

Friends at Court

CLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

- October 17, Sunday.—Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost.
Purity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
" 18, Monday.—St. Luke, Evangelist.
" 19, Tuesday.—St. Peter of Alcantara, Confessor.
" 20, Wednesday.—St. John Cantius, Confessor.
" 21, Thursday.—St. Victor III., Pope and Confessor.
" 22, Friday.—SS. Cyril and Methodius, Bishops and Confessors.
" 23, Saturday.—Our Most Holy Redeemer.

SS. Cyril and Methodius, Bishops and Confessors.

These saintly Brothers having evangelised with remarkable success the Slavonian tribes that had settled near the River Danube, were consecrated Bishops by Pope Adrian II., about 870. St. Cyril died soon afterwards, but St. Methodius labored for many years in Hungary, Bulgaria, Dalmatia, Poland, and Russia.

Our Most Holy Redeemer.

This day is set apart by the Church to praise and glorify God for the great mystery of our redemption, and to honor the Person of His Son, who, by becoming man and dying for us, has freed us from the slavery of Satan, and restored to us our heavenly inheritance.

GRAINS OF GOLD

ALL IS VANITY.

Look around! The world seems fair,
Yet sin and care are everywhere;
The sunlight plays, but soon, alas!
The shadows come; the gleams will pass.
The sweetest flow'r will meet decay;
The brightest dream will fade away,
And blasted all man's hopes shall be,
For ev'rything is vanity.

We build, perhaps, an ancient name,
On honored place, or wealth, or fame—
A breath will shadow these—the rust
Will eat our treasure; in the dust
Will moulder what we valued so,
And we this truth of truths shall know.
And with the Wise Man shall agree
That ev'rything is vanity.
'Vanity of Vanities'—

The things that fret, the joys that please;
Discordance, rancor, grief, and pain,
Inspiring thoughts, ambitions vain,
Go down before the certain fate
That for each mortal lies in wait—
In God, alone, our trust should be,
For all the rest is vanity.

—Amadeus, O.S.F.

If we are well with God, all is well with us, though the thickest darkness be around us.

Humility is a divine shield and veil which conceals our good works and virtues from our own eyes.

If in spiritual reading you find a passage that interests you, return to it and read it over often.

Be true to thy God, true to thy friends, true to thyself, and thou shalt never know true unhappiness.

Be careful that you say nothing to call forth praise for yourself or blame for your neighbor.—Ven. L. de Blois, S.B.

Wherein lies the fascination and charm about children? A bachelor can never understand unless he lets himself go, and then his heart aches.

Happiness is what everyone desires and seeks. But though many seek it few find it. And why? Because they do not seek it in the right place.

'Give,' says Our Lord, 'and it shall be given. Good measure and pressed down and shaken together and running over shall they give into your bosom.'

When you come before Our Lord, speak to Him if you can; if you cannot remain there, show yourself to Him and be not disturbed.—St. Francis de Sales.

Sunshine and blue skies cheer the heart. But the skies are often clouded. Make then your own sunshine. A pure heart and the grace of God will help you to do so.

Souls reared in pious society, understanding the inestimable gift of religion, never counterfeit. If they have been taught to serve Him, they do not wish to conceal their love.

As soldiers of Christ we all have many and fierce foes to fight, but after each battle fought and won we can most feel fresh grace and see the approving smile of our dear Lord upon us. This renews our courage and fills our soul with a heavenly peace and the sweetest joy.

The Storyteller

A QUESTION OF CASTE

(Concluded from last week.)

Through Dermot's agency some of the rarer editions were disposed of at Christie's, while others went direct to bibliophiles prepared to pay handsomely for the indulgence of their hobby. With the proceeds it was possible to fulfil Vincent Carberry's intention of sending Brian to University, where he speedily achieved an enviable popularity, but, alas! no scholastic distinction, for all his stubborn plodding and conscientious endeavor to second Kathleen's efforts in his behalf. It was a year after her father's death when the question Kathleen long had dreaded on Dermot's lips at length found utterance.

She had known she must deny the appeal of her own heart, as Vincent Carberry's daughter must answer in accordance with the traditions of her father's world; but though she had nerved herself to their utterance, she had not dreamed what a two-edged sword those words would prove which cut Dermot Quin from her life.

'Oh, I am so sorry for all this, Dermot,' she cried, a world of pain in her sad young eyes. 'I am so sorry. I shall never marry. I must live for Brian as I meant to have lived for father.'

Against this decision Dermot had not appealed. To 'make things easier for Kathleen' had grown to be so much the habit of his life, that in this crisis, quite characteristically he thought first of the girl's distress.

'It was all a mistake, Kathleen,' he said bravely. 'You must not let it worry you. I should never have ventured to ask—under other circumstances—but somehow you seemed so alone, and I had a wild hope you might care for me a little, enough perhaps to make your cares and worries mine. It isn't in the least your fault. It was only that I mistook kindness and old friendliness for something rather different.'

'Oh, it isn't that, Dermot,' the girl began sadly, and then fell silent. Few who could explain the intricacies of those impalpable, gossamer threads of which were spun the web that held her fast.

'You must never remember my folly, Kathleen,' Dermot had said, taking her cold little hands in his for good-bye. 'And you mustn't let it spoil our friendship. That has always been the best thing in my life, Kathleen, and I couldn't bear to lose it.'

But somehow Kathleen was aware thereafter of a subtle change in the old frank friendliness of their relations which could neither be defined nor denied. There were still many books in the 'Hill House,' and to these Kathleen turned for solace. 'I must try to look on life through father's windows,' she said, recalling sadly the whimsical conceit embodied in his last words. But somehow the effort proved a failure. She did not bring to the attempt her father's ripe scholarship, nor those years 'which bring the philosophic mind' and make the cold rôle of onlooker at the human spectacle natural, or possible. So one day in deep discouragement she tossed aside a book which 'laughed Spain's chivalry away.' Her last resource had failed her.

'I feel as though I, too, had been tilting at windmills,' she said, with a dreary little smile. It was but a few days after that Brian translated into other phrase a like opinion of the fantastic, impracticable standards by which she sought to regulate their lives.

'You make yourself very uncomfortable to no end, Kathleen,' he concluded, in a final burst of impatience. 'It would greatly simplify matters if you were to ground yourself in some of those homely proverbs that represent the accumulated wisdom of the ages. That one, for example, concerning the impossibility of fitting a square peg in a round hole. It's precisely what you have been trying to do in my case—oh, with the kindest, most unselfish motives, dear,' he said, noting the hurt look in the grave young eyes, so prone to look on life through a mist of dreams and illusions. 'But we are confronted by a condition, not a theory, as the "dons" say. Faith, 'tis about all of their wisdom that remain with me,' Brian continued with a rueful smile. 'Theoretically, my father's son should be a scholar and a gentleman. In all essentials I hope he is the last, but not quite in the way you hoped, Kathleen. Well, *actually*, he has no head for anything beyond the three R's, and a very good notion of farming, and a general idea that if he is to succeed at all it must be in his own way. I know it is a disappointment, Kathie, but I can't let you throw any more good money after bad, with an idea that some day I will adorn a learned profession. It isn't in me, and after all it's much better to be a first-class farmer than a tenth-rate lawyer.'

'A farmer! Oh, Brian!' Kathleen wailed. 'And another thing, Kathleen,' Brian persisted, nervously, himself for the final disclosure. 'I am afraid you won't approve, but, but—the fact is, I've proposed to Molly Quin.'

'Oh, Brian, Brian!' Kathleen sobbed against his coat-sleeve. The stately structure of her ambition had crumbled to swift decay, and standing amid the ruins a voice kept

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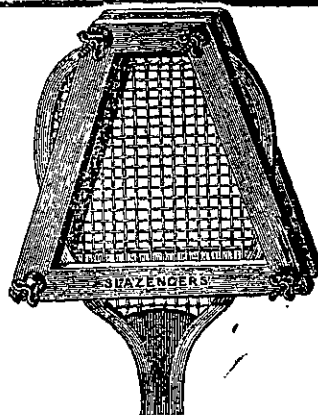
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whispering in the secret places of her heart. 'And it was for this you denied yourself love and happiness; for this you sent Dermot out of your life!'

Pursuing the purpose of making a short tale of a long one, I will hasten over the dark places of Kathleen's story. It is so much pleasanter to follow her out into the sunlight, whose brightness these remembered shadows served but to enhance, to recount how the common-sense of Brian and Molly eventually saved the happiness of their elders from hopeless shipwreck.

For, as Kevin Quin would have phrased it, Brian had 'severed the Gordian knot' of convention and prejudice. The head of the Carberry family had forsaken those lone altitudes where Kathleen would have had him dwell. How futile and mistaken under such circumstances had a mere girl elected to inhabit for ever the bleak heights which love could never scale! In some oblique way Brian may have contrived to hint as much to Kathleen, and Molly, kind, comfortable, little Molly, have whispered in Dermot's ear the counsel which emboldened him the second time to put his fortune to the proof. Be that as it may, their names appear upon the parish register, not very far below Brian's and Molly's, and 'tis said no handsomer couple ever walked out of Tyrconnel's little church in the glory of a spring morning. 'From that good day to this,' as the saying goes, Dermot's fortunes prospered a main, and to-day scarcely any child in Dublin but can point you out that shining light of the Irish bench who has lately had a handle tacked to his name.

When it became known that his name figured for a baronetcy on a recent list of birthday honors, they said in Tyrconnel, 'She did not make such a bad match of it, after all, did she now?' And the very old added, 'Pity his poor father wasn't spared to see it.'

But, alack, the stone of learning may lie for ever at the hill's foot for all of Kevin Quin. Another Sisyphus must bend his strength to the task he has long abandoned. Summer winds may woo, shadowed pools may beckon, but never more, seeking classical warrant for his stolen holiday, will he murmur: '*Dulce est desipere in loco*,' and exchanging birchen rod for slim bamboo, gayest truant of all the little school, go smiling on his way.—*Benziger's Magazine*.

THE ROYAL ROAD OF SACRIFICE

The matins of God's feathered worshippers proclaimed the advent of glorious day. Soon the great bell of St. Andrew's College tolled as if conscious that it was the twenty-first of June and the last of the scholastic year. The dormitory of the school was a scene of hilarity. The prefect of discipline was nowhere to be seen. No gentle whispers were heard. Loud, healthy voices rent the air.

Through the din arose, 'Jack, let's take a tie, will you? Mine are all in my box.'

'Sorry, Bert, that's where mine are, except the one I am now wearing, and my dress tie for to-night.'

'Here is one you may have,' called out a voice from the far end of the room.

'Say, kid, this isn't St. Patrick's Day,' returned Bert as he was presented with one of gorgeous emerald hue.

'You don't need a tie, Bert; let us get into our uniforms and have a game with the juniors.'

'Right you always are, "Doc"; come on, boys; let's hurry and make the youngsters kiss the ground.'

With more noise the room was vacated with the exception of the two young men. Edward (better known as 'Doc') Burton and Albert Kirns.

Both were good-looking and seniors. They hurried down, upsetting a youngster coming up.

'Look out, Frank; what's the matter?' said Doc.

Frank tried to brush away his tears, and presented a hand covered with a handkerchief through which the blood was oozing. 'I was looking for you, Doc; I cut my hand.'

'Say, Frank, you had better go up to the infirmary. Doc is going to play ball,' said Bert.

'Let me see your hand, Frank,' Doc said heedless of Bert. Frank slowly uncovered the wound. 'I should say you did cut it. How did you do it?'

'I fell on a piece of glass,' Doc examined the hand carefully. 'That is an ugly cut, Frank; you had better see Brother Felix; I'll hurt you more than he will.'

'Oh, you fix it, will you, Doc? Brother told me to keep away from the place, and he'll be cross.'

'Well, then, come up stairs, youngster. Bert, I will be out in a few minutes.'

Bert mumbled something and walked away with an air of disgust.

Burton's kind action delayed him about ten minutes; then he ran with speed to his place on the diamond. One by one the juniors fanned in their vain attempts to connect with his pitched balls.

The morning passed quickly and the noon Angelus marked the ending of all athletic sports at St. Andrew's for the term. The material things of life claimed their attention and the refectory would not delight the heart of any hungry persons after their appetite had been satisfied.

Express men were persons of importance for that day at least; trunks, bags, and boxes of every description

were placed at their tender mercy. The campus was vacated. In all parts of the college rehearsals were the rule. Each year the faculty of the college had been successful in obtaining a celebrated speaker to mark the commencement exercises. This year the young Governor had promised to attend, but at the eleventh hour sent his regrets. A venerable priest, Father Higgins, who had spent years in the Far East, gracefully came to the rescue, and promised a short address.

The hall was filled with the parents and friends of the young men, as the orchestra began the assembly march. The doors were thrown open and the aspirants for honors marched into the hall.

'Doc' and Bert headed the line. Their generally ruddy faces paled somewhat from the excitement and the glare of the many lights.

After a chorus, a poem, a symphony from the college orchestra, the twenty-four graduates were called to receive the coveted sheepskins. The programme progressed, then came the valedictory. A pleased expression swept across every face as after prolonged applause Edward Burton began his farewell to his Alma Mater. Edward was earnest in everything. His voice told upon his audience. His paper was rich with the fire of youth, heart. Tears flowed from the eyes of his loving mother, seated in a crowded portion of the hall with a husband, whose face glowed with pride upon his son. At last, with a grand message of valediction, Edward finished. Father Higgins ascended the stage. After a quick survey of the assemblage, he began: 'I trust you were listening when Father Murphy read the note of regret from the one who was to be the chief speaker of this evening; otherwise you might think me the Governor, and think, oh, he isn't such a great speaker after all.' After a pause he continued: 'I believe it is customary to address graduates with words of encouragement and praise; I will institute narration. Young men, to-day you enter upon a new life. The doors of your Alma Mater are closed kindly but finally. She sends you forth to battle; yes, to battle. The optimism of youth presents life as rosy as the morn, as placid as you beautiful lake on a day in June. Boys, life is real, life is earnest, success does not come without sacrifice, sacrifice is not separated from success. You are but children. Look well into the future. Choose wisely your career. If you feel you are called to be a soldier of Jesus Christ, go and prepare. If the field of medicine or surgery attracts you, study to be the best; if you become only second best, you are best for trial. The mercantile world offers many inducements to the honorable young college man. Young men, take honesty for your motto in whatever place God places you.' He waxed eloquent, stirring all hearts with his appeals. His kindly eyes were moist as he finished with, 'Remember, young men, don't be afraid to travel the royal road of sacrifice.'

After the conclusion of the exercises Father Higgins held a reception. By some wonderful power he won the young men's confidence. They told him their aims, their hopes. Placing his hand on Edward Burton's shoulder, he said: 'I expect great things from this young man. What is your ambition, my son?'

Before Edward could answer Father Burke spoke up. 'Surgery, Father Higgins. During Doc's four years here he has fixed more bruised bodies than Brother Felix has since he came twelve years ago.'

'Is that so?' You have chosen a noble vocation, study hard. Aim to be superior. You will succeed, I am certain.'

'Yes, Father, I have always felt I should study surgery.' His fellow-students saw Doc was growing confidential, so politely drew aside. 'But it is my parents' desire that I should be a priest.'

'Well, they will be pleased to think you have decided on such a grand career.'

'I fear not, Father,' returned Edward. 'Father is very much imbued with the idea that it is all settled; numberless times I have tried to tell him that I could not conscientiously study for the Church when all my soul called out for surgery. I don't mean that I would like to witness suffering; I want to try and alleviate it. I know Father will be disappointed. My uncle left money for me to be educated, on condition that I would be a priest.'

'Why did you accept the terms?'

'I couldn't help it, Father; I wanted to work to earn enough money for my education, but Dad insisted on me accepting uncle's money; I told him perhaps I would decide on some other life work, but he put me off with, "Boys were not sure of themselves until they finished college."'

'They are not,' returned Father Higgins. 'I don't anticipate trouble for you, but if your parent is unreasonable will you let me know? Perhaps I may be able to help you. Now, your parents will be anxious. Good-night, and God bless you. Here is my address; don't forget to let me know how you succeed.'

'Thank you, Father, very much; good-night.'

The excitement of commencement had been forgotten. After two weeks of idleness, Edward Burton awoke to the realisation that it was nearly time he had a talk with his father. His mother had listened to her boy's story, and heroically told him she knew whatever profession he chose was the one God had destined him for. She was

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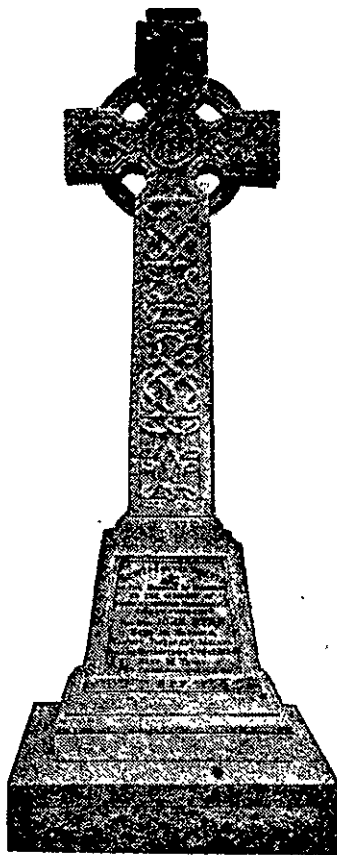
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disappointed. Every mother's ambition is to give a son to God. Edward was her only child; he must not know the anguish she suffered. She knew the pain in store for him. Her husband was indomitable. No earthly power could change his no to yes. His one aim in life was to see Edward a priest. Edward begged that he should be the one to break the news. Accordingly, after breakfast, he said: 'Dad, may I see you for a few minutes?' His father replied with alacrity: 'Certainly, come into my room.' Edward followed his parent and said to him: 'Dad, I know you won't be pleased, but I have decided to go to work.'

'Nonsense, Edward; there isn't the slightest need of it.'

'But, Dad, I don't feel that it is my vocation to be a priest; I want to study surgery. You know the Fathers at school decided I was fitted for it.'

'It is rather a strange time to arrive at such a decision, after you have finished college. You know well had I been assured at the beginning that you did not intend to follow your uncle's wishes I would not have allowed you to enter college.'

'But, Dad, you know, time after time I have told you I was not certain. You always put me off with, "Boys don't know their own minds." Don't think, father, I intend to keep the money. I shall work until every penny is repaid. No, Dad, you wouldn't wish me to be false to my principles. I know I am not fitted for the holy office of priesthood. Think how easy it would be for me to agree with you, if I felt the slightest inclination.'

'You have always been a stubborn boy—don't interrupt, please. You know my aim in life was to see you ordained. Every one knows we intended you for a priest. You have offended me beyond forgiveness. Go and be a surgeon if you wish, but not one penny of my money will help you, and I will never willingly speak to you again.'

'Dad, you don't mean that; think for one instant, if I could, would I not do as you wish, but I cannot. I will work day and night. God has given me talents. I must make use of them.'

'Then that is final?'

'Final, Dad, but—'

'Then there is no more to be said; good-day.'

Edward was tempted to give up the fight, but he persevered. Father Higgins obtained employment for him during the summer months. He entered the university, and worked within and without to gain the funds sufficient for him to procure his degree.

During his second year his mother died. The distance was too great to allow him to return home. His heart went out in sympathy to his lonely father. The letter was returned unopened. Two months after the death of his mother he received from a friend the intelligence that his father had married again and left the State. He suffered. He would not have been human had he not. No father's strong hand grasped his in congratulation when his degree was won. He was alone, no mother eye was dim for him. He finished with high honors. He decided to locate in his home city, and not many years passed before he was high in his chosen profession. His practice was more extensive than that of any other doctor in the city. He was esteemed by everybody. In the large Catholic hospital where he performed the majority of the operations he was greatly beloved; daily he gained friends. His charity was not pharisaical. The poor received the same untiring attention as the rich; little children idolised him. He made a daily tour of the wards. Always a kind word, and a gentle question to each poor sufferer. Eight years had passed since his father sent him from him. In all that time he had received no message of forgiveness, but this morning he had received a beautiful chest of silver, simply marked, 'For your wedding gift.' Something whispered it was his father who had sent it.

'Thank God,' he murmured, 'the shadows are lifting. Bessie's prayers are being heard.' He was steering his light runabout through the crowded street. He must hurry; he was due at the hospital.

With a start he stopped the machine, and jumped out. He stepped upon something sharp, which cut through his shoe; but, heedless of the pain, he ran to an elderly man's side and called out, 'Father! Father!'

The man turned sharply. 'Edward, my son!'

'Poor Dad, you are trembling. Don't you think it is about time we made up? Eight years is a long time, Dad.'

'Yes, Edward; eight years too long. I was pig-headed; I was awfully displeased, Edward, but I'm proud of you now, my boy. You are in your right place. Will you forgive me, son?'

'Don't ask my forgiveness, Dad; I'm very busy now; they are expecting me at the hospital. Suppose you come up to my rooms to-night. You know, I'm going to be married to Bessie Dean, father. You'll come and live with us, won't you, Dad?'

'Edward, could I? Would Bessie care?'

'Bessie care? Bessie has been praying for this reconciliation ever since I went away. I think I cut my foot; it is smarting. Don't forget to come up, Dad; here is my card. I will be there about 6; good-bye, I'll have to hurry.'

Dr. Burton exceeded the speed limit, but he must

reach the hospital on time. His foot pained him, but he had no time to care for that.

'Good-morning, Sister. Am I late?' he asked a nun in the corridor.

'Just a few moments, Dr. Burton.'

'Sorry to have kept them waiting.'

'Have you hurt your foot, doctor?'

'I jumped on a piece of wire as I was getting out of the runabout. I will attend to it after—when I get time.'

'Always time for others, but no time for yourself,' said the nun with a smile.

As quickly as possible he began his work. Not a word passed his lips. His energy was concentrated on his work. Every gesture was understood, instrument after instrument was handed to and from him. When he had finished he murmured, 'Thank God! I hope it is successful.'

He passed quickly from the room. An interne was walking along the corridor. Dr. Burton motioned to him. 'Please get me a glass of water. I did not want to alarm the others. I feel quite weak.' The last word was scarcely audible. He staggered, and would have fallen had not the young man held him. The commotion brought others to the scene.

'Burton's ill,' returned another. They carried him into a private room, and soon revived him. With the ghost of a smile he said: 'Earle, just take off my shoe, will you, please; there is something wrong with my foot.'

Dr. Earle uttered an exclamation; the shoe refused to move; he slit it with his knife. Something spattered over his hand. 'Why, Doc, you have cut your foot.'

'Yes, I guess I did. I stopped to talk to Dad, and stepped on a piece of wire or something. I'll have to look out for blood-poisoning.'

The three physicians came into the room, the injured foot was attended to, but the pain was almost unbearable to Dr. Burton. He was forbidden to leave the room by Dr. Earle, who said he would consider him fortunate if he could leave in a week.

(To be concluded.)

