

# Friends at Court

## GLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

- December 12, Sunday.—Third Sunday in Advent.
- 13, Monday.—St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr.
- 14, Tuesday.—The Holy House of Loreto.
- 15, Wednesday.—Octave of the Immaculate Conception. Ember Day.
- 16, Thursday.—St. Pusebius, Bishop and Martyr.
- 17, Friday.—St. Leonard of a Port Maurice; Confessor. Ember Day.
- 18, Saturday.—Expectation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Expectation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.  
 As we approach more nearly to the great feast of the Nativity, the Church redoubles her exhortations to prepare in a worthy manner for its celebration. To-day she urges us to join in the longing desires and fervent aspirations with which the Blessed Virgin hailed the approach of the happy day when she was to hold in her arms the Incarnate Son of God.

Ember Days.  
 According to the testimony of St. Leon, the Ember Days originated in the time of the Apostles, who were inspired by the Holy Ghost to dedicate each season of the year to God by a few days of penance; or, as it were, to pay three days' interest, every three months, on the graces received from God. The Church always commanded the faithful to fast at the beginning of each of the four seasons of the year, because it is at this time that she ordains the priests and other servants of the Church, which even the Apostles did with much prayer and fasting. This she desires that during the Ember Days Christians should fervently ask of God by prayer, fasting, and other good works, for worthy pastors and servants on whom depends the welfare of the whole Christian flock; she also desires that in the spring Ember Days we should ask God's blessing for the fertility of the earth, in summer for the preservation of the fruits of the field; in autumn when the harvest is ripe; and in winter, when it is sheltered, that we should offer to God, by fasting and prayer, a sacrifice of thanks, petitioning Him to assist us that we may not use His gifts for our soul's detriment; but refer all praise to Him, the fountain of all good, and assist our neighbor according to our means.

## GRAINS OF GOLD

### LEFT UNDONE.

At vesper tide,  
 One virtuous and pure in heart, did pray,  
 'Since none I wronged in deed or word to-day,  
 From whom should I crave pardon? Master, say,  
 'From the sad child whose joy thou has not planned,  
 The goodly beast whose friend thou didst not stand,  
 The rose that died for water from thy hand,  
 Keep cool and you command everybody. St. Just,  
 One of the greatest pleasures is to be a pleasure to others.

He that has no silver in his purse should have silver on his tongue.  
 A vice is most dangerous when it clothes itself in the garb of virtue.  
 It is winter in the soul when cold and hardened it no longer feels God, nor grace, nor divine things.  
 St. Gregory says the proof of love is in the works; where love exists it works great things, but when it ceases to act it ceases to exist.  
 Here below joy and sorrow succeed each other by turns, but in a little while the time will come when our joy will be full and will not be taken away from us.  
 Let us fear to be unjust. Sooner or later we must reap as we sow. As a very good and learned man said, injustice is a grain that does extraordinary execution at the breach.  
 Many pray more with the lips than the heart. They only think of saying a certain number of Paters, placing all their piety in words. One must not act thus; it does not produce much fruit.

The women who are the most cheerful, the most even-tempered, the most ready to do a service, and the most healthy, are intelligent and industrious women, who have found in a methodical activity the secret of never losing a moment, and of thus consecrating their duties towards God, towards their family, towards the world, and towards themselves.

# The Storyteller

## THE GAMEKEEPER'S STORY

And you tell me Father Angus MacDonal, is dead? God have mercy on his soul! There is a good priest gone and a fine Scotman too. It is forty-five years since he first came to this parish, and I wet were both young then. Now you tell me he is dead! Ah, well, but Oungame is getting short, and it behooves us to use the little that is left in preparing for death.

The speaker was Donald MacAllister, better known in the settlement of Baillie's Cove as Donald Ban, the Hunter. Born in Moidart, one of the most beautiful and romantic districts in the Scottish Highlands, at the age of twenty he was already a gamekeeper in the service of his landlord, Sir Allan MacDonald of Clanranald. Ten years he remained in this service, then he emigrated to America.

I had not been long in Baillie's Cove, when I knew enough of his story to make me wish for more, and I determined to lose no time in making his acquaintance. Accordingly, on the very first Saturday after opening school, I took with me a friend who knew the old hunter, well, and went for a day's partridge shooting, taking care to follow, on our return, a path which led straight to his house. There we were received with genuine Highland hospitality. The ice once broken, my acquaintance with Donald Ban rapidly ripened into something like intimacy. He seemed to take a liking to me—partly, I suppose, because I showed such interest in the legendary lore with which his mind was so well furnished; but I suspect it was principally because he knew my people well, and had always been their loyal friend. Indeed, I found that he and my grandfather had known each other in the old country, and had emigrated together.

On the occasion of my visits, I always took care to lead the conversation toward his gamekeeping days, in the hope that he might tell me the story (for I felt sure there was a story) of how he came to give up his pleasant life in Scotland for what was at best an uncertain existence in a new land. But Donald Ban always carefully avoided that subject. I had almost begun to despair of ever getting to the bottom of it, when one evening I brought him the news that his friend and former parish priest was dead. Then, after speaking the words with which my story opens, there was silence between us for a long time. Finally I said:

You knew Father Angus in the old country, I suppose?  
 I did, indeed. He was an old friend of my father's, his uncle, Father John Cameron, in Arisaig, when he retired to the service of Clanranald. A fine, likely-looking lad he was, too, and grew up to be a handsome man. My father, at that time he crossed Arisaig Bay to go hunting with the Clans, ranald was very fond of the boy and would have made a soldier of him. He offered to buy him a commission in the Cameron Highlanders, but Angus thought he was fond enough of sports and adventure, would have none of it. He was determined to be a priest, and Father John encouraged him.

How was it that he left Scotland?  
 Well, that's a long story. I have never told it to any one, and there is no one here who knows just why Father Angus MacDonal left the old country. I know, for we left together and for the same reason.

Here Donald Ban paused to settle himself more comfortably in his chair, and to light a stumpy clay pipe of most venerable appearance. Scenting a story, I maintained a discreet silence. After a little he continued:  
 You may be surprised at my telling you the story, but your people were always the friends of my people, and besides, it concerns your own flesh and blood, so they've got have, in a way, a right to know it. Of course, you do not remember your grandfather, for you were but a child when he died. As you know yourself, he was the nephew of Donald Mor of Kinloch, who had a little estate at the eastern end of Loch Moidart. This Donald Mor's wife was the cousin of Sir Allan. She died very young, leaving him with one son, Ronald Og, the bravest and handsomest lad in Moidart. He was a lieutenant in the Black Watch (the Forty-Second Highlanders), which at that time was stationed at Fort William in Lochaber. Fort William is only a day's ride from Moidart, so whenever Ronald Og got leave of absence, which he did quite often, he always came home to spend some time with his father and mother. He never came alone, either. One or other of the officers was always with him. The one who came ofttest, however, was Captain Norman MacLeod, son of MacLeod of Lewis. A fine young man he was, too, though his father was the blackest Presbyterian in all Scotland. Many a fine day's sport I had with these two. Clanranald was very fond of them both, and used to make them spend the greater part of each furlough at his own Castle Tinnis. And so

\* Big Donald. — Ronald the Younger.

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tell the truth, they were willing enough to do that. There was no better hunting ground at that time in Scotland than Moidart and they had nearly all to themselves.

Then there was Miss Anne, Sir Allan's only child, the bonniest lass in the Highlands; and her companion, Alice Lindsay. Alice was a Lowland lass of good, though poor, family, and bonnie after the Lowland fashion, with snow-white complexion, soft blue eyes, and flaxen hair. She had a voice like a mavis, and could play well on the harp. Men said it was their pretty faces, and not the laird's whiskey nor the good hunting, which made the young men so willing to come to Castle Tirrim. For my part, I always believed Ronald Og would marry Annie. It seemed the most natural thing in the world, for he was the nearest male heir, and would inherit the title and estates, and Annie would have her father's money. So, you see, it would have been a splendid match.

Well, things went on in much the same way for a couple of years. The two young men paid their regular visits to Castle Tirrim, and as regularly your grandfather came up from Kinloch Moidart, and Angus MacDonald crossed from Arisaig. There was many a merry time at the castle during these two years. Then one day, about the middle of May, a cold dreary May it was, too, they came from Fort William on their last furlough. The regiment had been ordered to Jamaica. Everyone on the estate, from Clanranald down, felt sorry. We had come to look on their visits as such pleasant breaks in our dull life that we could not imagine how we were to get on without them. For me and the rest of the gamekeepers, their going would mean the end of our pleasant hunting parties; and for Clanranald, the loss of the boon companions who had listened to his stories with unfeigned delight. As for the two lasses, they seemed to take it very differently. Annie looked downhearted enough, but Alice Lindsay seemed gayer than ever.

That was in the morning. About midday the three of us—Ronald Og, Captain MacLeod, and myself—were to go deer-stalking. Just as we were ready to start, Clanranald's gillie came down to request Ronald Og to go up to the castle, as the chief wished to see him. At any other time, I would not have noticed such a thing, but now the thought struck me at once that he was going to speak to Ronald about leaving the army and settling down. Settling down, of course, meant marrying Miss Annie. Something of this I said to Captain MacLeod. He gave a start and said:

"Why do you think Clanranald is going to speak to my friend Ronald about such a thing?"

"Well, you know, sir, he would like to keep Ronald with him, and a match between him and Miss Annie would be very suitable. She will have the money, and he will have the title and estates."

"And do you think Ronald MacDonald is the man to sell himself for money, or that Miss Annie is likely to marry a man just because it would be suitable, as you say?"

"Why, no, sir," I answered; "but neither do I see why the bravest lad and the bonniest lass in the Highlands should not love each other."

When I had said this he remained silent, but I could see that he was troubled in his mind. The reason why was not hard to understand. He loved Annie. I could not but feel for him; for he was a fine lad, open-handed, high-spirited, and as good a sportsman as ever carried a gun. But I knew there was no hope for him. He was not a black-hearted bigot like his father, but I did not believe he would forsake his religion even for love's sake. Besides, if he did, his father would certainly cut him off without a farthing.

About an hour passed, and I was becoming impatient, when Ronald suddenly burst into the lodge. He seemed greatly excited, and in his eyes there was a fierce look which meant trouble for any one who might attempt to cross him. He did not notice me, but said something in a low tone to MacLeod, and they went outside together. Another hour passed before they came in. When they did, Ronald Og was a good deal calmer, and there was a cheerful look on Captain MacLeod's face.

"Donald Ban," inquired Ronald, "has Angus MacDonald or my cousin Allister (that was your grandfather) been here to-day?"

"No, sir," I answered. "I suppose they do not know you are here, as you were not expected till next week."

"Well, Donald, we will not hunt to-day. You must ride to Kinloch Moidart with a note for Allister. But wait. Where is Rory Beg?"

"Gone to Glean-na-Sithe yesterday evening, sir."

"Then send some one after him at once. I must cross Arisaig Bay to-night."

"Very well, sir. But the wind is blowing a gale now, and you know that Arisaig Bay is more treacherous in a storm than the open sea."

"I know—I know! But if there is a man in Clanranald's country who can take us across, that man is Rory Beg. So away. Take my horse, and don't spare him, and Captain MacLeod will give his to the messenger who goes after Rory Beg."

In a few minutes I had the horse saddled and was on my way to Kinloch Moidart, wondering much what had happened to upset Ronald Og so. I could not doubt

that there was some misunderstanding between himself and Clanranald; and the only explanation I could think of was that Clanranald had asked him to sell out and settle down, and that he, wishing to see some foreign service, had refused. I knew that this alone would be enough to throw the old chief into a terrible rage. He had the hot temper and haughtiness of his clan, and you know, their pride lost a king his crown, and themselves the lordship of half Scotland.

I found Allister at home, and gave him Ronald Og's note. He questioned me closely about the doings at Castle Tirrim, but I could tell him nothing beyond that Ronald had been very much upset after having a long interview with the chief. In a few minutes he was ready, and we started back to Castle Tirrim. On arriving there we found Ronald Og, Captain MacLeod, and Rory Beg standing on the steps of the boathouse. Allister talked a moment with his cousin. Then I heard him exclaim, "I will stand by you, Ronald!" And he sprang into the boat, followed by Rory Beg, who at once began to step the mast. Ronald then turned to me, and said:

"I want your help too, Donald Ban."

"Surely you may depend on me," I answered.

"What do you wish me to do?"

"To-morrow night, about this hour, the sloop will be coming back from Arisaig. She will carry a light. Watch carefully, for it will be extinguished when she is about half a mile off. Then go at once to the little gate in the eastern wall and show a light. You will be joined by some one. Then come back here and wait for the sloop."

Well, the boat sailed away; and I went back to the gamekeeper's lodge, and to bed, but not to sleep. I lay awake till daylight, puzzling over the events of the day. Then I got up, took my gun and tramped through the hills till evening. The wind was blowing even harder than on the day before; and I took my stand in the lee of the boathouse, and thought of the miles of treacherous water that lay between me and Arisaig, I doubted whether even Rory Beg would attempt to cross. I was soon undecieved; for as I turned my eyes toward the north, I saw a faint glimmer far out on the bay. For about a quarter of an hour I watched it. It became brighter and brighter. Then it disappeared, and I knew for certain that Ronald Og's sloop, with Rory Beg at the helm, was nearing the Moidart shore.

By the time I reached the gate in the eastern wall, I was so excited that my fingers could hardly push back the slide of the dark lantern I carried. In a little while I saw two figures coming swiftly from the direction of the castle. This was more than I had bargained for. There was another surprise in store for me, however; for as they drew near, I saw that they were both women. One of them was muffled in a long cloak and had a Tam O'Shanter bonnet on her head. I did not know until she spoke my name that it was Alice Lindsay. The other, it was easy enough to see, was Annie. She wore no cloak or cap, but had a tartan plaid over her shoulders. She did not say a word, but made a sign to me to lead on. Too much surprised to speak, I led the way to the boathouse, and got there just as Rory Beg was bringing the sloop up beside the steps. There were two men with him. One of them was in the bow (it was your grandfather), and he was holding the boat close against the steps. The third was Ronald Og himself. He sprang up the steps, but stopped short when he saw Annie, and exclaimed:

"I never expected to see you here!"

"I could not let Alice go alone," she answered.

At these words Alice, who had been clinging to her companion all the time, began to sob. Ronald stood back, his head bowed down. Not till then did I understand it all; and when I glanced at Miss Annie, and saw her sweet face looking so sad, I cursed Ronald Og in my heart.

"It was Rory Beg's voice that broke the silence."

"Come!" he shouted, for he was now getting impatient. "If you want to reach Arisaig alive, you had better be moving. The wind blows harder every minute."

Ronald then led Alice into the boat. As he seated himself he turned to me:

"Donald Ban, are you coming with us?"

I hesitated, not knowing but that I ought to attend Miss Annie back to the castle. She decided for me.

"Go!" she said. "He may need you, and I am not afraid to return alone."

I saw that she wished to be left alone, and took my place in the boat.

Rory Beg certainly maintained his reputation that night of being the best boatman in Clanranald's country. Many times, nothing but the steadiness of his hand at the helm saved us from foundering. Ronald supported Alice, and she never once raised her head from his shoulder till the boat struck the Arisaig shore. MacLeod and Angus MacDonald were waiting for us. Angus led a horse, on which Alice was placed, and we were soon in the shelter of Father Cameron's house.

Father Cameron was not at home, the housekeeper told us. He had gone on a sick call some miles away, and would not be back for a matter of three or four hours at least. As the travelling was very bad—so Rory Beg and I made ourselves comfortable by the kitchen fireplace till midnight. We were up at daylight the next morning.

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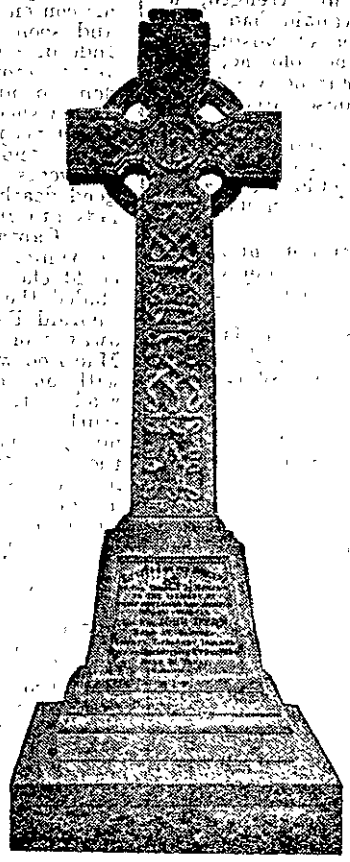
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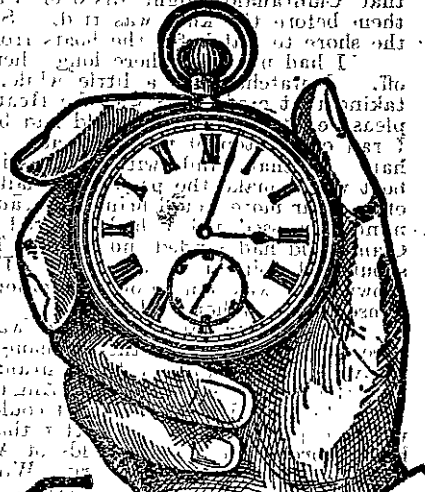
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Father Cameron had not returned, and Ronald was very much troubled. It seems he had got a promise from the priest, in view of the circumstances, that the marriage ceremony should be performed at once, and now he feared that Clanranald might discover their flight, and follow them before the knot was tied. So he sent me down to the shore to watch for the boats from Moidart.

'I had not been there long when I did see a boat put off. I watched her a little while. There was no mistaking that craft—it was the Heather Bell, a swift little pleasure boat that Clanranald had bought the year before. I ran every step of the way back. Ronald fairly tore his hair. In that wind, with every stitch of canvas set, the boat would make the passage in half an hour. A quarter of an hour more would bring Clanranald to the house. The minutes passed till I had counted twenty-five of them. Clanranald had landed, no doubt. Then Rory Beg gave a shout and pointed up the road. Father Cameron's little brown mare was coming on at a gallop, and Father Cameron himself was on her back.

