

THE NEW ZEALAND TABLET

THIRTY-FOURTH YEAR OF PUBLICATION.

VOL. XXXIV.—No. 24

DUNEDIN: THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 1906.

PRION 6D

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

Thanks!

During and since our little 'affaire' with the Council of the Churches, there has been a splendid increase in the number of our regular subscribers in and about Wellington. And still they come, in a steady stream. O Council of the Churches,

'We can no other answer make but thanks,
And thanks, and ever thanks!'

And, like Goldsmith's Citizen of the World, we do not proclaim the obligation we owe, merely under the impression that it in some measure cancels the debt. 'Quite the reverse to the contrairey,' as Humpty-Dumpty says.

The Anarchists

The European Powers threaten to take off their coats over the anarchist problem. Singly, they may not achieve the suppression of an evil that burrows like the mole, in the dark, and, like a diabolical military engineer, is for ever constructing a flying sap against all that represents authority and social order. Russia tried its hand at the evil, and failed. Austria was long ago made too hot for those dark-lantern associations of assassins. Hungary drove them like sewer-rats out of their headquarters in Buda-Pesth. In rabbit-extermination or in anarchist-suppression the best results are to be hoped for only from united, simultaneous, and sustained effort. England, Switzerland, and the United States are, and have long been, the chief refuges of those noxious vermin. Half the conquest of anarchist assassins will be achieved when they have been smoked out of their warrens under the Red Cross and the Union Jack and the Stars and Stripes.

Pius X. to Arbitrate

From a Home contemporary we take the following interesting item:—

'Peru and Colombia have signed an agreement to submit to the arbitration of Pope Pius X. their respective claims to the Putamayo country.'

Here is another ray of hope for the wider adoption, in international disagreements, of a principle which has for some years been in successful operation in New Zealand in the matter of trade and industrial disputes. In the year of grace 1898, the Tsar made his great proposal of combined disarmament and arbitration. The crowned and uncrowned heads of States agreed, the pulpit ap-

proved, and the press solemnly rose and gave a double dose of blessing. But—to use a reporter's phrase—the great idea 'fizzled out.' It was slain by sour, dyspeptic national jealousies and suspicions and conflicting interests. And, instead, the disarmament scheme became a plan for greater armaments—for bigger guns and costlier ships and harder projectiles and higher explosives. After nine years, Europe is still carrying upon its shoulders an Old Man of the Sea composed of 4,000,000 men whose trade is war, 2700 ships whose business is destruction, and it is diverting from reproductive work (according to Giffen) £328,500,000 in time of peace. Europe is paying dearly for its whistle—for the luxury of mutual suspicion which takes the menacing form of an 'armed peace.' The mediæval principle of international arbitration will 'come in' again—when the nations get more civilised. But we see little prospect of its coming till people's backs are broken by the burden of keeping up the present cumbrous armaments, or until they are bled white by a war of such duration or extent as will take the fighting fever out of their veins for a generation. Then the still small voice of arbitration will have a chance of being heard.

Some Napier Critics

The kind of honesty that won't rob a hen-roost is common enough. But the kind is rarer that makes a man hesitate about launching grave accusations until possessed of compelling or at least sufficient evidence. Yet, without so much as a scrap of any kind of evidence, the Napier 'Daily Telegraph' has directly or by necessary implication flung against the Almighty the charge of having 'commanded' the unjust slaying (that is, the murder) of people in war, and the perpetration of 'sexual brutalities' upon women captives. This is one of sundry secondary issues to the main question on which we have already challenged our Napier contemporary. And we have taken especial care that our challenge should reach its destination. The biblical accusations—which have been repeated in the 'Telegraph' in coarser terms by an anonymous writer—will crop up in due course. In the meantime, we refer our Napier readers to chapters VIII., X., XI., XII., and XIII. of Lambert's famous 'Notes on Ingersoll' (procurable from any Catholic bookseller) as about the best popular exposure of the crude calumnies that have appeared in the 'Daily Telegraph.'

Dr. Johnson deemed abuse dangerous only when it was marked with wit or delicacy. But there is neither wit nor delicacy in the abuse of the Almighty that blis-

BONNINGTON'S

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

CARRAGHUN

IRISH MOSS