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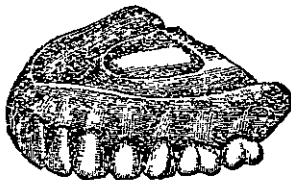
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Current Topics

The Congress Time Limit

One of the greatest difficulties which confronted the recent Congress—as it confronts most congresses—was how to find time to overtake the huge programme of work that had been mapped out. In order to make it even approximately possible a time-limit was imposed, and the rigor with which the regulation was enforced gave rise at times to situations that were decidedly entertaining—at least to the onlookers. The president was absolutely relentless—even if a speaker were in the very middle of a burst of eloquence he was ruthlessly cut down. The Sydney *Daily Telegraph* records the following closure incidents, all of which happened on the opening day of the Congress deliberations.

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The time-limit is rigorously enforced at the Roman Catholic Congress; in fact, it is essential if the business is to be got through in a week, and no closure in any Parliament is so inflexible in its operation. The mandate of the president, as the Cardinal declared yesterday, is as unalterable as the laws of the Medes and the Persians. This when he had cut short Monsignor O'Brien, rector of St. John's College, in a historical sketch of that institution, and the members of the Congress were applauding vigorously to indicate that they wished him to continue. The Monsignor was not the only speaker thus interrupted in the course of a brisk day's work. When Father Barry had got through five pages of Mr. J. E. Redmond's paper, which ran into 16 pages in type, his Eminence announced that as the hour for adjournment had arrived the rest of the paper must be taken as read. Mr. John Meagher, M.L.C., who entered upon a catalogue of the wrongs of Ireland under the tithe tax in the days of his ancestors, was relating, amid amusement, that even the ducks and hens had been appropriated in order, as he said, "to feed the parson," when the Cardinal rose, with a humorous twinkle in his eye. "I'm afraid the speaker's time is up," he drily announced, and the narrative abruptly ended amid great laughter. Dr. Cleary's paper on education, at the afternoon session, had to be curtailed, so that, manifestly with the fear of the time-limit before his eyes, Mr. J. M. Taylor, when his turn came, started off to read his paper at a great pace. So extremely rapid was he that at first he could not be understood. But even his volubility could not save him, for the blow fell at length, with a large section of his paper unread.

The Prospects of Home Rule

In a Congress ninety per cent. of whose members were either Irish or of Irish descent it was natural and fitting that Ireland and its affairs should have an honored place; and Mr. John Redmond, in his paper on 'Ireland's Hundred Years' Battle for Faith and Fatherland,' and the Cardinal, in his address on 'Ireland, the Island of Saints,' both waxed eloquent on what was for each so congenial a theme. It is interesting to notice that, in spite of the disappointments and set-backs in the past, Mr. Redmond is very sanguine and hopeful as to Ireland's prospect of getting justice in the by no means distant future.

*

'In 1906,' he says, 'the Liberals, with the largest majority on record, proposed to establish a sort of modified Indian Council in Ireland, but the measure was contemptuously rejected by the Irish people. During the present Parliament a Home Rule motion, affirming the Irish demand in full, has been accepted by the Government, and passed in the House of Commons, by a purely British majority, for the first time since the Union. The Liberals are thus pledged to Home Rule, and the Premier has stated that at the next general election they will ask for a free hand to deal with the Irish question. And thus Home Rule stands to-day. Its prospects never were brighter. During the last twenty years the main arguments against Gladstone's Bills have been swept away by legislation such as the Local Government Acts, the Land Acts, and the Universities Act. This year the annual indictment of Ireland by the Tories, as a land seething with crime, absolutely broke down, and the campaign of hate and calumny waged against Ireland in England appears to have utterly spent its force. The example of the effects of Home Rule in South Africa, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand has greatly impressed the British nation, and the fact that all the self-governing colonies are in favor of Home Rule for Ireland has compelled recognition. The influence of the Irish race in America, Australia, and England also counts for much with Ireland's rulers, for it is to their generous assistance that the continued existence of the Irish Party

in all its strength and efficiency is largely due. The position of parties in England is unstable; but the Irish Party suffers no diminution in strength, and is ready to take advantage of every opportunity to press the national claim. The overwhelming majority of the Liberals and the whole of the Labor Party are united with the Irish Party in favor of Home Rule. Even the Tory "non-possumus" is only political tactics.'

*

'The Irish Party is absolutely independent. In Ireland itself the opposition to Home Rule in Ulster is kept alive with the greatest difficulty. The more reasonable and responsible of the Unionists there regard it as inevitable, and desire only that when it comes it should be generous and complete. Every fresh concession to Ireland but strengthens her power and her determination to compel Home Rule. It is bound to come: that is inevitable; but it is dependent, first and last, on the continued unity and solidarity of the Irish themselves. Given these conditions, and a continuation of the support of the Irish Party by our race and nation, victory is only a matter of time, and most probably a very short time. It will be a fitting termination to Ireland's hundred-years' battle for faith and fatherland. The nation that could survive such a struggle, and emerge from it victorious, must possess great qualities, and is destined to a great future.'

A Challenge to Mr. Joseph Hocking

The Rev. Joseph Hocking is one of those unhappy individuals who have got 'Rome' on the brain. If he writes a story, anti-Catholic feeling forms the woof and weft of it; if he makes a speech, it is a shriek at convents or at the increasing dominance of 'Rome'; if he preaches, it is about the Scarlet Woman and the Mother of Abominations. In one of his late ebullitions he has been pulled up short by a Catholic paper in a way which may make even a hardened slanderer like the Rev. Joseph hidé his diminished head for a time. At a drawing-room meeting held lately at 39 Upper Grosvenor street, London, attended by Miss Madge Moulton, who lately left the Benedictine Convent at East Bergholt, Suffolk, the Rev. Joseph Hocking presided, and was reported to have said, among other things: "In spite of protests both inside and outside of Parliament, monasteries were increasing very rapidly in this country. In 1851 there were 70 in Great Britain, whilst in 1908 there were 1131, and 813 of these were institutions for women. The history of monastic institutions was of the blackest, yet we as a Protestant country gave a home to those whom Roman Catholic countries sent out. Crime, cruelty, and outrage obtained, and the public had a right to know what was going on in them."

*

Upon which a London Catholic paper issues to the Rev. Joseph the following challenge: 'Mr. Hocking probably deems himself safe in using such words, because he uses them in a general and not in a particular sense. It is a moot question for lawyers to decide whether the use of such language on such an occasion does not come within the four corners of the law of libel. However, if Mr. Hocking has any manliness, if he has the least spark of pluck, we publicly and particularly invite him to say whether his words apply to the Catholic convent at East Bergholt, Suffolk. He says that "crime, cruelty, and outrage obtain" in Catholic convents and monasteries. Well, in what Catholic convent or monastery does Mr. Hocking know or say that "crime, cruelty, and outrage obtain"?' We invite him to become specific—to use his words or apply them to some one Catholic convent or monastery, so that the truth of the words can be tested. He is talking of Catholic convents and colleges in Great Britain. "In 1908 there were 1131 (conventual institutions in Great Britain), and 813 of these were institutions for women." He is talking of Great Britain, to-day. To what Catholic convent in Great Britain do his words apply? We invite him definitely and specifically to say. We have not the least hope that Mr. Hocking will do so. If he should do so, he would be acting a manly part. It would be possible at least to respect his courage, whatever we might think of his ignorance. But if he does not do so, he must stand branded as a cowardly calumniator, willing to wound but afraid to strike; hiding himself behind dastardly generalities that leave his skin and his pocket safe; willing to imply what he fears to assert.'

It is many weeks now since this challenge was issued, but, needless to say, Mr. Hocking has not so far had the courage and manliness to even attempt to 'make good.'

The French Birth-rate

Dr. J. Bertillon, head of the Paris Municipal Statistics Office, has just published some significant and ominous figures in regard to the birth-rate in the French capital.

According to a summary of these figures given by the Paris correspondent of the *Morning Post*, Dr. Bertillon finds that 445 prominent married men in Paris have a total of 575 children. These 445 men he divides into three categories—artistic, literary, and political. The persons in the first category—94 in number—have 104 children. Included in it are 35 artistic persons who have no children at all. The second category—littérateurs, 133 in number—have 127 children, and included in the class are 65 writers who have no children. In the third category fall 111 politicians, who have in all 193 children. Exactly one-third of the political group are childless. Finally there are 23 merchants and manufacturers with 39 children, 33 military men and functionaries with 54 children, and 51 other notabilities with 56 children. 'France,' says Dr. Bertillon in conclusion, 'is marching rapidly to her ruin, because she follows the example of those very people whose duty it is to instruct and advise her.'

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This is, of course, no new scare and no new warning for Frenchmen. Long ago von Moltke declared that Germany need never go to war again with France, for France loses a battle every day without any fighting. Matters have gone from bad to worse since von Moltke's time, and at the last congress of Social Economy M. de Foville, the president, who compared the birth-rates of the different European countries, remarked of France: 'If this condition of things continues, in twenty years there will be two Germans for every Frenchman, if indeed France survives so long as a nation.' The following figures were quoted in support of this contention. In the sixty years from 1846 to 1905, the population of Great Britain and Ireland increased 52 per cent.; that of Germany 59 per cent.; that of Austria 49 per cent.; that of Italy 36 per cent.; that of Russia 81 per cent.; that of France 14 per cent.; finally in 1907 the French population had decreased 20,000. To put the position in another form: Since the twentieth century began the French decline has continued at the following alarming rate: Excess of births over deaths, 1902, 74,000; 1903, 73,000; 1904, 57,000; 1905, 37,000; 1906, 27,000, while in 1907, zero was reached and passed. For the first time in history, and in France alone among nations, the deaths exceeded the births. The deaths numbered 794,000 as against 774,000 births, a difference to the credit of deaths of 20,000.

*

The situation is one which can no longer be ignored, and French papers and politicians appear to be genuinely alarmed. A Bill has been placed on the table of the French Chamber making it a punishable offence to refuse to accept or to send away tenants from dwellings because of their having children, and late Home files intimate that in the autumn session the French Parliament will be asked to legislate comprehensively in connection with certain proposals now being put forward to increase the population. These proposals cover a very wide range and the squalid list of suggested remedies includes that of a premium on even illegitimate births. The two schemes that are described as having the best chance of being adopted are those drawn up by Professor Richet, of the Academy of Medicine, and by M. Paul Leroy Beaulieu, the eminent economist. M. Richet proposes that the State shall pay bonuses on every baby except the first-born. A second child would bring a payment of £20, and every succeeding one a bonus of £40. M. Richet believes that under this system the number of births, which is now 750,000 per annum, would increase to one million. This would cost the State about £12,000,000 a year. The professor proposes to raise the money by imposing a heavy death duty of 50 per cent on all collateral inheritances and on all estates left by parents to an only child. M. Beaulieu suggests that no civil servant or municipal official should be definitely appointed to his office until he is the parent of three children, this stipulation to apply to the women officials as well as to the men. M. Beaulieu also advocates an annual reduction of the salaries of bachelor and spinster officials.

*

The adoption of these proposals may effect some slight improvement, but they obviously touch only the outermost fringe of the evil. The real source of the trouble, as has been over and over again pointed out, is the decay of the religious sentiment and the neglect of religious duty; and so long as French statesmen continue their policy of doing all they can to sap the religious idea so long will they keep their country in the path that leads to national ruin. The Ministers of the Republic who are now called upon to face so grave a problem are only reaping what they have sown. They have been so busy 'putting out the lights of heaven'—to use M. Briand's boastful phrase—that they have failed to notice that the process is involving not only the decline but possibly even the extinction of the nation.

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The Catholic Congress

PAPERS ON RELIGION, EDUCATION, ART AND SCIENCE

SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS

In our last issue we gave a report of the proceedings of the Catholic Congress up to Monday evening, September 27. On Tuesday morning the work of the Congress was resumed in the Cardinal's Hall, when papers on educational subjects were read and discussed. His Grace Archbishop Kelly, who presided, made some preliminary comments on the subject of education. He claimed that religion must enter into a complete education, and that it was best imparted to the student when it permeated all the exercises of education. When he first came to Sydney remarks made by him concerning the public school system were regarded as prompted by hostility to the State schools. Those who took exception to what he said failed to realise that the warfare of the Church against secular education was as the warfare of a physician against disease in his patient. It was not a warfare against the patient. From the Catholic point of view there could be no sound education unless efficient religious and secular instruction went hand in hand, and the Church was entitled to press that view upon the community.

At a subsequent stage Archbishop Kelly, when making some observations upon a paper dealing with 'The Christian School and its Teachers,' said it had been recently suggested by a Minister of State—and he had no doubt it was done in all good faith—that some reflections had been cast by the Church upon the teaching body of the Public schools. If any reflection had been made it was upon the system, not upon the teachers, than whom he knew of no higher principled body. If the Public schools could be made the instrument of giving the State citizens worthy in every respect it was due, not to the system, but to the teachers, and to the parents of the children.

The Planet Mars.

Mr. James Nangle, F.I.A., F.R.A.S., read a paper on the planet Mars. He explained that the paper was intended to show how little was known about the physical phenomena of their very near planetary neighbor. Observations that had been made led to the conclusion the seasons occurred on Mars in much the same sequence as on earth. Close scrutiny had demonstrated that white masses at the poles of Mars decreased as the greenish tinted mass increased in size. That seemed to point to the fact that the white polar mass was ice, and that the green tinted area was an inundation of water. There was very little evidence, and that of the most indirect character, that life, such as that on earth, existed on Mars.

Archbishop Delany (Hobart) said they could not fail to be interested in every step in advance made by astronomers, but the premises on which conclusions had been based with respect to Mars were at present very scanty. The Catholic theologian was quite prepared for either answer to the question as to whether Mars was inhabited. Neither an affirmative nor a negative answer would conflict with Catholic philosophy. The field of science to be yet explored without coming in any sense into conflict with their philosophy was immense.

The Christian School and its Teachers.

A paper prepared by Dr. John Brophy upon 'The Christian School and its Teachers' was read by Father M. O'Reilly. The author pointed out that the greatest defect in any system of instruction was incompetent instructors. A system could hardly be bad or inadequate when the teachers were capable or competent. For the successful teacher a psychological insight into personal traits and peculiarities was of much moment, and would be rarely wanting where sympathy—the characteristic of the true teacher—was present. It was often said, and probably with a good deal of truth, that much that was commended under 'the new education' had little to recommend it beyond being the opinions of more or less visionary educational reformers. But they could scarcely fail to be in agreement with the importance insistently attached by most modern systems to the value of child study—that the educator should know not only what kind of person the child ought to grow into under the influences of the school, but also what manner of person the pupil is at present. Theory and practice were complementary; they were not different things, but different sides of the same thing.

The competent teacher could not neglect the study of method, for a pupil developed, and his mind became enriched in proportion to his teacher's aptness in imparting his store of information, and according to his capability to form and fashion his pupil's character. He hoped that the States would at no distant date see the wisdom as well as the justice of making provision for the inspection and examination of the Church schools, and of adequately

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remunerating them for the good results they were prepared to guarantee.

ART AND EDUCATION.

His Eminence Cardinal Moran presided over the afternoon session at St. Scholastica's, Glebe Point. The grounds of the institution were gaily decorated with bunting, and elaborate arrangements had been made by the Sisters of the Good Samaritan and their pupils for the reception and entertainment of the delegates and others.

Before the commencement of the session an address of welcome was presented to the Cardinal, and greetings were accorded the hierarchy and clergy in the form of a recitation by one of the pupils. Several excellent musical items were rendered by a pupils' choir of about 80 voices.

Father J. Egan read a paper on 'The Perfection Attained in Art in the Golden Age of Ireland's Piety' by the Dominican Nuns, Cabra, Ireland. The writer stated that Irish art expressed itself best in illuminated manuscripts, sculptured stonework, and metal work, and flourished most from the fifth to the twelfth century. Towards the end of the last-named century, marks of decline became distinctly noticeable, and this decline continued, so that the previous high plane was never regained. At its best, the art of Ireland, especially in the matter of illumination, was marked by remarkable refinement, extreme delicacy, and a marvellous minuteness of detail.

The Rev. A. J. Hogan read a paper on 'The Study of History in our Schools.' He said that Catholics were defending a great principle in building and conducting their own schools. They had built up a system of education equal in every particular to that raised under the wealthy patronage of the State. The severest part of the struggle was now over, and their chief care was to keep the schools abreast of the times. The change most needed at present was a series of well-graded text-books written on Catholic lines. This was especially so in regard to history. The books now in use, though they strove to be neutral, in many instances contained matter that was offensive to Catholic ears. The history taught should have a much wider view than events which concerned England only. The main object of history lessons in schools was to encourage a taste for historic reading, and two of the greatest factors of success in this branch of education were the foundation of a good library and the most diligent and specialising study on the part of the teachers.

Mr. James Nangle, F.I.A., read a practical paper on 'The Construction and Equipment of Schools,' in which he laid especial stress on the need for adequate space, lighting, and ventilation.

His Lordship Bishop Higgins said that if the system of history teaching outlined by Father Hogan could be carried out, and they could secure text-books written on Catholic lines, the results must be of the most satisfactory character. Referring to Mr. Nangle's paper, he said that he had always thought that the Victorian Health Board, to which he had had to submit many plans for schools, was unnecessarily harsh in its demands, but this paper had converted him to a more lenient view of their methods.

The Very Rev. Father Donohue (Hamilton) said that it was truly said that many of the wild schemes of education of to-day only showed the wisdom of the old ideas. There were too many fantastic ideas that endangered the sound teaching of reading, writing, and arithmetic.

His Eminence Cardinal Moran said that he would have liked to see Father Hogan lay more stress on the teaching of Irish history. They could have too much about the King Johns and King Stephens of England. His idea of history was to present to them the great achievements of the past, that they might be their ideals of the future, and he thought there were no higher ideals in all history than those embodied in the golden age of Ireland and afterwards in the severe days of her martyrdom. Father Egan's paper had shown to what a high plane Ireland had risen in the matter of art. He thought Australia was marked out in certain ways to attain the same ideals as Ireland. He wished to see Australia become a continent remarkable for such ideals of its own, and he would like to see people coming here from Japan, China, the Philippines, and even the farthest of the United States, to drink from the fountains of wisdom which their devoted Brothers and Sisters were making available.

SCIENTIFIC DISCOURSES.

The Lane Cove River steamers carried a large number of people up to St. Ignatius' College, Riverview, where one of the sessions of the afternoon was held, with Mr. John Hughes, M.L.C., as president. The papers presented were under the main heading of 'Science and Education.'

Professor David had pride of place with one entitled 'The Science of Scenery.' He made his application mostly local.

The Rev. A. L. Cortie, professor of science at the college, had for the subject of a technical reading 'Notes on Australian Seismology,' in which he dealt exhaustively with the history of earthquake shocks throughout the land.

His Grace Archbishop Redwood expressed his pleasure at hearing this interesting essay, and mentioned the precautions that were to be taken in the erection of a new Cathedral at Wellington.

'The enemies of the Catholic Church are never weary of declaring that she is opposed to all progress in natural science, because her dogmas and theological system necessarily hamper the intellectual freedom and development of her children, and because the credentials on which she bases her claims to a reasoned assent as a preliminary to faith are founded on proofs which are unscientific, in that they lack the necessary foundations of scientific assent, observation, and experiment.' Thus commenced a paper prepared by the Rev. A. L. Cortie, which dealt with the attitude of the Church towards natural science. He affirmed that even in scientific matters progress would be better achieved if the teaching and guidance of the Church, as made known by her accredited agents, were obediently followed.

Some notes on the progress of modern astronomy, with special reference to conspicuous contributions by the Catholic priesthood, were to have been read from a paper by Mr. Baracchi, Government Astronomer of Victoria. The previous readings, however, had absorbed nearly all the time of the session, and the audience had to be content with a few extracts read by Dr. Kenny, of Melbourne.

HISTORY AND LITERATURE.

At the evening session held in St. Mary's Hall, the Bishop of Goulburn presided. Cardinal Moran presented a paper (read by Father Barry) entitled, 'Ireland, the Island of Saints. A Vindication.' The essay quoted numerous authorities to show that Erin was oft spoken and written about as *Insula Sanctorum* from the time the classic tradition, 'to all appearances dead in Europe,' burst out into full bloom in it, and the Renaissance began there—700 years before it was known in Italy. Protestant writers, he called upon to testify that, although ever ready to find fault with Irish sanctity, they felt themselves constrained to confess that all antiquity awarded Ireland the title.

Judge Heydon sent a paper on 'Francis Thompson, Catholic and Poet,' a bard who died in 1907. 'A Glimpse of Fiji,' by the Rev. Dr. Burke, closed the session.

Bishop Norton presided at a meeting of young men in the Chapter-house, when papers were read on the following subjects:—'Necessity for a Catholic Young Men's Association,' 'History of the Catholic Young Men's Societies' Federation,' and 'Catholic Clubs.'

A LESSON FROM HOLLAND.

During the sittings of the Congress on Monday Cardinal Moran announced that he proposed to bring under the notice of Congress suggestions for so amending the primary system of education in New South Wales as to harmonise the methods followed in the Public and Church schools. He thought that the system adopted by the Government of Holland to meet the requirements of Dutch Catholics might well be introduced into New South Wales and the other States of the Commonwealth.

At Tuesday morning's sitting of Congress Cardinal Moran made available details of his suggested alteration in the Public school system to meet the requirements of the Catholic community. They are as follow:—

1. In Holland there is a uniform and compulsory system for all the Dutch provinces, and the State system is practically secular.
2. The erection and maintenance of the Government schools devolve on the communes; that would be our municipalities and shires. Payment of teachers and expenses of administration devolve on the Government.
3. For the erection of schools the Government contributes one-fourth, the municipalities three-fourths.
4. The new arrangements to meet the Catholic requirements would be—(a) When 20 heads of families in any district agree to demand a denominational school their request must be acceded to, although other State or private schools may already exist in the locality. (b) Such denominational schools receive the same amount of Government aid for erection as the State schools, i.e., one-fourth of the outlay, but it is spread over a certain number of years, say five years. (c) Teachers in denominational schools are on the same footing as in the State schools as regards salary, pension, etc. (d) The salaries in all schools are fixed by law, the amount varying with the grade of the school and the number of students. (e) Government inspection fixes the grade of each school according to the standard attained by the children. (f) Teachers for any branches not fixed by the State must be paid from private sources. (g) The original applicants appoint a committee, of which the local pastor is always president. Should a vacancy in the committee occur, the existing members elect a successor. (h) The committee are the legal owners of the school, and on them devolves the presenting of teachers for appointment and dismissal. The president of the committee is the acting manager.

THIRD DAY

The third day's work in connection with the Catholic Congress (says the *Sydney Morning Herald*) was entered upon in St. Mary's Hall on Wednesday, September 29. His Grace Archbishop Redwood presided, and expressed his pleasure at seeing so many visitors present.

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EVIDENCES OF CHRISTIANITY.

His Grace read portions of a paper prepared by him with the object of giving a general survey of the evidences of Christianity. Dealing first with natural religion, and then with revealed religion, he outlined the various stages of development of the religious instinct during the 4000 years preceding the birth of Christ, and indicated the proofs of the faith on which Catholicism was built.