'In another minute Ronald was urging on him the necessity of performing the ceremony at once, if he wished to avoid an encounter with Clanranald. So they hurried into the church—all excepting Angus MacDonald, and myself. We stayed at the door. I could well understand why we were placed there, the better that I could make out a broadsword hidden in the folds of Angus's plaid. He did not seem to care for the work. With all his strength, he was as gentle as a lamb. Besides, Clanranald had been kind to him, and he did not like the idea of raising his hand against him. He would not do it, he told me, only that he knew the old man's temper, and that he was likely to do something desperate, even in that consecrated building, in his rage at the failing of his plans.

'It turned out that the fears were well grounded. Clanranald soon came up; and when he heard of what was going on in the church he swore that he would put a stop to it, and ordered us to stand out of the way. Angus stood his ground and spoke up boldly.

"Sir Allan," said he, "you had better not enter. If you think a moment, you will see that you can not put a stop to the ceremony, since both Ronald and Alice Lindsay are of age."

"And do you, whom I have treated as a son, dare to speak up for the man who has insulted me, and the Lowland hussy who, like a viper, has stung me after having been warmed in my bosom?"

"Sir Allan," answered Angus, "I am too grateful to you for your kindness to wish to offend you. Believe me, it is for your own sake I wish to keep you from entering. I know what will happen if you do; and what I would not do for Ronald Og I will do to protect the House of God from desecration."

'If you could only have seen how grand and manly he looked standing there in the doorway! It was only then it struck me—perhaps because I had known him since boyhood—that he was the most splendid-looking man I had ever seen. Even Clanranald was impressed, and looked at him a few moments in silence. Then he broke out more furiously than ever.

"So you dare to preach to me—to me, the chief of Clanranald! By Heaven, in the days of my ancestors men have had the noose round their necks for less!"

'Before Angus had time to answer him the door opened and Father Cameron appeared. Clanranald turned on the priest, and I heard such language as fairly made my hair stand on end. He swore that he would report the matter to the bishop; that Father Cameron had had no business to marry the couple out of hand; that no tenant of his should enter the church while such a priest was in charge; and a great deal more to the same purpose, and all mingled with blood-curdling oaths and curses. Father Cameron listened quite calmly till he had finished, and then walked away without saying a word.

'As he turned to leave, Clanranald's eye fell on me.

"You too," Donald Ban said, "he said. But when my own flesh and blood can show such ingratitude, why should I expect anything better in my hired servants? You are in my service no longer."

'I had not a word to say. To tell the truth, I felt rather ashamed of the part I had played. I remembered all Clanranald's kindness—for he was a kind master, peace to his soul! And I thought it was indeed hard that the one thing on which he had set his heart in his old age should be denied him. At any rate, I could not feel angry with Clanranald, even though he had turned me away from his service; and I felt sad enough as I followed Rory Beg into the kitchen of the priest's house.

'In a little while Angus came down and began to speak to me about my plans for the future. He said that Ronald Og had promised, since I had lost my position through him, to get me another as good. Then he began to tell me about America. He told me that he himself was going to Cape Breton, where thousands of Catholic Highlanders had found homes. In some of the French colonies of Canada he would pursue his studies for the priesthood, and then come to Cape Breton to minister to his countrymen. So for a long time he talked, until he set my blood on fire, and I had promised to leave Scotland with him.

'So it was all settled, and in a month after we left the old country for ever. It was not till the day we sailed that I knew your grandfather was coming. It did my heart good to think there would be one old friend beside me in the new country.

'On the way out Angus told me all about the quarrel between Ronald Og and Clanranald. It was just as I had suspected. Clanranald began to hint about it's being time for Ronald to settle down; and Ronald, too honest to attempt to hide his feelings, confessed his love for Alice Lindsay. This was enough. The heather was on fire, and Clanranald ordered Ronald out of the house, swearing that he would send Alice home at once. Hence it was that Ronald was so desirous of having the ceremony performed without delay. He knew he would not have time to follow her to the Lowlands before the regiment left.

'Well, I don't think there is any more to tell. You have heard often enough of the life the early settlers led, and of Father Angus's work when he came first to a parish fifty miles from end to end and almost without a road.

'Yes, yes, I know all that; and how Ronald Og became in time chief of Clanranald. But Annie, his cousin—what of her? And Captain MacLeod?

'Well, Father Angus told me all about them, too. MacLeod came to see her before he left Moidart, and pleaded with her to marry him. Her father was so angry at being insulted, as he said, by Ronald Og, that he gave his consent, and urged her to accept him. But she refused, and soon after joined some Order of nuns in England. Indeed, Father Angus told me she had made up her mind years before to enter the religious life, and would have done so much sooner had it not been for Father Cameron, who wished to satisfy himself fully as to the genuineness of her vocation. The loss of her nearly broke Clanranald's heart, and he was a changed man ever after. He died ten years later, a few months before his daughter died a good death, with Father Cameron and Ronald Og and his lady praying at his bedside.

'Captain MacLeod was much disappointed at the loss of Annie. He could not understand how any young girl could choose to spend her days in a convent; so he concluded the priests were at the bottom of it, and came to upbraid Father Cameron for deceiving her and luring her away from her friends. Whatever passed between them, MacLeod went away a good deal calmer than he came, and with one of Father Cameron's books in his pocket. He read that, and read others, and finally was convinced of the truth of our holy religion; but he did not become a Catholic till many years after, when he caught yellow fever in the West Indies, and a Sister of Charity nursed him, when no one else would go near him excepting the regimental doctor. It is about fifteen years since Father Angus told me of his death.

'Did he never marry? Donald Ban did not answer. His pipe was out, and he slowly refilled it and smoked it halfway down before he spoke again. When he did speak, he seemed to have forgotten my question altogether.

'Do you remember telling me a story that you heard from Father John MacPherson, about a monk who guided him through some monastery among the mountains over in Europe?

'Oh, yes! That was at St. Bernard's, among the Alps. The monk said his farewells in Gaelic.

'What did he say his name was?

'His name in religion was Brother Andrew. That was all Father MacPherson knew about him.

'Well, in other days he was called Norman MacLeod.—*Ave Maria.*

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# Current Topics

## The Strike at the State Mine

The demand of the miners at Point Elizabeth that they should have a special share in the profits of the mine is not unreasonable and indefensible, but as far as we can judge the men are making an arguable, if not an absolutely just, claim in asking that they should be relieved of trucking and rigging, which, as the mine is developed, becomes a very heavy and more serious item for the hewers. We fear not among those who consider that the fact that the miners are averaging the handsome-looking wage of 14s a day is of itself sufficient to settle the question. This high average is doubtless attained during the busy season, but a substantial deduction must be made for the time lost when things are slack. For the rest, coal-mining is at best not a pleasant occupation; every day the miner works he takes his life in his hand; he is old before his time and in view of the attitude of the accident insurance companies, certain lung troubles, the hewer of coal is liable and is likely to be refused work on the faintest suspicion that his powers are impaired. Under these circumstances the miner is entitled to such a wage as will enable him to make reasonable provision for the day, which comes much more quickly in coal-mining than in other occupations when he will be compelled to lay down his tools. If, however, the miners have a measure of justice on their side, it makes the action of their leaders in refusing to submit the question to arbitration all the more culpable. Mr. Bishop, manager of the State mine, is a man of tact, sound judgment, and wide experience in dealing with men; the Hon. R. McKenzie, the Minister in charge, is notoriously sympathetic with the workers; and the head of the Government, Sir Joseph Ward, has always shown in difficult and delicate negotiations a reasonable spirit of give and take. All the auguries, therefore, favor the probability of a satisfactory arrangement being arrived at if conciliation is resorted to; and it is sincerely to be hoped that the miners will be well advised and will go back on their original decision in this respect. As to the moral of the incident—in its bearing on the whole question of State ownership and control of industries—it will be time to speak of that when the issue of the contest is determined.

## Hymn-Tinkering: Past and Present

It has been said that the appearance of a really good hymn is as rare as that of a comet; and if that be so there ought to be some enactment visiting pains and penalties on the varlet who would both tinker and tamper with these poetic gems. If a hymn is not suitable for public worship as it stands, let it be rejected outright; if it is suitable, let it be accepted as it left the writer's brain, or at least, in justice to the author, let alterations be plainly and honestly indicated. At a very early stage in the history of vernacular hymn-writing, the verse-tinker and the "bad translator" got to work, and as might have been anticipated, the psalms of David—the noblest of all hymns—were among the first to suffer. From the Reformation down to the close of the seventeenth century, scarcely anything except versions of the Psalter or metrical paraphrases of other parts of Scripture was sung during the Protestant service. Of psalms, one Sternhold published forty in the reign of Henry VIII., and one Hopkins added to them; their collection had a great vogue, but persons of polite ears were sometimes moved to exclaim as Riches, a later did, on hearing a parish clerk sing one of the versions: "Sternhold and Hopkins had great quains, when they translated David's psalms, to make the heart right glad. But had it been King David's own words, they might have heard the psalm sung, and then they would see him and his crew." By Heav'n, 'twould see him and his crew.

After a time the rhyme-twisters extended their field of operations from the psalms of David to the ancient hymns of the Church, and no amount of religious fervor could be done or atone for some of the absurdities perpetrated. For example, the old version of the majestic Gloria, in its honor, under the manipulation of the translator, gave the following:

Be thou, O Lord, with Rider,  
And we the little lass;  
That to God's holy city  
Together we may pass.

The second petition in this invocation must surely have been very amply fulfilled.

Even the possession of undoubted poetic genius does not necessarily qualify for successful hymn-writing. Who, for instance, could use, with any serious feeling of piety or devotion, the poet Herrick's "Litanies to the Holy Spirit"? It was intended in all good faith for a solemn and pathetic invocation in the time of fear and distress, and the following are some of the petitions it contained:

When the artless doctor sees  
No one hope, but of his fees,  
And his skill runs on the lees,  
Sweet Spirit, comfort me.

When his potion and his pill  
Has, or none, or little skill,  
Meet for nothing but to kill,  
Sweet Spirit, comfort me.

The intention is good, and the situation, such as arises with painful frequency; but the author's selection of details is fatal alike to poetry and to devotion.

We come now to our own time and to the incident which has led us to make this little excursion into hymnology. Somebody has sent to the London *Tablet* a programme of an "Autumn Assembly" of the Baptist Union held a few weeks ago at Reading, England, from which it appears that a hymn entitled "Faith of our Fathers," by F. W. Faber, was sung. Father Faber's well-known hymn is sung every Sunday evening in practically every Catholic Church in the Dominion, and, by no stretch of ingenuity, could it be regarded as describing the Baptist body of doctrine, as "The Faith of Our Fathers" (Our Baptist friends) show, never got over the difficulty by bare-faced and unblushing tinkering. The first and fourth stanzas in the Baptist programme are identical with Father Faber's original, but the second and third are faked. The third verse, as written by Father Faber, reads thus:

Faith of our Fathers, Many's prayers  
Shall win our country back to thee;  
And through the truth that comes from God  
England shall then indeed be free.  
Faith of our Fathers, holy faith,  
We will be true to thee till death.

On the Baptist programme it runs as follows:

Faith of our Fathers, God's great power,  
Shall soon all nations win for thee;  
And through the truth that comes from God  
Mankind shall then be truly free.  
Faith of our Fathers, holy faith,  
We will be true to thee till death.

Yet, in spite of the glaring alterations which had thus been made, the promoters of the Baptist gathering calmly put the hymn forward, without qualification, as being the work of F. W. Faber.

On looking into a number of Protestant hymn-books, we find that these English Baptists had ample precedent for their action, and that the practice of faking Catholic hymns to suit the susceptibilities of Protestants, who use them, is one might say, universally followed by the compilers of Protestant hymnaries. All the leading Protestant collections contain a large number of hymns by Catholic writers, and wherever a distinctively Catholic touch or tone occurs the words are watered down or the verse is altogether omitted. We give one specimen, a single sample out of a great many instances, available. The first verse of Father Faber's well-known hymn, "O, come and mourn with me awhile"—as it left the pen of the writer—runs thus:

O, come and mourn with me awhile  
See, Mary, calls us to her side;  
O, come and let us mourn with her;  
Jesus, our Lord, lies crucified.

In the Protestant hymn-books it appears in this form:

O, come and mourn with me awhile;  
O, come ye to the Saviour's side;  
O, come, together let us mourn;  
Jesus, our Lord, is crucified.

This mutilated version appears in *Hymns Ancient and Modern* (Church of England), *Church Praise* (Presbyterian), *Church Hymnary* (Presbyterian), *Wesley's Hymns* (Methodist), and *Church Hymnal* (Congregational); and it is indexed as the work of Frederick William Faber, D.D., the Congregational Hymnal being the only one, out of the five mentioned, which gives the slightest intimation that any alteration has been made. The changes thus introduced may or may not be improvements; the point is, the dishonesty of putting forward a doctored version as being the work of the original writer of the hymn. In this connec-



tion we adopt, and commend to the notice of these poets, the vigorous protest made by John Wesley in the celebrated Preface to his Hymns against the tinkers and botchers of his day. Here I feel leave to mention, he says, a thought which has been long upon my mind, and which I should long ago have inserted in the public papers, had I not been unwilling to stir up a nest of hornets. Many gentlemen have done my brother and me (though without naming us) the honor to reprint many of our hymns. Now, they are perfectly welcome to do so, provided they print them just as they are. But I desire they would not attempt to mend them; for they really are not able. None of them is able to mend either the sense or the verse. (Therefore, I must beg of them one of these two favors: neither to let them stand just as they are, nor to take them for better or worse; or to add the true reading in the margin, or at the bottom of the page, that we may no longer be accountable either for the nonsense or for the doggerel of other men.)

**Those Congo Horrors**

There are signs that some idea of the real strength and true inwardness of the campaign of calumny against the Belgian administration in the Congo is, at last, beginning to penetrate the British mind, although the anti-Catholic agitators and sensation-mongers are making despairing efforts to keep their cause alive. Their latest scheme was the holding of a 'Congo Exhibition' at which was shown the alleged instruments of Belgian cruelty with the object of sending thrills and creeps down the spinal marrow of the gobe-mouches. Gullible, by fit apparatus, says Carlyle, 'all publics are'; and the Congo reformers are certainly sparing no pains to secure the fit apparatus. 'The artfulness and energy,' says the *Catholic Times*, of the Congo agitators cannot be disputed. They are extremely clever in working up sensational stories and pictures. The 'Congo Exhibition' at the Horticultural Hall is a masterpiece. Hitherto the relics by which it has been sought—but sought in vain—to awaken horror amongst the British public have been produced in instalments, as it were. Now they are massed together as a sort of grand object-lesson revealing the inexpressible cruelty of the Belgian people. The exhibition, too, is strictly a missionary one in the religious sense. What more artistic arrangements could be made for harrowing up the soul? None whatever, seeing that eloquent commentaries on the exhibits were offered by those true and well-tried antagonists of Belgian rule in the Congo, the Earl of Mayo, Dr. Clifford, and the Rev. John Harris. They did paint King Leopold and his subjects in dark colors. Mr. Harris was shocked by the thought of anyone even doubting for a moment that the Belgians delight and persist in atrocities. He was amazed at the statement made by Mr. Belloc in Parliament that Catholics are not in sympathy with the agitators. Mr. Belloc was 'incomprehensible.' This affectation of a conviction that all right-minded men must be aghast at Belgian wickedness is fit for the stage, but not for acceptance by persons who are endowed with common sense. The Belgians are well known to be a go-ahead people, good-natured, pacific, and not at all fond of murder and mutilation.

Meanwhile, evidence of the most disinterested and trustworthy kind in refutation of the Congo calumnies and exaggerations is steadily accumulating. We dealt at some length with the whole subject in our issue of September 23, in which we quoted from a long list of well-known travellers who, speaking with first-hand knowledge and from actual observation, were unanimous in declaring that in the course of varied and more or less lengthened experience they had never encountered the alleged atrocities. The latest testimony, and certainly not the least valuable, in confirmation of the independent witnesses before mentioned is to be found in the description recently issued by Reuters' agency of the experience of two gentlemen who were sent to the Congo region on behalf of the British Museum. The expedition consisted of Mr. E. Today, who had previously resided for more than seven years in the State, Mr. H. Hilton-Simpson, a traveller and explorer, and Mr. N. H. Hardy, an artist. The object of the expedition, according to a statement in the *London Tablet*, was to collect for the Ethnological Department of the Museum interesting data regarding the natives in the Kasai Basin, in the very district in which the worst of the outrages have said to have occurred. After their prolonged wanderings and careful and minute investigation, what did they find? Mr. Reuters' statement as it appeared in the *Daily Express*, leaving English readers in October 1907, the travellers have thus spent nearly two years in the great forests, plains, and rivers of the heart of the Kasai. Proceeding by train from Matadi to Leopoldville, where some stay was made, the expedition travelled on to Dima, about 600 miles in the interior.

They worked as far as Bastang, Mokinsia, a station on the Lubefu River, where they remained among the Bakatela people, and then proceeded north to the Lomela River in the fittest region. For a large portion of the time—about four months they were working in the Domaine Privé of the King of the Belgians. During the whole period of their stay they insisted that they never saw a single act of brutality on the part of the State officials or the company's people. They further state that they never had the least difficulty with the people who formed their expedition, although eighteen of their twenty-five porters were captives from the Kwilu River. Of these Mr. Hilton-Simpson says that they are some of the best natives he has ever met, mild, obliging, honest, and industrious. He has

These English gentlemen will probably not have increased their popularity with a certain section of the readers of the *Express*, but they will have the satisfaction of knowing that they have given the truth a much-needed airing.

**RUBBER AND THE CONGO**

About the middle of the eighteenth century (says *America* of October 23) the English people began to use a substance which they learned had long known as caoutchouc. The name looked hard, and a certain moral courage was needed to pronounce it by giving a sort of dry sneeze. Of course, really scientific persons, philosophers, they were called in those days, had no difficulty in the matter, but sneezed to one another with a fine abandon which implied: 'You know what I mean.' The unlearned, however, were tormented with self-consciousness. Though they might use the word occasionally, the doubt would always recur: 'Does it really spell that?' And as at first they employed the thing for rubbing but pencil-marks, they soon gave up the philosophic sneeze for an easier name, india-rubber, lawlessly compounded of the place of origin, the Indies (for in the good old days this expressed all tropical America as well as Southern Asia) and the domestic use. Practical men found out that the properties of the substance could be modified with very simple treatment, and began to make of it elastic bands, tubes, and cloth, but it still kept its popular name.

