, where from January 6 to 13 every year each nation holds a service according to the distinctive rites recognised by the Holy See. During these days, therefore, Solemn High Mass is celebrated each morning according to the Greek, the Syro-Maronite, the Ruthenian, the Rutheno-Greek, the Greek-Slavonic, the Armenian, the Chaldean, and the Syrian rites. Every college of the different European nations takes part in ceremonies there, and sermons are preached in every tongue. In addition to congregations of the officiating priests, people of every persuasion throng this church.

### Important Discovery

The greatest interest (writes a Rome correspondent) has been aroused in art circles in Rome by the unexpected discovery of an artistic treasure within the walls of the Vatican Palace. While some workmen were making repairs in one of the rooms the other day, they found that a partition wall and ceiling concealed four hundred beautiful pictures, which seem to belong to the age of Julius II. No sooner did this find come to light than another followed. It was remarked that one end of the floor of the room was not composed of the same material as the remainder. On closer scrutiny an artistic floor, beautifully inlaid, was found hidden away under the one on which the men stood. The floor, which is splendidly preserved, is at present in the hands of the art workmen of the apostolic palace.

### UNITED STATES—Chinese Missions

Rev. Henry I. Stark, of the Paulist House in San Francisco, tells some interesting things about the Chinese missions conducted by the Paulists in that city. 'We have a school of 300 Chinese children there. This is conducted under the auspices of the Helpers of the Holy Souls. Five of the Sisters are natives of China. They speak not only Chinese, but Italian, French, and English. They are influential not only in this country, but in China as well. There are eighteen Sisters in our school altogether, and they are doing splendid work among the boys of the Chinese quarter. We have made many converts among the Chinese, and we seem to have the Oriental confidence in a way no other people have ever possessed it.'

### A Family Total Abstinence Union

Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Cummings, of Akron, have, with their nine children, organised the Cummings Family Total Abstinence Union, a branch of the Catholic Total

Abstinence Union of Ohio, and have received a charter. Excepting in one other instance, the Costello family, in Cleveland, this is said to be the only case in Ohio where an entire family is organised as a temperance society auxiliary to a State association.

### Catholics in Congress

There are fewer Catholics in Congress this year than there have been for some time (says an American contemporary). In the last Congress there were thirty-two, while in this we have only twenty-six. The loss, however, is entirely in the House, the Senate showing an increase of one, making three in all.

### Gregorian Chant

In conversation with some of the clergy, on a public occasion lately, Archbishop Quigley said that it was his intention to establish in Chicago a school of music where Gregorian Chant would be taught by professors who received their musical training in the most celebrated conservatories of Europe. He will make it imperative that all organists of churches take a course in this school and receive their diplomas therefrom. In this way, uniformity can be obtained.

### The National Chaplain

There have been many Catholic chaplains in the American army, but to-day, for the first time in its history, the 'National Chaplain' is a Catholic. He is the Rev. John F. Leary, of Kansas. He was elected Chaplain-in-chief at the national encampment held last September. The war service of the chaplain was as a member of the Fifteenth New York Engineers. That was before he became a priest. He served in the Wilderness, at Spottsylvania, and at Appomattox. Though he was wounded at Bermuda Hundred, he was able to get back to his regiment in time to be in at the finish at the Appomattox Courthouse. He has been a priest for about a score of years, and has made a reputation as a forceful, witty speaker.

## Misplaced Generosity

'It requires a vast deal of courage and charity to be philanthropic,' remarked Sir Thomas Lipton, apropos of Andrew Carnegie's giving. 'I remember when I was just starting in business. I was very poor and making every sacrifice to enlarge my little shop. My only assistant was a boy of fourteen, faithful and willing and honest. One day I heard him complaining, and with justice, that his clothes were so shabby that he was ashamed to go to chapel.'

'There's no chance of my getting a new suit this year,' he told me. 'Dad's out of work, and it takes all of my wages to pay the rent.'

'I thought the matter over, and then took a sovereign from my carefully-boarded savings and bought the boy a stout, warm suit of blue cloth. He was so grateful that I felt repaid for my sacrifice. But the next day he didn't come to work. I met his mother on the street and asked her the reason.'