The Bishop of Bathurst (Dr. Dunne) said the paper was one of exceeding value to the honest seeker after truth, whether inside or outside the Church, and he suggested that it be printed in pamphlet form, and distributed broadcast.

Archbishop Redwood said he proposed to have the paper printed separately for the Catholic Truth Society.

The Bishop of Port Augusta (Dr. Norton) remarked that the sons and daughters of the Catholic Church were so well-grounded in their faith that they hardly stood in need of further proofs such as those dealt with in the paper. Still, there were many, both within and without the Church, to whom the origin of divine revelation must be a subject of the greatest interest. It was well to have these proofs fully dealt with, and in doing so in a popular way it seemed to him that Archbishop Redwood had done excellent service in the cause of religion. He had put plain proofs in a plain way.

THE EUCHARISTIC LEAGUE.

A paper prepared by Dr. Dwyer (Bishop of Maitland) on 'The Eucharistic League: Its Establishment in Australia,' was read by Father Donohue. The paper traced the origin and development of the Eucharistic League, and suggested the establishment of a branch in Australia in the interests chiefly of the priests of the Church.

Archbishop Delany (Hobart) questioned the wisdom of the multiplication of leagues and orders. He pointed out that in France, during the last 70 years, more new orders, and congregations, and leagues had been produced than in the rest of Christendom, but it was not in France that they found the best results of Church work. In Germany, where they knew far less of the organisation of new leagues, the results were better.

SOME DANGERS AND DIFFICULTIES.

The Rev. P. Dowling contributed a paper on 'Some Dangers and Difficulties of Australian Catholics.' He reasoned that there were three main dangers that the Catholic should be on guard against: Indifferentism in religion, infidelity, and want of the true Catholic spirit in home life. Much of the daily life of Catholic young men was spent among companions who were indifferent what church they attended so long as the preacher was effective and the music good. In association of this kind there was a danger of the idea taking root that one religion was as good as another, a proposition that to the Catholic was inadmissible, for it tended in the direction of indifferentism. Other dangers were to be found in rationalistic literature, in the deluge of anti-Christian thought, and in the repetition of calumnies against the Church which had been refuted time and again. The remedy against these dangerous tendencies lay in the direction of the development of Catholic societies where young men, not necessarily belonging to the Church, would find pleasure and profit in the pursuit of various forms of recreation and social intercourse. There was not time to finish the reading of the paper.

CATHOLIC SOCIETY FEDERATION.

At St. Vincent's Industrial Home for Boys a session was held in the afternoon, under the presidency of Bishop Murray, of Cooktown, Queensland.

The Rev. M. P. Malone urged in a paper entitled 'Organised Catholic Energy' the federation of the Catholic societies in Australia for the protection of the interests of the Church—the need for a bond of common unity to place Catholics in their true light. He referred specially to the success of the movement in America.

In the short debate that followed Mr. Casey questioned whether congresses of the kind now being held would produce any benefit by having discussions on art, science, and literature, in view of the needs of the Catholic community, and he pressed for the adoption of some practical resolutions as the outcome of the meetings.

The work of the St. Vincent de Paul Societies in Christchurch and Wellington was related in two papers, one by Mr. J. J. Wilson, of Christchurch, and the second by the Rev. Charles Venning, of Wellington.

The Rev. Alexander May, of Victoria, sent one dealing with Catholic missions to seamen, pointing out the disabilities of dealing with mariners belonging to the faith, owing to the want of some organisation, and suggesting that action should be taken. It was claimed that 50 per cent. of the crews of vessels coming to Australia were Catholics.

In a paper tabled on behalf of Mr. T. D. Ryan, there was proposed a scheme for the establishment of a 'Catholic Charities Association,' to be managed by the Bishops. Each State would be equipped with its own association first, after which federation could be brought about. Each Bishop would call a special meeting of his clergy to ap-

prove the plan, and to each priest in charge of the Bishops would be delegated the duty of establishing the association.

EDUCATING THE GIRL.

Cardinal Moran presided at the afternoon session at the Sacred Heart Convent, Rose Bay. There was a very large attendance of clergy and laity, and prior to the opening of the session an illuminated address was presented the Cardinal from the pupils of the convent, together with a handsome donation towards the additions to St. Mary's Cathedral, enclosed in a casket in the form of a shamrock leaf. The latter presentation was made by one little pupil arrayed to represent St. Patrick.

Miss Teresa Magner read a paper on 'The Training of the Australian Girl,' in which she declared that the main aim of the teacher should be to train the reason and conscience in such a way that the girl could get her sentiment under control. This subservience of sentiment was essential, because a woman was always guided more by her heart than by her head. The teaching of religion must be of the very best, because of its vast importance in moulding character.

Dr. Kenny read a paper by the Dominican Nuns, Strathfield, entitled 'Thoughts on the Education of Girls,' in which stress was laid on the view that whereas by all means girls should be encouraged to work hard at their allotted tasks, they should at the same time have the principles of faith and religion inculcated in them. In the case of most girls it was essential that their thoughts should be bent upon work in order to counteract the morbid taste for excitement that marked the characters of so many. The teaching of 'lessons' by no means encompassed the whole of the education that should be imparted to a girl at school, and the writers emphasised the need for attention being given to domestic economy, order, neatness, and consideration for the wants and feelings of others, and, above all, needlework should be encouraged.

Mr. Thomas Hughes, M.L.C., read a paper by the Sacred Heart Nuns, Rose Bay, upon 'The Value of History in Education,' in which it was shown that, properly taught, the greatest value of history was in the training it gave the mind and the formative effect it had upon character.

His Grace Archbishop Redwood said that of all religions the only one that was really historical was Catholicism, and nothing was more important for a Christian than that he should be thoroughly acquainted with the facts of Christian history.

His Eminence Cardinal Moran, speaking in reference to Miss Magner's paper, urged the desirability of having organised games in their schools. That was admirably carried out at the Convent of the Sacred Heart, for they had excellent arrangements there. Some of the Governors of the State had told him that in the course of their evening drives along this picturesque road they had often stopped by the way to watch the beautiful games carried out by the pupils of the convent. He wanted to see well-organised games in all the primary schools.

A MESSAGE FROM THE POPE.

His Eminence Cardinal Moran announced at the session of Congress at the Convent of the Sacred Heart that he had that day received the following cablegram from his Holiness the Pope, in reply to the message of greeting forwarded from the Congress: 'The Holy Father most cordially imparts to the Catholics of Australasia assembled in the third Australasian Congress his apostolic blessing, as an earnest of Divine assistance, and heartily wishes the Congress every success.'

THE MUSICAL FESTIVAL.

The Australian Silver Jubilee of Cardinal Moran was celebrated in the evening at a festival concert at the Town Hall, and when his Eminence, accompanied by various ecclesiastical dignitaries, arrived upon the bright, animated scene, it was to find the vast auditorium thronged in every part, the front of the platform beautifully decorated with lilies, double-daffodils, and roses, and garlands of evergreens suspended in radiating lines from the lofty roof. The festival programme, formidable as to length, was still further extended by encores, and by the delay arising from the exuberant enthusiasm of a popular occasion, with the result that it was after 11 o'clock before the final number was reached. However, some of the artists, both of the Amy Castles and the Kate Rooney concert-parties assisted, a combination which ensured a most enjoyable evening, and the choral and orchestral numbers were also appreciated.

FOURTH DAY

The Right Rev. Dr. Higgins, Bishop of Ballarat, presided in St. Mary's Hall at Thursday's session of the Congress.

His Grace Archbishop Kelly read a paper entitled 'Devotion to the Virgin Mother of the Saviour, Illustrated from the Catacombs.' His Grace said that only through Mary had we attained to a knowledge of the Redeemer as the True God and the True Man. As the Son He was buried in the Holy Sepulchre. As her Son He ascended on high to the right hand of God. As her Son He sent the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles. And as her Son He would come to judge the world at the end of time. The

Public Instruction Department had a training college for teachers, and put into the hands of its students a volume of English literature written by Carlyle, entitled *Heroes, Hero Worship, and Heroes in History*. - Pages 186 and 192 contained matter highly offensive to Catholics, and attacked their faith. It destroyed absolutely the boast that there was a benevolent neutrality in religious instruction. In those pages they found 'a doctrine condemned fifteen centuries ago, and destructive to the faith in our Redeemer, brought insidiously before the future teachers of our primary schools.' It was an abuse of the public school system. Would the Government sanction a similar attack on the Crown?

In the debate which followed it was held that Catholics should not rest till the offensive literature was withdrawn from the schools. It was held to be 'scandalous' that Catholics should have to contribute taxes to a system which 'attacked their religion.'

Rev. Father W. Barry read a paper by Monsignor O'Riordan, Rector of the Irish College, Rome. The paper was on rationalism and agnosticism. Incidentally it stated that the Catholic Church had lasted through many centuries, and passed through many storms. Rationalism and modernism were but a new gust of the old tempest, which would not damage the truths upon which the Catholic Church was established.

Archbishop Delany (Hobart) said modernists interpreted a true position in a wrong sense. The Church was not afraid of the proved results of scientific investigation. Modernism was not founded on the Bible at all, but based on an amalgamation of philosophical systems.

Mr. Donaldson, M.L.A., contributed a paper entitled 'The Aborigines: Past, Present, and Future.'

THE CHURCH AND SOCIALISM.

The afternoon session was held at St. Patrick's College, Manly, Cardinal Moran presiding. As at the morning session, science and religion formed the chief basis of discussion.

'The Catholic Church at the Beginning of the Twentieth Century' was the subject of a paper contributed by Professor MacCaffery, of Maynooth College, Ireland, and read by one of the college students. The writer commented on the advance of Socialism in the nineteenth century, and claimed that the Catholic Church had been an effective agent in checking it. Modern machinery and unlimited competition had brought about a complete change in social conditions. Workmen, driven by bad treatment, had gone to the other extreme, attacked the ownership of property, and proposed to transfer all the means of production, distribution, and supply to the State. The Catholic Church had always endeavored to steer a middle course by safeguarding the right of property and ensuring fair treatment to the workers. Socialist leaders had labored with but little success in countries where Catholic immigrants had settled in any considerable numbers.

A paper was read by Professor Hayden (St. Patrick's College), who gave it the title 'Modernism as Condemned by the Church.'

Another paper was read by the Rev. Patrick J. Sheehy, who took for his subject 'The Popes and Science.' It was a reply to the attacks on Catholicism, which allege its opposition to study in scientific research. All these charges were so intemperate that they contained their own refutation. The advancement of humanity and the interests of human culture had ever been foremost in the minds of the series of Roman Pontiffs. There was no branch of literature, culture, or science in the Middle Ages in which the Papacy did not lead.

The only other paper was by the Rev. T. Maguire, entitled 'The Soul of the Pioneer.' The keynote was that the mission of the Catholic Church in Australia was the conversion of Australia.

Cardinal Moran briefly complimented the contributors of the papers.

SOCIAL UNREST.

His Grace Archbishop Delany presided at the afternoon session at the Christian Brothers' Training College, Strathfield, which was largely attended by both clergy and laity.

The president read a paper on 'The Chief Factors in Sociology.' He asked what was the meaning of to-day's social unrest. Never before had the total amount of diffused wealth in the world been so great; never had education been so general; never had the triumphs of science been so great; and all men were equal on the political platform, but still the gravest unrest was abroad. Not only was nation set against nation, but class was set against class, and every nation was fighting against itself. What had the 'progress' of to-day meant for the masses? The exercise of the franchise had not raised the toiler of to-day above his predecessor, whatever politicians on the hustings would seek to have him believe. There was 'religiosity' everywhere, but live religious faith was being stifled by the bad example of the ruling classes and the growth of unchecked license. He showed that initiative was man's inalienable right, and private ownership a logical thing. Individual initiative, family relations, and the right of men to form associations for mutual aid should all be above the State. The chief function of the State was to protect life and property from unjust encroachments, whether at home or from abroad, and to facilitate the expansion of the in-

dividual initiative. But over-reaching individualism was a baneful thing. The danger of to-day was not so much from kings or thrones as from kings of commerce and finance. The Church sought to defend the individual from the encroachments of the State, but she also sought to defend him from the over-reaching individual. If the message of the Church fell on deaf ears, then exaggerated individualism would become such as would lead to disaster. He, however, did not apprehend any serious cataclysm from contemporary unrest. - If it were possible to dislodge God from conscience—and they were aware that not a few men of leading strove towards such a consummation—then no doubt there would be a catastrophe unequalled in history. He thought it would be found that the serious menace of to-day would lead to a purer, more diligent, more wide-embracing system in law and administration, and a spirit of national solicitude which would readily admit the Catholic idea of society suggested in the description of the Church as 'Christ's mystic body.' Such an idea involved mutual trust and mutual concern; it corrected the crude conceptions of equality afloat since the eighteenth century. It warned high and low alike that they were not self-sufficing. It showed that the health of the parts was indispensable to the health of the whole. In that idea lay the healing of the nations, and it was their gift and business to make it widely known.

A paper by 'A Christian Brother' on 'The Nature, Aim, and Methods of Religious Education' was read. The writer contended that the main aim of religious education was threefold—first, to impress the great truths of religion upon the youthful mind, and to direct the plastic wills in spiritual matters; secondly, to move the hearts of the children to a sincere love of God; and, thirdly, to cultivate good habits, right rules of conduct, and a high moral character.

LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

The Bishop of Wilcannia presided at the evening session in St. Mary's Hall.

Rev. Dr. Cleary read a paper on 'The National University of Ireland,' by Mr. Robert Donovan (secretary to the University). The writer declared that the Irish University question was 600 years old. The battle of the nation and the battle for the faith were one and the same. For two centuries the Irish people were denied all opportunities of education in their own land. He then traced various incidents leading up to the better conditions of the present day. The Irish Bishops had fought a national as well as a religious battle. After centuries of political oppression, Ireland was beginning to get political liberty.

The remaining papers were somewhat abstruse. Alderman J. Lane Mullins lectured on 'Art Under the Roman Emperors, as Shown on Contemporary Coins and Medals.'

Mr. Charles H. Mulholland's paper was named 'Notes on Some Modern Concepts in General Physics.'

A special session was held in the Chapter Hall by those interested in Catholic benefit societies.

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

October 8.

A mission is being given by the Redemptorist Fathers in Eketahuna this week.

The Sisters of Mercy, Seatoun, will open a preparatory college for small boys after the New Year.

The erection of the new Catholic church at Kilbirnie will be commenced towards the end of this month.

The cup which was offered for competition amongst the various schools' football teams at Wanganui last season, was won by the boys of the Marist Brothers' School, Wanganui.

Mr. T. Boyce, one of our most prominent Catholic young men and a successful student at Victoria College, has found it necessary on account of his health to relinquish business and study for a time.

Mr. J. E. Fitzgerald, a prominent member of the Wellington Catholic Club, and who was recently elected a member of the Wellington City Council, has started business on his own account in Lambton Quay.

In the Executive Council room at the Vice-regal offices in Molesworth street on Tuesday morning Colonel R. J. Collins and Messrs. Kensington and Logan were invested with the Imperial Service Order by his Excellency the Governor.

The committee of the bazaar at Petone, which is being organised in aid of the local church funds, are working very hard, and everything points to the fair being a great success. The bazaar will be opened on Tuesday, November 9.

On Tuesday, October 5, Miss Jeannie Fitzgerald, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Fitzgerald, of Kaiwarra, was married to Mr. B. Swain, of Wellington, at the

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Basilica, Hill street, by the Rev. Father Hickson, S.M., Adm. After the ceremony the reception was held at Godber's Rooms.

The Catholic schools at Wanganui have had a very good record this year, as they have won every essay competition which was open to all the schools of the town. Master Quirk, one of the Marist Brothers' pupils, won a prize which was offered by the Wanganui Rowing Club for the best essay on their recent bazaar.

The Executive of the Federated Catholic Clubs has issued conditions for the annual oratorical and essay competitions among members of affiliated clubs. A handsome diploma will be awarded to the winner in each case. It has also been decided to award a diploma to the member who has shown the most marked advancement in debating in each club.

On Wednesday evening, October 6, representatives from the Wellington Catholic Club were entertained by the members of the St. Anne's Catholic Club, Wellington South. The visitors were extended a hearty welcome by the president of St. Anne's Catholic Club (Mr. R. W. Collins). A very pleasant evening was spent by members of both societies.

The feast of the Holy Rosary was celebrated at the Featherston Catholic Church on Sunday, 3rd inst., before a large congregation. The altar was beautifully decorated with spring flowers. The choir rendered the music of Concone's Mass in a creditable manner. Mrs. Card presided at the organ. The Rev. Father Bowe delivered an eloquent discourse on the devotion of the Holy Rosary.

On Sunday, October 3, the members of the men's branch of the Sacred Heart Society and the St. Aloysius Boys' Club approached the Holy Table at the 7.30 o'clock Mass. In the evening the usual monthly meeting of the Sacred Heart Society was held. Prior to his sermon in the evening, the Ven. Archdeacon Devoy read a statement showing that the monthly subscriptions received from July 1, 1908, to September 1, 1909, totalled £45, and that the amount had been utilised in providing vestments, and adornments for the sanctuary.

An enjoyable concert was given under the auspices of the Wellington Catholic Conference on Monday evening last in the Sailors' Rest before a large audience. The following contributed items:—Madame Groen (songs), Misses Bailey (song), Bowden (song), Cashman (song), Jameson (song), O'Connor (song), Tregonning (song), Messrs. Bonner (song), A. and S. Creswell (songs), Cooze (comic sketch), Houchen (comic songs), Scrimgeour (piano solo), R. Sievers (songs), and Master Rolleston (song). The accompaniments were capably played by Mrs. Ward and Mr. Clements.

On Monday night at St. Patrick's Hall the representatives of the Palmerston North Catholic Club had a debate with the Wellington Catholic Club, the visitors proving the victors by the narrow margin of one point. The debate was listened to with great interest by a fair attendance of members of the local club and friends. The victory of the Palmerston North representatives was heartily applauded. Mr. P. J. McGovern presided. The subject of the debate was 'Free trade versus Protection.' Messrs. Pfaff, McLean, and O'Kane represented the local club, and Messrs. Hanlon, Oakley, and Scanlon the Palmerston North club. In announcing the result of the debate Mr. A. R. Atkinson, the judge, said that he had had considerable difficulty in arriving at his decision, as there was really very little to choose between the teams.

The members of the literary branch of the St. Anne's Club, Wellington South, met on Tuesday evening and devoted their time to readings from Shakespeare. There was a good attendance of members, Mr. E. J. Fitzgibbon, LL.B., presided. The play chosen was 'Julius Caesar.' The introduction to the play and a discourse were given by the Rev. Father McDonald, S.M. The more important passages in the play were read by Rev. Father Herring, S.M., Messrs. D. Butler, Fitzgibbon, Henry, and D. Moriarty. During the evening it was decided that Mr. D. Butler should represent the club in the annual oratorical competition among the members of the Federated Catholic Clubs of New Zealand, and Messrs. R. Collins, E. J. Fitzgibbon, D. Moriarty, and C. McErlean should represent the club in the final of the essay competition among the members of the Federated Catholic Clubs.

Writing from Sydney on September 29 to the secretary of the Hibernian Society, the Rev. Father Venning stated that he had met quite a number of Hibernians from the different States of the Commonwealth, and that the Sydney members showed him great kindness. On September 28 he was present at a social gathering held in honor of the delegates, in company with Mr. A. H. Casey, and on the 30th an outing had been arranged, at which he hoped to be present. On the same evening there was to be a special session (Congress) on Hibernian matters, at which the Rev. Father hoped to have an opportunity of learning what the society has done, is doing, and intends to do. On October 4 Father Venning intended to go to Melbourne to make a few inquiries into Catholic matters.

It is with sincere regret that I have to record the death of Mrs. Crombie, relict of Mr. C. M. Crombie (at

one time Commissioner of Taxes), who passed away at her residence, Marion street, on October 3, in her 65th year. The deceased lady was born in Weedon, Northampton, England, in 1844. Mrs. Crombie, who was pre-deceased by Mr. Crombie in 1894, was married in Bendigo, Victoria, in 1860, and arrived in New Zealand in 1873. She leaves seven sons and six daughters—Messrs. C. A. M. and A. F. Crombie (Melbourne); H. Crombie (Shanghai), M. J. Crombie (Inglewood), W. A. Crombie (Sydney), and F. W. and N. J. Crombie (Wellington). Her daughters are Sister Mary Dominica (St. Mary's Convent, Wellington), Sister Mary Cecilia (of the Sisters of Compassion, Wellington), Mrs. C. F. Dorizac, and Misses J. C., J. M. J., and E. M. Crombie. The funeral, which took place on Tuesday morning, was largely attended. A Requiem Mass was celebrated at St. Mary of the Angels' Church by the Very Rev. Dean Regnault, S.M., Provincial, assisted by the Rev. Father Bowden, S.M. There were also present in the sanctuary the Ven. Archdeacon Devoy, S.M., the Very Rev. Father O'Shea, S.M., V.G., the Rev. Father Hickson, S.M., Adm., Very Rev. Father Clune, C.S.S.R., and the Rev. Fathers Goggan, Herbert, and Peoples, S.M., and Creagh, C.S.S.R.—R.I.P.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

October 9.

At the Cathedral on Friday evening next there will be the solemn blessing and erection of the splendid new set of Stations of the Cross donated by leading Catholic families.

The newly-formed Geraldine branch of the H.A.C.B. Society was opened on last Thursday evening by Brother M. F. Dennehy, the District Deputy, in the Oddfellows' Hall. There were twenty members of the Timaru branch present, and other visitors from Waimate and Christchurch to assist in the opening ceremony. Brother Dennehy congratulated the promoters of the new branch on the success of their efforts. Twenty-five candidates were initiated. Officers were elected as follow: Trustees, Messrs. J. Connolly, J. Kennedy, and E. O'Malley; president, Mr. J. Kennedy; vice-president, Mr. J. Connolly; treasurer, Mr. J. Gresham; secretary, Mr. J. Feely; warden, Mr. H. Herlihy; guardian, Mr. J. Brophy; sick visitors, Messrs. F. Charles and J. Lysaght.

The inmates of the various institutions under the care of the Catholic Church received a pleasant surprise on last Wednesday, when her Excellency Lady Plunket, at her own request, paid a round of farewell visits prior to her departure early next year from the Dominion. She was accompanied by his Lordship Bishop Grimes. The convent and parochial schools were first visited, the children, after singing 'God save the King,' giving a nice little programme of instrumental items (harp and piano); songs, and recitations, and addressing words of welcome to Lady Plunket. At Nazareth House Lady Plunket was much struck by the winsome little children, to whom she paid much attention, and a visit was then made to the 'Grove' at Sydenham, where the new 'House' is nearing completion. Her Excellency expressed agreeable surprise at the size and appointments of the building, and spoke cheering words to the aged women there. Mount Magdala, with its class and work rooms, and industrial school (the Sacred Heart Orphanage), was next inspected, and the inmates gave interesting musical items and addresses of welcome. Lady Plunket spoke highly of the unselfish work and self-sacrificing care of the nuns, and congratulated the inmates on their happy appearance. All the school children were given holidays, and her Excellency received many handsome bouquets.