An attempt was made in this country to call it gum; perhaps because it comes from a milky juice that exudes from a tree much in the same way as what the speech of cities calls turpentine, but that of the forest terms more properly gum, flows from the pine and the fir. Overshoes for wet weather were coated with it. These were called in England galoshes, from the French *galoche*; our grandmothers called them gums, and used to admonish our mothers not to go out in the wet without their gums. The men of the fifties in California wore gum-boots, which sometimes caused in the feet a disease known as gum-boot gout. But in this discrepancy of names the old country gained one of its few victories over the New World, a sort of Chesapeake and Shannon affair, to set against the long catalogue of defeats. The American gum disappeared, vanquished by the English India-rubber.

The American has the great quality of not knowing when he is beaten. Others claim it also. Whether they have an equal right to it, or a greater or a less, or any right at all, may be discussed in connection with other things. What is to the point now is, that the American people were blind to their defeat in the gum-india-rubber question. Indeed, we took so kindly to the victorious name, we got to be on such friendly terms with it, that we soon dropped the ceremonious *india*, and spoke familiarly of rubber. Gum may have survived in some out-of-the-way corner, but rubber stalked through the land as if native and to the manner born. The Englishman might still speak of galoshes, for us they became rubbers. He might wear a mackintosh, we know only the rubber coat. We used rubber hose to water our gardens, we put rubber tyres on our carriages and automobiles. We ignored *india* so persistently that at length defeat was changed into victory, and to-day rubber, plain and unadorned, is the word of commerce, whereas the English tongue is spoken and still speaks of *india*. The substance has become an important article of trade, and the Indies, so vaguely splendid when the world was younger, are no longer heard of in our exact school geographies, all of that it comes from! South America, Asia, and Africa; and when Africa is mentioned, the article of trade becomes a site of controversy. Large quantities of rubber are exported from what was the Congo Free State, and is now the Belgian Congo Colony. It is produced largely in the Bakuba country, which, according to the English Congo Reform Association and its American friends, while guttoden by white foot, was a terrestrial Paradise. Its people were free and happy under the mild rule of their king. Their great houses lined the well-swept streets of the towns, and their broad fields brought forth maize, beans, potatoes, and tobacco abundantly. When the fancy took them they hunted the elephant for his tusks

'Hech! sirs, the day! but it's ill daein' wi' common Teas after being acoustomed tae Cook o' the North.' HONDAI-LANKA TEAS are particularly guid.

'A Gowpanfu' o' grôsets?' on a het day, and a waucht o' COCK OF THE NORTH TEA on a cauld night, are twa vera guid things. Try it!



and the leopard for his skin; and thus they dwelt at ease until the agents of the Belgian Kasai Company arrived amongst them: with one thought, done, insatiable longing for rubber. When everything was changed. The great houses fell to ruins, the broad streets were unswept, the untilled fields were soon swallowed up in the jungle from which they had been reclaimed; the king, enslaved by the stranger, became a tyrant to his own, a mere instrument for the collecting of rubber. Men were armed by the company to compel the natives to gather it. Some of them, attempting to escape, were shot down, and on all sides were heard the shrieks of wretched men and women paying under the company's scourge the penalty of not bringing in their quota. And this is the state of things to-day. It was hoped that when the Free State was put an end to, and the authority of the Belgian Government established, these evils would cease. The world has been disappointed of its hope.

This is the Story Told by the Congo Reform Association, published by it in influential newspapers and sent by its officers to the British Foreign Secretary to be used as the grounds of official intervention. Is it true? It rests on the authority of the Protestant missionaries at Lubero in the Bakuba country; the company of Kasai maintains that it is utterly false. It seems that the missionaries have not always been of the same mind in the matter; for the company claims to possess letters in which they speak of the Kakuba as barbarous savages, of their king, Lukengo, as a tyrant, who arms his men to attack the missions and the company's factories, of the company's agents as amiable, just, and compassionate, and of their hopes that the authorities will repress the barbarities of the Kakuba king. So conscious is the company of its innocence that it has prosecuted the missionaries for libel. The news has just arrived that these gained a verdict on the ground that it could not be shown that the company had suffered any damage, which would imply that the missionaries had not proved their charges. However, one cannot allow a telegram of a few lines to settle so grave a controversy. We may suggest, however, that the truth will very probably turn out to be that the happy state of the Bakubas before the advent of the company has been greatly misrepresented; that Lukengo, who has learned the value of rubber, is the real author of what atrocities have taken place; that the company, not being directly responsible, has not exerted itself as diligently as it might have done to protect the natives; that by receiving Lukengo's rubber it has profited by his misdeeds; and that some of its agents, on their own responsibility, without the knowledge of the company, have encouraged him in his wickedness. If this be the true state of the case, the Kasai Company is no worse than the best of such trading companies past and present. As for the Belgian Government, it may be trusted to protect those whom so many of its noblest sons are engaged in evangelizing.

## NOTES ON ARGENTINA

By M. ROSSBOTHAM.

As Argentina is one of the countries which enter into competition with New Zealand in the English markets, the following particulars regarding the area, physical characteristics, resources, etc., will be of interest to our readers. They are the result of the observations of Mr. M. Rossbotham, who spent a couple of months in Argentina in the early part of this year.

Argentina, or the Argentine Republic, is about 2000 miles in length, and has an average width from east to west of about 450 miles. Naturally in a region of such extent great variations in productions and characteristics are to be expected. In the north the climate is tropical. In that region the sugar cane flourishes, and the province of Tucuman supplies sugar for the whole of the Republic. Tobacco, oranges, bananas, and tropical fruits are grown. In the far south the cold is extreme. Between these two extremes every possible variation of climate is to be found. Even when the weather is cold there is no lack of sunshine; too much of it, in fact. The country in general is a vast unbroken plain, with the exception of the Andes on the western frontier, and a couple of smaller sierras in the interior. The rivers are few, but of considerable size. The La Plata ranks amongst the biggest in the world. Over a great part of the country the only water courses are small creeks, known here as arroyos, which usually drain into lagoons of brackish water, or lose themselves in saline marshes. The water supply in the country districts is obtained from wells, which require to be sunk only a small depth to reach excellent water.

The country had practically made little or no progress until a quarter of a century ago, but it is now moving forward with great strides. The first Spaniard set foot in the Argentine in 1515, and that the country is nearly 400 years old, but its commercial progress and development are of recent date. In the early years of its colonisation, mission settlements, which were dotted over the country by the Jesuits, attained considerable prosperity, but the efforts of the Jesuits were destroyed owing to political causes. It is now a century since Argentina threw off the yoke of

Spain, but for many years she did not reap much profit from her freedom. Dictators and revolutions succeeded each other, and for years the country was kept in a continual ferment. But of late years the influx of foreign capital has had a steady effect, and the commercial interests have become too important to be continually upset by political upheavals. It now appears as if the epoch of revolutions is gone for ever, as there has been no civil war since 1890, and the feeling in favor of stable government is growing every day.

Argentine society is very cosmopolitan. It contains representatives of most of the nations of the earth. The foundation is composed of the descendants of the Spanish colonists. These are known as the Argentines, properly so called; many of them have a strain of Indian blood. There are also still existing remnants of the original Indian inhabitants, but they are a dying race. The European-born elements are now the most important in the country, and an immense tide of immigration is now setting towards the republic. Last year over 200,000 immigrants entered the country. Of these Spaniards are the most numerous; but the Italians are not far behind. There were also contingents from Great Britain, United States, France, Germany, Austria, Turkey, Russia, etc. Argentina is faced with the task of welding these different elements into a nation, and the process is being carried on with great success. Some of the foreign-born population cling to their own customs and ideals; but their children are Argentines, and out, and wish to be nothing else.

Many English-speaking people make efforts to preserve English as the language of their homes, but it is in vain; the children will speak Spanish at all costs. It must not be inferred from this that the native-born Argentine speaks only Spanish. The fact is that there is scarcely any country in the world where languages may be acquired more easily, and the Argentine youth of good education will speak several, but Spanish is the language of his choice.

Most of the principal languages of Europe may be heard on the streets of Buenos Aires and seen on the signboards. The class distinctions in Argentine society are not very rigidly defined; and the ups and downs of families are frequent and startling. The old aristocracy, the descendants of the Spanish conquerors, has practically ceased to exist, and its place has been taken by a newer aristocracy of money. This is composed principally of the large landowners, whose properties have become immensely valuable through the influx of population and rise in prices; and most of the fortunes have grown without any special effort on the part of their owners.

The republic has a population of over five millions, and of this number 1,200,000 live in the City of Buenos Aires. In Buenos Aires are concentrated the luxury and wealth of the country, while out in the 'camp,' or country, are seen only the work and production which provide the foundation for the splendor of the city. The new arrival, who has not seen the 'camp,' is a little puzzled to account for the size and splendor of Buenos Aires. He sees no great manufacturing industries such as feed the cities of the Old World, and the whole population of Buenos Aires seem to be spending instead of producing. The fact is that Buenos Aires is in the first place the distributing centre of the republic, and secondly it is the place where the wealthy landowner gets rid of the money which is made for him on his estancia, or station. There is a startling contrast between the life of the city and that of the 'camp.' In the 'camp' people are satisfied with the simplest manner of living, and save every penny. The country is pre-eminently a place for hoarding money, which is taken into the city and spent, and the man who is in a hurry to spend his money is amply catered for in Buenos Aires.

The city covers an immense area, but it is very easy to find one's way about, as the streets are straight, and run at right angles to each other. The streets in the old portion of the town are extremely narrow, not more than half the width of the Dunedin streets. On the footpaths only three persons can walk abreast. As this old portion of the town is the principal business quarter, there is often a great congestion of traffic. At times there can be seen a dense mass of vehicles extending for a couple of blocks completely at a standstill for five or ten minutes. This problem is becoming worse every day, as immense steel office buildings and warehouses are fast replacing the one and two storey structures of the past. Consequently when the crowds of occupants of these buildings pour out on to the streets in the evening, the footpaths become almost impassable. There is a line of tramway on nearly every street. On some of the newer and wider streets there are double lines, but in the old streets only a single line is possible, and on these single lines the cars travel only in one direction, the cars on the next parallel streets running in the opposite direction. By this means the evil of the narrow streets is counteracted to some extent. However, the citizens of Buenos Aires will soon be able to travel underground, as the construction of tubes in the lines of most traffic will be commenced in the near future. The running of the present tram service is almost perfection, and it is also extremely cheap, perhaps the only thing in Buenos Aires that is cheap. There is a standard fare of 10 cents for any distance, and one can travel about the city all day for a dollar, if he is careful to choose suitable

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routes. The paper dollar is worth about 1s 10d of our money. It was originally worth 4s, the same as the gold dollar, but has become debased. Such is the result of the idea that for the manufacture of money nothing more is requisite than a bale of paper and a printing press. It is necessary, at least, that the credit of the Government should be sound, and for a long period the credit of Argentina was anything but that. But her debt has been reduced.

The cost of living in Buenos Aires is extremely high; almost double that of New Zealand. The wealthy citizens do not mind, but the burden presses heavily and unjustly on the poor. The chief factor is the high rents. These are caused in their turn by the heavy taxation which is necessary to keep up the splendor of the city. Another cause is the expense of paving the streets. This is done with square blocks of stone, which have to be brought long distances by rail. On the plains, or pampas, as they are called, there is no stone whatever, only deep red-colored soil stretching for hundreds of miles without a pebble. Out in the suburbs of the city the pavements end abruptly, and afterwards there is only the soft soil of their natural camp roads. In dry weather, this is changed into blinding clouds of dust, and in wet weather the roads are almost impassable. Consequently people are willing to pay any price in order to be on the paved streets, and rents in the city are very high. Any sort of a house which could be called a home cannot be rented at less than £2 or £3 a week. The prices of food and clothing are also far above those ruling in New Zealand. The incomes of the higher grades of employes in industries and commerce are on a high scale, but artisans and unskilled workers are very badly paid.

Perhaps the most noticeable feature of Argentine life in the cities is the cafés. These are luxuriously appointed places, with abundance of plate glass and gilding. The system of meals in Spanish-speaking countries is very different from our custom. The average British subject likes to start the day with a good breakfast, but the Argentine is satisfied with a cup of coffee and a morsel of bread in the morning. Then, between 11.30 a.m. and 1 p.m. he takes the meal which he calls breakfast, and at 7.30 p.m. dinner. Both these meals are very important functions indeed, and the Argentine will linger over them for an hour and a half.

(To be continued.)

### Over-Taxation of Ireland

Mr. M. Nolan, in the course of a letter to the *Hawke's Bay Herald*, deals in a very able manner with England's indebtedness to Ireland. Mr. Nolan's letter was written in answer to an article that appeared in the *Herald*, in which it was stated that the Irish people had had many grievances in the past, but that at the present time they were better off than the people of England. Mr. Nolan writes: "There be a people on earth to-day who, from every social, civil, and political aspect, have reason to be contented and happy that people is the English. If they are not, it is their own fault, and no one else's; they are the framers of their own destiny; they make their own laws, and live under a constitution admittedly the finest in the world. On the other hand, the Irish people to-day are the most heavily taxed in the British Empire, with a perpetual Coercion Act always hanging over them, by which they can at any moment be deprived of their liberties by a stroke of the Lord Lieutenant's pen, and incarcerated without a trial." Mr. Nolan then reminds the readers of the *Herald* of the different Acts of repression passed during the reign of the late Queen, of the fearful mortality of the famine years, the terrible evictions, and the forced emigration of the people. At the time of the Union (continues Mr. Nolan) Ireland owed £28,000,000, and England £446,000,000. The terms of the Union were that England was to bear, for ever, the burden of her £446,000,000, and consequently the burden of its interest, also, from all of which Ireland was to be freed. It was expressly stated by the seventh clause in the Act that Ireland was never to be taxed beyond her relative taxable capacity to that of England, and that the ratio of her contributions must ever correspond to her wealth and prosperity, that is to say, to her wealth as compared with that of England. At the present time the wealth of England has grown to be about thirty times that of Ireland, while the latter country is mulcted to the tune of one-eleventh of the whole taxation. In other words she is paying over £9 in every £100 of the taxes, where she should be paying less than £5. The manipulation of this business is delightfully simple and English-like. In 1817 it was decided in London to amalgamate the Irish debt with that of England, and the two Exchequers were united in order to simplify the system of book-keeping at the Treasury, but chiefly, of course, for the benefit of Ireland, the effect of which was soon apparent. In 1793, a few years before the Union, when Ireland had her own Parliament, her taxation was 9s 2d per head of her population, while in 1895 it had risen

to £2 9s 2d per head, and this with an ever-decreasing population, while during the same period the taxation in England had been steadily decreasing with an ever-increasing population. At the present moment Ireland is the most heavily taxed country in Europe, and the poorest, while England is the most lightly taxed and the richest. Repeated efforts were made by O'Connell to bring an inquiry into the fiscal relations of the two countries, but these were unsuccessful. In 1894 a Royal Commission, consisting principally of financial experts and Englishmen, was appointed to inquire into the matter. After long and careful consideration, eleven out of the thirteen members reported that for the previous 50 years or more Ireland had been paying £2,750,000 a year an excessive and unjustifiable taxation. And this excessive and unjustifiable taxation, instead of being reduced or taken off, is going on to-day. Not only that, but it has been increased considerably. It was in 1804, a speech delivered at Longford in 1907, Mr. John Redmond declared that England owed Ireland a debt of between £400,000,000 and £500,000,000 drawn from her in excessive taxation. In his Home Rule speech in April 1886, Mr. Gladstone said that the civil charges per capita at that time in Great Britain were 8s 2d, but in Ireland they were 16s. And, according to Mr. Redmond, these charges have increased in Ireland by 63 per cent, while they have been steadily reduced in England. During the twenty years ended 1872, Mr. Gladstone took out of Ireland over £45,000,000 more taxes than had been contributed during the previous twenty years ended 1852. Sir R. Giffen stated in his evidence before the financial relations Commission that at the time of the Union the relative capital of Ireland to that of Great Britain was as 1 to 30, but at that time it was as 1 to 30; yet her taxation was as 1 to 11.

### The Need of the Press

The exhortations of Pope Leo XIII. on the subject of Catholic newspapers have been collected in a pamphlet of forty pages, *Le Journal et la Presse*, and published by the *Revue de Paris*. The following are a couple of brief extracts: "With no less insistence we renew our advice that you should labor with as much zeal as prudence for the publication and diffusion of Catholic newspapers. For, in these days people form their opinions and regulate their lives almost entirely by their reading of newspapers. (Letter to the Bishops of Brazil, 1890.)"

Among the means best adapted to the defence of religion there is none in our opinion more efficacious, and more suited to the present time than that which consists in meeting the press by the press, and thus frustrating the schemes of the enemies of religion. (Letter to the Bishops of Vienna, 1883.)

The saying of the same Pontiff that a Catholic newspaper in a parish is a personal mission is well known. And his successor is no less emphatic in his exhortations to support the Catholic press. "It will be remembered how he once took his stylus out of the hand of a Catholic journalist kneeling at his feet, and blessed it with these words: 'Thou shalt be a blessing to the world to-day, and thy predecessors used to consecrate the swords and armor of Christian warriors. I am happy to draw down blessings on the pen of a Christian journalist.'"

Nor need we repeat the Holy Father's words, recently uttered and often quoted in which he pointed out that the building of churches, the preaching of missions, and the foundation of schools would be a vain task unless supplemented by a sound Catholic press.

If we turn from the Pope to the Bishops we find them urging the same point. Cardinal Pie writes as follows: — "The most religious people in the world, the most submissive to authority, if they only read bad newspapers will at the end of thirty years become a nation of unbelievers and rebels. Humanly speaking, no preaching can hold its own against a corrupt press." Cardinal Labouré is even more emphatic: — "The hour for building churches and decorating altars is past. There is only one matter which is urgent, and that is to cover the country with papers which shall teach the truth once again." Cardinal Lavigerie has the same message to found or support a newspaper destined to enlighten and reclaim men's minds, in a sense, as necessary and as meritorious as the building of a church.

The Bishop of Dijon says that the support of the press is more important even than that of the schools. The Bishop of Blois says that it is a form of apostolate which is imperiously demanded at the present day. The Bishop of Verdun says that the Pope does not merely recommend Catholics to support the Catholic press, but orders them to do so. (The Bishops of Sicily at a synod subscribed 25,000 francs towards the Catholic press.)