'Why, Mr. Lipton,' she said, curtsying, 'Jimmie looks so respectable, thanks to you, sir, that I thought I would send him around town to-day to see if he couldn't get a better job.'

The following resolution was proposed by the Rev. D. Lawton (Kilmore) at the meeting in Melbourne in connection with the celebration of St. Patrick's Day:—'That this meeting of Irishmen and friends of Ireland, assembled on Ireland's National Festival, do hereby proclaim their unswerving fidelity to the cause of Home Rule, and their confidence in the Irish National Party, under the leadership of Mr. John Redmond, and assert their belief that the Old Land can never enjoy to the full the blessings of enlightenment St. Patrick brought to Ireland while deprived of the right of self-government on the lines existing in Australia, Canada, and other parts of the British Empire.'

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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 New Explosive.

A new explosive, called vigorite, has been perfected in Switzerland. It burns in the open air without exploding, is not affected by friction, shock, or concussion, nor is it injured by wetting or freezing. And yet, according to its inventor, it has a strength about ten times greater than any other explosive.

### Paper Kettles

Preparations have been made to furnish the soldiers of the German army with paper kettles. It is understood that the new devices are a Japanese invention. Although the utensils are made of pliable paper, they hold water readily. By pouring water over them they can be hung over the fire without burning for a length of time sufficient to boil the water. One kettle can be so used about eight times, and the cost is only a penny. The chief advantage in favor of the unique receptacles is that they are much lighter to carry than anything else yet devised.

### A Novel Lighthouse.

The most extraordinary of lighthouses is to be found on Arnish Rock, Stornoway Bay—a rock which is separated from the Island of Lewis by a channel over 500 feet wide. On this rock a conical beacon is erected, and on its summit a lantern is fixed, from which, night after night, shines a light which is seen by the fishermen far and wide. The way in which this lighthouse is illuminated is this: On the Island of Lewis is a lighthouse, and from a window in the tower a stream of light is projected on to a mirror in the lantern on the summit of Arnish Rock.

### Cannon Carved in Rocks.

When the island of Malta was in possession of the Templars those knights defended their forts by the use of cannon cut into the solid rock.

Each was capable of containing an entire barrel of gunpowder, and could throw ten thousand pounds of projectiles. As these natural cannon could not be aimed, fifty were cut out of the rock guarding the various channels of approach, and the vessels of that time were unable to approach within their own range before being annihilated by these huge weapons of defence.

Although the fame of these cannon was spread far and wide, they were not duplicated elsewhere, and they remain the only rock cannon of which there is any record.

### The Tailor-Bird.

The animal world is still a mystery, and the admirable instinct of certain birds astonishes us without our being able to give a plausible explanation of their intelligence. Who showed birds of passage their route? Who taught them to swallow the art of construction? Who taught surgery to quails and snipes that are sometimes found with a bandage or splint for a broken limb? The swallow builds houses and other birds know how to sew. Such are the bengalies, of India, whose nest is covered with a kind of sack made of leaves sewn together, their beaks serving as needles and filaments of cotton and wool being utilised for thread. The whole is very firm, and cannot be torn apart without the aid of scissors.

### The Common House-Fly.

In ordinary flight it makes with its wings about 600 strokes, which carry it five feet every second. But if alarmed, their velocity can be increased six or seven fold, or to 30 or 35 feet in the same period. In this space of time an Arab steed would clear only 90 feet, which is at the rate of more than a mile a minute. Did the fly equal the racehorse in size, and retain its present powers in the ratio of its magnitude, it would traverse the globe with the rapidity of lightning. Flies at best are not desirable visitors in our houses, but it is evident that they act as scavengers on a tremendous scale by devouring obnoxious substances, which might be productive of zymotic and other diseases. It is also evident that if we were to keep our homes absolutely free from all impurities, we should not be so much troubled by these visitors. Flies will not remain long in a house that has nothing to feed them.

**MOUNTAIN KING ASTHMA POWDER** (Registered) gives immediate relief in cases of Chronic and Humid Asthma. Never fails. Give it a trial. All chemists and stores. 2s 6d.

## The Home

By 'Maureen'

### The Odor of Vegetables.

A piece of bread tied in a bit of muslin and dropped into the water in which greens are boiling will absorb the unpleasant odor.