In connection with the devotion of the Forty Hours' Adoration in the Cathedral, the Mass 'Pro Pace' was sung in the Chapel of the Sacred Heart on last Monday morning by the Rev. Father Hills, S.M., the Rev. Father Daull being deacon, and Rev. Father Drohn, M.S.H., subdeacon. The music of the Mass was finely sung by the choir, a prominent part being taken by Miss Pender, of Redcliffs. There was a large congregation in the evening. The Rev. Dr. Kennedy preached a fine discourse on the subject of 'Holy Communion,' which was followed by his Lordship the Bishop reading a short meditation on a visit to and in presence of the Blessed Sacrament. His Lordship the Bishop and the resident and visiting clergy occupied the five confessionals nearly the whole of Monday and after the evening devotions. At the early Masses on Tuesday morning crowds approached the Holy Table. At 9 o'clock Solemn High Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Father Daull (African Missions), the Rev. Dr. Kennedy being deacon, the Rev. Father Drohn, M.S.H., subdeacon, and Rev. Father Hills, S.M., master of ceremonies. His Lordship the Bishop presided at the throne, attended by the Very Rev. Dean Ginaty, S.M., V.G., the Rev. Fathers Ainsworth, S.M., and Moloney, S.M., being present in the sanctuary. At the conclusion of Mass the Litany of the Saints was sung, and there was a procession of the Blessed Sacrament. Men of the various societies and confraternities kept watch before the Blessed Sacrament

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throughout the nights of Sunday and Monday, and I have reason to know that his Lordship the Bishop and the clergy are edified and gratified at the number of the faithful who attended and the fervor manifested during the Forty Hours' Adoration. As in the churches of Rome on the occasion of great functions, the main entrance to the Cathedral was adorned during the Forty Hours' Adoration with rich tapestry forming an archway, fronting which was displayed the fine Papal ensign brought from the Eternal City by his Lordship the Bishop, and a shield bearing emblems of the Blessed Sacrament, which were altogether most appropriate in view of the fact that the Cathedral is dedicated in honor of the Blessed Sacrament.

AFRICAN MISSIONS.

Very Rev. Father O'Sullivan briefly interrupted his illustrated lecture tour of South Canterbury by a short visit on Friday to Christchurch, where he was the guest of his Lordship Bishop Grimes. In conversation with our correspondent, Father O'Sullivan expressed his grateful appreciation of the kindly welcome he had received from priests and people, of the large audiences which greeted him in the various centres, and of the valuable assistance supplied by the *Tablet*, and also by the local press, which devoted columns to his interviews and lectures. A conspicuous feature of his audiences was the presence of numbers of non-Catholics. At Timaru the Rev. Father Tubman, in introducing him to the largest audience ever seen in the Assembly Rooms, said that on their way to Rome a few years ago he and the late Father Marnane broke their homeward journey at Cairo (Egypt), where they were the welcome guests of Father O'Sullivan and his confreres, one of whom, Father Prendergast, assisted him (Father Tubman) to climb the Great Pyramid of Egypt. In his turn he was now pleased to welcome Father O'Sullivan to Timaru. In his conversation with our Christchurch representative, Father O'Sullivan also spoke with gratitude of the valuable assistance his mission had received from Dean O'Donnell, of Ashburton, and Father Hills, of Leeston. At the request of some of the ladies interested in the forthcoming church bazaar at Timaru, and in aid of their work, he has willingly consented to deliver an illustrated lecture on his last visit to Ireland. As in the case of his other lectures, the views are beautifully executed and colored.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(From our own correspondent.)

The Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan is expected to leave Sydney for Auckland on Wednesday next.

The following is a list of pupils from St. Mary's Convent, Ponsonby, who were successful at the recent Trinity College musical examinations:—Senior Practical—Patricia O'Connor, Cecilia Carrington, Gwendoline Evans. Senior Theory—C. Carrington (honors). Senior Pass—M. Towers. Junior Practical—Annie Farrell, Irene Tanner, Doris McStay, Monica McVeigh, Dorothy Sneddon, Evelyn Lynch, Mavis Noton, Jessie Fergusson. Preparatory Division—Elsie White, Jessie Evans, Kathleen Kelly, Mary Casey, Ella Millar, Reta Foster, Eileen Moriarty, Irene Noton. Royal Academy—Kathleen Le Lievre.

The annual re-union of the ex-pupils of the Sisters of Mercy took place at St. Mary's Convent, Ponsonby, on the Feast of Our Lady of Mercy. About sixty of the pupils assembled to offer their congratulations to the Sisters on their Feast. During the afternoon vocal solos were given by the Misses Lynch, Casey (2), and Lorigan. Misses Amodeo and White contributed instrumental selections, and recitations were given by Miss E. Kelly. Afternoon tea was dispensed to the visitors by the Sisters. At 5 o'clock Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was given by the Rev. Father Doyle. At 5.30 the visitors bade adieu to their Alma Mater and to their former teachers, after spending a most enjoyable afternoon at the convent.

A very impressive ceremony took place on September 29 at St. Mary's Convent, Ponsonby, when five young ladies were professed. The ceremony was performed by the Right Rev. Mgr. Gillan, V.G. The young ladies who made their profession were: Miss Ellen Kelleher (in religion, Sister M. Antonia), Ireland, niece of the Rev. Father Golden, Kaikoura; Miss Lizzie Dolahunty (Sister M. de Ricci), Muschelbrook; Miss Bridget Rist (Sister M. Anselm), Auckland; Miss Mary O'Halloran (Sister M. Kostka), Wrey's Bush; Miss A. Creegan (Sister M. Claud), Wrey's Bush. Very Rev. M. Brodie (Waihi) preached an impressive sermon on the religious life. The convent choir, assisted by the Misses Lynch, Whitsed, Casey (2), Jones, Lura, and Amodeo rendered the music incidental to the ceremony. The clergy present on the occasion were: Very Rev. Father Mahoney (Onehunga), Rev. Father Holbrook (Auckland), Rev. Father O'Meara (Feilding), Rev. Father Furlong (Devonport), Rev. Father Meagher (Parnell), Rev. Father Doyle (Ponsonby), Rev. Father Carren (St. Benedict's), Rev. Father O'Brien, and Rev. Father Ormond (Auckland). At the conclusion of the ceremony the clergy and visitors were entertained in the convent by the Rev. Mother and Sisters.

A splendid entertainment was given by the ex-pupils and pupils of St. Patrick's Convent School in the Federal

Hall last week. The building was crowded. The programme was excellent, and was performed in a manner which earned the hearty applause of the large audience, which included Rev. Fathers Holbrook, Wright, and Ormond. The devoted Sisters and their pupils deserve every commendation. The following was the programme: 'Grand march,' orchestra; chorus, pupils, soloists—Misses Clifford, Pas de Leon, Taylor, Brennan; pianoforte trio (two pianos), Misses L. Foley, K. Dias, R. Grant, A. Molloy, M. White, and D. Forde; action song, juniors; fancy dance, Misses K. Owens, I. McGarry, Molloy, K. Smythe, E. Coutts, C. McNamara, Foley (2), and Watts; pianoforte duet, Misses K. Owens and P. Foley; chorus; dance, Misses Bowen, Pearce, Kean, Foley, Coutts, McNamara, Smythe, Woods, White, McGarry, and Dias (2); pianoforte trio (two pianos), Misses Owens, Credin, Tobin, Foley, Jenkins, and Jennings; chorus and dance, pupils, soloists—Misses Pas de Leon, F. McKenna. The second part consisted of the operetta, 'La Fete des Torses,' in which the characters were sustained by Misses Elsie Miller, Mary Sheahan, M. Cassin, Pas de Leon, McKenna, Clifford, F. Cassin, and P. Foley. Mr. P. F. Hiscocks acted as conductor, and Mr. H. Hiscocks as violinist.

Rotorua

(From our own correspondent.)

The annual concert of the children attending our convent school took place on September 28, and was a great success. The Assembly Hall was packed to the doors, the gross proceeds amounting to over £35. Nearly every item was encored, and the large audience was unanimous in praise of the excellence and originality of the programme. An important feature of the concert was the number of Maori children who took part. Their contributions bore testimony to the good work of the Sisters among the Maoris. Addressing the audience, the Very Rev. Dean Lighthouse impressed upon his hearers that what they had witnessed that evening was the result of much arduous training during the children's leisure moments. The school hours had not been encroached on. Practice was held chiefly on Saturday afternoons and after school had dispersed in the afternoons. He considered the Sisters and children deserved very great credit for the fine programme submitted, and he hoped all present were as satisfied with the performance as he was. The convent school was only in its infancy, this concert being their second attempt; and he was confident that as time went on their entertainments would improve. The Dean's remarks were greeted with loud applause.

Hawera

(From our own correspondent.)

The Rev. Mother of Wanganui Convent, who has been seriously ill for some weeks past at Hawera, is now slowly improving.

Last Wednesday a mission by the Redemptorist Fathers was opened in the parish. At present they are in the country districts.

Mr. C. Beatson, a prominent member of the H.A.C.B. Society, has been transferred to Napier, much to the regret of the members of the local branch.

Last week the musical examinations under the Royal Academy were held at Hawera, when the following pupils of the Hawera Convent were successful:—Piano: Higher Division—Mary Fennell, 107. Lower Division—Inez Purser, 100; Mary Barry, 100. Primary Division—Evelyn White, 130 (distinction); Sybil Thurston, 110. Theory results: Primary—Mary Connolly, 99; Winnie Bretherton, 95; Edward Cullinan, 95; Annie Dolan, 92; E. Moosman, 92; I. Purser, 91; M. O'Sullivan, 90; M. Barry, 89; M. Fennell, 89; K. Cullinan, 89. Manaia Convent: Piano—Elementary Division—J. Bolger, 101. Primary Division—Josie O'Donnell, 105. Patea Convent: Piano: Lower Division—M. Beamish, 123; B. Dickson, 107. Elementary Division—M. Fitzwater, 110; M. Bremer, 106. Primary Division—S. Bremer, 120. Miss M. Hooker, a pupil of Miss Young, Hawera, passed in the Intermediate Grade with 109.

WEDDING BELLS

McGLONE—SIMPSON.

At the Church of the Assumption, Onehunga (writes our Auckland correspondent), the marriage of Mr. Patrick McGlone and Miss Alice Simpson, both formerly of Westport, was solemnised on September 23 by the Very Rev. Father Mahoney, assisted by Rev. Father Ormond. The bride was given away by her father, and Miss Maggie McGlone (cousin of the bridegroom) was bridesmaid. After the ceremony the wedding breakfast was held at the residence of Mr. McGlone (uncle of the bridegroom). Father Mahoney proposed the health of the newly-married couple in an appropriate speech, and wished them happiness. Father Ormond joined in felicitations to the happy couple. Mr. McGlone suitably responded. Mr. and Mrs. McGlone will reside in Auckland.



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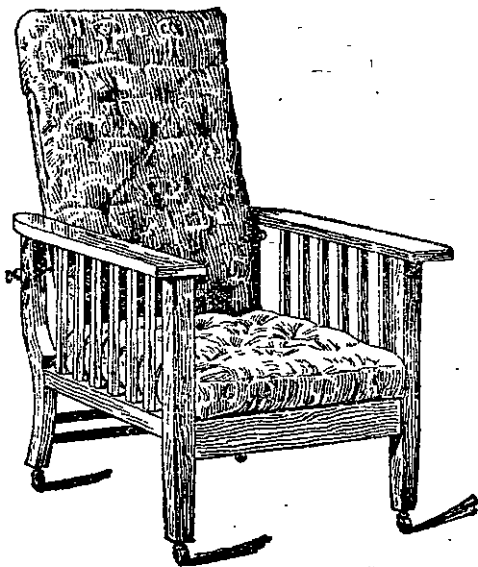
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PRODUCE

Messrs. Donald Reid and Co. report:—

Oats.—Good to prime feed and milling Gartons and sparrowbills have fair inquiry, but stocks are now much reduced, and there is little offering locally. We have placed several lines from samples for direct consignment to buyers, and have further inquiries in the same direction. Quotations are practically unchanged. We quote: Prime milling Gartons, 1s 7½d to 1s 8d; Sparrowbills, 1s 7d to 1s 7½d; good to best feed, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; inferior to medium, 1s 3d to 1s 5d per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat.—The market is without much animation. Millers are still open to take choice lots, but are not keen to operate in other qualities. Consequently only moderate business is being done. Good whole fowl wheat is not so plentiful, and has more attention. Medium and inferior is still difficult to quit. We quote: Prime milling, 4s 4d to 4s 5d; medium to good, 4s 1d to 4s 3d; best whole fowl wheat, 3s 10d to 4s; medium, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; broken and damaged, 2s 6d to 3s 3d per bushel (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—Really good sound table potatoes are not offering freely, and these find ready sale at £3 to £3 5s; medium are not in strong demand at £2 5s to £2 15s; while inferior, small, or those showing much growth are difficult to place at £1 to £2 per ton (bags included).

Chaff.—The market is over-supplied with medium quality, for which there is slow sale. Prime oaten sheaf chaff finds ready buyers at £2 10s to £2 15s; medium to good is difficult to quit at £2 to £2 7s 6d; inferior and discolored almost unsaleable at £1 10s to £1 15s per ton (bags extra).

Straw.—The market is bare. We quote: Oaten and wheaten, 32s 6d to 35s per ton (pressed).

Messrs. Dalgety and Co. report as follows:—

We held our usual weekly auction sale of grain and produce at our stores on Monday. The attendance was poor and the bidding lacked animation. We cleared our catalogue, however, at prices as under:

Oats.—Offerings are very high, but are just sufficient to satisfy the demand; hence very little business is passing. Prime milling Gartons, 1s 7½d to 1s 8d; prime milling Sparrowbills, 1s 7d to 1s 7½d; good to best feed, 1s 5d to 1s 7d; inferior to medium, 1s 2d to 1s 4d per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat.—The wheat market is quiet, but holders are more disposed to ease their reserves a little, so several lines have changed hands at quotations to millers. Fowl wheat is not quite so plentiful, and prices are inclined to firm. We quote: Prime milling, 4s 4d to 4s 5d; medium to good, 4s 4s 2d; best whole fowl wheat, 3s 10d to 4s; inferior and smutted, 2s 6d to 3s 6d.

Potatoes.—Good, sound, freshly-picked Up-to-Dates are scarce this week, and really prime samples are readily placed at full rates. Inferior and stale are not in request. Prime freshly-picked Up-to-Dates, £2 10s to £2 15s; extra, to £2 17s 6d; medium to good, £1 10s to £2 5s per ton (sacks in).

Chaff.—Bright, well-cut oaten sheaf chaff, of which there is very little offering, is asked for and is readily placed at quotations. Medium and discolored is plentiful, and does not meet with such ready sale. Best oaten sheaf, £2 12s 6d to £2 15s; medium to good, £2 5s to £2 10s; inferior and discolored, 30s to 40s per ton (sacks extra).

Straw.—The market is bare. We quote: Oaten, 32s 6d to 35s; wheaten, 32s 6d to 35s per ton (pressed, ex truck).

DIocese of Auckland

(By Telegraph from our own correspondent.)

October 11.

St. Benedict's bazaar has proved so successful that it has been decided to keep it open for a further period of three nights,

The contemplated visits of the P. and O. steamers to Auckland have caused general satisfaction, and mark an epoch in the great advance of the Dominion generally.

An excellent organisation is about to be founded in the Cathedral parish. Its object is to gather together the boys after they leave school in a boys' club, and provide them with wholesome amusement and instruction. At the Masses on Sunday earnest appeals were made to parents and boys to assist in this laudable scheme. The inaugural meeting is fixed for to-morrow evening.

Rev. Fathers McGrath and Murphy, visitors from the United States, passed through here last week. They visited the churches, convents, schools, and orphanages, and were very favorably impressed. They made particular inquiries as to the part played in the commercial, social, political, and religious life by Irish residents and their descendants.

Masterton

(From our own correspondent.)

October 10.

St. Patrick's Church was crowded last Sunday evening for the closing ceremonies of the mission. Missions are being held this week at Eketahuna and Mauriceville.

The death occurred at a private hospital yesterday morning of Mr. T. Power, of Dreyer's Rock, Mauriceville. The deceased was 68 years of age. The funeral took place this afternoon, and was largely attended. The Rev. Father Sauderson officiated at the graveside.—R.L.P.

Featherston

Dr. and Mrs. Deamer, prior to their departure from Featherston for Australia, were the recipients of tokens of regard from the residents. The friends of Dr. Deamer gathered in the commercial room of the Royal Hotel on the evening of October 7 to bid him good-bye. Speeches eulogistic of Dr. Deamer were delivered by Messrs. Barton, J. W. Card, and others. He was the recipient of a silver mounted walking stick and a purse of sovereigns.

Earlier in the same evening, members of the Catholic congregation gathered in the church to bid farewell to Mrs. Deamer. Rev. Father Bove, who presided, said they were gathered together to express their regret at the departure of Mrs. Deamer, and to express their appreciation of her work in the church and the esteem that she was held in by the congregation. They had a little present to give Mrs. Deamer. The congregation was small and the present was not half as much as she really deserved, but as every single one had contributed towards it willingly, she must take the will for the deed and understand the spirit in which it was given. It was with mixed feelings that he was there that evening. It pleased him to be able to be present at a function that was to express appreciation for the work Mrs. Deamer had done, but it made him feel very sorry to think that they were losing such a good woman and such a conscientious worker. Mrs. Deamer and the Doctor were personal friends of his, and prominent parishioners, and he was very sorry indeed to lose them. He called on Mrs. Miller to read an illuminated address from the ladies of the congregation.

The prettily executed address was an expression of the esteem in which the ladies and the congregation held Mrs. Deamer, and sorrow at her departure and good wishes for her future. The address was signed by Mrs. J. Card, sen., and Mrs. Miller.

Mr. J. W. Card said that before Mrs. Deamer replied he would like to hand her, on behalf of the congregation, a small purse of sovereigns. They were all aware of Mrs. Deamer's work in the church, and he thought she displayed true religion by helping any who were in distress, whether they were Catholics or not. She had been one of the chief workers in the church, and had done all that lay in her power to further its aims. He had much pleasure in presenting Mrs. Deamer with a purse of sovereigns from the whole of the members of the church in Featherston.

Mrs. Deamer said that she had always tried to do her best, and had really taken a great interest in the church. What she was sorry about was that she had not been able to do more, and that her efforts had necessarily been small. She did not think that she was worth half the bother, and thanked everyone from the bottom of her heart. She would always remember the Featherston people, and would always live in the hope of coming back and seeing them all again.

Dr. Deamer also thanked them all for their thoughtfulness, and said that he and his wife would never forget the friends they were leaving behind in Featherston.

Mr. Card said that before they parted he believed the children had a small presentation to make. Miss Williams had been teaching them now for some time, and they were all very fond of her. As she was leaving for Sydney with the doctor and his wife, they had made up their minds to give her something to remember them by.

Two tiny girls, Kitty Stewart and Aileen Ruane, then presented Miss Williams with a writing case.



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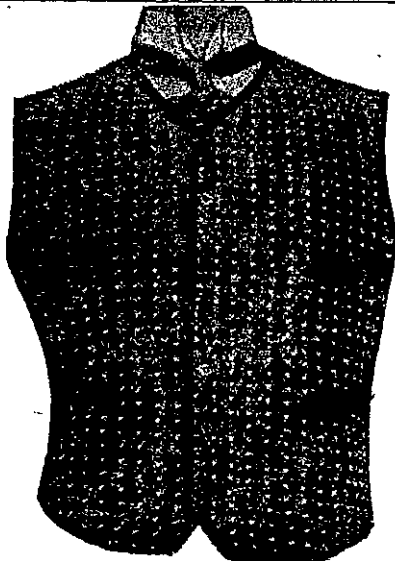
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Lyttelton

In his report on the Lyttelton Convent School the Inspector, Mr. E. K. Mulgan, says:—'The result of the inspection visit leaves but little doubt that earnest and painstaking efforts are being made to secure encouraging results, and that the importance of and the responsibility inseparable from the successful training of the children are fully realised. Suitable schemes of work are being steadily and for the most part successfully treated, and the teaching notes presented indicate that the methods of instruction are the result of careful and anxious inquiry. In the standard classes pupils, with few exceptions, were able to read fluently from books previously unseen, presented commendable work in drawing from pencil and brush and in needle-work, and disposed of the spelling tests with apparent ease. Arithmetic, writing, and English, too, gave evidence of faithful teaching. The pupils in the preparatory classes are being carefully taught and made a promising appearance in the programmes submitted.'

Timaru

The Avoca Hockey Club finished their successful season on Thursday evening by a social in Budd's Cafe. The full membership was present, and Rev. Father Tubman, S.M., supported by Rev. Fathers Kerley and Hoare, presided. During the season the club played twenty matches, scoring 65 goals—38 of these in cup contests, 20 in friendly matches, and the balance in tournament games. One young lady, Miss N. Sullivan, was responsible for about forty of these scores. They had come second in the Marshall Cup competition, and in the six-a-side their colors had carried the day. This satisfactory record, it was felt by the members, could be in great part attributed to Mr. A. Duff, their coach, and so they asked him to accept a handsomely designed solid gold medal as a mark of their appreciation. Mr. Duff briefly returned thanks. Rev. Fathers Kerley and Hoare, and Messrs. Mahoney and W. Jordan also spoke. A short musical programme was gone through, among the contributors being the Misses K. McGrath, V. and E. Dennehy, and Messrs. Jordan, Rennie, and McDougall.

On Thursday evening last a branch of the H.A.C.B. Society was opened in Geraldine by Bro. M. F. Dennehy, District Deputy, assisted by a contingent of brethren from the Timaru branch. Bro. Dennehy congratulated the twenty-five candidates, who were about to become members in the Geraldine district of the premier Catholic organisation of Australasia, and concluded by wishing the St. Mary's branch every success. The election of officers resulted as follows:—Trustees, Messrs. J. Connolly, J. Kennedy, and E. O'Malley; president, Mr. J. Kennedy; vice-president, Mr. J. Connolly; treasurer, Mr. J. Gresham; secretary, Mr. J. Feeley; warden, Mr. J. Herlihy; guardian, Mr. J. Brophy; sick visitors, Messrs. F. Charles and J. Lysaght. The president on behalf of the new branch thanked the District Deputy and visiting brethren for their help at the new foundation.

Oamaru

(From a correspondent.)

Mrs. J. B. Grave gave a 'nick-nack' afternoon at her residence, 'Braeside,' Oamaru, on September 30, in honor of Miss Corcoran's approaching marriage. About fifty ladies were present, and a most enjoyable time was spent. A paper hat-making competition was indulged in, and the first prize for the most fashionable hat was won by Mrs. Stonehouse, the second by Miss Rodgers. The nick-nacks presented by the visitors to Miss Corcoran were both useful and ornamental.

