

so; and (accompanied by an episcopal relative of Edwy) he conducted the wayward youth to his place in the assembly. The vengeance of these two lurid females soon burst upon the head of Dunstan. He was deprived of his abbacy, outlawed and banished, and all the monasteries that favored him were plundered by the orders of the worthless Edwy. (4) In 957 (two years after the coronation scandal) Edwy married. His bride was not Elgiva (as the 'Free Press' fiction states), but his other paramour, Elgiva's daughter. And it was not Dunstan (who was then in exile) but Archbishop Gdo (not Oda), who declared the marriage null and void, on account of the near relationship of the parties. The 'Free Press' writer seems incapable of stating facts even by chance or good luck.

Edwy's evil life, his lawless and oppressive conduct, his illegal exactions and plunderings, raised his nobles in revolt against him and cost him the crown of Mercia. There is no evidence whatever in the original historians of the period that the monks preached or urged a rebellion against the rule of the young rone. The Protestant historian, Wakeman ('Church of England, 5th ed., p. 69), Green ('History of England,' vol. i., p. 95), and others pay a high tribute to the patriotism and love of liberty that guided Dunstan in his action in those difficult times. 'In the question between Eadwig and Dunstan,' says Wakeman, 'there can be no doubt as to the side on which the interests of the nation and of religion lay. The timely death of Eadwig in 958 saved England from a civil war.' Finally: one of the wicked females that exercised so evil an influence over young Edwy was branded on the face, according to the law and custom of the time. But the original authorities do not say which. Neither do they say which of them was hamstrung, when captured near Gloucester by the nobles then at war with Edwy. The imaginative writer in the 'Free Press' has evidently gone, not to original authorities, but to the writers of historical romance, such as Carte and Guthrie, by whom (as the Anglican Bishop Short says) 'the conduct of Dunstan with regard to Edwy and Elgiva has, without much foundation, been worked up into a pathetic tale' ('History of the Church of England,' p. 12). The 'famous love story' of Edwy and Elgiva, as told by original historians, is a sordid tale of the vulgar intrigues, the vengeance, and the tyranny of about as worthless a trio as ever made a smudge upon the page of England's history.

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

An interesting debate on the subject of 'Cram' in the public schools will take place on Friday evening between representatives of St. Joseph's Men's Club and St. Patrick's Literary and Social Club. The debate takes place in St. Joseph's Hall.

At the usual weekly meeting of St. Joseph's Men's Club on Friday evening the programme consisted of selected readings from the works of Goldsmith. The following contributed selections:—Messrs. T. Deehan, J. B. Callan, jun., D. O'Connell, D. S. Columb, J. Hally, W. Rodgers, D. Corcoran, and E. W. Spain. The Rev. Father Coffey congratulated the readers on their efforts, and expressed the hope that members would give similar readings on future occasions.

The members of the Boys' Club enjoyed a great treat on Monday evening, when his Lordship the Bishop attended and gave several selections with his fine gramophone. Among these were examples of music in connection with the ceremonies at St. Peter's, Rome, his Lordship at the same time explaining the nature of the ceremonies. Dr. Verdon also gave a short account of the life of the inventor of the gramophone. The Rev. Father Corcoran presided, and there was a very good attendance, the boys being highly delighted with the interesting and instructive entertainment provided by his Lordship. On the motion of Master J. O'Sullivan, seconded by Master B. Scott, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Right Rev. Dr. Verdon.

On Saturday week, on the invitation of the St. Joseph's Club, a combined run of the Dunedin, Civil Service, Dunedin Anglican, Southern Bible Class, Caversham, and Port Chalmers Clubs, took place from St. Joseph's Hall. This was the largest muster of harriers ever held in Dunedin. The trail led on to Littlebourne and on to the Kaikorai Valley, towards Wafari, past the reservoir, and home. After arriving at St. Joseph's Hall refreshments were dispensed by Mrs. Jackson and several lady friends. On last Saturday the Dunedin and St. Joseph's Clubs joined forces in a run from Leven street, Roslyn, as guests of Mr. J. B. Callan. A pack of 34 followed a good trail laid by W. Foley (Dunedin) and Murphy (St. Joseph's). Proceeding up Leven street, the hares descended to the Kaikorai Valley, up Fraser's Gully, thence up Kikland Hill to Bunting's store. The main road was then followed in direction of Ashburn Hall, for about a mile, and a turn made into the open country on the left. A circular course brought the pack to the head of Fraser's Gully again, and the road was then followed up the hill and home. The clubs were afterwards entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Callan, for whose kindness Captains Melville (Dunedin) and Hussey (St. Joseph's) returned thanks.

TEMUKA

(From our own correspondent.)

July 23.

A conversazione is to be held in the Volunteer Hall on Thursday next in aid of the furnishing fund of the new presbytery. This, as well as one held about a month ago, is being organised by a ladies' committee, and by their efforts a fair sum of money was netted.

On Friday evening last the weekly meeting of the Temuka Catholic Young Men's Club was held in St. Joseph's schoolroom. The debate for the evening was, 'Would a universal superannuation fund be to the advantage of the people?' The speakers on the affirmative side were Messrs. W. Barry, Z. Beri, and D. O'Halloran, and on the negative Messrs. J. Reilly, T. Knight, and W. Clarke. When the vote was taken the former side proved the winners by a fair majority.

PALMERSTON NORTH

(From our own correspondent.)

July 22.

The proceeds of the social held on July 4 in the Zealandia Hall will amount to about £25, which will be used for reducing the parish debt.

The election of officers of the local branch of the H.A.C.B. Society, held on July 10, resulted in Bro. T. O'Reilly being elected president for another term of office, the vice-chair being filled by Bro. McLean, Bro. Frank O'Donnell secretary, and Bros. McKewan and M. Hickey as warden and guardian respectively. Bro. V. A. Dallow was nominated as trustee, in place of Bro. F. O'Donnell.

At a general meeting of the parishioners on Sunday last, which was largely attended, it was decided to adopt Mr. Scanlan's suggestion of the coupon system of collecting for the reduction of the parish debt. Mr. C. A. Loughnan, the chairman, explained the scheme, and also the parish indebtedness. It was largely taken up, and in addition some £500 was promised or subscribed in the room. Considering we have £1 per day interest to meet alone, it is to be hoped the scheme will meet with generous support.

OBITUARY

MR. JAMES SCANLAN, LITTLE RIVER.

We regret to record the death of Mr. James Scanlan, who passed away at the residence of his brother-in-law, Mr. John Flynn, Little River, on July 10, at the age of 48 years. The deceased was a native of Woodlands, Kerry, and came out to this Colony 27 years ago. About 13 years ago he re-visited his native land, and on returning to New Zealand he engaged extensively in contracting for the Selwyn and Amuri County Councils. Having decided to retire from contracting, he secured a farm on the Kinloch Settlement. He passed away, as previously stated, at the residence of his brother-in-law, fortified by all the rites of the Church. The funeral, which took place on July 12, and was very largely attended, left the church for the Little River cemetery, where the interment took place. The Rev. Dr. Kennedy officiated both at the church and the graveside.—R.I.P.