### Opening Glass Jars.

The resistance of glass jars that refuse to open can be overcome by setting them, top downwards, in an inch or two of hot water.

### Stair Carpets.

When laying a new stair carpet always get about one yard more than is required, so that when the edges become worn the whole carpet may be moved up, and thus present a fresh, new appearance.

### Clothes Pegs.

Clothes pegs should be scrubbed in hot soap and water and boiled for twenty minutes, then taken out and allowed to drain till dry. They will last much longer and will not split if this is done.

### Cleaning Fire-places.

Before cleaning out the fire-place in the morning, sprinkle a good handful of tea-leaves amongst the ashes; it saves a lot of labor, and prevents the dust from flying round the room.

### Dents on Furniture.

To remove furniture bruises, wet the part with warm water, fold a piece of brown paper five or six times, soak and lay it on the place and apply to it a hot iron until the paper is dry. If the bruise has not disappeared repeat the process. After two or three applications the dent will be raised level with the surface.

### Mildew.

To remove mildew from cloth, rub a little common salt into the spots, then apply a paste made of powdered chalk and cold water. Let this dry on, hanging the garment in the open air meanwhile, and when perfectly dry brush the chalk off. If one application is not sufficient the treatment should be repeated till the spots disappear.

### Inflammation of the Eyes.

A little salt dissolved in warm water—about one-fourth of a saltspoon to one-half cup of water—will remove inflammation from eyelids reddened by the wind. If the eyes are strained from sleeplessness or from work, apply to the lids soft linen wrung out of boiling water. Use this as hot as can be borne, and relief will be felt in half an hour.

### Dishwashing.

One of the most dreaded and distasteful of household duties is decidedly the dishwashing. And the fact of having to do it for 365 days in the year on an average three times a day does not make the task the more congenial; it never becomes anything more than a necessary evil. Necessity knows no law, therefore the best thing to do with the dishwashing is to do it in an ideal way, for even in dishwashing there is an ideal. The chief things required to make it pleasant are care, order, plenty of good hot water, a stack of dry tea-towels, two dishcloths, and a large enamelled bowl. The dishes, when removed from the table, must have each of the kind put together. Put all the cooking utensils on the range and fill them with water until the time comes to clean them. Have a receptacle in which to place all the scraps that come from the dishes, plates etc. The most important thing is to have plenty of hot water; not merely warm but hot, and use some good soap in the water to make your suds. It cleans the greasy meat dishes and plates twice as quickly. It is worth while making a note of these points, since grease is decidedly the enemy in dishwashing, and plenty of hot water and good soap, the only means of conquering it. Have your mops with handles or deep-mouthed jugs, and have nice dishcloths made of cheese-cloths. Begin with the glassware and next china, and follow with spoons, forks, knives, etc. Never use a wet towel. Reduce your dishwashing to a system and the difficulties will quickly disappear.

*Maureen*

## The Downfall of Evil-Doers

Handwriting experts have so frequently been proved to be incorrect in their deductions that juries seldom convict prisoners on their evidence (says 'Answers'). Curiously enough, however, although the handwriting test has been proved to be unreliable, the evidence of faulty spelling has never failed to bring retribution to evil-doers.

It appears that forgery is comparatively easy, and that even an expert can be readily deceived by a forged document; but it seems almost certain that if an adult, even of good education, misspells certain words, it is almost impossible for him to spell them correctly from dictation, unless aided by a dictionary.

This strange fact was vividly manifested through the acumen of Justice Darling during the hearing of a breach of promise case recently at Birmingham. The plaintiff relied upon certain letters, which she stated were written to her by defendant, to establish her case. The man, however, denied the authorship, and there were considerable doubts expressed, which the judge shared, as to the incriminating documents being in his hand-writing.

'Gross perjury is being committed in this case,' said Justice Darling. And then his Lordship thought of a new test. 'How do you spell the word "awful"?' he inquired of the defendant.

'A-w-f-u-l-l,' was the response

'That's how the word is spelt by the person who wrote this letter,' observed the judge.

And it was this fact that procured the plaintiff £100 damages.

The political history of the last 15 years has been determined by a mistake in spelling. The fact that an 'e' was used instead of an 'a' rendered the claims of the Irish party to Home Rule and other reforms possible as constitutional questions to the Imperial Parliament.