Invercargill

(From our own correspondent.)

Mr. Moriarty, the travelling representative of the *Tablet*, is at present on his annual visit to Southland, and reports good business from these parts.

The tennis club held a very enjoyable euchre tourney in Ashley's Hall on Thursday, 7th inst. Miss K. Kirwan won the lady's prize and Mr. Roche the gentleman's.

The Catholic Club held its final meeting of the season on Tuesday, October 5. The proceedings took the form of a mock trial. There was a large audience present, and a most entertaining evening was spent.

The quarterly balance sheet of the Hibernian Society shows the local branch to be in a very sound position. It boasts of only two years' existence, but already the trustees have a sum considerably over three figures for investment.

The *Triad* has set itself a high standard, and lives up to it. It is always instructive and interesting. With the current number there is issued a very fine art supplement containing a selection of the best pictures that have appeared in the magazine for several years past. The supplement has been turned out in a manner that is very creditable to all concerned, and is sure to be highly prized by the readers of the *Triad*.

The many friends in Dunedin of Mr. J. W. Reardon, principal warder at the local gaol, heard with sincere pleasure of his promotion to the position of gaoler at Hokitika. Mr. Reardon had been stationed in Dunedin for upwards of twenty years, during which time he made many friends. These, while regretting his departure, are pleased at his well-deserved promotion, which has come after many years of duty ably and conscientiously performed. Mr. Reardon joined the department in 1877, and was previously stationed at Napier and Lyttelton. The service at Dunedin has not been without distinction, as in 1896 he received a monetary reward and testimonial from the Harbor Board for his action in rescuing the crew of a pilot boat which was capsized at the Heads, the occupants being in a position of danger. Mr. Reardon carries with him to his new appointment the good wishes of a large circle of friends.

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OF

St. Patrick's New Church, Waimate

BY THEIR LORDSHIPS BISHOP GRIMES, S.M., D.D.,
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ON

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At 10.30 a.m.

Pontifical High Mass at 11 a.m. Gounod's Clovis Mass by St. Patrick's Choir, assisted by string orchestra. Admission, 5s.

DEATHS

KELIHER.—On September 29, 1909, at the Dunstan Hospital, Clyde, Cornelius Keliher; aged 40 years. Fortified by the rites of the Catholic Church. R.I.P.

FITZPATRICK.—Of your charity pray for the repose of the soul of Agnes Teresa, fourth daughter of Charles and Ann Fitzpatrick, of Balcairn, North Canterbury, who died at Balcairn, fortified by the last rites of Holy Church, on the Feast of Our Lady of Mercy, September 24, 1909; aged 27 years. Merciful Jesus, give to her eternal rest.

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, OCTOBER 14, 1909.

THE CHURCHES AND RACE SUICIDE



Long last the non-Catholic religious bodies are beginning to wake up to the gravity of the peril involved in the increasing prevalence of race suicide; and are beginning to realise the pressing need of taking active steps to stem the evil. At the Synod of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, which has just concluded its sittings at Melbourne, a resolution was carried affirming the Assembly's 'protest against the use

of patent medicines and other means adopted by many to sap and destroy the best interests of our national life'; and a pastoral letter on the subject was prepared and laid upon the table of the Assembly, and ordered to be read in all the churches. The letter, with over-profuse apologies for venturing to speak on such a 'delicate' matter, denounces 'the cowardly and selfish refusal of parenthood as a crime against both humanity and against God,' urges the promotion of necessary remedial legislation, and exhorts 'all Christian men and women to stand by the Word of God, by the highest principles of ancient Christian morality, and by the voice of nature in this matter, to deal with laxity of thought in regard to it as intolerable, and to sternly separate themselves from all who defend or practise such evil things.'

The Rev. Principal Harper, of Sydney, who made much the best speech on the question, frankly admitted that they had allowed themselves to become lamentably lax in this matter.' How lax they had become is painfully illustrated by an incident which he himself quotes. 'He was sorry to say that a Christian worker had actually dis-

tributed among mothers of all classes a pamphlet which it was estimated had caused the loss of a million children to the population of the several States. That worker distributed it for the express purpose of delivering mothers from the burden of children. That worker was of their Church; she was a Christian worker.' Nor was it pretended that it was lack of evidence or want of knowledge as to the extent of the evil that had kept the churches silent. One Melbourne minister—not, indeed, a member of this particular Assembly—said recently that 'the Chief Commissioner of Police had told him that he knew of one woman who boasted that she had successfully treated 2000 young girls and women, and another who claimed 3000 successes.' A speaker at the Presbyterian Assembly pointed out that 'according to the evidence of some 60 druggists, recently given, there were but five or six of them who did not sell the things referred to day by day.' With such facts before them, little wonder that Principal Harper should have reminded the gathering that the Church, in its earliest ages, had spoken on this subject without reference to foolish scruples of false 'delicacy,' and that they could not do anything at all to combat this evil unless they said what they meant.

*

Other non-Catholic bodies on the other side beside the Presbyterians have also taken the matter up, and during the same week in which the Assembly issued its pastoral letter an exceptionally representative deputation waited on the Premier of Victoria to ask that legislation should be introduced to cope with this growing vice. 'Seldom, if ever,' says our contemporary, the Melbourne *Advocate*, 'has a deputation so widely representative of the community waited upon any Minister of the Crown in Australia. Men and women forgot, for the time, all differences of opinion upon religious and political subjects, and joined hands in a great protest against practices which threaten to wipe out our very race in this country. All the Christian denominations, the bodies directing commerce and manufactures, the public schools, young men's and young women's associations, the National Council of Women, the Australian Women's National League, and one of the Refuges for Fallen Women were all represented on the occasion.' His Grace Archbishop Carr was known to be absent from Melbourne owing to ill-health, but Dean Phelan, V.G., wrote to one of the organisers of the deputation expressing his full sympathy with its object, and pointing out that his Grace the Archbishop had years ago exposed the nefarious work in which some influential persons were engaged, and had established a body of knights who pledged themselves to promote purity of life and recognition of the sanctity of marriage. The deputation asked that newspapers which allow their advertisement columns to be used by the vendors of deadly wares should be suppressed or reformed by a system of licensing, and that legislation should be introduced absolutely prohibiting any person from advocating the restriction or limitation of human offspring; and the Premier (Mr. Murray) gave a very sympathetic and encouraging response.

*

The Catholic Church, as is well known, has never wavered in her attitude on this question, and in season and out of season, through evil report and good report, has denounced alike those who batten by the sale of the drugs and instruments of race suicide and those who use them. In this matter, as in the twin evil of divorce, her hands are absolutely clean, and if this social plague has obtained a footing here and is extending its ravages, she at least has no share in the responsibility. Whilst heartily welcoming the multiplying signs of a much-to-be-desired activity amongst our non-Catholic friends, we hope it will not be considered ungracious if we express the hope that the newly-awakened zeal will not spend itself in mere deputationising and pastoral letters, but that one or two very practical matters that come directly within their special 'sphere of influence' will receive immediate and effective attention. For example, there is that insidious and detestable incitement to race suicide—the 'without encouragement' advertisement. At the very time that the Australian Presbyterian Assembly were issuing their pastoral letter the following advertisement was appearing in the Christchurch *Press* of date September 29:

'Wanted for Y.W.C.A., 135 Madras street, competent working housekeeper, no child. Apply Secretary.'

The italics are ours, and we need hardly explain that 'Y.W.C.A.' stands for Young Women's Christian Association. Advertisements of this class, especially those in connection with married couples for stations, inserted by rich and sometimes pious squatters, are becoming so common as to be almost typical. Such advertisements are in reality far more deadly and reprehensible than the mere theoretical advocacy of Malthusianism which the Victorian deputationists asked their Premier to prohibit, because they amount to a practical intimation that the ad-

vertiser will inflict the heaviest penalty in his power unless there is complete abolition of offspring. 'How much "prevention" and abortion arise,' says an outspoken Sydney paper; not at all given to moral squeamishness, 'because a careworn little-woman dare not become a mother lest the "without encumbrance" squatter should throw her and her husband and her infant out on the highway, no one knows, but the evil must be considerable. Balfour, M.L.C. [spokesman of the Melbourne deputation], and his flock of servile preachers carefully avoided any allusion to this aspect of the case; but if the proposed Bill passes every effort will be made to see that it is alluded to by somebody.'

And we further hope that in due time our new allies will come to take higher and firmer ground in their campaign against this great evil. The cardinal defect of the Presbyterian 'pastoral letter' is its apologetic tone, and its failure to sound a clear note as to the inherent and essential sinfulness of the deliberate interference with nature resorted to by married people to evade the burden of parenthood. The evil is denounced because of its 'callous-selfishness,' because 'a continuance and spread of it will bring about the decay and ultimately the ruin of our race and nation,' and because 'if the higher and Christianised races of the world take and keep this path, then inevitably the non-Christian races will displace them.' These social and economic aspects of the subject are real and important, but they are not the highest aspects. It is the moral standpoint that really dominates the whole question. The radical and indispensable cure for this moral cancer is to retrace our steps to the old Catholic principles, to saturate the minds of people with the conviction of their personal responsibility to a Creator Who sees and judges, and to bring home to them right teaching as to the sacred nature and true purpose of the marriage-bond. That way only lies the remedy. And licensing of newspapers, 'badges of motherhood,' prohibition of Malthusian teaching, and such-like palliative measures, however desirable and useful they may be as subsidiary remedies, can never, of themselves, suffice to stay the plague.

Notes

A Wonderful Boy

Brother Snowball, the high priest of the Melbourne Orange fraternity, said the other day: 'A Catholic boy, whom I met in the country, told me it was the priests who kept the people of the respective churches apart, because their desire was to keep the people in the dark and their hands in the people's pockets.' Upon which the *Bulletin* comments: 'It is a great pity Snowball can't produce that boy. He is evidently a thoughtful youth with a high brow and a luminous eye—an animal of large discourse looking before and after.'

'The Life and Soul of the Congress'

'Age,' says a writer, 'is a matter of feeling, not of years'; and if that be so, our venerable Cardinal is still apparently a young man.

'Age cannot wither him, nor custom stale
His infinite variety.'

According to 'Colleen,' who contributes the well-written 'Woman's Page' to the Sydney *Freeman*, the extraordinary vitality of the Cardinal was one of the most striking and outstanding features of the Congress.

'The serious side of the Congress,' she says, 'began on Monday morning with its first session at the Cardinal's Hall. It was a terrible morning, heavy rain, and the wind blowing from all the corners of the heavens at once. But 'twould take much more than this to damp the ardor of the Congressionists, and they were there, men and women, in full force, to hear the papers read and discussed. The chief topic of conversation afterwards and at the conversazione in the evening was the extraordinary vitality of our grand old Cardinal. He is the life and soul of the Congress. Not the smallest item escapes him, from turning the "Aurora Australis" in his address of welcome, into "Lights of Heaven," a happy omen for the Congress; to having a quip at Mr. John Meagher in his speech in support of Mr. J. E. Redmond on the Irish Question. The smile which beamed from his Eminence and lighted up his countenance whilst this particular paper was being read, was evidence in itself of the subject under discussion. I think a deaf man would have been

able to guess the subject matter. It was like a child in possession of its favorite toy, and nothing more in the world to wish for. Out at St. John's in the afternoon it was just the same. He kept the ball rolling, breaking forth with a witticism just at the right moment, or paying a well-merited compliment to the Rector. He was always on the qui vive. And at night taking his place as a Prince of the Church and welcoming the highest in the land.'

The Cardinal and the Holland System

The suggestion made by Cardinal Moran that the system which had been tested in Holland might be made the basis of a new education system for New South Wales and the other colonies naturally evoked some comment in the Sydney press. Even before the matter had reached the discussion stage in the Congress, two of the Sydney dailies had articles on the proposal; and, speaking at the Congress session held at the Sacred Heart Convent, Rose Bay, on Wednesday of Congress week, his Eminence briefly but pertinently replied to the criticisms that had appeared.

Yesterday (he said) matter which was only presented for consideration appeared in the papers, and they found two daily papers finding fault with it. He would not enter into the details of the arguments which they had advanced. Under four headings he would simply refer to them. Firstly, fault was found in the matter of money, which it would be hard to find to carry on the schools under this programme. These critics forgot that a fortnight ago the present Minister for Education had found fault with some words of his, pronounced at Haberfield. The Minister said that the State never considered money when the object was to meet the requirements of the children of New South Wales.

Secondly, 'it would be multiplying the schools unnecessarily in New South Wales.' There was not the smallest foundation for that statement, because in New South Wales the system would only be granted to those whose principles were not consistent with the present system. Catholics declared that the present system was inconsistent with their principles, and they carried on their schools so far with complete success, while other denominations had not ventured in their footsteps. Jews and Catholics would be the only ones to avail themselves of the present system.

Thirdly, under the proposed programme the standard of teaching would be elevated, because there would not be any payment to schools not coming up to the standard. It would, therefore, be for the Government to elevate the standard in the schools.

Finally, the State should be independent of all religious systems. He believed in that theory. They had 365 religions in New South Wales, and their good friends might bring in another new religion, and call it 'the Sir Henry Parkes religion,' without creed or morality—a new venture of religion in connection with the secular system. He merely referred to the only difficulties which had been presented. It was the desire of all Catholics that any system presented might be considered during Congress for the purpose of elevating the standard of education and conciliating those who were opposed to them in carrying on the Catholic schools.

DIocese OF DUNEDIN

At St. Dominic's Priory on Friday, 8th inst., Miss Catherine White (in religion, Sister M. Elizabeth), daughter of the late Mr. Patrick White, of Lawrence, received the habit of the Order at the hands of his Lordship Bishop Verdon, assisted by the Rev. Father O'Reilly.

The devotion of the Forty Hours' Adoration was commenced in St. Patrick's Basilica, South Dunedin, on Friday morning. The Masses on Friday and Saturday were celebrated by the Rev. Father O'Malley. On Sunday at eleven o'clock there was Solemn High Mass, Rev. D. O'Neill being celebrant, Rev. Father Lynch, C.S.S.R., deacon, and Rev. Henry Woods (Holy Cross College) subdeacon. The music of the Mass was capably rendered by the choir under the conductorship of Mr. Kerr, Miss Toner presiding at the organ. The devotion was concluded in the evening. During the devotion the faithful attended the various services in large numbers. The decorations of the high altar were carried out with much taste by the Misses Mahoney.

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THE BARCELONA RISING

SERMON BY HIS LORDSHIP BISHOP GRIMES

Addressing the congregation in the Catholic Cathedral, Christchurch, on Sunday, his Lordship Bishop Grimes spoke as follows:—

You will doubtless be surprised at the unusual course I am about to take in speaking from this pulpit of anything that appears in a secular paper. The nature and the circumstances of the case will, I trust, amply justify me in this unwonted action. An article, entitled 'Spain of To-day,' and 'The Barcelona Rising,' was given pride of place yesterday in one of our local newspapers—one that is much read by our Catholics in this diocese and in other parts of the Dominion. The article is from the pen of a well-known professor, who long held the chair of English Language, Literature, and History in the leading college of Canterbury, and it is for the most part a more travesty of truth.

The writer begins by observing that he had the good fortune to enter Spain as the Barcelona rising began. He did not venture near its zone, because of wrecked railways and shortness of time, but he listened to its echoes in Madrid, Toledo, and other important cities of the centre and south of Spain. To justify the large perspective he meant to give his own and the imagination of prejudiced persons whose views he was copiously to draw from, he picturesquely remarks that there is more perspective in viewing a conflagration at some distance from it. He tells us that the Government in Spain has established a rigorous censorship on all news, and therefore the newspapers are the last places to look for truth. Hence it is not from the press of the country that he obtains his information or receives his impressions. Nay, he tells us that we have only to listen to the echoes that reached him from the regions around, and we shall understand the full significance of the movement from a national point of view. The Spanish Government, he bids us believe on his own ipse dixit, is, with the Queen-mother and the young King, wholly under the thumb of the Jesuits; hence it would have us look upon the recent rising as a purely anarchist movement. He furthermore assures us that the most significant feature of the Barcelona riots is their anti-ecclesiasticism, the revolutionists having set themselves chiefly against the monastic institutions and the churches, whilst the 'women' were the most conspicuous in the rising against the Church, clearly showing, he adds, that it is not the workmen and peasants alone that are getting to hate the Church, but their wives and daughters, though he actually expresses his fears that their efforts in this respect are only sporadic. He gives what he flatters himself will be as amusing to his readers as to himself, a ludicrous example of the widespread superstition of the women of Spain. As to the Spanish men, 'masculine irreverence' is the order of the day, because, forsooth, he did not see them cap in hand before the priests, nor continually on bended knees before them, their churches, or ecclesiastical things—this, he adds, despite the efforts made by the Jesuits to give and get recognition. The ex-professor obviously has a Jesuit bee in his bonnet. Without a word of condemnation of the brutal violence of the rioters towards helpless nuns and monks and priests, the chief victims of the Anarchist rising, he would fain have us take comfort from the significant fact that these being the chief victims, and that the buildings burnt being mostly ecclesiastical and conventual, we can so readily get at the meaning of the revolution; for, he would have us know, large sections of the Spanish people have come to believe that these are hotbeds of secret license and crime.

Like the three tailors of Tooley street, he presumes to warn the King and the Queen and the whole Spanish Government not to remain any longer under the yoke of the crafty and designing Jesuits. He warns them that unless they speedily shake off that galling yoke, the Monarchy will be replaced by a Republic with all the privileges of a Godless education for the soulless masses. Now, I, too, have spent some time in Spain, and, notably, in Barcelona. A few years ago I there held an Ordination, with the permission of the Archbishop of that city. During my stay there I freely mixed with all classes, from the highest to the lowest. I had the advantage to assist at all the offices of Holy Week in that city, and I fearlessly affirm that outside Catholic Ireland I never witnessed more reverence and more seemingly genuine piety in church than in that and the other cities of Spain. The Governor and the Mayor of Barcelona, judges and barristers, journalists, the highest officials in the Army, and men of other professions, were conspicuous by their presence and respectful bearing in that vast cathedral, as well as for their deferential manner towards the priests and religious . . . whom they met in the streets. On Holy Thursday I saw far more men than women—men in their hundreds—in prayer before the altars, and in adoration of the most Blessed Sacrament. I most vehemently and fearlessly protest against the gratuitous and reckless assertion that large sections of the Spanish people have come to believe that the ecclesiastical and conventual buildings in Spain are hotbeds of secret license and crime. I protest, too, against the untruthful assertion that the women of Spain were in the vanguard of

the atrocious riots. If they thought them hotbeds of secret license and crime, would they give their dear daughters and their beloved sons in their thousands to the sanctuary and the cloister? Would the highest and the noblest and the most intellectual of the land, the tradesman and the artisan deem it an honor and a privilege to have priests and monks and nuns from their homes and hearths? Shame on those who wickedly make such base assertions!

In the Pastoral Letter on the Barcelona riots, the Bishop-Capitular of the Diocese indignantly repudiates the base charges against the priests and monks and nuns. Listen to his soul-stirring words: 'The horrors of the revolution which has burst forth within the last few weeks have elicited from all right-minded persons a strong cry of indignation and protest. In this city of hard toil and progress, which boasted of its culture and Christianity, lawless crowds have delivered up to the flames about forty churches and religious houses, brutally driving forth from their peaceful dwellings inoffensive citizens whose only crime was that, under the protection of Divine and human laws, they consecrated themselves to the care of the orphans and helpless children. . . . After having destroyed with the fury of vandals venerable art treasures . . . they indulged in an unbridled orgie of passions amidst the ruins of the razed convents, eager to secure supposed proofs of torments and crimes that existed only in the imagination of the wicked instigators of the conflagration. . . . We can say with the fullest knowledge that the convents and religious houses have never been, as the public have been given to understand, refuges for criminals, nor dens of mysterious violence. It is only the sectarian spirit that could circulate the vile fiction of crimes and disorders, which has no other object than to root out from the hearts of our people the last remnants of the Christian faith—that faith which is the fountain of heavenly virtues and which never excites furious passions. . . . The religious houses, we repeat, are places of recollection and prayer, always open for works of mercy and peace, ever accessible to the free action of ecclesiastical and civil tribunals, to whom, on every occasion, we have afforded facilities for the investigation of the supposed crimes, our interments not being clandestine, but burials authorised by the laws of the land.'

The writer of the article to which I deem it my painful duty to refer appears to think that all Spain is like Barcelona. Now, we know that Barcelona—conveniently situated on the borders of France, and not too far from Italy and Switzerland—has long been the hotbed of revolution and the home of foreign anarchists, from the neighboring countries. It is well known to be the centre and focus of the secret societies that play so prominent a part in all European revolutions.

All the revolutions which have convulsed Spain during the last century down to the recent anarchist riot in Barcelona may be traced to the secret or open 'orders' which have gone forth from the Lodges. Does the writer of the article—which should never have appeared without a word of comment in a respectable Christchurch paper—wish the Lodges to order a Republic in Spain as they have in unhappy France? In the manifesto for the Grand Orient, issued November 4, 1904, it is said: 'We declare to the whole Freemason body that, in furnishing these documents (spy denunciations), the Grand Orient has accomplished only a strict duty. We have dearly conquered the Republic, and claim the honor of having procured its triumph. Without the Freemasons,' it adds, 'the Republic would not be in existence—Pius X. would be reigning in France.'

Instead of trying to make capital out of the superstitious, though certainly harmless, practices of the women of Spain, the writer would do better to cry down the stupid practices of his own countrywomen who encourage the many lying fortune-tellers whom our laws are powerless to prevent from defrauding so many in every walk of society.

HIBERNIAN SOCIETY, DUNEDIN

The annual general Communion of the members of St. Joseph's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society took place at St. Joseph's Cathedral, Dunedin, at the nine o'clock Mass on Sunday, when about 140 members in regalia approached the Holy Table. The members marched in procession from St. Joseph's Hall to the Cathedral, where they occupied the front seats in the nave of the church. His Lordship the Bishop, who was celebrant of the Mass, in the course of his sermon, which was based on the Gospel of the day, referred to the encouragement given by the Church from the earliest ages, and especially in the middle ages, to Catholic societies and guilds, the members of which by their actions gave good example to those around them. There never was a time in which the need of Catholic societies was so pressing as at the present. It was most important that the young men should be gathered into such societies. There was a great propaganda going on regarding benefit societies, and a boy had no sooner left school than he was urged to join one or other of such societies. When the boy comes out of school they should get him to join some Catholic society, where he would have the benefit of the good example and the good advice of those around him, and would be encouraged to practise his religion. It was of the greatest importance that our young men should be induced to join some of our Catholic societies, and he

wished that every young man should become a member of the Hibernian Society, which enjoyed the confidence of the Bishops and clergy of Australia and New Zealand, and the members of which were giving a good example as practical Catholics wherever they were. In such a society they would be encouraged to practise their religion. It gave him the greatest pleasure that morning to see such a number of fine young men making a profession of their faith, and giving such a good example to the rest of the congregation.

