

humane, than that of Great Britain, the colonies, and the present United States all combined. Those first teachers gave the Spanish language and Christian faith to a thousand aborigines where we gave a new language and religion to one. There have been Spanish schools for Indians in America since 1524. By 1575—nearly a century before there was any printing-press in English America—many books in twelve different Indian languages had been printed in the city of Mexico, where in our history John Eliot's Indian Bible stands alone; and three Spanish universities in America were nearly rounding out their century when Harvard was founded. A surprisingly large proportion of the pioneers of America were college men; and intelligence went hand in hand with heroism in the early settlement of the New World.

There was, and still is, a radical difference in the objects and methods of colonisation pursued by Dutch and English-speaking civilisation on the one hand and Hispano-Portuguese on the other. The former was wholly or chiefly commercial in its aims; the latter placed religion more in the foreground both of purpose and of effort. In his work entitled 'The Establishment of Spanish Rule in America', Professor Bernard Moses says that if we are to judge from the language of the laws of the Indies, we might calculate that the King, in dealing with the inhabitants, regarded no object as of more importance than their conversion to the Christian faith. This non-Catholic writer also grants that 'one of the strongest motives of Spain's action' in extending her empire beyond the seas 'was a genuine and honest desire for the spiritual regeneration of the native population'. And it has been truly observed by another non-Catholic writer that 'nothing equal to the foreign missionary activity of Spain in the days of her glory has ever been known in the history of Christendom'. The vices and cancerous excrescences of civilisation kill. But civilisation itself never yet choked off a native race. The results of the Hispano-Portuguese methods of colonisation may be briefly told. A large percentage of the population of Spanish and Portuguese America are of pure aboriginal blood or of mixed race. And in the East, the Philippines, with their seven million native Catholics, are a monument more lasting than bronze to Spanish enterprise and piety and valor.

Notes

A Difference

The Paris 'Univers', in a recent issue, quotes the following decree passed by the Revolutionary National Assembly on November 2, 1789, on the motion of Mirabeau:—

'All ecclesiastical goods shall be at the disposal of the nation, subject to a suitable provision for the expenses of public worship, the support of the ministers of religion, and the relief of the poor; in the arrangements to be made for the sustentation of the pastors, they must be assured of at least 1200 livres a year, exclusive of house and garden'.

'The National Assembly', says the 'Univers', 'which our present-day revolutionaries would like to take as their model, revulterated the clergy; but it at least showed some solicitude for the future of those it robbed, by not claiming the right brutally to deprive of all means of existence those whose sole vocation is one of prayer and the exercise of charity'.

An Unlucky Quotation

In his 'English Bards and Scotch Reviewers,' Byron flails 'the Sabbath bard, sepulchral Grahame' for that he

'Undisturbed by conscientious qualms,
Perverts the Prophets and purloins the Psalms.'

Dr. Clifford, the English Nonconformist leader, has within the past few weeks perpetrated a prize blunder of quotation that merits him a place beside 'sepulchral Grahame.' In an address to his brethren, urging a strenuous forward movement in regard to the ill-starred Education Bill, he wound up a thunderous exhortation with the Miltonian line:—

'Awake, arise, or be for ever fall'n.'

The customary 'candid friend' then stepped forward, and reminded the Doctor, through the columns of the 'Daily Graphic' that the quotation in question is the closing line of Satan's exhortation to the 'princes, potentates, warriors' of hell to scale high heaven and do battle against the Almighty. The art of quotation is a ticklish one. But it does not every day afford such finely rounded 'bulls' as that of the doughty Doctor.

DIocese OF DUNEDIN

The members of the Ladies' Club, St. Joseph's Men's Club, Hibernian Society, and other societies in connection with the Cathedral intend giving a conversation in honor of Mr. Donovan, the Irish envoy, on this (Thursday) evening.

Miss T. McMullen, a pupil of St. Dominic's College, received intimation by the last mail that the Board of Trinity College, London, has awarded to her, in consequence of having secured honors in their senior division practical and theoretical music, a national prize, value £5, for the session 1905-1906.

A meeting for the purpose of arranging for the annual school picnic was held in St. Joseph's Hall on Monday evening. The Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., presided, and there was a representative attendance, including the Rev. Father Howard (South Dunedin), and Rev. Fathers O'Reilly and Corcoran. Mr. J. A. Hally was appointed secretary. It was decided to hold the outing on Tuesday, February 12, at Waihola. The price of tickets was fixed at 1s, 1s 6d, and 2s. Programme, sports, and other committees were set up, and the secretary was instructed to communicate with a number of ladies of the parish and ask their assistance for the procuring of prizes and trophies for the sports. The next meeting will be held on Monday evening, January 21.

KAIKOURA

(From our own correspondent.)

The Sisters of the Mission, Kaikoura, are to be congratulated on the remarkable success of the bazaar in aid of their convent. It was held in the Drill Shed, and closed by a crowded social on December 27. The bazaar and social realised a grand total of £320, and the net profit will be over £300. This is an eminently satisfactory result. Kaikoura is a small place and there were no strangers to aid by labor or purchase. Moreover, the preparations extended only over a space of six months from the initial steps. But the Sisters themselves and the ladies of the parish worked with unflagging zeal. The result of their untiring efforts was a magnificent display of attractive goods. Items of special interest were very numerous.

Mr. James Boyd, chairman of the County Council, opened the bazaar with a practical and effective speech, showing the object of the undertaking, praising the Sisters for the excellent work they had done at Kaikoura, and expressing the confident hope that the public would now show their practical appreciation by a generous response to their appeal. He also read a letter from Mr. Rutherford, Member for the district, apologising for inability to come for the function of opening, and sending a good donation to the cause.

The bazaar was held on December 22, 24, and 26. Too much praise cannot be given to the ladies and gentlemen who had charge. All worked most earnestly. At the conclusion every stall had reason to be proud of the result. The refreshment tables were splendidly patronised, and the ladies in charge deserved a good result. A beautiful and popular feature of the programme was the maypole dance by the Convent school children. The attractive performance was a most pleasing variety to the programme each evening. The sailor's hornpipe by two of the school boys was deservedly appreciated. The pupils of the school played violin and piano accompaniments during the bazaar.

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