It was at the period when the gravest charges were being made against the late Charles Stewart Parnell and other members of the Irish Parliamentary Party that 'The Times' electrified the world by pub-

lishing a letter purporting to be from the Irish leader, approving of assassination.

The majority of the British people at the time believed it to be authentic. At the famous 'commission' of three judges that was held to investigate these terrible charges, handwriting experts swore that this letter was in Parnell's handwriting. Despite the searching cross-examination the late Lord Chief Justice, Lord Russell of Killowen (then Sir Charles Russell) subjected them to, it was impossible to shake their evidence, and most people were convinced that Parnell had penned this terrible document.

Then a journalist named Richard Pigott entered the box.

'Write on a piece of paper the word "hesitancy,"' said Sir Charles suddenly.

The witness did so, and handed the paper to the counsel. The word was spelled 'hesitency,' which corresponded to the spelling of the same word in the incriminating letter.

Triumphantly Sir Charles pressed his point, and in a few moments the wretched Pigott admitted that he had forged the letter and sold it to the 'Times' for a large sum.

'The man who dominated New York for fifteen years is now living alone in his native Ireland, gray, grim, and silent.' Such was the character sketch in an American contemporary of Mr. Richard Croker. Mr. Croker, since his return to Ireland, has established a home at Glencairn, near Dublin, and is scarcely ever likely to return to America—at least, in an official capacity.

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occupies the foremost place."—

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## BEST & GOES FARTHEST. ●

INTERCOLONIAL

The Rev. Father P. J. Baugh has been appointed to the charge of the Campbelltown parish, archdiocese of Sydney.

The Rev. B. McKiernan, of Raymond Terrace, has been appointed Inspector of Schools in the diocese of Maitland, in succession to the Very Rev. Father O'Donohoe, who lately left on a holiday trip to Europe.

The Rev. Father P. Hayes, who was absent from Tasmania for ten months, was publicly welcomed home at the Burnie Town Hall a few days ago. There was a large gathering, including clergymen and laymen of non-Catholic denominations.

The parishioners of the Shoalhaven district have presented the Rev. Father Malone (who is now in charge at Kiama) with an illuminated address, in recognition of the valuable services rendered to the Church during the time he was stationed in Nowra.

The population of Victoria on December 31, 1905, according to a return just issued by the Government Statist, was 1,218,571, being a gain of 8267 on the year. The natural increase was 15,431, but a loss of 7114 by migration brought the net increase to a little over half what it should have been had the arrivals balanced the departures.

Miss Evelyn Cochrane, of St. Brigid's Convent, West Perth, has been awarded the special certificate of the Royal Academy of Music, London, for having passed the whole series of school and local centre examinations in the practice of music. This, it is stated, is the first special certificate of its kind awarded to any student in the State.

The drop in Tasmania in the apple export is far more serious than was anticipated. The 'Medic' was to take 47,000 cases, and subsequently was cut down to 35,000, but it will not nearly take that quantity, being several thousand cases short. The 'Langton Grange' was to take 15,000, but she has been withdrawn, and it is very probable that other steamers will not now call.

His Eminence Cardinal Moran blessed and opened a new chapel and additions to the residence of the Christian Brothers at Lewisham a few Sundays ago. The cost of the undertaking is about £1100, and the collection on the occasion amounted to £271. His Eminence gave an interesting address on the work of the Christian Brothers since the Order was instituted over one hundred years ago.

A very destructive cyclone, lasting six hours, visited Croydon on Sunday, March 4, when the Catholic church was wrecked. Everything came in for damage, and not a place in Croydon was unaffected by the storm. The officials had to fasten down a portion of the post-office roof, otherwise the old office would surely have been wrecked. Telegraph lines are all damaged, and everything showed evidence of the storm.

Mr. Sydney Hoben, for a number of years musical critic of the Sydney 'Mail' (says the 'Freeman's Journal'), has been appointed musical director of the principal ladies' college at Napier (N.Z.). Mr. Hoben, who succeeded the late M. Wiegand as organist and choir-master of St. Patrick's Church, Sydney, and raised that choir to a high state of efficiency, has left hostages to the musical world of this city in the shape of several meritorious compositions and a long association with concert doings which won him much popularity. In fact he ranked high amongst the Catholic musicians of this State.