After Mass the members reformed in procession and marched to St. Joseph's Hall, where breakfast was laid. His Lordship the Bishop presided, having on his right Bro. J. J. Marlow (District Deputy), Rev. Father O'Malley (South Dunedin), and Rev. Brothers Brady, Moore, Cusack, and Redmond, and on his left Bro. Bourke (president), Bro. Deehan (V.P.), Miss Staunton (St. Joseph's Ladies' Club), Mrs. Jackson (St. Vincent de Paul Society), Miss Long (Children of Mary, South Dunedin), Miss Heley (Children of Mary, St. Joseph's Cathedral), Mr. E. W. Spain (St. Joseph's Men's Club), and Mr. J. Sims (Invercargill branch of the H.A.C.B. Society).

After justice had been done to the excellent breakfast provided, Bro. Bourke thanked the members for their excellent attendance, and expressed regret for the absence of Rev. Father Coffey (chaplain), who was at the Catholic Congress.

His Lordship Bishop Verdon said it gave him very great pleasure to preside at such a grand gathering. He had always taken a great interest in the various societies in connection with the Catholic Church. It was of the greatest importance that our young people should join benefit societies, and he did not know of any he would recommend before the Hibernian Society. Since he came to New Zealand he had been in many parts of the country and had heard of the work of the society. He had heard reports of the work of the society in Australia from Bishops and priests, and they all agreed that the members were faithful to the Church, faithful in their duties, and admirable in observing the rules of the society. They were practical Catholics, ever ready to assist the clergy in their various works, and were submissive to ecclesiastical authority. His own experience had borne all this out, and therefore it gave him much pleasure to be there that morning, and to assist and encourage the society in every way. They made a grand profession of their faith that morning. They had the glorious traditions of what their forefathers had suffered for the faith. Faith and Fatherland were the watchwords of the society. They were true to their holy religion, true to the country of their fathers, and true to the country they lived in. A good Catholic was always a good citizen. He knew of no country or people better governed than New Zealand. The members of the society loved their holy religion, and they looked up with respect and reverence to the great Pontiff who ruled and governed the Church. While they loved and revered the Sovereign Pontiff, they also had good reason to respect the King, who was a wise and just ruler. He had much pleasure in proposing the toast of the 'Pope and King.'

Rev. Brother Brady proposed the toast of the 'Hibernian Society,' and in the course of his address sketched its progress and dwelt on the assistance it had been to the Old Country in giving practical help to the men who have taken upon themselves the work of making Ireland a nation. He also paid a tribute to the work of the society from Catholic and benevolent points of view. He suggested means whereby the membership would be largely increased, and concluded by a generous tribute of praise to the devoted work of Bro. J. J. Marlow on behalf of the society.

Bro. J. J. Marlow, in replying, gave some interesting statistics relative to the progress of the branch for the last ten years. In 1898 he membership was 102, the sick pay was £102 odd, a sum of £108 odd was spent on medicine and medical attendance, and the total worth of the funds was £1105 15s 4d. Five years later (1903), the figures were:—Membership, 180; sick pay, £219 16s 8d; medicine and medical attendance, £162 4s; total funds, £1609 4s. At the end of the following five years (1908), the membership had gone up to 281; sick pay, £393 11s 8d; medicine and medical attendance, £254 3s 6d; total funds, £2070 0s 7d. During the ten years ended December 31 last the branch had expended in sick pay £2224 11s 8d, and on medicine and medical attendance £2009 11s 8d. The funeral allowance for the period under review was £210. The membership at present stands at 320, and the worth of the funds is estimated at £2100. He also gave comparative statistics relative to the different centres for the last five years. At the end of December, 1903, the financial membership, total funds, and amount of funds per member were as follow:—Auckland, 153, £2632, £17 4s; Wellington, 164, £647, £4; Christchurch, 89, £1258, £14 1s; Dunedin, 173, £1450, £8 7s. On December 31, 1908, the figures were:—Auckland, 165 (increase 12), £2816, £17; Wellington, 179 (increase 15), £389, £2 3s 6d; Christchurch, 158 (increase 69), £1573, £10; Dunedin, 256 (increase 83), £1861, £7 5s. The district of Otago and Southland three years ago contained three branches with a membership in round figures of 300. To-day there are six branches with 600 members—a splendid increase for three years. Forty-four years ago twelve men started the society without

funds, to-day there are 30,000 members, and £200,000 invested money. He concluded by saying these were results of which any organisation might be justly proud.

Bro. T. J. Hussey, in proposing the toast of 'The Clergy,' paid a tribute to the great interest which the Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., and the Rev. Father O'Malley took in the society.

Rev. Father O'Malley, in replying, said that the clergy had always found the members of the society ready to assist them in parish work.

Bro. J. B. Callan, jun., in speaking to the toast of the 'Catholic Press,' paid a tribute to the able manner in which the N.Z. Tablet was conducted. Mr. J. W. Kennedy replied.

Bro. J. Hally proposed the toast of the 'Christian Brothers,' and referred to the excellent work they had done in Dunedin for the past thirty-five years.

Rev. Brother Moore in replying expressed his pleasure at seeing so many ex-pupils of the Christian Brothers' School members of the Hibernian Society.

The toast of 'Kindred Societies' was proposed by Bro. J. Saunders, P.P., and responded to by Mr. E. W. Spain (Catholic Men's Club).

Other branches of the H.A.C.B. Society was proposed by Bro. Jas. O'Connor, and responded to by Bro. J. Sims (Invercargill branch).

A vote of thanks, proposed by Bro. Carr, to his Lordship the Bishop for presiding, brought the proceedings to a close.

OBITUARY

MISS AGNES FITZPATRICK, BALCAIRN.

It is with sincere regret (writes a Christchurch correspondent) that I have to record the death, at a comparatively early age, of Miss Agnes Fitzpatrick, who passed away at the residence of her father (Mr. Charles Fitzpatrick, Balcairn, North Canterbury) on September 24. The deceased, who was born in the district, was an exemplary Catholic, and had only been ailing two days. Blessed with a bright and cheerful disposition, she was a willing worker in any good cause for which her aid was solicited, while in her own home she was known to be a devoted daughter and loving sister. Deceased leaves a father and mother, four brothers, and four sisters to mourn their loss, and the fullest sympathy of the whole community has gone out to Mr. and Mrs. Fitzpatrick and family in their sad and sudden bereavement. Deceased received the last rites of the Church from Rev. Father Leen, Rangiora. The funeral on Saturday to the Brackenbridge Cemetery was attended by a large concourse of mourners. The Rev. Father Richards officiated at the church and graveside.—R.I.P.

MR. C. KELIHER, WAIKERIKERI.

(From an occasional correspondent.)

I regret to have to record the death of Mr. C. Keliher, Waikerikeri, at the Dunstan Hospital, after a short illness. Deceased, who was forty years of age, leaves a widow and seven children to mourn their loss. The late Mr. Keliher was attended by Father Hunt during his illness. A Requiem Mass was celebrated by Father Hunt on the morning of the funeral, and he afterwards officiated at the graveside. The deceased was a devoted and practical Catholic, and the esteem in which he was held was evinced by the large number which attended his funeral from all parts of the district. At the Requiem Mass, and also on the following Sunday, Father Hunt paid a very high tribute to the deceased and to his family.—R.I.P.

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Irish News

ARMAGH—An Inhospitable Town

Mr. Swift MacNeill, who left Dublin on Sunday evening, August 15, to attend the great Hibernian demonstration in Mountcharles, County Donegal, on Monday, intended to break the journey and sleep at Portadown. He alighted from the train, and just as he was leaving the railway station he was accosted by the police, who entreated him to pursue his journey, telling him that it would not be safe for him to remain in Portadown owing to the fury of the Orange rioters. The police clearly believed that the Orangemen would not spare even a fellow-Protestant who happened to be an Irish Nationalist, and not an exponent of 'Ascendancy principles.' Mr. Swift MacNeill went on his way, to be received, as was remarked by Mr. Joseph Devlin in his speech, at Mountcharles with every feeling of confidence and affection by a vast concourse of Catholics, who rejoiced to receive him, although he knelt at a different altar, because they believed he was true and faithful to Irish Nationality and in sympathy with its hopes and aspirations.

CORK—Irish in Queen's College

Dr. Windle, in his report on the Queen's College, Cork, for the past session, says the general work of the college has proceeded satisfactorily, and in all the departments, with one exception, the students have been up to, or over, their usual number. The exception which he alludes to is the department for Irish, the history of which, since it was attempted to revive the teaching of the subject four years ago, he related.

DUBLIN—All Hallows College

The Very Rev. Thomas O'Donnell, C.M., has been appointed President of All Hallows' College, Dublin, in succession to the Very Rev. James Moore, C.M., who has retired owing to advancing years. No better selection could be made, and it may be relied upon that under Father O'Donnell's capable administration the grand missionary institution will go on prospering.

Temperance Demonstration

Dublin was the scene of a great temperance demonstration on Sunday, August 22. The Lord Mayor drove in state at the head of the procession, and Mr. William Field, M.P., who is a strong temperance advocate, walked with his comrades. The Irish National Foresters and the Ancient Order of Hibernians took part in the procession, their display of insignia giving a brilliant and picturesque aspect to the scene. The Lord Mayor presided at the meeting held in Phoenix Park when the procession arrived there. Father Peter, O.S.F.C., the Provincial of the Capuchins, delivered the principal address, the other speakers including Father T. J. Cullen, of London; Mr. J. D. Nugent, Secretary of the A.O.H.; Father Aloysius, O.S.F.C.; Mr. J. Wigham, the representative of the Dublin Quakers; and Mr. Robert Carlisle. The Dublin Capuchins account themselves the inheritors of the Father Mathew tradition in Ireland, and naturally and appropriately they make temperance work in Dublin a leading effort.

The Horse Show

This is Horse Show Week (writes a Dublin correspondent on August 23), and the Irish capital is filled with visitors from all parts of Europe. The Dublin Horse Show is without parallel in any country in the world. It is the greatest display of horses held in any civilised country. The horse is a sort of national idol in Ireland, and Irish hunters are unequalled. Sporting men, dames of fashion, and horse buyers from all the principal European Governments flock to Dublin from all parts for the Horse Show. The city is practically *en fete* for the week. This year the show is bigger than ever, and the arrangements at Ballsbridge had to be considerably extended. The Irish Industries section was well worthy of a visit, and it is satisfactory to know that it is becoming better patronised by visitors and exhibitors yearly. It included excellent specimens of lace and embroidery, tapestry weaving, lace designs, wood carving, artistic metal work, artistic leather work, pyrography, artistic enamelling, illuminating, stained-glass work, and modelling. Testimony was borne to the excellence of Irish industrial work from the art point of view by Lady Aberdeen at a meeting of the Royal Irish Industries Association. Her Excellency stated that at the Berlin Exhibition the judges held that the Irish exhibits were the best from any country. Over £300 worth of goods were sold there, showing that the beauty and value of the home product were being appreciated more and more.

Gaelic League Excursion

During Oireachtas week in Dublin two new Irish plays—'The Miser' and 'Deirdre'—were produced. The proceedings ended with the annual excursion on Sunday, August 8. Tara was chosen as the scene of the outing. A special train left Dublin shortly before 10 o'clock, and bore a large number of Gaelic Leaguers to Kilmessan,

whence the journey to the historic hill was made on cars or on foot. The distance is about four miles by road, but a path through the fields, which may be entered about a mile from Kilmessan, cuts a mile off the journey. The vast majority of the excursionists elected to walk, and the road along the route presented a picturesque spectacle, as groups of Gaels, made up largely of ladies in bright summer costumes, wended their way along. Here and there could be seen a Gael clothed in the ancient Irish costume. Visitors came to the hill also from other quarters, and there was altogether an imposing gathering. The party included a number of priests, two Germans, some Americans, and Gaels from various parts of Ireland and Great Britain. It was a glorious summer's day, though the heat on the hill was so intense as to become oppressive. After their arrival at Tara the visitors spent a considerable time in exploring the place, from which a magnificent view of the surrounding country, stretching miles beneath in all directions, could be had. Copies of an interesting booklet dealing with Tara were distributed amongst the excursionists. It contained a plan of Tara adapted from the Ordnance Survey map, upon which the names of the chief places of interest on the hill were marked by Petrie and O'Donovan after a careful study of some ancient Irish records. This little guide enabled the visitors to identify the spots of historic interest. Speeches were made from the Hill, of which Gaelic at the new University was the main topic.

GALWAY—Sale of an Estate

An agreement for the sale of a well-known estate in the County Galway was arrived at a meeting of representatives of the landlord and the tenants, held in Dublin. The estate is that of Captain Pollok, situate at Creggs. An immense tract of it was cleared of its occupiers in the years succeeding the great famine, and of the 250 tenants now on the estate the majority are in occupation of un-economic holdings. These have agreed to buy their farms at an average rate of 18½ years' purchase of second term judicial rents, and arrears of rent amounting to three years and upwards are to be wiped out on payment of a years' rent, abated by 20 per cent. Over 2000 acres of the grass lands are to be acquired by the Estates Commissioners for distribution amongst the small holders. The Very Rev. Canon Geraghty, P.P., Kilbegnet, took a prominent part in conducting the negotiations on behalf of the tenants.

The See of Clonfert

At a meeting in Loughrea of the priests of Clonfert for the selecting of names for a new Bishop to be submitted to the Holy See, the following were chosen, the voting being as follows:—Rev. John Bowes, P.P., Dignisimus, 15; Rev. Dr. Gilmartin, V.P., Maynooth, Dignior, 7; Very Rev. J. Cunningham, P.P., V.F., Tynagh, Dignus, 5. His Grace the Most Rev. Dr. Healy presided at the High Mass.

LIMERICK—Care of Ancient Monuments

A strong appeal (says the *Freeman's Journal*) is addressed to the County Councils on behalf of our ancient monuments by Dr. Robert Cochrane, President of the Royal Society of Antiquaries. He asks them to assume the custody of the ruins, whether these are of county or national importance. The need for urgent action is undeniable. There is a danger that not all the new proprietors will appreciate the interest and importance of the old structures that may pass into their possession. Recently the Estates Commissioners offered to the Limerick County Council the custody of two old castles—Lisnaculla and Ballyallinan—and it is believed that the council will at once undertake the charge, if they have not already done so.

SLIGO—Death of a Well-known Public Man

Mr. P. J. Flynn, J.P., Chairman of the Sligo Rural District Council, and the candidate whose name figured in connection with the North Sligo vacancy, died on August 20 from pneumonia. It will be remembered Mr. Flynn retired from the contest in consequence of an urgent appeal from Mr. John Redmond, M.P., to sacrifice his own feelings for the sake of the National cause. Mr. Flynn's death has caused profound sorrow.

GENERAL

Gaining Ground

The Irish Registrar-General reports that the number of births in Ireland exceeded the number of deaths last year by 25,148. As the loss by emigration was 23,295 (the lowest number recorded since 1851), there was a net gain of 1853 in the population of Ireland on December 31 last. There were 386 fewer deaths from tuberculosis last year than in 1907. This improvement is attributed to the active anti-tuberculosis campaign conducted by the Countess of Aberdeen.

A Well-known Land Agent

The death of Mr. John Townsend Trench, J.P., is announced from London, at the age of 75 years. His name was known far and wide as the patentee of 'Trench's Remedy.' As the agent of Lord Lansdowne, the management of the affairs connected with the property was conducted by him during the stormy days of the land agitation.

Criminal Statistics

The kind of crime which furnished the best pabulum of the Irish Unionist orators in England has decreased so much (says the *Irish Weekly*) that even Irish Unionist M.P.'s were forced to admit in the House of Commons, in a recent debate, that Ireland was remarkably peaceful, while, of course, describing the situation as the 'lull before the storm.' After a lead like that, even the most violent of Tory journalists in Ireland will hesitate before basing an attack on Ireland on the statistics just issued. The statistics for England will not be issued for many months. The system is to delay them almost a year after the publication of the Irish report. Scotland's record, however, is available. Comparisons are odious; but when one finds Irish Unionist spokesmen travelling about that country spouting of the lawlessness and crime of Ireland it is necessary to offer a mild retort. The rate of indictable offences in Scotland represents six per thousand of the population; while in Ireland it is only 2.3 per thousand. Offences against the person in Scotland were 4573; in Ireland they were only 622. Of malicious injury to property in Scotland there were 4680 cases; in Ireland there were only 664; while in larcenies and burglaries Scotland is ahead of us by two to one. Twelve thousand police are being paid for in Ireland, or one for every three persons committed; while in Scotland one policeman is sufficient for every ten persons committed, the Scotch police force being only 5363. The activities of crime-manufacturers in Ireland and of their political abettors induced Dublin Castle to pile on an increase in the cost of the police force in Ireland of £28,264 during the year 1907-08; the present cost of the policing of Ireland is over a million and a half pounds, while the aggregate cost of the Scotch force is only something over half a million!

The Effect of Old-Age Pensions

In the House of Commons on August 24, Mr. Hazleton asked the Secretary to the Treasury what had been the average annual contribution of Ireland to the Imperial Services since the Union; what was the amount for last year; what was the highest amount in any one year, and the lowest amount in any one year previous to 1908-9; whether it was estimated that there would be no contribution from Ireland to Imperial Services for the current year; and, if so, what was the estimated amount of the deficit. Mr. Whitley—The average annual contribution of Ireland to Imperial Services since 1819, the earliest date of which figures are available, has been, approximately, £3,500,000. I cannot give the precise figure since for the period from 1819 to 1890. The calculations have only been worked out for one year in each decennial period. The amount for 1908-9 was £583,000. The highest amount in any previous year for which the figures have been worked out was £5,396,000, in 1859-60. The lowest, £1,684,500, in 1899-1900. For the current year it is estimated that the revenue contributions by Ireland will be insufficient to meet the cost of purely Irish Services by £1,183,000.—Mr. John Redmond—Translated into plain words, that reply means that now Ireland is run under the Union at a loss to England of over £1,000,000 a year.—Mr. Whitley—That would appear to be the case.—Mr. T. Healy—Does the hon. gentleman think we believe it? Will he give us an audit of the accounts?—Mr. Whitley—The hon. member may certainly investigate the figures on which the answer is based.

The Efficiency of the Irish Party

In his 'Cross Bench' article in a recent *Observer*, Sir Henry Lucy pays a notable tribute to the Parliamentary efficiency of the Irish Party. Commenting on the little help which the Opposition have had during the present Parliament from 'Caves' among the Ministerialists, Sir Henry pours scorn upon the Welsh members for allowing Disestablishment to be shelved, and sharply contrasts their tactics with those of the Nationalists. The Welshmen, he says, showed themselves ready, as heretofore, to kiss the rod wherewith they had been chastised. 'That,' he adds, 'is not the way of the Irish members. They not only know what they want, but how to get it. Their position this session has been instructively parallel to that of the Welsh members. Each had in hand a measure popular with their constituents, its passing essential to preservation of their personal influence. Everyone knows what has happened in this month of August. The Welsh Disestablishment Bill is dead and buried, dubiously hopeful of resurrection next year. The Budget Bill, with all its importance and urgency, has been shelved for a week in order that the Irish Land Bill may be passed through the Commons before the prorogation.'

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People We Hear About

His Lordship Bishop Vidal, S.M., Vicar-Apostolic of Fiji, is at present in Sydney (says the *Catholic Press*). He is on his way to Rome to pay his visit *ad limina*.

Colonel Edouard O'Brien, who was reputed to be the head of the ancient Irish Royal family of that name, has died at his country seat at Montreau-Lamartine, in the Seine-et-Oise Department, France, in his 94th year. The honorary dignities and arms have been transmitted to his nephew, M. Jacques O'Brien, the head of the younger line.

Sir Charles Villiers Stanford, whose 'Mass in G' was sung for the first time in Australia at the Pontifical High Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, in connection with the opening of the Catholic Congress, is one of the most eminent musicians of the present day, and as a composer and conductor has gained the admiration of the great musical world. Born at Dublin in September, 1852, where his father, an enthusiastic amateur, was examiner in the Court of Chancery, he studied composition with Mr. A. O'Leary and Sir Robert Stewart. He afterwards became organist of Trinity College, and graduated there in classical honors in 1874. Sir Charles has occupied many important positions in England and Ireland, and has composed symphonies, overtures, operas, and many orchestral, choral, and instrumental works.

Mr. S.H. Butcher, M.P.; recently quoted from a letter of Cardinal Newman, which he said had not been published before. Writing in 1869, Newman said: 'I have been obliged to take great pains with everything I have written, and I often write chapters over and over again, besides innumerable corrections and interlined additions. I think I have never written for writing's sake, but my one and single desire and aim has been to do what is difficult, namely, to express clearly and exactly my meaning. This has been the motive and principle of all my corrections and re-writings. When I have read over a passage which I had written a few days before, I have found it so obscure to myself that I have either put it altogether aside or fiercely corrected it.' That was from a master of lucidity and simplicity, and showed how hard of attainment those qualities are.

There are probably few better raconteurs than the Duke of Argyll, who tells some inimitable stories. One of the best concerns a showman's ape which paid a visit with its master to Inverary. During its stay there it escaped from its cage, but came to grief through want of food, and died by the roadside. Two Scotch farmers came across it, and were much puzzled what to make of it. 'Dear me, what a beast's yon?' asked one. 'It's no a beast, it's a man,' said the other. After carefully examining it one of them said, 'It's a man, but did ye ever see such a hairy man!' It canna be a Highlander—no, no, it canna be a Highlander; do ye think it's a Lowlander, Donald?' 'I think not; I don't think a Lowlander is quite ever so hairy as yon.' 'Dear me,' said the first speaker, 'I think it canna be a Highlander; I think it canna be a Lowlander. I tell you what we'll do, we'll just gang ower tae the Castle and see if any o' the English visitors are missin'.'

When the Secretary to the Treasury made the statement in the House of Commons recently that for the current year it was estimated the revenue contributed by Ireland would be insufficient to meet the purely Irish service, Mr. Will Thorne said: 'Would it not be very much better to give them Home Rule, and let them pay their own way?' The suggestion, if acted upon, would be an easy way of settling a difficult matter. Mr. Thorne, who takes a deep interest in the Irish question, secured one of the biggest majorities at the General Election. Twenty years ago Mr. Thorne was a laborer in the West Ham Gas Works. His organising ability has secured for thousands of his fellows shorter hours and better wages, and he has behind him an idolizing army of unskilled toilers. At seven years of age, by the way, he was at work in the brickfields. In 1890 he became a Councillor for West Ham, and eight years later was appointed Mayor of the borough, later becoming its member by a record majority.

