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DEATHS

MOORE.—On May 12, at the residence of her sister (Mrs. Boyce, No. 2 Tonk's grove, Wellington), Bridget Agnes, youngest daughter of the late Michael and Margaret Moore, of Dunedin; aged 42 years. R.I.P.
 MONSON.—On Sunday morning, April 25, at their residence, Queenstown, Louisa, the dearly beloved daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. Monson; aged 27 years. Deeply regretted. R.I.P.
 POWER.—On May 11, at her residence, Tiverton street, Palmerston, Catherine, beloved wife of Martin Power; aged 65 years. Deeply regretted. R.I.P.

HAWERA

A SOLEMN REQUIEM for the repose of the soul of the late Mr. O'Dwyer, of Cappawhite, Ireland (father of the Rev. M. O'Dwyer, of Hawera) will be celebrated in St. Joseph's Church, Hawera, on May 25, at 10 a.m.

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.



THURSDAY, MAY 20, 1909.

MR. FISHER ON THE CHURCH AND THE TOILER

HE reinforced seismic wave that was caused by the Messina earthquake travelled fast and far. It rocked ships in Crete and Cyprus and spat foam upon the blackened rocks of Malta. A somewhat analogous result has been produced in a small way in these southern lands by the eruptive passion of the speech delivered last week by Mr. Fisher (the Australian Federal Premier) to the Presbyterian Assembly in Melbourne. It set up a reinforced wave of controversy that circled all Australia and ended by tossing its foam upon the shores of New Zealand. 'I think,' said the Catholic Bishop of Auckland, 'the Presbyterian Assembly made the greatest mistake in asking a man such as Mr. Fisher to address their meeting. You do not as a rule invite a man to insult you. It is easy to bring up all sorts of objections to the Church.' Mr. Fisher repaid the compliment of his hosts by treating them to his crude and ill-digested ideas as to what Christianity has 'failed' to do for the toiler and the poor. Mr. Fisher's bountiful unacquaintance with the broad and outstanding facts of the Church's work in these respects would have remained undiscovered had he been satisfied to play an innocuous part, or to bear in mind the Celtic proverb which makes the closed mouth melodious. But, like the blackboard in Kipling's *Day's Work*, he elected to tell the Assembly all that he knew upon his chosen theme (which was very little indeed)—and a very great deal that he did not know.

One of the outstanding facts of history is the transformation that was wrought in the whole social fabric by the Christian teaching of the Fatherhood of God, the brotherhood of man, and the essential equality of all men in His sight. This teaching gave to the world a new view of human life and of the poor and lowly; it set in operation, too, those wondrous and varied works of charity which have done so much to enrich mankind and assuage the ills of earthly existence. In the course of time it wrought another revolution in the social order, when it