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(To be Continued).

All contributions to be addressed to the Rev. G. M. Hunt Cromwell.

Father Hunt desires to thank heartily all those who have so promptly responded to his appeal, and will offer up the Holy Sacrifice weekly for all subscribers.

EDITOR'S NOTICES.

Send news **WHILE IT IS FRESH**. Stale reports will not be inserted.

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.

DEATHS

CURTIN.—At his residence, Wrey's Bush, on July 25, 1906, Michael, beloved husband of Catherine Curtin, in his 50th year.—R.I.P.

FAHEY.—At the residence of his sister, Mrs. A. Harris, Waimate, on August 17, 1906, after a long and painful illness; fortified by the rites of Holy Church; John, third son of John Fahey, County Galway, Ireland.—R.I.P.

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PATENTS

ANSWER TO CORRESPONDENT

BALCLUTHA.—Cutting lost or mislaid. Can you favor us with another?

MESSAGE OF POPE LEO XIII. TO THE N.Z. TABLET.

Pergant Directores et Scriptores New Zealand Tablet, Apostolica Benedictione confortati, Religionis et Justitiae 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.



THURSDAY, AUGUST 30, 1906.

ARBITRATION OR WAR?



THE camp is any day (according to Brownson) a better school than the counting-house or the court-house. During the siege of Metz, a General—a war-worn veteran—observed a battalion of young German soldiers displaying the recruits' customary lack of steadiness under fire. He shrugged his shoulders and remarked to the English war-correspondent, Archibald Forbes: 'Dey vant to be a little shooted; dey vill do better next time'. And your average military man will tell you that nations as well as linesmen are the better of being 'a little shooted', and that blood-letting is the best remedy for turning a society that has degenerated morally and physically into a robust, vigorous, and righteous people. War is not in itself morally wrong. It has had the approval and even the command of God in the Old Law. And in the New Dispensation, was not Cornelius the centurion (a military officer) commended as 'a religious man, fearing God'? Declared by competent authority, for a just cause, and carried on with right methods and right intentions, war may be engaged in with a safe conscience. It is, however, a violent remedy, suitable only for desperate diseases. It involves such grave evils that it is to be avoided wherever it is possible without sacrificing the public weal. And good men of every age have prayed for the coming of the day when swords should be turned into sickles and the reign of the Prince of Peace should begin upon the earth.

The Church has blessed the soldier's sword to fight for the right that is invaded by tyrant might, and is to be guarded or won back in no other way. But down the course of the centuries she—through her Popes—has sought in various ways to keep nations from each others' throats and to mitigate as far as she could 'the calamities of the wars that she has been unable to prevent. For ages the Popes were to a beneficial extent looked upon as the Chief Justices of Christendom. Pope Boniface VIII. settled a serious dispute between Philip Le Bel of France and the First Edward of England in 1298. Alexander VI. was chosen to arbitrate between Portugal and Spain regarding their respective rights over the newly-discovered lands of the Western world. And his famous 'line' was, in all human probability, the means of preventing those two great rival nations