The Right Rev. Dr. Gallagher, Bishop of Goulburn, who preached the inaugural sermon of the Catholic Congress at St. Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, is famed for his deep learning, and also as an eloquent preacher. Dr. Gallagher is a native of the North of Ireland. He received his ecclesiastical training in Maynooth College. At the request of the late Bishop Lanigan he came out to labor in the diocese of Goulburn. In 1879 he was appointed president of St. Patrick's College, Goulburn, which position he held for some years—until he was made parish priest of Wagga. He was subsequently appointed Coadjutor to the late Bishop Lanigan. After his consecration he received tributes of affection from the people in every parish, and also one from the ex-students of St. Patrick's College. He devoted the whole of the money to works of religion and charity. On the death of Bishop Lanigan in June, 1900, he succeeded to the See. He is a keen educationalist, and reputed to be one of the best Greek scholars in the Southern Hemisphere.

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I avail myself of this welcome occasion to assure your Grace of my very profound esteem, etc., etc.

(Signed)

R. CARD. MERRY DEL VAL.

Rome, December 1, 1907.

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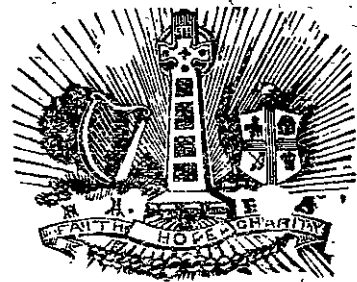
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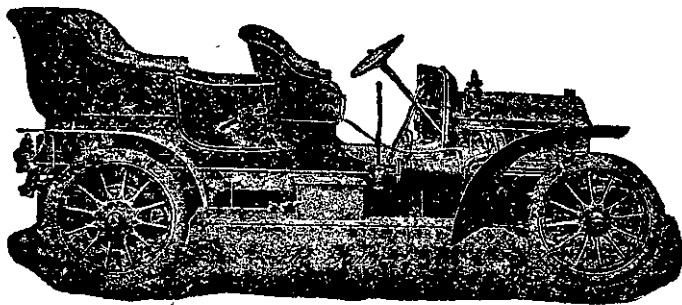
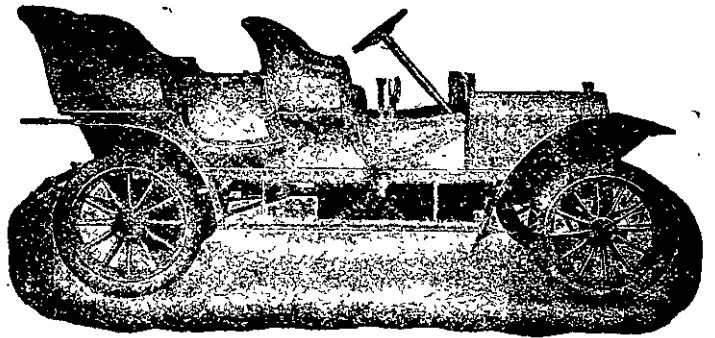
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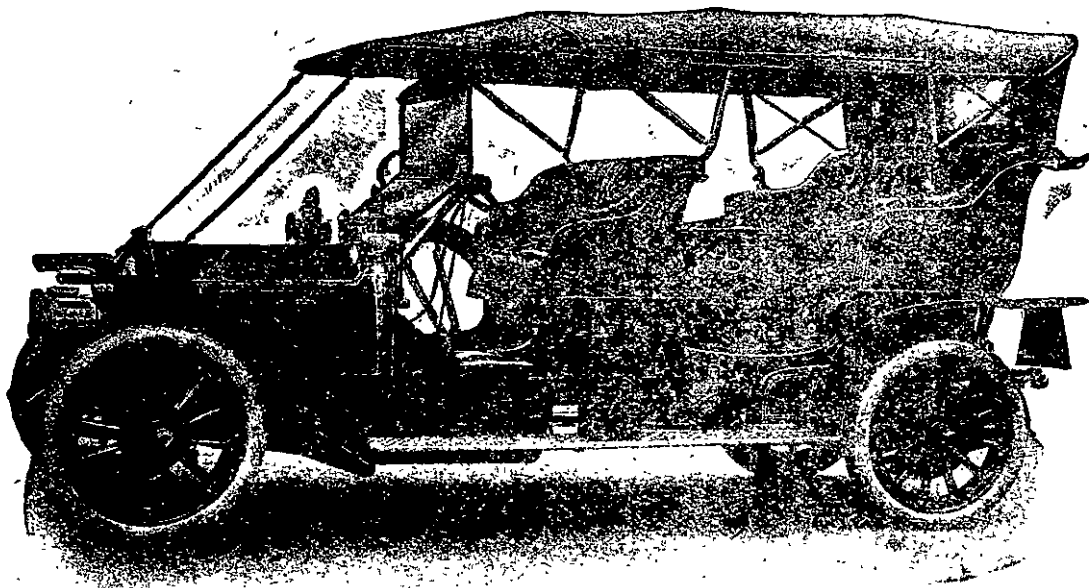
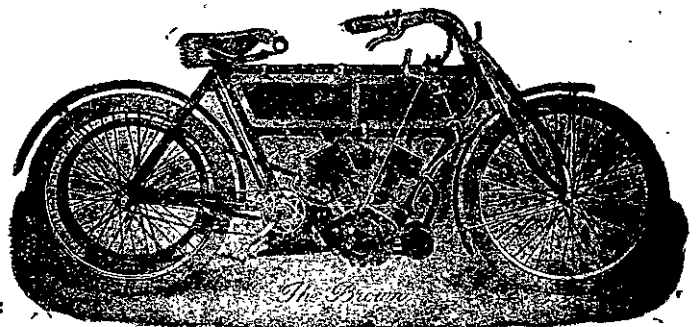


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The Catholic World

DENMARK—A Catholic Premier

For the first time in their history, the Danes see at the head of the newly-formed Government a Catholic Prime Minister, Count Holstein-Ledreborg, who, at the age of seventy, returns to political life after an absence of some twenty years.

ENGLAND—The King and the Abbot

King Edward VII. has once again acted in a manner which must give pain to certain sections of his subjects. On August 23 his Majesty lunched with the Abbot of Tepl, Marienbad, and later on made the Abbot a Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order.

Catholics in the Navy

In the House of Commons recently Mr. Hugh Barrie asked the First Lord of the Admiralty what were the number of Catholics, Wesleyans, and Presbyterian seamen in the Home Fleet, in the Atlantic Fleet, in the Mediterranean Fleet, and in the China Squadron, respectively, as at December 31, 1908. Mr. McKenna replied as follows: Home Fleet—Nore Division: 715 Presbyterians, 835 Wesleyans, 905 Catholics; Portsmouth Division: 114 Presbyterians, 377 Wesleyans, 369 Catholics; Devonport Division: 285 Presbyterians, 643 Wesleyans, 1190 Catholics; Atlantic Fleet—271 Presbyterians, 610 Wesleyans, 892 Catholics; Mediterranean Fleet—339 Presbyterians, 583 Wesleyans, 1360 Catholics; China—203 Presbyterians, 314 Wesleyans, 513 Catholics (including 11 native Catholics).

St. Joseph's Foreign Missionary Society

The Very Rev. Father Henry, Superior-General of St. Joseph's Foreign Missionary Society, Mill Hill, London, left England on August 27 on a visitation of the missions of the society in Borneo, the Philippines, and in Northern and Southern India. The society has upwards of 100 priests working in these distant missions. Father Henry expects to be away about eight or nine months.

An Old Catholic Family

The death of Mr. William Joseph Blundell took place on August 19 at Crosby Hall, near Liverpool. Mr. Blundell was the head of one of the oldest Catholic families in England. His brother, Francis Nicholas, who died in 1884, was the husband of Mrs. Blundell (M. E. Francis), the novelist. Her son, Mr. Francis Nicholas Blundell, is the next male heir.

Westminster Cathedral

The High Altar of Westminster Cathedral in London is hewn out of one solid block of stone. It was the mind of the late Cardinal Vaughan that conceived the idea to secure this monument for his Cathedral. Canon Moyes, referring to this fact, recently stated: 'The late Cardinal in his love for the Mass would have it so. It was his wish that this hewn rock of fifteen tons of solid granite should stand for all ages in the midst of this great temple as the Stone of Sacrifice, witnessing thereby to the sacrificial character of the Mass which the heresy of the sixteenth century denied, and as an indestructible reparation for the ruined altars and shattered altar stones which marked the havoc and apostasy of the Reformation.'

Catholics at the Front

We are but a comparatively small body in Great Britain—a couple of millions (says the *Catholic Times*). But such is the excellence of the teaching in our secondary schools that Catholics continually distinguish themselves in the public examinations. In our present issue we give lists of the Catholic successes at the Oxford Local Examinations. The record is remarkable. Our colleges, to which Mr. Runciman is so sternly opposed, have beaten all the best endowed competing institutions in Great Britain. Not in one, but in all the divisions, the Catholics are first. They have performed the notable and most creditable feat of securing the first place at the Senior, the Junior, and the Preliminary examinations. In the Junior examinations, for which over 8200 candidates sat, they obtained the five first places. Of the 37 who gained honors in the Preliminary examinations 15 are Catholics. These are brilliant results. It is evident that we have first-class material; that is to say, an abundance of talent in the young, and that the teachers know how to use it to the best purpose. The Jesuit colleges at Wimbledon and Liverpool, whose boys are at the head of the three divisions, and all our other Catholic colleges, male and female, that have so signally shown how superior is the Catholic training, deserve the heartiest congratulations and thanks. Year after year they leave rivals behind and gather fresh laurels.

FRANCE—Blessed Joan of Arc

Monsignor Pechenard, Bishop of Soissons, has addressed to the Holy Father a formal petition to allow the fête of Joan of Arc to be celebrated in all the French dioceses.

By the recent decree of beatification the fête can at present be celebrated only at Orleans. Bishop Pechenard likewise suggests that the celebrations should be held on the same day throughout France in order to facilitate the inevitable and speedy transformation of the fête of the Blessed Joan of Arc into a national fête.

GERMANY—Fortieth Anniversary of Ordination

Twenty-four priests solemnly celebrated recently in St. Peter's Church, Cologne, the fortieth anniversary of their ordination by the late Cardinal Melchers.

ITALY—The Holy Father's Solitude

To comment on the address sent to Rome by many of the survivors of the earthquake at Messina would be superfluous (writes a Rome correspondent), as the affection shown in the document for him who has done so much to relieve them in their sad plight will be best understood from the following translation from the Italian:—'Your Holiness.—In the terrible catastrophe that befell us, one source of consolation was always found in the care which your Holiness always had for us, poor sons of sorrow. Your paternal heart has found a balm for us in this hour of trial, and the thoughts of your angelic soul have been similar to those of your unfortunate sons. By your words and protection, by encouraging the charitable institutions in favor of the survivors, and by giving us everything in your power, you have lightened our sorrow. Solicitous to know of our distress, to understand thoroughly all our miseries, you sent special commissioners, from whom we learned of the distress that filled your heart, saddened and afflicted by our misfortunes, and of your generosity and greatness of soul. If it had been possible, you would have come among us certainly, and visited the regions of death and your wounded children. And what comfort and consolation would your august presence be to us! But the angel of this archdiocese, who with a paternal heart has comforted and succored us; knew how to act in your stead. Holy Father, in the disaster which overturned and disorganised all things here in Sicily, while so many voices were raised to reprove incapable authorities and calumniating agents, your seraphic figure remained beautiful and fascinating. Holy Father, we are grateful for all your solicitude, and we shall show our gratitude by keeping always in union with the Chair of Peter and ever remaining your obedient sons. From this city which has received us so kindly we raise our voices in appreciation and love and ask you for the Apostolic Benediction.' The document was sent to the Holy Father from Catania, Sicily, where many thousand Messinians have found shelter.

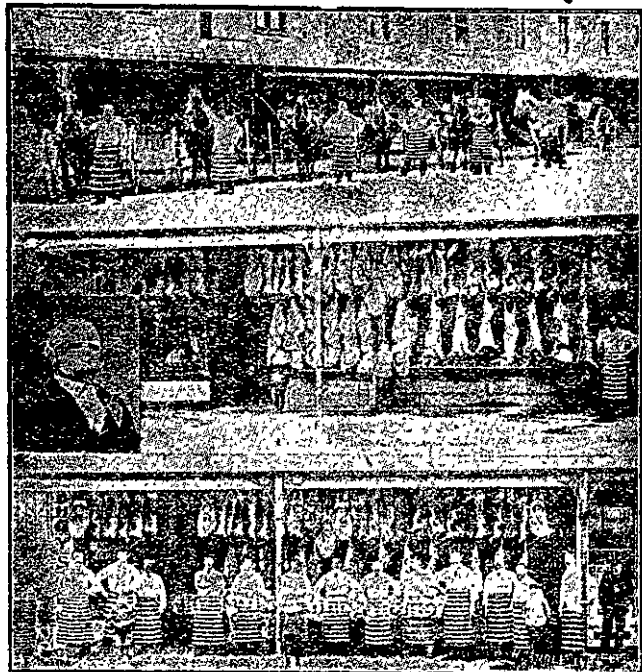
ROME—Restoration Work at St. Peter's

For some time (writes a Rome correspondent) the small army of artists in the constant employment of the Vatican has been employed in the restoration of the marble pavement of St. Peter's, with which time and the tread of millions have wrought sad havoc. The new pavement will be laid according to the designs of the old, and will, it is reckoned, cost about 380,000 lire, 100,000 of which has been already donated to the chapter of the Basilica by Pius X. A large quantity of marbles has already been acquired for the project, almost every kind and color of the stone being represented in the collection. Seeing that, according to the measurements made of St. Peter's before the workmen commenced the latest restoration, the area of the floor of the great church is 12,275 metres, we are not surprised to hear a few years must elapse before the completion of the task. Another renovation in the Apostolic Basilica concerns the famous treasury contained therein. Here vessels in gold, precious stones, priceless tapestries, and vestments, valuable by reason of their historic interest as well as their intrinsic worth, have been stored for generations, and shown liberally to the public for the asking. But it must be said that the chambers were far from being in keeping with the dignity of the objects kept there, a fact that the authorities have recognised, as they are now engaged in selecting a more suitable place for the treasure.

An International Gift

The Milan correspondent of an English paper states that an international committee has been formed with the object of presenting to the Pope, in commemoration of his forthcoming episcopal golden jubilee, a colossal church organ for installation in St. Peter's. Besides the small organs in the side-chapels, there are at present only two very inferior instruments, which are wheeled about to whatever part of the great church a choral service happens to be in progress. The Pope has already given his sanction to the proposal, and in addition to Cardinal Rappolla, various foreign Cardinals, also the renowned composer, Camille Saint Saens, and the Duke of Norfolk have joined the committee. The problem of designing such an instrument as would harmonise with the proportions and style of the great building is a difficult one, and so far all specifications sent in pay insufficient attention to this matter. A Roman ecclesiastical dignitary suggests that perhaps some enterprising firm of British organ-builders might seize upon this unique occasion to create a design which would meet all requirements.

F. H. STEEL
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CONTENTS.—PART I.

FOURTH EDITION.

The Decree of August 2, 1907:	Page
Latin Text	1
English Translation	5
PART II.	
The Decree Popularly Explained (Pastoral Letter of the Archbishop and Bishops of the Ecclesiastical Province of Melbourne)	11
PART III.	
A Controversy on the Decree (Christchurch Press, March 3 to April 2, 1908), with Notes and Comments	20
PART IV.	
An Exposition of the Catholic Position in Regard to Impediments Invalidating Marriage ...	61
First Division: Some Fallacies Considered ...	61
Second Division: The Mission and Authority of the Church	80
Third Division: The Relations of the Church to the Marriage Contract	98
Fourth Division: Invalidating Legislation of the Jewish and the Christian Church	140
Appendix	143
Index	145
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SCOTLAND—An Ancient Statue

In the Church of the Sacred Heart, Edinburgh (says the *Catholic Herald*), there is a statue of the Madonna and Child, the only Pre-Reformation statue of its kind in Scotland. It is looked on as one of the greatest treasures of the Church. Carved in oak, it is supposed to date from the fifteenth or sixteenth century, and bears a most striking resemblance to a statue which at one time belonged to Aberdeen, but which is now in Brussels, a splendid reproduction of which is to be found in St. Ninian's Church, Restalrig. The ancient statue was purchased from a dealer about 1859 by Mr. Charles Waterton, the eminent naturalist, and one of the most distinguished alumni of Stonyhurst. The dealer bought it at the London residence of the Earls of Aberdeen, consequently there is a high probability that the present statue in possession of the Jesuit Fathers at Lauriston is of Aberdonian origin.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

There are many histories of Ireland, but these, like the histories of other countries, have necessarily to treat of episodes and epochs of great national interest in a manner too brief to do justice to the subject. The history of Ireland, as Mr. Justin McCarthy, the eminent historian, aptly remarks, is made up of many thrilling chapters in which the romantic, the picturesque, and the poetical elements have a part, which, it is not too much to say, are not less worthy of study and admiration than are the components of any other history in ancient or modern times. Ireland has struggled during many successive centuries to maintain her nationality, in spite of all the continuous efforts made by the conquering race to extinguish it, and thus convert Ireland into a sham Britain. These efforts have proved wholly unable to accomplish the task. The tragic elements in Ireland's history—and they bulk very largely in it—are also well worth studying, not alone by Irishmen but by all who take an interest in Ireland and its history. Messrs. John Ouseley, Ltd., London, conceived the idea some time ago of publishing a dozen volumes dealing with men and events that have left their impress on the history of Ireland. The volumes are published at the exceptionally moderate price of sixpence each, or eightpence post free, and the publishers are to be congratulated on their enterprise, for not only have they dealt very fully with the subjects chosen, but they have turned out the volumes both as regards paper and printing, in a style that leaves nothing to be desired. Five of these volumes have just come to hand from E. J. Dwyer, 705, George street, Sydney. They are *The Life and Times of Robert Emmet*, *The Fenian Movement*, *The Irish in America*, *St. Patrick and the Saints of Ireland*, and *Daniel O'Connell and His Day*. The writers or compilers of these volumes in performing their work have mainly confined themselves to recording facts as they find them, leaving the reader to draw his conclusions. This is a feature to be commended, as partisanship in the writing of history very often obscures the motives of the originators of certain movements. It throws a halo of romance or a cloud of obloquy around their actions, and thus prevents the reader, seeking after truth, to arrive at a true estimate of the character and aims of such men. These volumes, which are marvels of cheapness, should have a far and wide circulation.

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Domestic

By MAUREEN.

Plaster of Paris.

When you have occasion to use plaster of Paris, wet it with vinegar instead of water; then it will be like putty, and can be smoothed better, as it will not set for half an hour, while plaster wet with water hardens at once.

Use of Vinegar.

Vinegar will keep the hands white and smooth and prevent chapping when exposed to the cold air after washing in hot or soapy water. Before drying the hands rub over them a teaspoonful of vinegar, and the result will be satisfactory.

For a Hot Oven.

If, when baking, the oven gets too hot, put in a basin of cold water instead of leaving the door open. This cools the oven, and the steam rising from the water prevents the contents burning. When cooking in a gas oven a basin or tin of water should always be kept in the oven.

Lemon Juice.

Lemon juice is unequalled for keeping silver bright; combined with soft soap and fine starch it will remove mildew; vegetable stains and roughness will vanish from the hands if lemon juice is applied. Lemons are also invaluable as a medicinal remedy, and are especially useful after a hearty supper. Hot lemonade, if taken before a cold gains headway, will break it up. Lemon juice sweetened with loaf sugar will relieve a cough.

White Spots on Furniture.

The white spots on furniture caused by steam or hot dishes can be removed by applying a soft cloth dampened with spirits of camphor. Rub the spots well and then polish with another soft, dry cloth. If one application does not remove the spot, repeat until it disappears. A bruised spot or dent may be removed from furniture in the following manner. Double a piece of brown paper five or six times, soak in water, wet the bruised place and lay the paper on it; apply a hot flat iron to the paper until the moisture evaporates. Two or three repetitions of this process may be necessary to raise the bruised spot.

To Remove Mud Stains.

Mud-stained garments are sometimes rather difficult to clean; especially is it difficult to clean them without leaving some traces of the stain behind. This is particularly true of garments of a light shade. When mud stains cannot be removed while still fresh they can be later, by using carbonate of soda, dissolved in water, applied with a piece of flannel, rubbing the stained places until the stains disappear. Another old and very homely way of removing dirt and stains from clothes is by means of a raw potato, cutting the potato in half and rubbing the stains with it; as the potato becomes soiled remove a thin slice from it and continue the rubbing until the stains and the dirt have been entirely absorbed by the potato.

How to Clean a Lamp.

If the lamp is used every night it should be cleaned daily. The methodical mode is this:—Remove the shade carefully before you soil your hands with the oil. Provide a basin of warm water (a little above blood-heat) and in this first wash the glass chimneys, then pour the oil from the fountain, and remove any sediment from about the brasswork. Screw up the wicks, and if they are not long enough for the time they are intended (or may probably be required) to burn, replace them with fresh ones by means of a stick. Having washed all the brasswork, wipe the parts carefully; screw everything in its former position, and take care in replacing the wick that the small notch at the side of the brass enters the groove which is sunk to receive it; turn it up and down once or twice to make sure that it works freely; then prime it (that is, singe the top); replace the fountain (filled with oil), chimney, and shade, and the lamp is ready for use.

Take Care of the Eyes.

'Why on earth do you women wear white veils when motoring?' said the old physician irritably. 'Nothing on earth is so bad for the eyes. Don't you know how the glare of the sun on a white sandy road, or the snow, hurts your eyes? A white veil is the same in principle.' 'But nothing else looks well with a white costume,' objected the woman in white. 'And a white veil is so dainty.' 'Dainty!' shouted the old physician. 'Very dainty they look after a ride through dust! And must you have a veil that "harmonizes," even though it gives you nervous headaches and spoils your eyes? No, no. Leave the white veil to the lady motorist in the musical comedy, and choose a sensible green veil, which is good for the eyes, and can be pretty and becoming, if you choose the right shade.'

Maureen

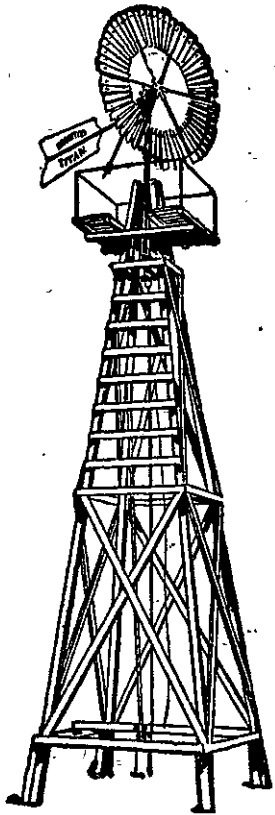
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Science Siftings

BY VOLT

A New Smoke Consumer.

A new locomotive smoke-consumer has been adopted by the New York, New Haven, and Hartford Railroad. It is the invention of Charles Schneider, the railroad commissioner of Austria. A train equipped with the new smoke-consumer on September 12 ran from New Haven, Conn., to Springfield, Mass., without the slightest appearance of smoke or cinders. The smoke and cinders are drawn from the firebox into a compartment, where they are consumed, securing greater economy in fuel consumption as well as increased steaming capacity.