The census of 1901 showed that in Queensland there were 37,636 Irish-born people. It was not possible to ascertain the number of the descendants of the race, but they must be considerable. The last census showed the Catholic population at 120,405, or about a quarter of the total population. The Irish people play a prominent part in the public and professional life of Queensland. In Parliament, in law, education, medicine, and the Public Service they do good work, while in commercial and rural pursuits they are active and successful participants.

Replying to a deputation urging a referendum on the question of allowing religious teaching in State schools, the Premier of South Australia said that so far the Cabinet had only informally considered the matter. The Government intended next session to introduce a Bill to provide for the taking of a referendum, under certain conditions. If Parliament accepted the system it would be a simple matter to arrange for a referendum, and for such questions of State policy as the Bible in State schools the best time for decision would be at the Federal elections.

Friends at Court

CLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

- March 25, Sunday.—Fourth Sunday in Lent. Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
- „ 26, Monday.—Feria.
- „ 27, Tuesday.—St. Rupert, Bishop and Confessor.
- „ 28, Wednesday.—St. Sixtus III., Pope and Confessor.
- „ 29, Thursday.—St. John Damascene, Confessor and Doctor.
- „ 30, Friday.—The Precious Blood. (St. John Capistran, Confessor).
- „ 31, Saturday.—Feria.

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The angel Gabriel was sent from God into a city of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel said to her, "Fear not, Mary, for thou hast found grace with God. Behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and shalt bring forth a Son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus."

St. Rupert, Bishop and Confessor.

St. Rupert, a Frenchman, illustrious for his noble birth, but still more so for his many virtues, was Bishop of Salzburg, in Bavaria, the inhabitants of which country he had converted to the True Faith. He died about the beginning of the seventh century.

St. Sixtus III., Pope and Confessor.

St. Sixtus III. was Pope from 432 to 440. He was born and died at Rome. He labored with St. Cyril for the reunion of the Churches of the Orient.

St. John Damascene, Confessor and Doctor.

St. John was born at Damascus, in Syria, which was then under the dominion of the Mahometans. So great was his reputation for integrity and prudence that on the death of his father, he was appointed, notwithstanding his religion, to the important post of Prime Minister of the Caliph. After some years he resigned this dignity, and placed himself under the direction of some holy monks near Damascus. He died about 780. St. John rendered great service to the Church by his writings against the Iconoclast heretics, whose doctrines he triumphantly refuted.

St. John Capistran, Confessor.

This saint was a native of Italy. His wife dying, St. John, when thirty years of age, entered the Franciscan Order, and gave himself up to a life of great austerity, for thirty-six years hardly ever tasting meat. As a preacher, he effected the conversion of the most obstinate sinners, and also brought to a successful termination many important missions entrusted to him by successive Popes. The crushing defeat of the Turks at Belgrade in 1456 is attributed in great measure to the zeal, courage, and activity of St. John. He died in the course of the same year at the age of seventy-one.

The Rev. Father Flanagan, who has been 14 years in charge of the parish of Kelso, and who has been appointed to Bathurst, was presented with an address and a purse of sovereigns by his late parishioners. There was a large gathering. Mr. J. J. Sullivan presided, and made the presentation. Monsignor Long, Administrator of the diocese, and the Very Rev. M. J. O'Reilly, C.M., were among the visitors.

The report of the Federal Commission on Old Age Pensions had just been issued. The Commission found that the total cost of old-age pensions at present is approximately:—New South Wales, 22,000 pensioners, £508,000 per annum; Victoria, 11,452 pensioners, £265,000 per annum; New Zealand, 11,770 pensioners, £325,000 per annum. The cost of administration is:—New South Wales, £19,936 per annum; Victoria, £1699; New Zealand, £3936. The Commission recommended that a bill should be submitted to the Federal Parliament for early consideration. The rate of pensions, it states, should be fixed at a maximum of 10s per week, the qualifying age being 65 years, to be reduced to 60 where an applicant is permanently incapacitated. The Commission also recommends that in the proposed legislation it should be distinctly laid down that old-age pensions are to be granted as a right, and not as charity.

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