If we turn from the ecclesiastics to leading Catholic laymen, we find the same insistence on the need of support-

ing the press. Listen, for instance, to the words of Winifred... foolish people. Men close their schools, and they are content to build others. Men demolish their works and they create new ones without dreaming of arresting the arm which is more ready to destroy than they can be to build it again. Why do not they employ their money rather in proving themselves with a powerful press which would capture public opinion for them, and by means of its power and all that they have lost...

NEW BOOKS

The Glories of Lourdes by Canon Justin Rousseil, has been translated into English by Rev. Joseph Murphy, and published by R. and T. Washburne, Ltd., 1, 2, and 4 Paternoster Row, London. It is one of the most important works on that famous shrine and has been, we are told, blessed by the Pope, praised by two Cardinals, and proved by three Bishops, honored by a letter from the Abbe Bertrin and a preface by Dr. Boissarie, and is universally admitted by the Catholic press in France to be the best work, whether historical, poetical, or mystical, on the famous grotto of Massabielle. The original work was first published in France on the occasion of the golden jubilee of the apparitions of Lourdes. It has been translated into the four principal European languages, and it has the advantage, over earlier works of its kind, of dealing in an interesting and graphic way with the later phases of the great sanctuary which is, year by year, prolific of marvels. The book is well printed and handsomely bound, and is well suited for domestic reading and for prize distributions. (Pp. xxiv. 326. Illustrated. cloth gilt, 3s 6d.)

The St. Nicholas Series (edited by Rev. Dom Bede Camm, O.S.B.) has been enriched by two more of the neat and 'taking' volumes which are issued by Macdonald and Evans, 4 Adam Street, Adelphi, London, W.C.2. One of these is 'Blessed Edmund Campion, the story of the Jesuit protomartyr of England.' It is written by the noted Catholic authoress, Louise Imogen Guiney, and is based largely like all modern books on the subject, on Simpson's monograph, but enriched by the results of the researches of Father Pollen, S.J. The other volume of the series is entitled 'The Angelic Cardinal: Reginald Pole.' The author is C. M. Antony, and a striking six-page preface has been contributed by Father Hugh Benson. These two books deal in an eminently readable way with two of the figures that, in different ways, were among the most remarkable in the stormy history of the religious revolution in sixteenth-century England. The books are handsomely brought out and well illustrated, and are important contributions to the themes with which they deal.

The brilliant young prelate who is Rector of the Irish College in Rome, the Right Rev. Monsignor O'Riordan has brought out in pamphlet form, and in the *bel faveller gentil toscano* or Italian tongue, a lengthy paper contributed by him to the *Rivista Internazionale di scienze sociali e discipline ausiliarie*. The paper is entitled: 'La Lotta per la Libertà in Irlanda e in Inghilterra' (The Struggle for Liberty in Ireland and England). Taking as his text the insulting Royal Declaration against the Catholic faith, the author lays before his Italian readers a telling history of the struggle of the faith in Ireland and England, the Irish exodus and all that it has done for religion in other lands, and, among other things, the fortunes of the recent Bill in which an effort was made to eliminate the offensive portions of what has been well termed 'the relic of barbarism' and 'the Titus Oates test.'

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent) Wellington, December 6

On Wednesday the members of St. Anne's Catholic Club held a cheerful party at the club rooms.

Last Sunday a number of students from St. Patrick's College made their first Communion at St. Joseph's Church, Buckle Street.

His Grace Archbishop Redwood administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to 108 candidates at St. Patrick's Church, Masterton, last Sunday.

Mr. J. J. Devine, who represents the Wellington City Council on the Hospital Board, has been elected treasurer of the Board for the ensuing year.

The cost of the Catholic school chapel at Northland and of the land on which the building is to be erected will amount to about £1500. The raising of the money has been arranged for by the residents.

A return of Customs dues collected at Wellington during the month of November shows a total revenue of

£48,044 15s 2d. Of this amount, £102,044s 6d represents beer duty, £25,000s 0d stamp and £175,044s 6d surtax.

The following Christmas and New Year holidays will be observed in the Public Offices of the Government: Saturday, 20th inst., Monday, 27th inst., Tuesday, 28th inst., and Saturday and Monday, 1st and 3rd January.

The quarterly general meeting of the various Conferences under the jurisdiction of the Partition Council of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, Wellington, will be held on Sunday, December 12, in St. Patrick's Hall, Boulcott Street.

The Wellington Ambulance Saturday and the members of the Wellington Ambulance Society are making a collection in the city for the funds of this charitable association. The money raised is to be partly devoted to the nursing of the sick poor.

For the annual matriculation examination of the New Zealand University now taking place at various centres throughout New Zealand there are some 1400 candidates representing an increase of 60 on last year. The numbers at the four centres are as follows: Auckland, 203; Wellington, 174; Christchurch, 169; Dunedin, 201.

Under the auspices of the Wellington Catholic Seaman's Conference a concert to the seafaring men was held in the Sailors' Rest last Monday evening. The following ladies and gentlemen contributed items to the programme: Mrs. Mitchell, Miss Frith, and Messrs. Bolger, Carroll, Houchen, and McNamara. Mrs. Mitchell and Miss Frith played the accompaniments.

At the half-yearly meeting of the shareholders of the Bank of New Zealand, held on Friday, December 8, Mr. Martin Kennedy, B.K.S.G., returned thanks for his unopposed re-election as a director. Mr. Kennedy has been a member of the Board as representative of the shareholders for the past fifteen years.

In opening a Catholic bazaar the other day, Mr. Fred Pirani stated that there was no body of women more self-sacrificing, industrious, talented, public-spirited, and charitable than the Sisters of Mercy, who belonged to the Catholic Church. They had also won the esteem and goodwill of a large section of the community who did not belong to their Church.

A special meeting of the St. Patrick's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society was held on Wednesday evening for the purpose of installing some of the candidates who gave in their names during the recent mission conducted by the Marist Fathers. Sixty-five have been proposed this quarter, twenty-six of whom have been admitted. It is anticipated that the remainder will be initiated at the next fortnightly meeting of the branch.

The Wanganui Roman Catholic Lands Bill has finally passed the Legislative Council. It gives the authorities power to lease the valuable site in Victoria Avenue, Wanganui, on which is located the Catholic church, convent, schools, and presbytery. The site has a frontage of 400 feet, and will now be let for business purposes. The church and other structures will be rebuilt on the land secured at the corner of Campbell and Cityton streets. Mr. Thomas Lloyd, solicitor, drew up the Bill.

Messrs. Board, Collins, Cotter, Harris, and Wareham are the Newtown parish representatives on the general committee who have the management of the Catholic picnic, which will take place at Khandallah on Boxing Day in Mr. Izard's grounds. The Rev. Father Hickson, S.M., Adm., has been appointed chairman. The committee are very enthusiastic and are working very hard to make the gathering a success. Return tickets for adults will be 1s 6d and children will be admitted free. There will be sports and attractive side shows for the children.

The energetic committee and officials who managed the Catholic Bazaar held last month in the Drill Hall, Petone, in aid of the local Catholic church and school funds, have every reason to be satisfied with the result of their efforts. Though the accounts have not yet been settled it is expected that there will be a net balance of about £360. The bazaar ran for five nights, and for a district of the size of Petone the financial result is splendid. Special mention must be made of the work done by Messrs. S. Brice, J. A. Coles, G. Cronin, and E. J. Cornell (secretary), and the lady stall-holders and their assistants.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

His Lordship the Bishop celebrated Mass at the Church of Our Lady Star of the Sea at Sumner on the last two Sundays in the presence of good congregations.

The Rev. Father Hills, S.M., is engaged conducting a retreat for First Communion and Confirmation candidates in connection with the Cathedral parish. There was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Cathedral from the 11 o'clock Mass on Sunday. The Rev. Father Hills, S.M., preached at Vespers, after which there was the usual procession.

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The annual appeal in behalf of the funds of the Cathedral Conference Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be made in the Cathedral on Sunday next. Collections will be made at all the Masses and at Vespers.

The ordinary weekly meeting of the Christchurch Catholic Club on last Tuesday evening was very largely attended. Mr. J. R. Hayward (president) occupied the chair. Six new members were elected, and five candidates nominated for membership. At the conclusion of business the evening was devoted to the entertainment of lady friends of the club who gathered in strong force for the occasion. The meeting proved one of the most enjoyable of its kind yet given in connection with the club. Apart from the excellent arrangements by the officers, this result was largely due to the improved conditions, comfort, and general appointments of the new rooms. Songs were given by Mrs. F. Evans, Miss Gardner, and Messrs. F. Evans, Mairdonald, G. Hayward, and T. O'Connell, a pianoforte solo by Miss Crosswell, a banjo trio by Mesdames Dobbin and Harrison and Miss Pennington, a pianoforte duet by Messrs. Johnston and Barrett, a pianoforte solo by Mr. Johnston, and a monologue by Mr. F. Rowe. Refreshments were handed round, and a vote of thanks was passed to the performers.

The annual distribution of prizes in connection with the Cathedral Christian Doctrine Confraternity took place on last Sunday afternoon. The Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., presided, there being also present the Rev. Dr. Kennedy and Rev. Father Hills, S.M. The Rev. Dr. Kennedy (spiritual director), in outlining the work done during the year, spoke in very appreciative terms of the faithful services of the Sisters of the Missions and Marist Brothers, and of the devoted teachers of the various classes who spent their Sunday afternoons in imparting religious knowledge to the children. At the conclusion of the distribution, the Very Rev. Father Price congratulated those who were deemed worthy of reward, whilst encouraging those less fortunate. He spoke at length on the benefits in after-life to those who were well grounded in religious truth, and the use such knowledge could be put to in every-day life. The Sunday school (he said) was in reality a continuation school, and as such presented a means for attaining the highest destiny. Regular and punctual attendance of the children was absolutely essential, and in this the obvious duty of parents was to co-operate with the good Sisters and Brothers, and self-sacrificing teachers, in their truly Catholic and praiseworthy efforts.

Lincoln

(From an occasional correspondent.)

A pleasing little ceremony took place on Tuesday evening, November 30, in the Catholic schoolroom, New Headford, the occasion being the anniversary of the Rev. Father Drohan's ordination. A committee of ladies had energetically canvassed the parish, and the parishioners met to present Father Drohan with a bicycle. Mr. D. McVeigh, in an appropriate speech, made the presentation, and referred to the zeal, energy, and other good qualities of our pastor. The Rev. Father, in the course of a feeling reply, thanked the people for the present, and for their kind wishes. The Rev. Fathers Tyler and Fanning, of Darfield, were also present. Subsequently a progressive euchre tournament was held, the winners of the prizes being Mrs. Hayke and Mrs. J. Cuneen and Messrs. P. F. Ryan and Connelly. The Rev. Father Tyler, in a humorous little speech, presented the prizes. Messrs. F. McNulty, Owen Riddy, W. Cuneen, and others contributed songs. A word of praise must be given to Miss Mary Ryan, the energetic secretary, who worked so hard to make the undertaking a success. After light refreshments had been handed round and the singing of "Auld lang syne," the proceedings terminated.

Ashburton

(From our own correspondent.)

On Tuesday evening last there was a large attendance of parishioners present in the Catholic Boys' Schoolroom for the purpose of making a presentation and bidding farewell to Rev. Father Ahern, who has left here to take up his residence in New South Wales. Mr. T. O'Carroll presided, and briefly outlined the purport of the gathering, eulogising the good work performed by Father Ahern during his two years' stay in the parish, and in concluding handed the Rev. Father Ahern, on behalf of the parishioners, a well-filled purse of sovereigns. Messrs. D. McDonnell, M. J. Burgess, T. M. Brophy, R. Nealon, J. Berry, and F. K. Cooper also spoke in eulogistic terms of Father Ahern's zeal and worth, and expressed regret at his departure. Rev. Father Ahern, in reply, thanked the parishioners most heartily for their great kindness to him. He regretted his departure from Ashburton, and especially for leaving the Very Rev. Dean O'Donnell, with whom he had been acquainted since his college days. He had received a call to Grafton, New South Wales, where he had labored for some years prior to coming to New Zealand. He referred

to the attention paid to their religious duties by the Catholics of Ashburton, who were more zealous in that respect than any community he had been connected with either in Australia or New Zealand. He again thanked the people for their handsome present to him, and wished them every blessing and success in the future. Rev. Father Ahern left for Australia on Wednesday last.

Should the Parliamentary franchise be extended to municipal elections? formed the subject for a very animated debate at the last meeting of the Catholic Club. Mr. F. Hanrahan took the affirmative and Mr. J. Moison the negative side. On a vote being taken, the advocates of the affirmative were declared the winners.

DIocese OF AUCKLAND

(By Telegraph from our own correspondent.) December 6.

The Sacred Heart Convent vacation will begin about the 15th inst. When the next term begins, the Sisters will be in their new convent at Remuera.

At the Star of the Sea Orphanage the examinations were held on the 24th and 25th of November. All passed creditably. On the following Sunday forty-three of the children were confirmed.

His Lordship the Bishop visited Parnell yesterday morning, and addressed the congregation. He congratulated Rev. Father Meagher and his parishioners on the great progress made recently in the parish. The church and presbytery have been thoroughly renovated. His Lordship was highly pleased with the improvements that have been effected.

Your Wellington correspondent, in his last communication, stated that in Hibernian circles surprise was expressed at the district officers allowing a movement to go on to form another district in the Dominion. Neither the district officers nor the District Board meeting could, according to law, prevent such movement, no more than they could prevent the Wellington branch moving to remove the location of the district executive from Auckland to Wellington.

The annual concert of the Parnell convent school pupils was held at St. Bonaventure's Hall last week. His Lordship the Bishop, Rev. Fathers Meagher and Ormond, and a large audience were present. His Lordship took advantage of the interval to thank those present for attending in such large numbers. They showed their appreciation of the efforts of the good Sisters of Mercy on behalf of the children of the parish. The entertainment was really excellent, and creditable alike to the children and to their painstaking teachers, whom he most heartily congratulated. His Lordship said that he always enjoyed concerts of that kind; to be among the little ones, who always looked so bright and happy, was to him a great pleasure. He always gladly availed himself of an opportunity of visiting Parnell, for coming to Parnell meant meeting many old and valued friends. He had lived in the parish for years, and would ever retain the pleasant memories of those years. In conclusion, his Lordship thanked all who had contributed to the success of the evening's entertainment, giving a special word of praise to Miss Atkins, the accompanist, who was always so willing to assist the Sisters in every possible way.

On last Sunday week the members of the Marist Brothers' Old Boys' Club made their quarterly Communion, and had breakfast at St. John's, Parnell. Notwithstanding the fact that practically the whole of the members approached the Holy Table on the previous Sunday at the Cathedral, and in spite of the early hour and the distance to be traversed, there were about 80 members present. At the breakfast the Rev. Father Holbrook (chaplain) and Rev. Father Meagher were present. The former expressed his pleasure at the fine gathering, and congratulated three of the young men who, on that morning, were making their First Communion. Rev. Father Meagher, in the course of a felicitous speech, welcomed the Old Boys to Parnell, and promised that on future occasions he would make them his guests. The members had a pleasant surprise in a visit from His Lordship the Bishop, and Very Rev. Father Clune, C.S.S.R. His Lordship expressed the great regret he felt at the departure of Father Clune, who replied in feeling terms expressing his sincere regard for his Lordship, the clergy, and especially for the young men of Auckland. Brother George (president), on behalf of the club, tendered a farewell to Father Clune. All the young men who had come into contact with Father Clune had been profoundly impressed by his wonderful personality, and he could assure him that he would carry away from Auckland not only the good wishes of the Old Boys, but their earnest prayers that he might be long spared to labor for the good of souls.

Thames

It was an interesting gathering that assembled at the well-appointed rooms of the Catholic Young Men's Club

last night (says the *Thames Star* of November 18). Invitations to attend the opening had been forwarded to representative citizens, and the attendance showed that outside the actual membership of the club considerable interest was manifested in its progress. The rooms are splendidly equipped, and should go a long way in providing the young men with healthy forms of amusement. As we have mentioned before, the club rooms comprise billiard, lecture, reading, reception, and athletic rooms, while a bathroom has also been installed for the use of members. The billiard room is large and well-furnished, there being ample accommodation. The lecture and reading rooms are nicely furnished and should make a very comfortable retreat. The athletic room contains a punching ball and boxing apparatus for the more strenuous members. In the same room one of Fletcher's miniature targets has been installed, so that many interesting competitions will doubtless be arranged. The whole is a credit to the members, to Rev. Father Carran, who was the prime mover in the establishment of the club, and Rev. Father Tigar, who so ably took the matter up when Father Carran was called to another district.

Amongst those present at the function was Mr. F. H. Claxton (Mayor), who congratulated the members of the club upon the splendid work they had performed, the energy they had displayed, the enthusiasm shown, and the splendid manner in which they had equipped the club, which was one of the most up to date of the kind. It offered many attractions to young men, and he hoped that the club would succeed in attaining the objects for which it was established—to provide the young men with a form of recreation that was at present not available.

Others present congratulated Rev. Father Tigar and the Catholic young men on the splendid work performed and the great success achieved, and the wish was expressed that the club would enjoy the prosperity and the members the pleasures that they thoroughly deserved.

An excellent orchestra (under the conductorship of Mr. Arthur Williams) discoursed sweet music, and with a first-class programme of vocal and other items the hours passed all too quickly. The Catholic Club's opening was a distinct success, and, judging by the enthusiasm shown, it will have a successful career.

The officers are as follow:—Patron, Right Rev. Monsignor O'Reilly; president, Rev. Father Tigar; executive committee—Messrs. John Twohill, Fred Lowson, W. Meehan, E. Kenny, M. Moran, W. Gill, J. McIntyre, M. Lanigan, James Twohill, and H. McDonnell, the last-named making an energetic hon. secretary.

**Masterton**

(From our own correspondent.)

December 4.

After the last Mass on Sunday his Grace Archbishop Redwood administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to 103 candidates. Miss Donovan acted as sponsor for the girls, and Mr. Fitzgerald for the boys. His Grace preached both morning and evening. The services throughout the day were excellently attended.

Mr. W. T. Mansfield, treasurer of the Masterton branch of the Navy League, delivered an interesting lecture at St. Patrick's Schoolroom last evening. Mr. Mansfield was accompanied by the secretary, Mr. E. R. B. Daniel, and Mr. Levien, the latter manipulating the lantern slides. The Very Rev. Dean McKenna presided, and the Rev. Mother Superior was also present. There was a large attendance of children and parents. The speaker referred, in the course of his remarks, to the material progress of the Navy League in Masterton since its inauguration here some twelve months ago.