Simple Barometers.

Country people have a great contempt for those who cannot tell what the weather is going to be till they have looked at their expensive barometers or seen the weather indications in the morning paper. They have so many simple ways of finding out what they wish to know about the weather, and are so accustomed to doing this, that they make the observations almost mechanically. Ask one of them how to do this, and he will give you a long list of simple weather gauges. For instance, if you are a smoker, look at your cigar tip. If it burns with a clear, red glow the day will be fine, but if it has a charred end that refuses to burn brightly take your umbrella. If a slipper creaks it is sure to be fine; if it is silent it will be damp. In damp weather newspapers are easily torn, gloves contract and are difficult to put on, matches will not light easily, silk hats become dull, awning cords are tight, boot laces snap, and a score of inanimate things tell to the initiated that there is rain to come.

New Method of Printing Railway Tickets.

The *American Machinist* describes a machine called the tesserograph for doing away with the necessity for printing in advance the thousands of various kinds of railway tickets. It says: 'Each ticket is printed separately by a machine from a slip of thick paper, all the necessary particulars, such as station names, date, price, class, etc., being inserted, and on a second paper strip within the machine is printed, as a check, a duplicate of the ticket sold. The money values of the tickets issued are totalised according to classes and series. A machine constructed for the Naples-Rome line can print and register 400 different kinds of tickets. The various mechanisms are interlocked together, and no tickets can be issued until the inspector in charge, upon opening the office in the early morning, has freed the machine and brought all the totals back to zero.'

Novel Fireless Cooker.

'Well, I think I'll heat my coffee for dinner,' said a laborer on one of the many buildings now going up in the city, a few minutes before noon the other day. And he proceeded to do so without the aid of a fire or even the use of a match. He took his bottle from his handbag and with it went over to the wooden contrivance in which mortar was mixed. He put about half a shovelful of sand in a corner of the mortar bed, having previously scraped that part of the bed dry and clean. Then this laborer took a piece of lime about as large as his two fists. He pushed the lump of lime down into the yielding sand, put his bottle standing upright on the lime, banked up the bottle with sand to hold it in position, and was ready for the important part of the job. Dipping about a pint of water from a cask near by, the laborer poured it on the mounded sand easily, allowing it to percolate through the coarse grains. Putting on a little more sand to hold the bottle in its upright position, he went back to his work. In ten minutes the noon whistle blew, and this laborer went to his fireless heater, took from it his coffee boiling hot in a bottle that had at no time been in danger of breaking from the heat, and proceeded to enjoy his homely but hearty meal, all unconscious that he had performed a very interesting experiment in Nature's chemistry.

THE LATEST TABLET PUBLICATION.

'Secular versus Religious Education: A Discussion.' Edited (and, as to its greatest part, written) by Rev. H. W. Cleary, D.D. 212 pages, stiff paper wrapper. Price 1/-, posted 1s 3d. Cardinal Moran writes of it: 'I have received the brilliant pamphlet, *Secular versus Religious Education*. It is a most useful and instructive contribution to the educational controversy, and cannot fail to do a deal of good.'

Apply MANAGER, TABLET, Dunedin.

Intercolonial

The high price of fourteen guineas was paid for a rare daffodil exhibited by Mr. L. Buckland at the Ballarat display. It was exhibited by a Ballarat grower.

The Archbishop of Melbourne is steadily regaining strength. His Grace intends spending some time in Echuca and Deniliquin before returning to Melbourne.

The Rev. Father P. Corbett, pastor of Picton (N.S.W.) passed away on September 23, in the 40th year of his age. The deceased was a native of Kilfinane, County Limerick. He was educated at Mount Melleray Seminary and All Hallows College, and was ordained priest in 1893, and came out to Australia in the same year.

Several of the priests of the archdiocese (writes the Melbourne correspondent of the *Freeman's Journal*) have been lately indisposed. The Very Rev. Dean Hegarty, P.P., V.F. (Kyneton), underwent an operation at St. Evin's Private Hospital by Dr. J. Murphy. The Dean is progressing favorably. The Rev. P. H. Boyle is doing well at Mr. O'Hara's private hospital.

It is not often one hears of four brothers devoting their lives to the service of the sanctuary, but that can be said of the brothers O'Neill (writes the Melbourne correspondent of the *Freeman's Journal*). A few years ago one of them died, and last week another went to his reward, leaving the pastor of Castlemaine (Vic.) and Gawler (S.A.) to mourn. Some four months ago the three brothers returned from a visit to Europe.

Madame Melba, through her private secretary, has written to the Very Rev. W. Quilter, inviting the members of St. Francis' Church choir to attend her concert at the Exhibition Building on Saturday, October 16. 'Madame Melba,' the letter says, 'extends this invitation as a testimony of her friendly feelings for the musical association which formerly acknowledged her claims to artistic recognition in the days of long ago.' The diva was the leading soprano in St. Francis'.

The parishioners of Erskineville (says the *Catholic Press*) have lost the services of a devoted and talented pastor, in the person of Rev. Father Reginald H. Bridge, who died in St. Vincent's Hospital on September 27. Deceased had been suffering for some considerable time from an internal complaint. A few weeks ago he was taken suddenly ill at Suva, whilst on a cruise amongst the islands of the Pacific. After a three weeks' stay in the local hospital Father Bridge was brought to Sydney, and was taken to St. Vincent's Hospital in a very critical condition. Deceased was only 43 years old, and was beloved not only by Catholics, but by persons of all shades of religious belief. His demise was a great shock to the people whose spiritual aid he was.

In compliance with the request made by the Bishop of Maitland in his first pastoral letter, that an effort should be made to liquidate the debt of £2000 on the old Sacred Heart College buildings at West Maitland, with a view of establishing a diocesan orphanage as a memorial to the late Bishop Murray, a meeting of the parishioners of the Cathedral parish was held in St. John's school, West Maitland, recently, when the Rev. Father Victor Peters presided over a large and representative attendance. The object of the Bishop is to have meetings held in every parish of the diocese, so that every Catholic might have an opportunity of assisting in the movement initiated at West Maitland for the purpose of perpetuating the memory of the venerable founder of the diocese.

The Premier, Mr. Murray (says the *Advocate*), gave a sympathetic reply to the large and influential deputation of churchmen and laymen which waited on him the other day to urge fresh legislation to combat race suicide and juvenile immorality. The leader of the Government promised to bring the matter before the Cabinet, and to prepare the necessary legislation. The Very Rev. Dean Phelan, V.G., was unable to be present with the deputation, but he forwarded a letter expressing his regret. 'I am with you in spirit, and in full sympathy,' he wrote. 'His Grace the Archbishop denounced these life-destroying agents at the opening of the new Carlton Church, and read a pamphlet on this subject . . . and finally had established an order of knighthood to cope with the growing evils in this direction. These facts eloquently express our views,' concluded the Dean, 'and our hearty co-operation in any action to prevent race suicide.'

To give within a fortnight eight concerts, attracting in the aggregate considerably over 10,000 people, is a record not vouchsafed to many (says the *Age*). To send those same people away full of enthusiasm is something even better, for it shows that, equally with the power to attract, there is also the greater power to charm; best of all, to do it with work, for the most part, of the serious and artistic order. This is Miss Castles' achievement. And she emphasised it in her final concert in the Town Hall, the audience, as before, being overwhelmingly large and enthusiastic.

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WEEKLY AUCTION SALES.—We continue to hold the regular Weekly Auction Sales of Produce as inaugurated by us many years ago, and which have proved so beneficial to vendors; and owing to our commanding position in the centre of the trade, and our large and extending connection, we are in constant touch with all the principal grain merchants, millers, and produce dealers, and are thus enabled to dispose of consignments to the very best advantages, and with the least possible delay.

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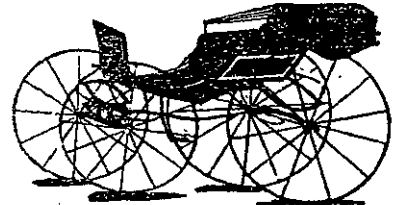
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A girl who had been at various times under treatment by several of the leading doctors of Melbourne was declared to be incurable by them all, and the parents were advised to place her in an asylum. She took from 10 to 20 fits a day; yet upon using Trench's Remedy the attacks ceased at once, and she has not had a fit since—nearly three years. She ceased taking the Remedy nearly two years ago.

£1000 SPENT WITHOUT RESULT.

The son of a leading merchant of Melbourne broke down just as he was commencing his University course. All the best physicians of Melbourne were consulted, but none of them could stop the fits. The father then took the young man to England and elsewhere to obtain the best advice in the world, but, after spending over £1000, he brought him back with the fits occurring more frequently than ever. Trench's Remedy at once stopped the attacks, and the young man is now perfectly cured.

The above statements can be verified by personal reference to the parents of the patients, who, from gratitude, have offered to reply to any inquirers we refer to them.

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If anybody comes in late
To dinner and don't shut the gate,
Or doesn't sweep the porch or go
Right out and shovel off the snow,
Or bring in wood, or wipe his feet,
Or leave the woodshed nice and neat—
It's me!

If anybody doesn't think
To carry out the cow a drink,
Or tracks mud on the kitchen floor,
Or doesn't shut the cellar door,
Or leaves the broom out on the stoop,
Or doesn't close the chicken coop—
It's me!

If anybody doesn't bring
The hammer in, or breaks a thing,
Or dulls the axe, or doesn't know
What has become of so and so
That's lost for maybe six weeks past,
It's me!

If anything is lost or gone,
They've got some one to blame it on;
I get the blame for all the rest
Because I am the little-est;
And if they have to blame some one
For what is or what isn't done—
It's me!

MISUSED TIME

'I don't believe,' said Mrs. Green on day, 'that John is learning much at the school where he goes. I think you ought to see after him a little. He never studies a lesson at home.'

'Mr. Elden has the reputation of being one of our best teachers. His school stands high,' replied Mr. Green.

'That may all be,' said Mrs. Green. 'Still, I really think you ought to know, for yourself, how John is getting along. Of one thing I am certain: he does not improve in good manners nor good temper, in the least. And he is never in the house between school hours, except to get his meals. I wish you would require him to be at the store during the afternoons. School is dismissed at 3 o'clock, and he ranges the streets with other boys, and goes where he pleases from that time until night.'

'That's very bad'—Mr. Green spoke in a concerned voice—'very bad. And it must be broken up. But, as to having him at the store, that is out of the question. He would be into everything, and keep me in hot water all the while. He'd like to come well enough, I do not doubt; but I can't have him there.'

'Couldn't you set him to doing something?'

'I might. But I haven't time to attend to him, Margaret. Business is business, and cannot be interrupted.'

Mrs. Green sighed, and then remarked:

'I wish you would call on Mr. Elden, and have a talk with him about John.'

'I will, if you think it best.'

'Do so, by all means. And besides, I would give more time to John in the evenings. If, for instance, you devoted an evening to him once a week, it would enable you to understand how he is progressing, and give you a control over him not now possessed.'

'You are right in this, no doubt, Margaret.'

But reform went not beyond this acknowledgment. Mr. Green could never find time to see John's teacher, nor feel himself sufficiently at leisure, or in the right mood of mind, to devote to the boy even a single evening.

And thus it went on from day to day, from month to month, and from year to year, until, finally, John was sent home from school by Mr. Elden with a note to his father, in which idleness, disorderly conduct, and vicious habits were charged upon him in the broadest terms.

The unhappy Mr. Green called immediately upon the teacher, who gave him a more particular account of his son's bad conduct, and concluded by saying that he was unwilling to receive him back into his classes.

From the second school at which John was entered, he was dismissed within three months for bad conduct. He was then sent to school in a distant city, where, removed from all parental restraint and admonition, he made viler associates than any he had hitherto known, and took, thus, a lover step in vice. He was just seventeen, when a letter from the principal of this school conveyed to Mr. Green such unhappy intelligence of his son that he immediately resolved, as a last resort, to send him to sea, before the mast—and this was done, spite of all the mother's tearful remonstrances, and the boy's flatters that he would escape from the vessel on the very first opportunity.

At the end of a year, John came home from sea, a rough, tobacco-chewing, cigar-smoking, dram-drinking, overgrown boy of eighteen, with all his sensual desires and animal passions more active than when he went away, while his intellectual faculties and moral feelings were in a worse condition than at his separation from home. Grief at the change oppressed the hearts of his parents; but their grief was unavailing. Various efforts were made to get him into some business, but he remained only a short time in any of the places where his father had him introduced. Finally, he was sent to sea again.

Several months elapsed. Mr. Green had returned home, well satisfied with his day's business. In his pocket was the afternoon paper, which, after the younger children were in bed, and the older ones out of the way, he sat down to read. To the telegraphic column his eye turned. There had been an arrival in Boston from the Pacific, and almost the first sentence he read was the intelligence of his son's death. The paper dropped from his hands, while he uttered an expression of surprise and grief that caused the cheeks of his wife, who was in the room, to turn deadly pale. She had not power to ask the cause of her husband's sudden exclamation, but her heart, that ever yearned towards her absent boy, instinctively divined the truth.

'John is dead,' said Mr. Green, at length speaking in a tremulous voice.

There was, from the mother, no wild burst of anguish. The boy had been dying, to her, daily for years; and she had suffered, for him, worse than the pangs of death. Burying her face in her hands, she wept silently, yet hopelessly.

'If we were only blameless of the poor child's death,' said Mrs. Green, lifting her tearful eyes, after the lapse of nearly ten minutes, and speaking in a sad, self-rebuking tone of voice.

When those with whom we are in close relationship die, how quickly is that page in memory's book turned on which lies the record of unkindness or neglect! Already had this page been turned for Mr. Green, and conscience was sweeping therefrom the dust, that well-nigh obscured the handwriting. He trembled, inwardly, as he read the condemning sentences that charged him with the guilt of his own son's ruin.

'If we were only blameless of the poor child's death!' How these words of the grieving mother smote upon his heart! He did not respond to them. How could he do so at that moment?

'Where is Edward?' he inquired, at length.

'I don't know,' sobbed the mother. 'He is out somewhere almost every evening. Oh! I wish you would look to him a little more closely. He is past my control.'

'I must do so,' returned Mr. Green, speaking from a strong conviction of the necessity of doing as his wife suggested—'If I only had a little more time—'

He checked himself. It was the old excuse—the rock upon which all his best hopes for his first-born had been fearfully wrecked. His lips closed, his head was bowed, and, in the bitterness of unavailing sorrow, he mused on the past.

KEEP YOUR PROMISES

Many a woman who would not think of lightly breaking a promise made to a grown-up person is utterly careless about keeping her word with her children. She promises whatever is convenient at the moment, and apparently thinks that the breaking or keeping of these promises is a matter in which she can please herself, and that her children have no right to consider themselves aggrieved if she does so. A mother who acts thus does her children grievous harm. She forgets that the sense of justice is strong in quite a little child, and that it is natural and reasonable that he should expect his parents to be as good as their word, and to fulfil their promises even at the cost of convenience. Promises should not be lightly spoken, and the parent who is guilty of this soon loses her children's confidence, which is one of the sweetest things our little ones can give us. When boys and girls learn to doubt their parents' truthfulness, they soon lose all trust in anyone.

LITTLE THINGS

The little things of to-day may grow into great things of to-morrow. The boy who is selfish with his toys and sweetmeats will be so with his wealth and influence when a man; for the heart grows harder rather than softer by the flight of time, if early steeled against the trifling sorrows of our school-fellows. Little things and little people have often brought great things to pass. A drop of water falling upon a block of granite makes no perceptible impression, and yet the continued falling of those little drops will wear away that seemingly impenetrable stone. Away up some far-off mountain top there bubbles up a spring of water, sending streamlet to the valley below, where it meets rivulets from the hillsides, gathers strength, increased volume, and the whole flowing on and becoming wider, deeper—stronger and swifter, until we behold the majestic river emptying its waters into gulf and ocean.

A DUSTER

A man had been invited unexpectedly to make an automobile trip, and was not fully prepared for it. The roads were very dusty, and after travelling several miles the party came to a village, where the man thought he might be able to purchase something to protect his clothing.

The automobile halted before the general store of the village. The man alighted and accosted the single clerk.

'I want to get a linen duster,' he said.
'I am sorry,' returned the clerk, easily, 'we are out of linen dusters. But I can let you have a nice feather duster.'

FAMILY FLORICULTURE

There is a well-known resident of Christchurch who is a lover of nature and a hater of overcoats and umbrellas. Recently during a violent rain storm he called on his mother, entering her presence wringing wet.

'George,' said she, firmly, 'you ought not to expose yourself in such weather. You will get pneumonia.'

'But, mother,' exclaimed George, with a theatrical waive of his head, 'Why should I fear the rain? Does it not nurture the grass? Is it not life to the flowers?'

'Yes, George,' said the good woman, closing a window, 'but it is a long time since you were a flower.'

THE OBJECT OF HER SCRUTINY

An old gentleman who owned a fine estate not far from the country seat of the Duke of Devonshire (which is open to the public when the Duke is not there) one day drove with a party of friends to this famous residence, taking with him his housekeeper, Martha, a good old soul who had been with him a great many years. Arriving at the castle, they passed slowly through room after room of almost priceless pictures. But Martha spake never a word, although it was evident that she was not missing anything. Each and every picture that her eye lit on underwent a most rigid scrutiny, much to the amusement of the rest of the party. At last her master turned to her and said: 'Well, Martha, what do you think of it all?' 'Why,' exploded Martha, rapturously, 'I canna see a speck o' dust anywhere!'

NOT TO BE CAUGHT

An amusing incident occurred on a certain railway not long back. Professor D—, a well known ventriloquist, was bidding adieu to some friends, when one of them presented him with a little fox-terrier to which he had taken a great fancy. When the cry 'All tickets!' was heard at a few stations farther on, Professor D— popped the dog into a small hamper which was labelled 'Prof. D—, Ventriloquist,' in bold letters.

When the conductor opened the door the dog began barking, which drew his attention to the hamper. The conductor looked at the hamper, and then read the label. Turning round to Professor D—, with a knowing wink and a broad grin, he said:—

'All right, mister, I ain't biting just now; I've been caught like that before.'

FAMILY FUN

Fun With Numbers.—Write the nine digits in order, and beneath them write them in reverse order, thus:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Any two in succession will add with the two directly below them to 10, and so on, so that the total sum will be 1,111,111,110. If any two digits and the two directly below are added diagonally, as—

34
76

one pair will always add to 9 and the other to 11. If this is done when three digits are taken in each line and the addition is done after the same fashion—

234
876

combining the left hand upper with the right hand lower, the sums will always be 8, 10, and 12. When four are used in the same manner, the sums are 7, 9, 11, and 13. Similar results may be obtained with any combination up to the entire nine on each row where the sums are all the even numbers from 2 to 18.

If the digits in direct order from 1 to 9 as in the first line are multiplied by 2, 4, 5, 7, or 8, the product in every case will contain only the nine digits, each appearing once, but with a different order. The products are 246,913,578; 493,827,156; 617,283,945; 864,197,523; and 987,654,312. When multiplied by 9, the product is 1,111,111,101, or nine 1's and a 0.

All Sorts

The London Stock Exchange has 5400 members.

Conscripts in France have to serve for two years.

Nearly all of the world's supply of asbestos comes from Canada.

Mr. W. P. Frith painted his famous picture, 'Derby Day,' after only one visit to the race.

It is estimated that in Egypt there are 10,000,000 people who can neither read nor write.

In London alone there are some 2000 societies and institutions for the relief of misery and suffering.

Germany has built a motor-car, armed with a quick-firing gun, specially adapted for use against airships.

The largest flower in the world is found in Sumatra. Its size is fully 3ft in diameter—about the size of a carriage wheel.

Russia has a larger proportion of blind people than any other European country. Two out of every 1000 of her people are sightless.

Office Boy: 'Here's a lady what insists on seein' you. She's awful excited!'

Editor: 'Then escort her to the composing-room!'

Every rule has an exception. For instance, we are told that the road to success is to begin at the bottom and work up, but this would scarcely be successful if we started to dig a well.

'I have written a book that everybody ought to read,' said the author. 'I'm afraid it won't do,' answered the publisher. 'What the public seems to want now is a book that nobody ought to read.'

'What do you think of the tariff revision?'

'It strikes me that the tariff is a good deal like the weather. No matter what kind you get, it's pretty sure to be bad for somebody's business.'

Magistrate: 'You say he admitted stealing the wheelbarrow. Now, I want to know what were the exact words he made use of. Did he say, "I stole the wheelbarrow?"'

Witness: 'Oh, no, sir. Your name was never mentioned.'

'My grandfather,' said the new neighbor, who was making a duty-call, 'was a great portrait-painter. With one stroke he could change a smiling face into a sad one.'

'Huh!' exclaimed small Johnny, who happened to be in the parlor, 'our teacher can do that.'

It was at a theatre in Dublin. The king, aged and infirm, was blessed with two sons. He was pacing up and down the stage, with a wearied, troubled look, exclaiming aloud: 'On which of these sons shall I bestow the crown?' The house was nearly brought down with laughter when a little man in the gallery stood up and shouted: 'Treat 'em fair, guv'nor; can't ye give 'em half-a-crown apiece?'

A certain member of the British Government, who was admittedly a great failure, was being discussed by two of his colleagues.

'And now,' concluded one, 'they want to make him a peer!'

'No,' said the other, with great acumen, 'they want to make him disappear.'

Dooley's summing up of the playhouse reform controversy is interesting: 'Strange to say, both sides admit that th' theaytre is an idjaccational institution. I never thought iv it that way. I always supposed that people went to th' theaytre because they had no comfortable homes to go to, or to frigit th' dishes weren't washed, or to laugh or cry or have a good spell iv coughing where it wud attract attintion. But it seems I was wrong. Th' theaytre is intinded to be more like a night school thin a circus. It's a good thing fr th' theaytres that th' people that go to thim don't know this. If they felt they were bein' idjaccated whin they thought they were neglectin' their minds they'd mob th' box office to get their money back. Anny recollection they have iv idjaccation is clouded with sorrow.'

The largest plants that grow in the world—exceeding in size even the giant sequoias of California—are found in the waters of the Pacific Ocean, at the extremities of the western hemisphere, and belong to the order of brown seaweeds. Off the Alaskan coast and among the Aleutian Islands, is the sea otter's cabbage. On the surface of the water floats a barrel-shaped air vessel, six or seven feet long, from which grows a mass of foliage consisting of forty or fifty great fronds, each one of which may be from thirty to fifty feet in length. Upon the air vessel the sea otter lurks while it pursues its vocation of fishing for a living. The whole floating mass is anchored in place by a slender, cord-like stalk that is attached to the rocks far below. This anchor line often exceeds three hundred feet in length, and is so strong and slender that sections of it are cured and used by the Aleutian Islanders for fishing lines. At the other extremity of the hemisphere is a related plant said by botanists sometimes to exceed 1500 feet in length, being in this respect the greatest thing in the world. Instead of one large air vessel, this has many small ones, supporting a floating mass of vegetation hundreds of square yards in area.