

contributing directly for the teaching of a Unitarian or Nonconformist State school creed. And (says the 'Catholic Times') 'so strong is the feeling among Catholics at this hour, that we doubt whether any authority could persuade them to pay rates for schools which in fact are Nonconformist schools, and keep up their own schools as well. They have done that long enough now, ever since 1870, and they are tired of paying twice. That they will struggle to support their own schools we can easily believe. But, knowing their poverty, and their hatred of the treatment they have received during the past thirty-five years, we are less easily able to believe that they will consent to a continuance of the double burden. If they do resist, our idea is that their resistance will not always be passive; and the Government had better recognise the danger.'

Notes

An Ex-priest's 'Work'

A lengthy article on a 'work' (that is, the three-penny pamphlet) by an ex-priest is crushed out of this issue. It will appear next week.

That Missing 'Code'

The Napier 'Daily Telegraph' still refuses to place its missing 'code of morals' on exhibition. The 'code' is much safer where it is—under lock and key and jealously guarded night and day. If it appeared in the open, we would strike it at a pretty high velocity. After adverse criticism had done with it its condition would, we rather think, be akin to that of an animal that Locomotive Stephenson referred to when asked what would happen if it came into collision with a moving train: 'So much the waur for the coo.' On July 3 we forwarded another pointed challenge to the 'Telegraph' to produce the mysterious 'code' that damns as 'a great moral evil', 'a curse and a crime' every form of resort to the arbitrament of lot or chance.

Dr. Gibb Again

The Wellington 'Evening Post' of June 26 contains the following paragraph:—

'An echo of the discussion, which last month was conducted in the columns of the newspapers of Wellington, was heard at last night's meeting of the Council of the Evangelical Churches of Wellington. In a casual reference to the controversy, Dr. Gibb said that throughout the argument it had been assumed by the Rev. Father Cleary, editor of the "Tablet," that the Council of the Churches had specially directed its attacks against the Roman Catholics and their bazaars. As a matter of fact, the council had, by twelve votes to seven—namely, two to one—disapproved the special indication of Catholics made in the Rev. Mr. North's motion. Yet from the beginning to the end, Father Cleary assumed that the council accepted Mr. North's motion. The assumption was a fair sample of the rev. gentleman's argument.'

Assuming the substantial correctness of the 'Post' report, this is 'a fair sample' of the sort of controversy with which the Rev. Dr. Gibb has at times surprised the public. Our readers will readily recall the long series of scandalously faked and garbled 'quotations' from Catholic theologians and Catholic journals which the 'Tablet' editor exposed in the columns of the Dunedin secular press. It does not seem that Dr. Gibb has amended his controversial ways to any great extent since then. Now mark how plain a tale shall put him down, as regards his latest 'break.' (1) In our very first contribution to the recent church-lottery controversy, (a) we quoted the Rev. Mr. North's motion textually. (b) We quoted textually the words of the amendment which eliminated the exclusive reference to one particular denomination ('the Roman Catholic Church'), and extended the attack

to "certain Churches" (plural). (c) We stated expressly that the amendment was carried. And the article embodying all this was printed in full in the Wellington papers of May 12. (2) Neither in the beginning, nor in the middle, nor in the end of the controversy did we either say or "assume that the Council accepted Mr. North's motion." (3) But we did assume throughout that the Catholic Church in New Zealand was one—and, we may here add, apparently the principal one—of the "certain Churches" that were made the object of the attack. The grounds for that assumption were perfectly clear and unmistakable, and were supplied by the whole course of the discussion, which (as reported by the 'Post') is before us. As Catholics, we were entitled to repel the attack, so far as our Church was concerned. We had neither right nor title to set up a plea for any other creed.

Our business was with the Council of the Churches. Dr. Gibb's personal beliefs or opinions regarding the controversy are of no interest to us, except in so far as we object to be held up to Wellington readers as having adopted in discussion an unworthy resort which is really the creation of our accuser's own exuberant fancy. It would be something to the purpose if the Council of the Churches disclaimed any intention of including the Catholic Church in New Zealand as one of the "certain Churches" that it pilloried. If they were so minded, they had abundant opportunities of doing so both during and since the recent controversy. But they have made no such disclaimer, for the simple reason that they cannot. Any such disclaimer would render the discussion of April 30 a tangle of aimless verbiage. Dr. Gibb's mathematics—making twelve equal to twice seven—furnish another, though minor, example of his looseness of thought and expression. The substance of these two paragraphs was forwarded as a letter for publication in the 'Evening Post.'

DIocese OF DUNEDIN

The Month's Mind of the late Rev. Father McGrath takes place in St. Joseph's Cathedral at 9 o'clock on Tuesday morning.

The Anniversary Requiem for the late Very Rev. J. Sheehan takes place at Holy Cross College, Mosgiel, at 9.30 o'clock on Friday, July 13.

The new brick convent at Port Chalmers is just now receiving the finishing touches. The blessing and opening will be performed by his Lordship the Bishop on Sunday, July 15.

The brick work in connection with the additions to Holy Cross College, Mosgiel, is proceeding rapidly, and will probably be completed about the end of next month.

There was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Joseph's Cathedral on Sunday from the 11 o'clock Mass until Vespers. In the evening the usual procession took place.

Rev. Father McDermott, C.S.S.R., begins a retreat for the students at Holy Cross College on Sunday, and at its close on the following Thursday (July 12) his Lordship the Bishop will give Tonsure to several of the students.

We understand that a sum of over £300 has been given or promised locally for the proposed Church of the Irish Martyrs at Cromwell. A list of subscribers will appear in the issue of the 'N.Z. Tablet' for July 19.

The St. Joseph's Harriers mustered in good numbers at St. Clair Baths on Saturday. The trail led along the beach towards Lawyer's Head, over the Sandhills, and on to the Tomahawk Beach, along the water's edge till the cliffs were met. A good climb round the cliffs brought the pack on to the second Tomahawk Beach, along which a good run was obtained till opposite Bird Island. Thence the road was taken back past Tahuna Park, and again the beach, right home to St. Clair. The run was greatly enjoyed by all, although it was rather heavy going on the sand.

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