The usual meeting of the H.A.C.B. Society was held last Tuesday evening. The president (Bro. L. Richards) occupied the chair. The quarterly balance sheet showed the branch to be in a good financial position, and that much progress had been made during the quarter. It was decided to invite the district officers of the society to visit Masterton when on their way to attend the movable meeting to be held at Wellington. The branch's delegates to the Masterton Friendly Societies' Council (Bro. B. Chapman) reported that the place for the picnic on Boxing Day in which all the friendly societies throughout the Wairarapa were taking part, was fixed for Pigeon Bush, and that special trains have been arranged for the occasion. Mr. S. O'Regan is the secretary for the picnic.

**Westport**

(From our own correspondent.)

November 27.

The Westport elocutionary contest, under the auspices of the St. John's Wesley and St. Canice's Clubs, was held in Victoria Theatre on Friday evening. There was a good attendance, and a highly interesting programme was presented, indicating earnest preparation of the various items. The Mayor (Mr. J. H. Greenwood) presided, and Messrs. W. Gothard, J. H. Harkness, F. F. Munro, and Whittier Thornton were the judges. Handsome trophies

were given for individual merit, and a silver cup, valued at ten guineas, was offered for the club scoring the highest aggregate of marks. The following are the results:—Serious recitation—J. L. Leydon (St. Canice's); F. M. O'Gorman (St. Canice's); 2; H. B. Mourant (Wesley), 3. Prepared speech—J. L. Leydon (St. Canice's); Daniel O'Connell; H. P. Mourant (Wesley); Oliver Cromwell; 2; F. M. O'Gorman (St. Canice's); Robert Emmet, 3. Reading—H. P. Mourant (Wesley); S. Parr (St. John's); 2; E. Carmine (St. Canice's); 3. Impromptu debate—S. Parr and J. Silcock (St. John's); H. P. Mourant and A. Manners (Wesley), 2; Radford and F. O'Gorman (St. Canice's); 3. Humorous recitation—F. Galton (St. Canice's); 1; A. Manners (Wesley), 2; D. Singer (St. John's), 3. Four clubs competed, St. Canice's Club winning the championship cup, with 13 points, Wesley Club being second with 8.

**OBITUARY**

**MRS. A. J. WHITE, CHRISTCHURCH.**

The whole community (writes our Christchurch correspondent) experienced a painful shock when it became known that Mrs. White, widow of Mr. A. J. White, a very bold and prominent citizen of Christchurch, and head of the well-known firm of A. J. White, Ltd., had passed away. During the winter months her health suffered somewhat, but with the return of more genial weather she appeared to regain to some extent her usual vigor. She was present at the warehouse on Tuesday afternoon for an hour or so, and had afternoon tea with several members of the staff. When she returned to her residence at Opawa later on she became seriously ill. The Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., on being telephoned for, was speedily at her side in time to impart the last rites of Holy Church and remained with her to the end. At about 7 o'clock she suddenly expired in her chair. The late Mrs. White was born in Wiltshire, England, and was about 70 years of age. She came out to New Zealand 42 years ago in the same vessel as Mr. A. J. White. Both settled in Christchurch, were married there, and established in a small way the business which has grown with the city, and which is now well known in many parts of the Dominion. Mrs. White took an active part in her husband's business affairs from the beginning. She was equipped for this by remarkable business ability and aptitude. In the early days of the firm's existence, when Mr. White had to attend sales in other places, he left Mrs. White in charge of the business, with which she became closely acquainted. Mr. White died in 1895, and since that time Mrs. White has given the business personal supervision, attending almost daily at the office and looking into many details of the transactions. About eighteen months ago the firm became a private company, but Mrs. White still retained her interest in it, and continued to supervise affairs. In spite of her age, she showed great activity. The late Mrs. White was a faithful and devoted member of the Catholic congregation, gave liberally to every good work in connection with the Church, and outside to any that appealed to her as deserving. The extent of her private benefactions will probably never be known. Her funeral, which was very largely attended, took place on Thursday. A Solemn Requiem Mass was celebrated in the Cathedral by his Lordship Bishop Grimes, the Very Rev. Dean Ginaty, S.M., V.G., was assistant priest, the Rev. Dr. Kennedy, deacon, Rev. Father McDonnell, subdeacon, and Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., master of ceremonies. The Cathedral was crowded. His Lordship the Bishop, in the course of a touching address, said it was close upon a quarter of a century since he became acquainted with the late Mrs. White. She was present at the speaker's consecration, and at his first Pontifical Mass. He was deeply impressed by the wonderful brain and will power that she displayed. That was the keynote of her life. A stern sense of duty governed all her actions. Even when she had passed the Scriptural three score years and ten she still displayed that stern attachment to duty, and despite the protestations of her loved ones she refused to cease from work. Her sense of duty impelled her to go on to the end. Although her end was very sudden, she was not unprepared. God had given her a premonitory signal some weeks ago. They asked not to be delivered from sudden death, but from sudden and unprovided death. Those who were left the preacher exhorted not to mourn as those without hope. They could still continue their love for her by sending up their fervent prayers to the Throne of Godding. His Lordship the Bishop officiated at the interment in Linwood Cemetery, being attended by all the clergy previously mentioned. The late Mrs. White leaves one son, Mr. A. J. White, and seven daughters, including Mrs. W. Inkson and Mrs. Ronald O. Duncan.—R.I.P.

Messrs. Brown, Ewing, and Co., Ltd., Dunedin, have a wonderful list of ideas for Christmas and New Year presents. Lists can be obtained on application.

The annual spiritual retreat for ladies will commence at the Convent of the Sacred Heart, Timaru, on Monday evening, January 3. The retreat will be preached by the Very Rev. Dr. Kennedy, Rector of St. Patrick's College.



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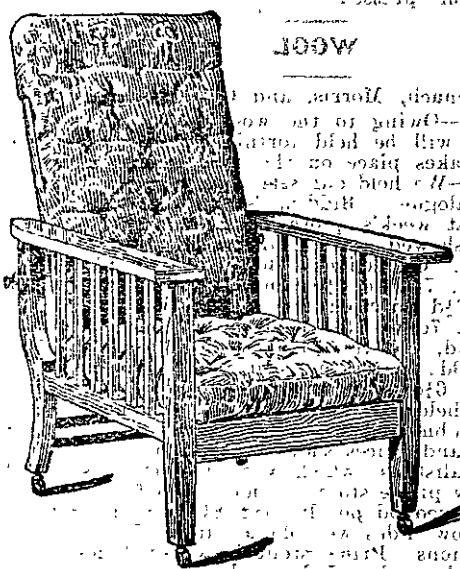
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**Commercial**

**PRODUCE**

Messrs. Donald Reid and Co. report:—

We held our weekly auction sale of grain and produce at our stores on Monday. To a fair attendance of buyers we submitted a representative catalogue of all lines of produce. With the exception of potatoes, bidding was fairly brisk, and most of the lines on offer were quitted at satisfactory prices. Values ruled as under:—

Oats.—During the past week consignments have eased considerably, and as stocks in store are now light, shippers have some difficulty in filling their orders. The demand, however, is not keen, and prices show no change on those ruling a week ago. A grade gartons have most inquiry, but all feed lines have ready sale on arrival. We quote: Prime milling, 1s 8½d to 1s 10d; good to best feed, 1s 7d to 1s 8d; inferior to medium, 1s 4d to 1s 6d per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat.—The market is firm at late quotations, with an increased demand for prime velvet and red wheat. Good whole fowl wheat meets ready sale, but damaged and smutty lines are 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 11d to 4s; medium to good, 3s 4d to 3s 10d; broken and damaged, 2s 6d to 3s 3d per bushel (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—Heavy supplies have come forward during the week, and in the absence of any demand for shipment stocks have accumulated to some extent. New potatoes are also offering more freely, with the result that prices were considerably below those ruling a week ago. We quote: Best freshly-picked up-to-dates, £2 10s to £2 15s; choice, to £3; medium to good, £1 15s to £2 5s; inferior, £1 10s to £2 per ton (sacks included).

Straw.—We quote: Wheat, 30s to 32s 6d; oat, 25s to 27s 6d 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, when we offered a comprehensive catalogue to a good attendance of buyers. Competition was keen for all except potatoes, prices of which showed a decline of over £1 on last week's quotations. We cleared our catalogue at prices ranging as under:—

Oats.—Offerings are light, and stores are being gradually cleared out to fill the few shipping orders from the north. Scarcity of freight offering prevents buyers operating for Home shipment. Prices range on a par with last week's quotations. Prime milling gartons, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; prime milling sparrowbills, 1s 8½d to 1s 9½d; good to best feed, 1s 7d to 1s 8½d; inferior and medium, 1s 4d to 1s 6d per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat.—The market is practically unchanged since our last report. Prime velvet meets with most inquiry, and other sorts are taken at ruling rates. Prime milling, 4s 4d to 4s 5d; choice velvet, to 4s 6d; medium to good, 4s to 4s 2d; best whole fowl wheat, 3s 10d to 4s 1d; inferior and smutted, 2s 6d to 3s 6d per bushel (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—Market for old potatoes, on account of large offerings of new, has slumped, and prices show a big decline on late rates. Anything soft and hot in the best of condition is hard to place, and inferior are unsaleable. Prime freshly-picked, £2 15s to £3; medium, £1 15s to £2 5s per ton (sacks in).

Chaff.—Offerings have been fairly heavy this last week, and consumers hold fair stocks. Any really bright, heavy, and well-cut oat sheaf meets with ready sale, but medium has less inquiry. Best oat sheaf, £2 15s to £3; medium to good, £2 2s 6d to £2 12s 6d; inferior and discolored, £1 15s to £2 per ton (sacks extra).

Straw.—Oat, 27s 6d; wheat, 30s to 32s 6d per ton, pressed.

**Wool**

Messrs. Stronach, Morris, and Co., Ltd., report for week ending December 7 as follows:—

Oats.—There is very little change to report since last week, as there is very little demand, although consignments in stores are fairly light. A grade gartons have most inquiry, whilst sparrowbills and feed oats are also readily placed. Quotations: Prime milling, 1s 8½d to 1s 10d; good to best feed, 1s 7d to 1s 8d; inferior to medium, 1s 4d to 1s 6d per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat.—The market is practically unchanged, although prices are still firm. There is good demand for whole fowl wheat, but damaged lines are harder to sell. Quotations: Prime milling, 4s 4d to 4s 5d; medium to good, 4s 1d to 4s 3d; best whole fowl wheat, 3s 11d to 4s; medium to good, 3s 4d to 3s 10d; broken and damaged, 2s 6d to 3s 3d per bushel (sacks extra).

Chaff.—The amount coming to hand is fairly large, but the inquiry is only for prime oat sheaf, medium and fair quality being hard of sale. Quotations: Prime, £2 15s to £3; medium to good, £2 5s to £2 12s 6d; inferior and light, £2 to £2 2s 6d per ton (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—Large consignments have come to hand during the week, and owing to the large number of new potatoes coming in prices have declined from £1 to £1 10s per ton. Medium potatoes are almost unsaleable. Quotations: Best freshly-picked, £2 10s to £2 15s; medium to good, £1 15s to £2 5s; inferior, £1 10s to £2 per ton (sacks in).

Straw.—Quotations: Wheat, 30s to 32s 6d; oat, 25s to 27s 6d per ton (pressed).

**WOOL**

Messrs. Stronach, Morris, and Co., Ltd., report:—

Rabbitskins.—Owing to the wool season approaching, rabbitskin sales will be held fortnightly or as arranged. Our next sale takes place on the 13th inst.

Sheepskins.—We held our sale to-day, when we offered a very large catalogue. Bidding for all good quality skins was brisk at last week's quotations. All inferior quality and torn skins showed a slight decline, bidding for these being very slack. Quotations: Best halfbred, 8½d to 9½d; medium to good, 7½d to 8½d; inferior, 5½d to 6½d; best fine crossbred, 7½d to 8½d; one extra line bringing 9d. Coarse crossbred, 7d to 7½d; medium to good, 6d to 6½d; inferior and dead, 4½d to 5½d; best hogget skins, 7½d to 8½d; extra, to 9d; lambskins, 5½d to 6½d; pelts, 5½d to 6d; best merino, 6½d to 7½d; medium to good, 5½d to 6½d.

Hides.—We held our fortnightly sale on Thursday, 2nd inst., when we submitted a catalogue of 414. Competition was very keen, and prices showed a rise of 1d to 3d per lb except for calfskins, which were slightly easier. We offered some very prime stout ox hides, and for one weighing 84lb we received 9d per lb, and 8½d for one 82lb and four 75lb. In cow hides we sold at up to 7½d for heavy weights. Quotations: Prime stout heavy ox hides, 7½d to 9d; good heavy do, 6½d to 7½d; medium weight do, 6½d to 7½d; light weight do, 6½d to 6¾d; inferior, 3½d to 4½d; best heavy cow hides, 6½d to 7½d; medium, 6½d to 6¾d; light, 6½d to 6¾d; inferior, 4½d to 5d; yearlings, 5d to 5½d; calfskins, 4d to 8½d; horse hides, to 8s each.

Tallow and Fat.—There is no alteration in the quotations for tallow and fat since last week, there being a good demand for all coming forward.

**LIVE STOCK**

**DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS.**

Messrs. Wright, Stephenson, and Co. report as follows:

The entries for Saturday's sale were not numerous, being comprised mostly of spring-carters and light harness sorts. However, included amongst the lot were several rather nice animals, and for such competition was keen. A few good sales were effected, and much more could have been done if there had been more of the same class forward. There is a ready sale at quotations for good draught mares and geldings, fresh, sound, and staunch, and of a class suitable for either city or country work. Town carriers, contractors, and farmers are all on the lookout for good working horses. There are also inquiries for useful saddle and harness horses, and where stock of this description is forthcoming it meets with good competition. We quote:—

Superior young draught geldings, at from £40 to £45;

**Late Burnside Stock Report**

Cattle.—200 yarded, a good yarding. Prices at the commencement of the sale were not quite up to last week, fat cattle bringing £9 to £10 per head.

Sheep.—2075 yarded, a good yarding of fair quality. Best woolly wethers brought from 21s to 22s; ewes about the same, whilst medium and inferior wethers and ewes ranged in prices about the same as last week.

Lambs.—An extra big yarding of 788, and a consequent easing in prices of 1s to 1s 6d per head.

Pigs.—175 penned. Their prices were much the same as the previous week. Suckers brought from 8s 6d to 14s; slips, 14s to 16s; stores, 20s to 25s, while porkers realised anything from 38s to 38s.



DUNEDIN.

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(From our own correspondent.)

The new wing, which was recently added to St. Joseph's Convent, was solemnly blessed and opened on Sunday, November 21, by the Rev. Father Holley, assisted by Rev. Father Fay, in the presence of a large gathering of the parishioners and representatives of other denominations. A very successful garden party in connection with the opening of the new wing was held in the convent grounds on November 24. The total cost of the additions, which include a pretty chapel, was about £1000. The chapel occupies the top storey of the new wing, and is modelled after that of the Redemptorist Fathers at Wellington. Ranged round the chapel are the stalls for the Sisters, built of polished rimu. The floor and ceiling are of matai, the floor polished, and the ceiling painted. The altar rails are of brass, surmounted by a cedar top, and look very rich and handsome from the body of the chapel. The old girl pupils of the convent intend to mark the jubilee of the convent next year by presenting a new altar. A handsome Imperial organ graces the chapel, this being a present to the convent by the Rev. Father Holley. Patent dust-proof ventilators are fitted throughout, and the evening lighting is obtained from disc incandescent burners, with globes of shaded glass, in keeping with the general color scheme of the interior. The windows are of cathedral glass, in shaded colors.

At the conclusion of the blessing and opening of the wing, the Rev. Father Holley delivered an eloquent address, in the course of which he referred to the inestimable value of the gift of Christian education, such as was imparted at the convent by the Sisters of Mercy. Father Holley read the report on the examination of the Catholic schools, and challenged anyone to go through the State schools and find a better. This (said he) is proof conclusive that whilst we have safeguarded our consciences we have also maintained under the heaviest handicap and without any assistance from the State the highest standard of proficiency in secular knowledge. And to whom do we owe this? After God, to the able, earnest, zealous, self-sacrificing Sisters of Mercy, who have by vow devoted themselves by irrevocable engagements to the education of the child, soul and body, and that, a thing which the world knows not of and cannot understand, without any hope of earthly reward.

## WEDDING BELLS

### McMENAMIN—CREAN.

A pretty wedding took place at St. Peter's Church, Wrey's Bush, when Mr. A. McMenamin, of Wrey's Bush, was married to Miss Nora Crean, only daughter of Mrs. M. Crean, of Wrey's Bush. A Nuptial Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Father O'Neill. Mr. J. McMenamin (brother of the bridegroom) was best man, and Miss K. Griffin was bridesmaid. The bride, who was given away by Mr. P. O'Meara, an old and respected friend of the family, was attired in a princess gown of white silk, and wore a beautiful bridal veil and wreath of orange-blossoms, and carried an ivory-bound prayer book. The bride's present to the bridegroom was a gold chain. That of the bridegroom to the bride was a gold brooch, and to the bridesmaid a gold brooch. At the conclusion of the ceremony the guests were entertained by the bride's mother. The Rev. Father O'Neill proposed the toast of the newly-wedded couple, and other toasts were also duly honored. Mr. and Mrs. McMenamin left in the afternoon for the north, to spend their honeymoon in Auckland, and took with them the best wishes of their many friends.

### PRENDERGAST—HERLIHY.

A very popular and pretty wedding (writes our Woodville correspondent) took place at St. Columbkille's Church on November 30, when Miss Mary Herlihy, only daughter of Mrs. Herlihy, of Mangarawa, was married to Mr. Michael Prendergast, of the local railway staff. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Father T. McKenna, who celebrated a Nuptial Mass. The church, which was filled with relatives and friends of both parties, was very tastefully decorated for the occasion. The bride, who was given away by her brother, Mr. J. Herlihy, was attired in cream silk tulle, handsomely trimmed with lace insertion and ribbons, and having a yoke of tucked net. She also wore the usual veil and wreath of orange blossoms. She was attended by six bridesmaids—Miss Frances Harris, Miss Ella Harris, Miss E. Murphy, Misses May and Ella Herlihy (cousins of the bride), and Miss Rosie Burke (niece of the bridegroom). The bridegroom's presents to the bridesmaids were—Miss T. Harris (chief bridesmaid), gold necklet and pendant, and the other very handsome, gold brooches set with precious stones. The bride's present to the bridegroom was a very handsome set of gold sleeve-links and studs, whilst the bridegroom presented the bride with an exquisite gold neck chain and pendant set with diamonds and rubies. The bridegroom was attended by his brother, Mr. J. Prendergast, as best man. The music of the Mass was rendered by the choir, under the conductor-

ship of Mr. Herlihy. Miss McCaffery officiated at the organ, and played the Wedding March as the bridal party left the church. The bride and bridegroom were the recipients of numerous and costly presents. The guests were entertained at breakfast in the Foresters' Hall by Mrs. Herlihy. The Rev. Father McKenna proposed the toast of the Bride and bridegroom, and in a very happy speech testified to the esteem in which both were held in the district. Other toasts were also duly honored. The happy couple left for the north on their honeymoon trip, taking with them the best wishes of their many friends for their future happiness.

