

Mr. H. S. Wardell seconded the resolution. They were dealing with an institution, he said, that was something more than a State high school. They aimed at educating their youth up to a standard far beyond that aimed at by the high schools, but without proper equipment it was hopeless to expect to reach their goal. To achieve their present object they must make the rest of the community feel that it had an interest in St. Patrick's. Where was the institution in the Dominion to run side by side with it? Their aim should be to educate their sons to take their places not only from an educational but from a social point of view amongst the best of the country.

Mr. J. J. Devine moved.—That, subject to the consent of the Minister of Internal Affairs, a monster art union be organised, and that an appeal for help be made throughout the Dominion.

The resolution was carried. Ven. Archbishop Devoy remarked, amidst applause, that he was one of the four Marist Fathers who opened the College twenty-five years ago, and that he had already received promises of seven pictures towards an art union.

Very Rev. Dr. Kennedy and Very Rev. Dean Regnault, Mr. Martin Kennedy, and Mr. H. S. Wardell were then appointed trustees to administer the fund. Those present were constituted a general committee, with an executive comprising, besides the clergy, Messrs. H. S. Wardell, B. Whitaker, F. McFarland, B. Doherty, T. Buckley, L. Dwan, J. J. Devine, A. Gasquoin, Maurice O'Connor, Martin Kennedy, P. J. O'Regan, and Colonel Collins.

Ferrer in Australia

A recent cable message stated that the anarchist Ferrer left, by will, all his property to two Barcelona anarchists, excluding his own family from all participation in his estate. Ferrer, about whose execution for high complicity in the recent Barcelona outrages there has lately been such a buzz in anarchist and other circles, spent at least four months in Melbourne. So much we learn from the Melbourne 'Argus.' A Spanish resident of Melbourne, who knew him well, supplied the 'Argus' with some interesting information regarding his life, personality, and family affairs.

'I knew him from the time he was a boy, working as a guard on the railway between Barcelona and Marseilles. He married young, and had two daughters, whom he brought to Australia. His brother was growing tomatoes at Bendigo on a property owned by Councillor Carolin, of that city. Ferrer himself came out between eight and ten years ago.

'I remember him very well indeed—a tall, fine, dark man, with a long, dark beard. In Australia he gave no sign of his anarchist convictions. He left his daughters with their uncle. They married afterwards, and went back to Spain.

'He was said to have been the instigator of the affair of Moral, and was the treasurer of the anarchist societies in Barcelona. The anarchists naturally worked all they could to save him, for his money and theirs will now go to the Treasury.

'When Ferrer got back to Europe he formed an attachment with a woman he met in France. She had money, and he and she went back to Barcelona, and joined his brother when he, too, returned from Australia. They lived on a property, jointly owned, near the city—and had their money—and the society's—in the bank in a joint account. After the riot he knew the police wanted him; he had his warning in the Moral affair. He intended to lie hidden for awhile, and then leave Spain. But the police were on the watch.

'He got out of Barcelona one night, and ran almost immediately into the patrol. They recognised him in the bright moonlight—it was about one o'clock. But they did not rush at him—they knew they had him safe. Where are you going, Senor?' they asked him politely. 'To Barcelona,' he replied. 'But you are going the wrong way,' they pointed out.

'Then he changed his story. "You understand, Senors," he said, "there is a lady in the case." They laughed in their sleeves, and let him tell his romantic story. Then they arrested him. They knew him easily enough, though he had shaved off his long, black beard.

Inquiries in Bendigo show that Ferrer spent about a month there with his brother Jose and his two daughters, known locally as 'Trina' and 'Tiz.' The latter was regarded by the residents of White Hills, where Jose Ferrer had his farm, as a more than usually clever girl for her years. She was a good linguist, and on one occasion was employed by the police as an interpreter. Trina married a young Spaniard, and returned with him to Spain, while Tiz is believed to have returned to her father.

Ferrer did nothing while he was in Bendigo, but is said to have taken an intelligent interest in local affairs.

The 'Argus' views the execution of the anarchist Ferrer, who was the instigator of the outrages in Barcelona last August, as a thing that could not be avoided:—'The anti-clerical turn which the demonstrations have taken in Northern Italy and other parts of Europe is due to the fact that Ferrer's teaching and influence were as hostile to revealed

religion as they were to government in general and monarchy in particular. . . . The wild and extravagant language used in Trafalgar Square need not be taken very seriously, for it came principally from half a dozen fanatics who assert themselves in much the same way at every possible opportunity, and a crowd of 8,000 nondescripts is not difficult to organise at any time in London.'

The New San Francisco

(From Our Christchurch Correspondent.)

Writing from San Francisco to a friend in Christchurch, the Very Rev. Father Price states the following interesting facts relating to the new San Francisco, which in an incredibly short space of time has risen upon the ruins of the city wrecked by the great earthquake and fire:—

'The growth of San Francisco from the ruins of three years ago is nothing short of marvellous. It is the newest city of its size in the world, and the class of buildings erected is unexcelled. All the latest improvements are installed for ventilation, sanitation, and safety. No money has been spared to make these edifices attractive within and without. When it is noted that there are at least 200,000 more feet of office space in the business section than there were before the great calamity, and all the vacant offices are being applied for before the buildings are ready for occupancy, it is positive proof that the seekers after such places have great confidence in the future of this beautiful city. The streets are better made and better lighted. The system of tramways has been extended, and, while the locality formerly known as the residential quarter is marked by many vacant lots and blocks, the prices of these properties are still maintained at high figures, for the owners know that in a few years the land values will increase and they will profit thereby. San Francisco is a city of hotels and apartment houses. No other city can compare with it. The number of houses erected, especially for the accommodation of the travelling public, is astounding. These buildings are beautiful in design and the marble-lined halls, elegant lobbies, and magnificent dining-rooms are a revelation to visitors, who stand in awe as they gaze upon these palaces of art, and the work in this respect has only just commenced.

'When the fire drove the people to the outskirts of this city, many determined to buy property there and erect homes. For twenty miles down the Peninsula one can drive through a succession of beautifully-laid-out blocks of residences, most of them surrounded by flower gardens and extensive lawns. Thousands of carpenters, stonemasons, and bricklayers have been employed in this work, and among the leading cities of America San Francisco ranks fifth in the amount of building operations undertaken even as late as August, New York, Brooklyn, Philadelphia, and Chicago surpassing it.

'San Francisco has the second finest harbour in the world, that of Rio de Janeiro occupying the position of honour, but the docking facilities of the former city have not been all that they should be, and this fact being made known to the State Legislature at its last session, the sum of £1,000,000 was set aside to remedy the defect. New wharves are being built and the sea wall extended for miles, and when completed it will accommodate more shipping than any other American city. The future of this city is assured, and with the greatest agricultural and mineral State in the Union sustaining it and the commerce of the whole Pacific Coast waiting to enter the portals of its Golden Gate, the people who have made this city their own home have every reason to be proud of what she has done in the past and what they will do in the days to come.'

The Very Rev. Father Price, under the best medical skill, has quite recovered from the throat affection from which he was suffering when he left Christchurch, and intends being back in the city on November 13.

In the Cathedral on Sunday his Lordship the Bishop asked the prayers of the faithful for the safe voyage of Father Price, and a cordial welcome to him on his arrival.

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