

"THE MOTHER OF JESUS."

THE NEW WORK

By REV. FATHER PLACID HUAULT, S.M.

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

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

ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATIONS are thrown into the waste-paper basket.

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

MARRIAGES

BROWNE—SKINNER.—On June 11, at the Sacred Heart Church, North-East Valley, by the Rev. Father O'Reilly, T. J. Browne, of Auckland, to Isabella, youngest daughter of Arthur Skinner, North-East Valley.

RYAN—ENGLISH.—On May 23, at St. Joseph's Cathedral, by the Rev. Father Coffey, assisted by the Rev. Father Howard, James, fourth son of Patrick Ryan, Kokonga, to Bridget, only daughter of Thomas English, Waikouaiti.

CASEY—COLLINS.—On June 6, at St. Joseph's Church, Buckle street, Wellington, by the Rev. Father Hills, M. J. Casey, of Wellington, to Mary, second daughter of Mr. Raymond Power Collins, Brougham street, Wellington.

DEATH

McQUILLAN.—On June 3, at her parents' residence, 66 Hanover street, Dunedin, Ellen, second and beloved daughter of Robert and Hannah McQuillan; aged 16 years. Deeply regretted.—R.I.P.



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

LEO. XIII, to the N.Z. TABLET

THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 1906

RICHARD JOHN SEDDON



THE Wishing-Rod of the Nibelungen Lied was (so said the legend) a slender rod of virgin gold. Whoever possessed it would be a ruler among men, and would see his heart's good wishes fulfilled. A wish that lay near to the heart of the late Premier of New Zealand found pathetic expression at his silver jubilee: 'I want to die in harness, not rust in idleness.' The former wish has been all too soon fulfilled. The late Mr. Seddon was one of those who realised, with Monsignor Dupanloup, that 'the destinies of the world are in the hands of those who know how to work.' Work was to him a passion, a cult. Lord Brougham was once besought not to compass more toil than four or five ordinary men could undertake. He, too, was a whirlwind worker in his day. But he survived his powers both of thought and toil: he outlived the political friends and foes of his splendid prime; and he sank at last to rest like a king dethroned and forgotten. Long before he vanished beyond the Veil, his once giant intellect burned dim and smoky, like a spent candle. As one historian puts it, he 'passed like snow, long, long ago, with the time of the Barmecides.' He belonged to an elder world. And England, that had idolised him in the day of his strength, scarcely paused to hear the story of his passing.

Far different was the lot of the great figure that has just flitted from the public life of New Zealand and from the councils of the Empire. The Wishing-Rod was in his hand on that day of his silver jubilee: he died in harness. He passed out with his intellect still keen, at the culminating point of a long series of political triumphs, while the echoes of the huzzas of the great southern Continent were still ringing in his ears. The late Premier died a martyr to work—for others. A former Earl of Shrewsbury gave as his reason for accepting the office of Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, that 'it was a place where a man had business enough to hinder him from falling asleep, and not enough to keep him awake.' Chesterfield had quite a different idea of the responsibilities of the position. He wrought to the verge of physical break-down. Richard John Seddon wrought beyond it. Bent on a needed holiday beyond the Tasman Sea, he plunged into a vortex of work. He well knew the nature and the magnitude of the risks that he ran. Yet for the sake of his beloved country he cheerfully followed the whirl of work from State to State, long after it had ceased to be enjoyable, when for long nights 'the gentle sleep from heaven' no longer 'slid into his soul,' and when the weariness of approaching death had set its grip upon him. It was—as he himself had described it—the hardest month's work

HENRY HUGHES

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