## Interprovincial

There were 47,731 Maoris in the Dominion at last census, and the land held by them at present is 7,401,820 acres. The other 929,000 of the population occupy about 36,000,000 acres. That is, each Maori has on an average 155 acres and each European 38 acres.

Ross and Co.'s ropeworks at Foxton were totally destroyed by fire on Saturday. The works closed down at the usual time, but an hour and a-half later a passer-by noticed flames coming through one of the windows at the opposite end of the building from the machinery. In a few minutes the building was completely enveloped in flames, and a little later the roof collapsed. Within half an hour of the outbreak the whole building was totally destroyed, together with the machinery, valued at £18,000, which was used in the manufacture of all classes of rope and twine. The value of the property saved does not exceed £500. The fire will throw seventy hands out of work for a long period, owing to the fact that it is necessary to import new machinery from England.

The coal miners in the Westport district are cheerfully and successfully seconding the efforts of the companies to meet the pressure in the demands for coal. At Ngakawau the men make no objection to working on pay Saturday. The Seddonville and Granity miners are briskly employed. At Denniston on Friday another daily record was established, the output for the day for one shift being 1573 tons. The waterside men at Westport are working overtime, and it is only in one or two isolated cases that any objection has been made, although a large quantity of coal is being handled. The railway is working the mineral smartly, and there has not been the slightest congestion in shipping. The co-operation of all concerned is a gratifying feature of the rush. The pace of production, haulage, and shipment, will go a long way to prove that New Zealand can supply all her own coal demands. The output from the Westport Coal Company's mines during November was 51,761 tons 11cwt; from the Seddonville State mine, 6142 tons 10cwt; and from the Stockton Company's mine, 13,863 tons 5cwt—total, 71,766 tons 17cwt. During the month 104 steamers worked the port.

At the half-yearly meeting of the shareholders of the Bank of New Zealand at Wellington on Friday the chairman said in the course of his address:—I desire to congratulate the shareholders of the bank, and the country generally, on the better and more promising monetary conditions that prevail to-day, and I do not think it would be improper on my part should I claim some credit for the banking institutions of New Zealand for the change that has taken place. A year ago the banks were criticised inside and outside of Parliament for not lending freely, notwithstanding that the aggregate of the advances and discounts as at September 30, 1908, exhibited a very substantial increase on the figures of the previous year. A good many people are under the impression that it is the duty of the banks to advance against all and every kind of security. The sooner this impression is removed the better. That the bankers of the Dominion pursued the right course during the past twelve or eighteen months is proved to some extent by the easier tendency that now prevails in the local money market. The banks are to-day in a much stronger position, and quite capable of furnishing all the legitimate banking accommodation that may be required.

Mr. Will Crooks, M.P. for Woolwich in the British House of Commons, speaking in His Majesty's Theatre, Dunedin, on Sunday evening, said that when he left Home he had been under a solemn promise not to indulge in any public speaking; therefore he hoped they would not regard the present gathering as of the nature of a public meeting. He was there first for the sake of his health, second in order to visit certain relations, third to learn, and he was learning. He was glad that he had come, and had been able to introduce himself to them. They now knew him better than was possible through the newspapers, with their marvellous and wonderful cablegrams. The cablegrams were not so much as the people were entitled to; they were simply the opinions of a few unimportant people in London. Surely the editor of a newspaper, for his staff was quite able to express opinions in the leading columns of the paper without opinions being sent out from London at 3s a word. Three shillings a word is too big a price to pay for some of the things you get on this side—I give you my word for that.



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INNISFAIL

THE ART UNION in aid of the Kaitiata Building Fund will be drawn at 12 o'clock on THURSDAY.

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KERRYTOWN ART UNION

The ART UNION in aid of the Kerrytown Building Fund will be drawn at Pleasant Point on THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16. We beg to remind holders of Blocks to return same as soon as possible.

QUEENSTOWN CONVENT BAZAAR

WINNING NUMBERS in the Prize Drawing which took place on December 4 in connection with the Bazaar, Queenstown, are: 1st Prize, 2068; 2nd Prize, 1017; 3rd Prize, 1979; 4th Prize, 1017; 5th Prize, 1017; 6th Prize, 1017; 7th Prize, 1017; 8th Prize, 1017; 9th Prize, 1017; 10th Prize, 1017.

CONVENT OF THE SACRED HEART

ISLAND BAY, WELLINGTON, N.Z.

THE ANNUAL SPIRITUAL RETREAT FOR LADIES will begin at 7 p.m. on MONDAY, January 3, 1910, and will end on the morning of Saturday, January 8.

The Retreat will be preached by the Rev. Father McGurkin, S.M. The Retreatants who wish to join should apply to the Convent during the week.

CONVENT OF THE SACRED HEART

THE ANNUAL SPIRITUAL RETREAT FOR LADIES will begin at 7 p.m. on MONDAY, January 3, 1910, and will end on the morning of Saturday, January 8.

The Retreat will be preached by the Very Rev. Dr. Kennedy, S.M., President of St. Patrick's College, Wellington.

By applying in time to the Rev. Mother Superior, Ladies wishing to make the Retreat can remain at the Convent, where they will find every accommodation.

NEW ZEALAND TABLET PRINTING & PUBLISHING COMPANY, LTD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ADJOURNED ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the New Zealand Tablet Printing and Publishing Company, Ltd., will be held at the Registered Office of the Company, in the Octagon, Dunedin, on MONDAY, the 13th day of December, 1909, at 8 o'clock in the evening, to transact the ordinary business of the Company.

C. COLUMB, JUN., Secretary.

THE LATEST AND MOST EXTENSIVE WORK OF REV. HENRY W. CLEARY, D.D., Editor of the New Zealand Tablet.

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Price, 4s 6d. Apply Manager, N.Z. Tablet, Dunedin; and of all Booksellers.

TO THE MARRIAGES

McMENAMIN-CREANE—On November 23 at St. Peter's Church, Wrey's Bush, by the Rev. Father O'Neill, Andrew McMenemy to Nora Creane. PRENDERGAST-HERLIHY—On November 30, at St. Columbkille's Church, Woodville, by the Rev. Father McKenna, Michael Prendergast, son of Mr. Maurice Prendergast, of Kerry Islands, Kellahney, to Mary Theresa, only daughter of Mrs. Herlihy, Mangarua.

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

Pergant Directores et Scriptores New Zealand Tablet, Apostolica Benedictione, congratulatio, Religiosis 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, DECEMBER 9, 1909.

THE LORDS, THE BUDGET, AND HOME RULE

IN the minds of most of our readers, or at least in the minds of those of them who follow Imperial politics, three questions will naturally arise in connection with the present crisis: (1) Were the Lords justified in rejecting the Budget? (2) What will be the issues in the coming election? and (3) What bearing, if any, will the election have on the prospects of Home Rule? The first is really little more than an academic question, and may be very briefly dismissed. The fact that Lord Morley—who made perhaps the weightiest speech against the Peers' action—admitted their bare legal right to reject the Budget, and the further fact, noted by the Law Journal, that the voting of the sixteen Peers having judicial experience showed the weight of legal opinion to be against the view that the Peers had violated the Constitution, may be taken as finally disposing of the technical, constitutional aspect of the question. As to the wisdom or policy of the action, the Lords themselves had to determine that was their funeral. But the second question, which has recently rendered useful service in rejecting crude and ill-thought-out Education Bills, and while something may be said as to the necessity for an independent Second Chamber as a security for stability in legislation, the British Upper House has so often blocked the way to really just and beneficent legislation that in these self-governing colonies few tears will be shed if, as an outcome of the present crisis, the Peers come back with their powers markedly curtailed. The general feeling among New Zealanders will be pretty much that implied in the answer given by a somewhat thorough-going Churchman who was asked if he was going to the funeral of a local dignitary: 'No, no, no, I am not going to the funeral, but I am going to the funeral.'

What will be the issues in the coming contest? They will be stated variously, according to the political sympathies and party affinities of the speaker. Lord Lansdowne has announced that they will be (1) Tariff Reform as against the Budget, one or two Houses of Parliament, and Socialism or not; but whatever the minor issues may be, it may be taken as practically certain that not Socialism,

and not even the merits of the Budget but the abolition of the Lords' right of veto on legislation sent up from the Commons will be the great outstanding issue of the struggle. In addition to the questions mentioned, the Irish leaders are hopeful that Home Rule also will be made a direct and vital issue. In an interview at Queenstown, just prior to leaving on his American tour, Mr. J. P. O'Connor was asked: "Do you think the Liberal Party will make Home Rule a dominant issue at the forthcoming election?" And his reply was: "I certainly do think they will. There is no Liberal candidate who has stood for Parliament during the last year and a half who has not been asked the question, 'Are you in favor of Home Rule?' and, secondly, 'Are you in favor of making this a vital issue at the coming election?' And in every case but one we have got an emphatic and prompt 'Yes' on both these questions. If the Irish question is not placed in the forefront it certainly will not be the party's fault. Replying to an address presented to him by the Irishmen of Cleator Moor, West Cumberland, on October 14, Mr. John Redmond said that "if the Liberal leaders explicitly, fairly, and squarely put Home Rule in the forefront of the leading issues at the coming election, the Irish leaders would advise that the Irish vote should be given to the Liberals, but not a single vote would be given to any candidate who juggled with Home Rule." Addressing a public meeting at the same place later in the evening, the Irish leader said: "I am here to-night to raise the issue of Home Rule for Ireland. I hope and believe the Liberal leaders will make the declarations we require; but even the Liberal leaders cannot prevent Home Rule being raised in the coming election. We will raise it in every constituency where there is an Irish voter." And, speaking at Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire, two days earlier, Mr. Redmond was even more emphatic. "I am here to-night," he said, "to say to all whom it concerns, to Liberals as well as Conservatives, that when the general election comes, Home Rule for Ireland shall, and must, be amongst the leading issues submitted to the electorate. The policy of silence and evasion, which was so largely pursued by the Liberal leaders at the last election on this question of Ireland, cannot be repeated. The Irishmen of Great Britain will not subordinate the question of justice to Ireland to any other question whatever." It is evident that the party have buckled on their armor for a big fight, and that they will enter into battle in the old familiar spirit—the spirit which will neither fail nor falter, until victory is assured.

Even if Home Rule, as an immediate issue, is in danger of being dwarfed by other questions which will have a more direct and present interest for the English voter, it seems certain that the result of the coming election must be to bring what Mr. Winston Churchill calls 'a national settlement with Ireland' measurably nearer. As we have said, the great outstanding issue will be the abolition of the Lords' right of veto, and those who are best able to judge are confident that the destruction of the veto of the House of Lords will be the key which will unlock the door to Irish freedom. With the veto of the House of Lords, said Mr. Redmond in a cablegram to the United Irish League of America, will disappear the last obstacle to Home Rule. If the Lords reject the Budget, said Mr. O'Connor in the interview from which we have already quoted, I would regard the day they did it as the day of their doom and at the same time the day of Ireland's emancipation. And the director of the Nationalist propaganda in New York, one of the most influential Irishmen in America, in an interview with a representative of the New York Standard, said: "We endorse Mr. Redmond's statement. It is the greatest rallying cry we have had for a long time. If the Lords' veto is curtailed Home Rule would be won for Ireland within two or three years. The question now remaining is 'Will the veto go?' Threatened institutions, like threatened men, live long, and the Lords have heard the cry of a ended, but mended so often and so long that they have learned to listen to it unmoved. But times are changed and what is more, they are rapidly changing. In England as in other countries, a new power is springing up which—whether for weal or woe—does not stop to threaten, but

which strikes and that power will not long tolerate obstruction when it stands in the way of legislation which the nation desires. It does look as if the coming struggle will be Ireland's opportunity. Not for many a day has the situation been so interesting and so hopeful.

## Notes

### Quality not Quantity

It is not the number of Catholics that counts, says the San Francisco Leader, but it is the kind of Catholics that makes the difference. Catholics who never go to Mass are so much dead wood, Catholics whose lives are a scandal to the very pagans are the shame of the Church. Catholics whose Catholicity is apparent only at election time are our bane, and Catholics whose religion consists in cursing the A.P.A. are a veritable plague. The only Catholic worth counting is the Catholic who lives up to the teaching of his religion, who obeys her laws, and is of good report to them that are without.

### Presbyterian Scotland's Birth-rate

In a special article the Scotsman lately discussed the decreasing birth-rate in Scotland, and quoted a number of official returns on the subject. The general results of its investigation, extending over the past 55 years, come to this: that the birth-rate in Scotland in September last was the lowest recorded during all that period. The paper makes a candid confession: "It is rapidly becoming with us as it was in Rome in the days of Augustus—the woe to do shrink from the responsibilities of marriage. We are only twenty-one years behind France in the race of the declining birth-rate. Scotland stands to-day where France stood in 1888. Truly, this ought to shake our national self-satisfaction."

The Scotsman goes on to say that a generation ago the Scottish Presbyterian gave thanks that he was not as these Romanists. Now, it is sorrowfully acknowledged that the land of the Covenanters has set forth on the road which means at its end—national suicide.

And the paper comes to the obvious and proper conclusion: "These questions belong primarily to the sphere of religion. . . yet the churches have sounded no note of warning. . . it would need a united, a national church. . . but Scotland possesses no longer such a church."

Upon which the Edinburgh Catholic Herald—to whom we are indebted for the Scotsman extracts—aptly remarks: "If this were Catholic assertion it would no doubt be hotly controverted or condemned. It is the despairing confession of Scotland's leading newspaper. To the adversaries of the Catholic Church, who have been chortling over the short-sighted conclusions drawn from rigged data by Mr. Joseph McCabe, et hoc, over the Decay of Rome, the Scotsman article may be appropriately commended."

### The Strike: A Dangerous Weapon

We are glad to note that, according to latest telegrams, there is a fair prospect of the West Coast coal strike being satisfactorily settled. There can be no two opinions as to the necessity and benefit of union among the workers. It has raised them up morally, mentally, and socially, improved their wages, shortened their hours, of toil, brought about conciliation and arbitration in trade disputes, and ended those inhuman conditions of labor that made factory life in England a form of slavery from the early days of the industrial revolution till those of the middle of the nineteenth century. There should be no restriction on the workers' right of association beyond those that the service of the State (and the best interests of the public clearly demand. But a strike is a dangerous weapon. It puts a brake on the wheel of national progress, it furnishes an occasion for bitter enmities and sometimes for grave disorders, and it usually inflicts hardships upon innocent poor who lie outside the scope of its immediate interests and operations. Like the war of rifle-bullets and shrapnel shells, it should be entered upon only as the last remedy for serious wrongs when all other reasonable means have failed.

**J. TAIT, Monumental Sculptor** { Just over Bridge and opposite Drill Shed. } Manufacturer and Importer of Every Description of Headstones, Cross Monuments etc., in Granite, Marble and other stones.



In his 'Political Economy' (one of the Stonyhurst Manuals of Catholic Philosophy) Mr. Charles S. Devás says: 'Strikes are only justifiable when they aim at some benefit for the workmen, which it is unjust in the master to refuse, and which can only be obtained in this way; and it is only too unlikely that these conditions will not be fulfilled, and that the strike will in consequence be an injustice. And in some industries and employments which minister to the daily wants of society, strikes produce such inconvenience, that if they become frequent, no civilised Government could endure them: for example, general strikes of coal-miners, or dock-workers, or even local strikes of workers on railways, or tramways, or in gasworks. The conditions laid down by the Catholic economist are manifestly sound, and in view of the facilities afforded in New Zealand for settling industrial disputes by conciliation and arbitration, the continuance of the existing strike cannot possibly be justified, however much one might desire to see the men's legitimate grievances redressed.'

**General d'Amade and Rome**

A French General—d'Amade the name of him—lately ran amok in an interview with the anticlerical Paris journal, the *Matin*. The result is that he has had to be sent into retirement—for a space—so that he may have an opportunity of acquiring the knowledge—even more useful to fighting men than to men of peace—of how to keep his feet warm and his head cool. We take the liberty of suggesting that an ice-bag would be a useful adjunct to the scene of his retirement. The General, says the Rome correspondent of the London *Tablet*, of October 16, 'alleged that the Vatican was inciting and encouraging the Spaniards in Morocco in order to prejudice French interests there, and he alleged as a proof of this that the Holy See had removed all the French missionaries in the country and replaced them by Spanish Friars. The truth is, the *Osservatore* points out, that Morocco has been for a long time a Vicariate-Apostolic entrusted to the Spanish Franciscans. When the French Government sent its expedition against the Chouias it failed to send any military chaplains with the troops. They were lovingly assisted by the Spanish missionaries, who received warm personal thanks from the soldiers who benefited by their ministrations. But the Holy See did not stop at that. At the instance of French Catholics it used its influence with the Vicar-Apostolic of Morocco to secure the temporary assistance of French Franciscans to attend to the French soldiers, and these French religious remained with the troops until the latter were withdrawn. The *Osservatore* very pertinently turns the argument against the French authorities by pointing out that when France took possession of Tunis it lost no time in securing the removal of the Italian Capuchins, who had been in the country for a long time and had done good work on the mission, and Spain, showing itself anxious for the presence of its own missionaries in Morocco, was only following the conduct of all other countries with foreign possessions.'

This disposes of General d'Amade's 'fairy tale of a far-off land.' The reader will duly note how plain a tale has put him down.

**DIocese of DUNEDIN**

Six students of Holy Cross College, Mosgiel, will be ordained to the priesthood in St. Joseph's Cathedral on Sunday.

There was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Joseph's Cathedral on Sunday from the last Mass until Vespers. In the evening there was the usual procession.

The following are the results of the practical music examinations held by Mr. H. St. George, of Trinity College, London, at the Dominican Convent, Queenstown, on December 2. Senior division—M. McCarthy, 85 (honors); J. Aldridge, 84 (honors); R. McNeill, 67. Intermediate—R. Holt, 81 (honors); Juniors—F. Valentin, 83 (honors); S. Robertson, 73; N. Lynch, 72; K. Kelly, 70. Preparatory—F. Gillies, 81; M. McBride, 78. All the candidates presented were successful. At the theory examinations, held in June last, the following results were obtained—Senior—R. McNeill, 81. Intermediate—R. Holt, 83 (honors); Juniors—K. Kelly, 96 (honors); J. McIsaac, 82 (honors); M. Luckie, 74; N. Lynch, 64.

The annual concert by the pupils of the Santa Sabina Convent, North-east Valley, was given in the schoolroom on Friday night, in the presence of a large and very appreciative audience. The concert was an artistic success, and the vocal and instrumental items reflected the highest credit on the performers and on their teachers, the Dominican Nuns. Several of the items were encored, a compliment which would, no doubt, have been extended to the whole of the performers were it not that the audi-

ence felt that such a course would unduly prolong the concert. The programme was such as to show the excellent musical education imparted at the convent. A feature of the concert was the operetta, 'The Spirit of the Wood,' by the pupils, who made a very pretty picture on the stage in their varied and artistic costumes. They were letter-perfect in their parts, and went through the operetta with credit to themselves and their teachers. The kindergarten also did remarkably well in their chorus and dance. Miss Nellie Chandler gave a recitation, 'The last token,' with much dramatic effect. The following was the programme: Duet, two pianos, 'Sandmauchen' (Heins); Misses Cromiar and Douglas; chorus and dance, kindergarten; vocal solo, 'Berceuse' (Gounod), Miss Wood; duet, two pianos, 'L'Hiver,' Misses Elvina Millow, Nellie Thompson, Masters R. and H. Botting; vocal solo, 'The promise of life,' Miss B. Hislop; operetta, 'The Spirit of the Wood,' vocal solo, 'Twas a lover and his lass' (Macfarren), Miss A. Heffernan; duet, two pianos, 'Il bacio,' Misses Stanaway, D. Gore, N. and L. Lynch; vocal solo, 'Out on the rocks,' Miss N. Dane; recitation, 'The last token,' Miss Nellie Chandler; vocal solo, 'Ave Maria,' Miss Beulah Mitchelson; piano solo, 'Spring song' (Mendelssohn), Miss E. Chandler; vocal solo, 'April morn,' Miss J. McNee; piano duo, 'Impromptu mazurka' (Lack), Miss E. Chandler, and Miss Stanaway; vocal solo, 'Dermot Astore' (Cróich), Miss C. Kerr; piano duet, two pianos, 'Tanantelle' (Pietzókka), Miss Stanaway, and Master Eric Strain; vocal duet, 'Sea breezes,' Misses J. McNee and N. Dane. The greater part of the accompaniments were played by Miss M. Bernick. Prior to the final item Rev. Father O'Reilly took the opportunity of congratulating the performers and the Dominican Nuns on the excellence of the programme, and of thanking the audience for their attendance.

**Oamaru**

(From our own correspondent)

December 6

At the examinations held recently in Oamaru in connection with Trinity College, the following pupils of Miss Cartwright, A.T.C.L., were successful:—Higher examination—Aimee Piper, A.T.C.L., 97 (honors). Senior grade—Hannah Cartwright, 92 (honors). Junior grade—Vera Rankin, 92 (honors). Preparatory—Dora Daly, 89 (honors). In the higher examination Miss Piper, A.T.C.L., has so far the honor of gaining the highest marks in New Zealand. In connection with the examination of the Associated Board of the R.A.M. and R.C.M. the following candidates were successful:—Elementary—Annie Archibald, 130 (distinction); Elsie Ramsay, 120; Olive Diver, 118.

**Mosgiel**

A crowded and appreciative audience greeted the rise of the curtain at the convent school concert on the evening of November 26 (says the *Tairāra Advocate*). The programme included two pianoforte quartets and two trios, the players being Misses V. Jones, K. Walsh, M. Turnbull, K. Inglis, I. Keys, M. Kovalevske, N. Christie, and L. Hawke. The playing of these young ladies reflected the greatest credit on their tutors and themselves. 'Two little tots'—Doris McLutye and Amelda Hawke—sang a duet about a bird's nest. The audience recalled them, and Doris appeared by herself and recited 'What I have.' After hearing this the audience were not satisfied until she returned and repeated the item. A number of boys sang a chorus, which was full of humor, about 'The travelling tinkers.' Masters John O'Brien and Vincent Hawke sang a comic duet, and were obliged to respond to an encore. The choruses 'The rainbow' and 'Flower song,' by the junior girls, were very pleasing items, and much appreciated. 'The old brigade' chorus and march was full of color and spirit, and so pleased the audience that a double encore was called for. The soloists in this were Messrs. A. Hawke and J. Walsh. Another equally successful item was the patriotic march and chorus, 'The British Dominions.' The British dependencies were each represented by a banner, carried by a girl, and supported on each side by boys in uniform. Another chorus and march that was both well received and well performed was 'Zealandia.' The children formed the letters composing the word 'Zealandia,' and afterwards with the assistance of some boys sang the chorus. Another pretty item was 'Roaming on the hills,' given by Misses Mary McCann, Lizzie Daly, Ivy Freeman, Maria and Alice McGettigan, Eileen and Aggie Stevenson, Mary Tansy, Mary Harty, and E. McGettigan. The promoters of the concert were fortunate in securing two solos from Mr. E. Woods, of Dunedin. To judge by the applause and encore, the audience were delighted with his singing of 'I triumph, Sincerity,' and 'Rocked in the cradle of the deep.' The other item in the programme not already referred to was the operetta, 'The King's Awakening in Fairyland.' The scenes were the prettiest, the music the sweetest, and the movements the brightest on the programme, consequently the piece was a very good one. The accompaniments were played by various members of the company.

THE POLITICAL CRISIS AT HOME

The House of Lords has, as was generally expected, rejected the financial proposals of the Government...

On Thursday of last week Mr. Asquith moved in the House of Commons; that the action of the House of Lords in refusing to pass into law the financial provisions made by the House of Commons for the services of the year was a breach of the Constitution and a usurpation of the rights of the House of Commons.

After a comparatively short debate, the motion was carried by 349 votes to 234. In the course of his speech, the Prime Minister said that for the first time in the history of the grant the ways and means for supply and services for the year had been intercepted and nullified by a body admittedly having no power to diminish a single tax or to substitute an alternative.

The National Liberal Federation has issued a manifesto which states that the issues involved are as grave as any in the lifetime of the oldest voter.

Here is the position at present of parties:—Ministerial—England 342, Scotland 61, Wales 30 total 433. Opposition—England 123, Ireland 19, Scotland 11, Wales 0, total 153.

The official dissolution has been fixed for January 8, and writs are to be issued the same day.

The Hospital collection in Dunedin last Saturday realised the sum of £1000, which was about £200 more than the amount received last year.

The annual spiritual retreat for ladies will begin on Monday evening, January 3, at the Convent of the Sacred Heart, Island Bay, Wellington.

The proprietor of the Unique Millinery Store, Lower Stuart street, Dunedin, has decided to give some valuable presents to customers during the current month.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

CATHEDRAL CONFERENCE, CHRISTCHURCH

The following is a summary of the operations of the Cathedral Conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul since the last conference during the past winter...

LEADERS OF CHARITY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

President, Miss Wally; vice-presidents, Mrs. W. Nelson, Miss Nellie...

The Ladies of Charity meet each Tuesday evening in a room allotted to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, in the south tower of the Cathedral. After conducting the general business incidental to the visitation and relief of deserving cases...

At the annual meeting of the Southern Hospital and Charitable Aid Board, Mr. David...

The Kerrytown art union will be drawn at Pleasant Point on December 16. Holders of blocks of tickets are requested to return same as soon as possible.

# Important Announcement!

**WE have pleasure in announcing that on THURSDAY, 18th NOVEMBER, the sale of surplus stock will commence.**

## GREAT SALE OF SURPLUS STOCK

Bought in LONDON, MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, DUNEDIN, CHRISTCHURCH, and WELLINGTON. The goods, together with many THOUSANDS OF POUNDS WORTH OF RECENT IMPORTATIONS will be offered for sale at LARGE REDUCTIONS on ordinary prices. The Stock consists of...

**GENERAL DRAPERY, CLOTHING AND MERCERY, BOOTS AND SHOES, CARPETS, LINOLEUMS, FLOORCLOTHS, FURNITURE, CROCKERY, IRON MONGERY, AND GENERAL HOUSEHOLD FURNISHINGS.**

We Cordially Invite Your Inspection.

**NOTE: The Sale will Positively Close on FRIDAY, 24th DECEMBER.**

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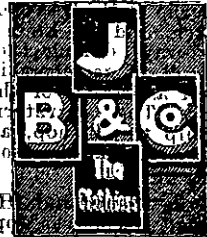
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cures Chillsains (broken or unbroken), Chapped Hands, Sprayed Skin, and all Smarting Eruptions.

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cures Eczema, Scaly Blisters on the Skin, and Skin Affections generally.

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cures Ulcerated Legs caused by Varicose Veins, Tender and Sweaty Feet, and Running Sores.

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cures Itching, Clears the Skin, and Scalp, Cures Dandruff and Beautifies the Complexion.

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# Irish News

Introduction of a Bill for the purpose of amending the Land Act, 1946, was introduced by the Minister for Lands, Mr. J. J. Flanagan, at the meeting of the Executive Council on the 27th inst. The Bill, which provides for the creation of a Land Commission, is intended to give the Government power to acquire land for public purposes, and to enable it to make such land available for public use. The Commission will be empowered to purchase land from private owners, and to lease it to the public. The Bill is expected to pass in the near future.

Justice, all the more inexcusable was that, in the public examinations, of the Royal University Galway had been completely out of the field. The examination was held on the 28th inst. at the Royal University Galway. The examination was held in the presence of the Chief Justice, Mr. J. F. Keenan, and the Lord Justice, Mr. J. C. Power. The examination was held in the presence of the Chief Justice, Mr. J. F. Keenan, and the Lord Justice, Mr. J. C. Power. The examination was held in the presence of the Chief Justice, Mr. J. F. Keenan, and the Lord Justice, Mr. J. C. Power.

### Country's Peace Threatened

The Most Rev. Dr. O'Dea (reforming) recently, in the introduction of the Land Bill by the House of Lords, said that he always strives when the patience of the people was tested to keep them within the limits of God's law, and he trusted with God's help to continue his efforts. For the sake therefore, of public order, which he believed to be the sole condition of national prosperity, he hoped the Bill would pass, and not only that it would pass, but that it would contain all the provisions necessary for the final settlement of the question in the West. These provisions, his Lordship held, to be first, the power of compulsions upon a failure of agreement; secondly, a sufficient area under the Congested Districts Board, not only to include the chief seats of congestion, but also to provide land enough for the congested; and, thirdly, sufficient funds earmarked for that West to purchase and improve the land required and effect the necessary enlargements of holdings, and a final administrative body for the landlord and tenant, and with sufficient powers to fulfil its purposes, without depending upon the will of a rival body, and these were cut out of the Bill, it might be wholly worthless; it certainly could not be final, and he doubted whether another application, which was sure to be made, would not result in terms much less favorable to the landlords.

### The Temperance Movement

The Most Rev. Dr. O'Dea, Bishop of Galway, paid his first Episcopal visit, on Sunday, October 26, to Gort, where he met with an enthusiastic welcome. Addresses were presented to his Lordship from priests and people, in reply to which he spoke words of weighty import dealing with the temperance movement at Ardahan. He said he had watched with the utmost interest the success of the missions held in the West. Everywhere, he said, they had been a magnificent success. St. Patrick's Temperance League had been splendidly inaugurated, but the question remained whether its work would be lasting. He was much mistaken if they were not convinced that a movement against drink was as necessary as a movement for Home-Rule or the division of the land, and he would be much surprised and disappointed if from the strength of that conviction the new League did not continue to live, and, with God's blessing, rid them for all time of the curse of drink.

### LIMERICK—Bridging the Shannon

An influential committee has been appointed at Castleconnell to urge the Limerick and Clare County Councils to build a bridge across the Shannon at Castleconnell.

### MONAGHAN—The Bishop's Political Faith

On the afternoon of his consecration as Bishop of Clogher, the Most Rev. Dr. McKenna, replying to, among others, an address from the Monaghan United Irish League, said he was at one with them, not merely in believing in the capacity of Irishmen to manage successfully the affairs of their country, but in holding that the one and only way in which the object of all good government—namely, the promotion of the temporal well-being and happiness of the people—could be adequately and satisfactorily obtained in Ireland was by placing the direction of its destinies in the hands of its own people. It had always seemed incomprehensible to him how any sane Irishman could contend that a body of intelligent Irishmen, who loved their country, and were intent on its welfare and progress, who were intimately acquainted with the nation's needs and the conditions of its problems, and whose sympathies were entirely with their own people would not manage the affairs of Ireland, in every conceivable circumstance, infinitely better than a body of strangers who had no interest in the country except in so far as it served their own purposes; who had no sympathy with the people, who did not understand their wants, and who in any case had not the time, even if they had the inclination, to deal justly with Irish problems. The English had not come to Ireland out of pure altruistic love for the country, and they did not remain there out of pure altruism. They had from the beginning tried to run Ireland for England's benefit so long and so far as they could safely do so. The result of their rule in Ireland, from the point of view of Ireland's interests, tried by any and every test, had been a dismal failure. Recent events had proved that it was only through government by Irishmen, prosperity and happiness could be looked for. He thoroughly approved of the sentiment that the United Irish League should be maintained as the supreme national organisation. As far as any influence he might have was concerned, he should give it for maintaining and strengthening that organisation, so that Ireland might speak with one voice, and move as one body on its road to freedom.

### TIPPERRARY—Death of a Prominent Nationalist

The death occurred recently of Mr. William Ryan, a prominent member of the Tipperary Nationalist Party, central secretary of the Irish Land Labour Organisation and vice-chairman of the Tipperary Board of Guardians. The late Mr. Ryan took a prominent part in the '67 and subsequent

### Scholastic Philosophy

After three days inquiry in the course of which much evidence was tendered, the Privy Council dismissed the petitions presented under the Irish Universities Act, 1908, and the Queen's University, Belfast, so far as they provide that Scholastic Philosophy shall be one of the subjects of the Faculty of Arts, should be discontinued. The petitions which were practically the same, were presented by Rev. John McDermott, Presbyterian Minister, Belfast; Rev. John Joseph Magal, Crossgar, County Down; the Right Hon. the Marquis of Londonderry, K.C., and others. The evidence given by Rev. Father Finlay, S.J., of the concluding day was most instructive and erudite.

### ILLNESS

When the last mail left Home the Most Rev. Dr. Boylston, Bishop of Armagh, was dangerously ill in Dublin.

### CLARE—White Gloves for the Judge

At the Kilrush Quarter Sessions on October 14, County Court Judge Bodkin was presented with white gloves in the absence of any criminal business. His Honor said in presentation or gift could give him greater pleasure. He had now he was glad to say, a good many pairs of white gloves in stock.

### DUBLIN—Death of Judge Fitzgibbon

The *Freeman's Journal*, in its notice of the death of Lord Justice Fitzgibbon, a report of whose demise was cabled out at the time, says:—A judge who for upwards of thirty years had been an ornament to the Irish Judiciary and eminent educationist, a kindly, courteous, cultured, humane gentleman of broad and liberal views, his death will evoke feelings of widespread and genuine regret, not only amongst his intimate friends and members of the Bench and Bar, but of the public generally, who appreciated the high character and the many sterling public and private virtues of the deceased Lord Justice. A cable message received last week stated that Mr. R. Cherry, K.C., Attorney-General for Ireland, succeeds the late Lord Justice Fitzgibbon as Lord Justice of Appeal for Ireland.

### DUBLIN—The Archdiocese

From Bishop Donnelly's article on 'Dublin,' contributed to Vol. V. of the *Catholic Encyclopedia*, we gather there are 74 parishes in that diocese, and 70 parish priests; 190 curates, 247 regular clergy; 193 public churches, chapels, and oratories, with a Catholic population of 407,514, the non-Catholics being 112,498. The Protestants still hold the two Cathedrals, Christ Church, and St. Patrick's, built by Catholics and stolen from them at the 'Reformation.' Christ Church, formerly known as Holy Trinity Cathedral, was founded in 1098 by King Sitric III. St. Patrick's dates from 1190, and was founded by Archbishop Comyn. The Catholics have a Pro-Cathedral, the foundations of which were laid by Archbishop Joyce about the end of the eighteenth century.

### Catholic Truth Society

His Eminence Cardinal Logue only stated a fact when he said at the seventeenth Annual Conference of the Catholic Truth Society of Ireland that the organisation was becoming more vigorous and more useful every year. This year's Conference (says the *Catholic Times*) was unquestionably the most successful yet held and the proceedings gave promise of a splendid future. The paper on 'The Intellectual Claims of the Catholic Church' read by Dr. Windle was notable not merely for the amount of information it contained, but also for its stimulative spirit. The modern critic is active and unsparring. He often exaggerates and finds fault when there is no good ground for making an accusation. His fallacies must be dealt with, but they cannot be exposed unless the minds of those who undertake the task of exposure are well stored with knowledge. There never was a time when it was more important for Catholics to secure a solid education and we are glad to observe that the Catholics of Ireland are rising to the height of their opportunities. Most admirable is the policy favored by the Cardinal and the other Catholic authorities with respect to the new University. 'My rule,' said his Eminence, 'would be to take the best man you can get to teach a subject whether he is a Priest or a Layman.' Catholics are sometimes charged with a want of zeal for mental improvement. Utterances such as this show that charges of the kind are baseless and absurd.

### GALWAY—Treatment of University College

Replying to addresses presented to him at Gort on Sunday, October 17, Most Rev. Dr. O'Dea said he feared the people of the West did not yet appreciate the magnitude of the injustice they suffered under the University Act—starvation of the endowment of the University College, Galway. Cork received £20,000 every year from Galway, and Belfast £16,000 every year more than Galway, though formerly the three Colleges were equal. What made this

movements, and was an ardent and sincere Nationalist all his life. He reached the ripe old age of 76 years, and died fortified by all the rites of the Church, of which he was a most devoted member. His remains were interred in the family burying-place at Old Pallas.

WEXFORD—Lady Presides at Board

At a recent meeting of the Wexford Board of Guardians Lady Maurice Fitzgerald, chairman, presiding. Mrs. T. J. Healy was elected vice-chairman in place of Mrs. M. A. Evans resigned.

Declined to Assist

Mr. T. W. Russell, M.P., has informed the Wexford Farmers' Society that as it would interfere with an existing industry in the county, the department would not give financial aid to a project to start a bacon factory, but would be prepared to support a dead meat export trade.

A Link with Father Mathew

One of the last links in connection with the visit of Father Mathew to County Wexford has been sundered by the death in his 88th year of Mr. George C. Roberts, J.P., of Summer Hill, Enniscorthy. When the zealous Capuchin Friar came to Enniscorthy on April 7, 1840, he was met by a fairly large body of total abstainers, with their President (Mr. Joshua Roberts), accompanied by his son George. A grand demonstration took place in the grounds of the Presentation Convent, where Father Mathew administered the pledge, and by his side were Joshua Roberts and his son. Less than three years afterwards, Mr. George Roberts, on the death of his father, was appointed agent to the Earl of Portsmouth, and he held that position for 63 years, retiring in 1906. His memory was keen to the last, and he had many thrilling tales of the famine period. He was fond of telling his recollections of Father Mathew, General Cloney, and Daniel O'Connell.

GENERAL

American Visitors

Captain O'Meagher Condon, and Mr. John O'Callaghans left Queenstown on Thursday, October 14, for New York. On board the liner speeches were delivered by Captain Condon, M.P., Mr. Joseph Devlin, M.P., and the Bishop of Rockhampton, Australia, the latter of whom promised liberal support from Australia in furtherance of the Irish cause.

The Electoral Outlook in Ulster

Much interest is manifested in the political outlook in Ulster in view of a general election. The Liberals in Ulster, who for many years have had next to no footing in the constituencies, have taken heart of grace this year, and mean to run a series of candidates. In North Tyrone, where Mr. Redmond Barry at present holds the seat, the Tories are again putting forward a Catholic Unionist in the person of Mr. Denis Henry, a lawyer, with his eye on a judgeship. As there is a Tory candidate in South Tyrone, Mr. T. W. Russell will have to fight once more. There is little question that he will win. In Mid-Tyrone the seat is safe for the Nationalist member, Mr. Murnaghan, and in East Tyrone it is believed that Nationalists have so improved their position on the register that Mr. Kettle, should he stand again, will be able to command an effective majority.

Work Well Done

The Edinburgh Catholic Herald supplies a correspondent with the following information showing what the Irish Parliamentary party has achieved for Ireland:—The 1881 Land Act reduced rents by £2,059,475. The several Land Purchase Acts passed between 1885 and 1891 involved an expenditure of £40,000,000 in making the owners of their holdings. The Arrears of Rent Act of 1882 wiped out entirely over £2,000,000 of arrears. The Migration Act of 1882 transferring tenants from poor lands to richer lands involved an expenditure of £1,000,000. The Light Railways Act of 1882 entailed the expenditure of £1,600,000 in providing the tenants with facilities for bringing their produce more easily and cheaply to the market. The conditions under which the Irish laborers live has been vastly improved, as by the Laborers' Act of 1883 there was a capital outlay in the first instance of £2,000,000 with an annual expenditure since of £120,000, or a total of £4,640,000 for the provision of new dwellings for the agricultural laborers, and even these sums have since been augmented by a further sum of £4,500,000 for the same purpose. The Agricultural Rating Act of 1893 provided for the spending of £1,216,000 for facilitating the improvements in the methods of agriculture. These are only a few of the measures of reform won for the Irish people through Parliamentary effort, and to them can be added Local Self-Government and the recent University Act.

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People We Hear About

The Right Rev. Dr. Gibney, Bishop of Perth, celebrated his seventy-first birthday on October 25.

Mr. T. P. O'Connor, who is at present in the United States, soliciting assistance for the Irish Parliamentary Party, is in his 61st year, but he does not look it. His bodily vigor is that of a man of fifty, while mentally his brilliancy and energy seem every year to grow more remarkable.

Mr. Daniel P. McCarthy, C.E., of Detroit, Michigan, United States, has been designated by the Secretary of War to superintend the erection of the fortifications contemplated by the United States Government at the entrance to Manila harbor. Mr. McCarthy was formerly Professor of Mathematics at St. Peter's College and after that a Borough Surveyor of Wexford, Ireland, and is one of the very few engineers who have been given a grant of 100 per cent. in the U.S. Civil Service examination for both experience and training.

His Grace Archbishop O'Reilly of Adelaide, celebrated his 63rd birthday on November 19 in the parish of St. John's, Kilkenny, Ireland, on November 19, 1846, and was educated first at the parochial school and afterwards at St. Kieran's and All Hallows' Colleges. He was ordained priest on June 2, 1866, and served in West Australia in 1870, where he had charge of the Fremantle parish, and edited the W.A. Record for several years. He was consecrated first Bishop of Port Augusta on May 7, 1888, and was translated to the archdiocese of Adelaide on January 5, 1895, in succession to the late Archbishop Reynolds.

Miss Louise Imogen Guiney, a convert to the Catholic Faith and only child of General Guiney, may now be regarded as America's greatest woman poet. She has been a resident of Oxford for the last seven years, and Miss Guiney's first book (says the Westminster Gazette) was issued a quarter of a century ago, and nearly a dozen volumes were published in the United States. Besides original and editorial work—including monographs on Robert Emmet and Harriet Froude, and selected poems of J. C. Mangan, Matthew Arnold, and others—Miss Guiney has since 1901 been pursuing her study of English poetry of the seventeenth century, and particularly in connection with the definite edition of the poems of Henry Vaughan, which she has for long had in preparation. Miss Guiney was born in Boston, U.S.A., in 1861.

At the unveiling of the statue of Pere Marquette at Mackinac, Justice Day of the Supreme Court of the United States thus drew the lesson of the life of the fearless priest:—The great lesson of his life, which this grasping (pushing) age may well stop to consider, was his absolute devotion to duty, to the following of an ideal through privation and sickness at all hazards, and with steadfast courage to the end. Upon the statue which marks Wisconsin's tribute in the old hall of the House at Washington are inscribed these words: "James Marquette, who, with Louis Joliet, discovered the Mississippi River at Prairie du Chien, Wis., June 17, 1673." Were we to write his epitaph to-day we might take the simple words, which at his own request marked the last resting place of a great American, and write upon this enduring granite the summary of Marquette's life and character: "He was Faithful."

Mr. Will Crooks, M.P., who passed through Dunedin last week, was born in Poplar, London, about fifty years ago. Owing to his father losing an arm through accident the family suffered much poverty when the present M.P. was a young lad, and even had to spend a time in the workhouse. The iron of the Poor Law system entered into the boy's soul, and young Crooks was vowed to better the lot of people driven to the dreaded 'house.' He has lived to become chairman of the very Board of Guardians that relieved his family. The boy's education was obtained at a penny school. Dickens was his first taste in literature, and he read Scott and Pope's Homer gave him glimpses of new worlds, and of Bunyan and Shakespeare he made firm friends. At nineteen he married, and for some time the world went well with him. Then one day he fell out with his employer, and was dismissed. He tramped all over London for a job, but he was a marked man, an agitator. "What's your name?" "Crooks." "Of Poplar?" "That's me." "We don't want anyone." This was the conversation that every place. He was tramped across England to Liverpool in search of it. At length, after a bitter experience of poverty and semi-starvation in London, he got good work, and from that day until the time when his supporters persuaded him to give up all his time to his work as a public man, he was not in want of employment at his trade.

Mr. A. Sligo, George street, Dunedin, and also at South Dunedin, in the possession of his nice assortment of rosary beads, crucifixes, prayer books, and religious pictures. Lists will be sent free by post on application.

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

(Signed) R. CARDI MERRY DEL VAL

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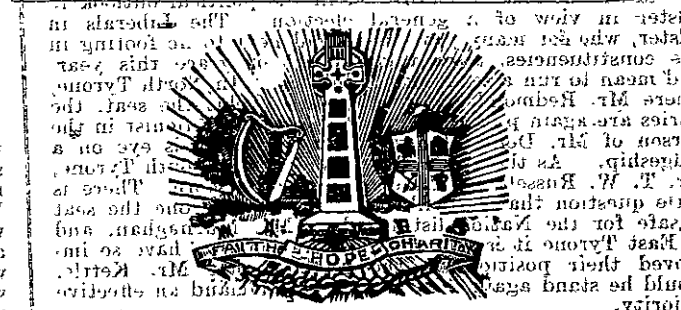
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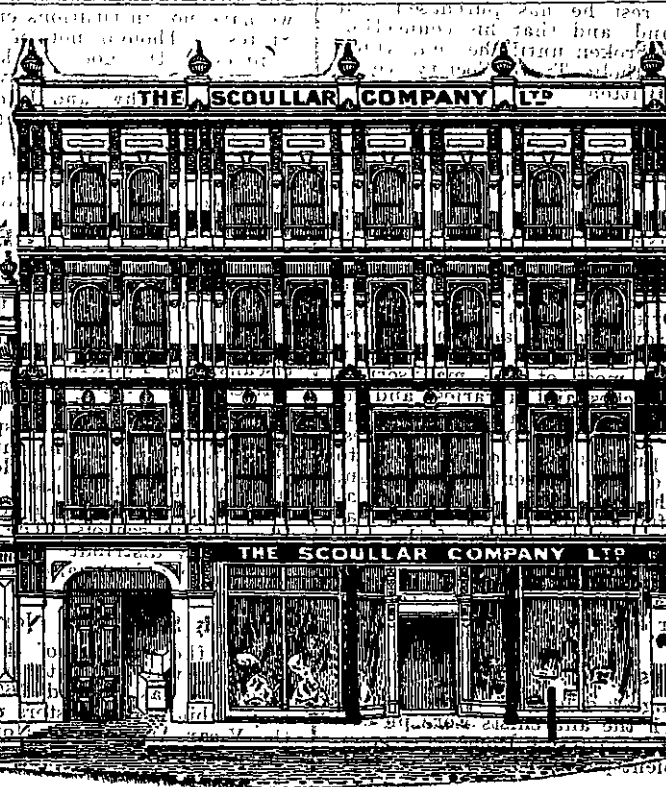
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# The Catholic World

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## BELGIUM—Retires from the World

Lady Maud Barrett, second daughter of the late Earl of Cavanagh, has become a nun. Among her near relatives who left for Belgium to attend at the final ceremonies connected with the taking of her life-long vows recently was her eldest brother, the Earl of Cavanagh, a popular Grenadier Guardsman, better known to most people, perhaps, as Lord Kilkourie, his title before he succeeded his father as tenth Earl a few years ago. Lady Maud Edith Gaudreda Barrett was born in 1869, and she married in 1892, Mr. Henry J. Barrett, who died in 1901. She is entering one of the strictest of the Catholic Sisterhoods, the Benedictines in Belgium.

## ENGLAND—The Continuity Fable

In the speeches and sermons and publications of Anglicans we (*Catholic Times*) meet with the frequent assertion of the essential identity of the present Established Church with that which existed in England before the Reformation. Nice theories are built up to support it. Inconvenient objections are overlooked, or are boldly swept away with one stroke. We have seen even school books, in which 'history' was cut and measured and adjusted so as to fit in comfortably with this theory. But facts which occur from time to time force us to ask the question whether the Anglicans who thus strive to uphold the theory are sincere. Let us note one of them. Lately the Home Secretary gave an order for the exhumation and reinterment of a body found in a leaden coffin at Stamford. Investigation led to the discovery that the remains were those of a priest, John Staunford, who lived five hundred years ago. Was he reinterred as a member of the present Church of England? No; the documentary evidence found with the corpse included a Bull of Pope Boniface IX., and the body has again been consigned to the earth after a service conducted according to the Roman ritual. The Anglicans did not venture to claim this pre-Reformation English priest on the strength of the Continuity theory.

## The Secretary of the Catholic Truth Society

The retirement of Mr. James Britten, K.S.G., from the post of senior assistant to the Department of Botany at the British Museum (says the *Catholic Times*) is a reminder of the length of the period during which he has served the State. It is over forty years since he first became connected with the British Museum, and by his indefatigable energy he has eminently deserved the opportunity for rest now given to him. But it is, we venture to think, doubtful whether he will take rest, for hard literary labor has always been his enjoyment. The list of his scientific publications is pretty long, and he has been a constant contributor to scientific journals. Yet, notwithstanding his activity in this way, he has found time to do splendid work, original and editorial, for the Catholic public. It would not at all be easy to measure the amount of good he has thus accomplished. More than once he has thrown out hints as to the probability of his retirement from the secretaryship of the Catholic Truth Society. We can only hope that the rest he has purchased will induce him to change his mind, and that his connection with the society will remain unbroken until the end, which is, we trust, not far off. The Catholic Truth Society would not be the same without Mr. Britten.

## ROME—Rev. Prince Max of Saxony

A good deal of interest (writes a Rome correspondent) has been aroused in Catholic circles regarding the travels which the Rev. Prince Max of Saxony has entered upon in connection with his Biblical studies. After leaving Montenegro by the way, the individual who fired at his automobile was found to be a poor shepherd, who, infuriated by the fact that an automobile had killed three of his flock on the previous day, vowed vengeance on all motor cars. The illustrious Orientalist arrived at Athens. There he was received with royal honors and entertained as the guest of King George and the Queen of Greece. In Athens Prince Max examined most of the manuscripts preserved in the Orthodox churches and libraries, and he then started for the historic island of Patmos, where he has been the guest of the Greek School of Oriental Studies. The chief object of the royal priest's visit to Patmos is to examine the ancient library of the Convent of St. John, which dates back as far as the year 1088 and contains as many as two hundred and fifty manuscripts which are as yet a sealed book to the world and the monks of the convent in which they are preserved. It is believed that it is probable the scrutiny of Prince Max will result in valuable additions to ecclesiastical history from this convent alone, and particularly to our knowledge of ancient Oriental civilization.

## Attempt to Burn Churches

Inflamed by violent harangues delivered at the gatherings in the Eternal City which the anarchists were pleased to hold in the name of protest (writes a Rome correspondent), several of the more violent partisans of the orators

determined to put their exhortations into practice. Accordingly an attempt was made to set fire to the churches of the Santi Quaranti, of S. Pasquale, and the Genesee church in the Trastevere quarter, by pouring petroleum on the doors. Fortunately the Municipal Guards were apprised of the fact by some citizens, and the fires were quickly put out. The churches of SS. Cece and Giuliano and of S. Apollonia suffered from similar attempts to destroy them, but little real damage was done in either case. At the meeting of the Camera del Lavoro, where a strike of thirty-six hours was ordered amid tumultuous scenes, some amusing items were summed up in the orders of the day. The managers of all theatres, restaurants, cafes, cinematograph shows, etc., were ordered to close, and hang a card on the doors containing the words, 'Closed on account of a world-wide affliction.' All that is to be said about the public harangues is that they were one volume of blasphemy, low abuse and cries for the death of all kings and priests; Pius X., and Alfonso of Spain being naturally placed in the first rank of intended victims.

## German and Hungarian Pilgrimages

Perhaps it is true to say that within recent years (writes a Rome correspondent) no country has sent to Rome so many bodies of pilgrims as Germany, with the single exception of Italy. On October 6 a pilgrimage of two hundred Germans arrived in the Eternal City, and they made the visits of the Seven Basilicas prior to their reception by the Holy Father on Sunday last. A similar number of Hungarians arrived at the end of the week for the purpose of attending the unveiling of a monument to Pope Sylvester II., which has been erected in the Basilica of St. John Lateran. This pilgrimage has been undertaken by the Hungarians from motives of patriotism and gratitude as well as on account of religious devotion; for the memory of Pope Sylvester has been ever dear to the Catholics of Hungary, as it was that Pontiff who conferred upon St. Stephen their first king, the royal crown.

## Death of a Canadian Bishop

Monsignor Proulx, Bishop of Nicolet, Canada, who had arrived in Rome to celebrate his sacerdotal jubilee at St. Peter's, has died in that city of intestinal trouble.

## SCOTLAND—Successful Catholic Student

Mr. Joseph Scanlon, a Catholic student of St. Aloysius' College, Glasgow, was first out of four hundred competitors for the valuable bursaries at the Glasgow University. Several other Catholics were brilliantly successful.

## UNITED STATES—The President and the Church

American exchanges give some interesting information as to the attitude of the President of the United States, towards the Catholic Church. He was present with Bishop Carroll on September 27 at the laying of a foundation stone of a Catholic College at Helena, Montana, and on the occasion expressed himself as follows:—It gives me great pleasure indeed to participate in the laying of the corner stone of this and other educational institutions. We are liberal enough in this country to assist in the promotion of the work of all religious denominations. The college you are building here will be a blessing to Helena and to the whole State of Montana. The only trouble is we have not institutions enough of this kind in the United States. Though not of your faith, I cannot help but appreciate the good work your Church is doing in this country. I am intimately acquainted with many members of the hierarchy, and I must say that our relations have always been most pleasant. I feel at home among them. I feel honored in being asked to take part in this ceremony, the laying of the corner stone of what is undoubtedly destined to be a great educational institution, and I wish you God speed in the completion of that institution.

## GENERAL

### Franciscans in the Holy Land

The Franciscans of the Custody of the Holy Land have nine large monasteries and forty-seven small monasteries or hospices, in which there are altogether 509 Franciscans—253 Fathers, 34 Fratres, and 223 lay Brother-tertiaries. They attend 51 parishes or auxiliaries, with 102,039 Latin Catholics and 1104 Catholics of the Oriental Rite, to whom they preach the Gospel in twelve different languages. Besides, they have 46 churches and 46 chapels. Fifty-eight sanctuaries are under their guardianship, and they maintain 496 almshouses. They have 59 schools, with 4020 pupils, under their direction, besides a large hospital and 10 industrial schools. The orphans under their care number 144. They distribute food and clothing to 3066 poor families. They have also several free dispensaries and nine pilgrim houses.

### English Sisters in Norway

At the Convent of the Sisters of St. Joseph, Christiania, Norway, on October 15, the day of which the Congregation was founded (1650), seven postulants received the holy habit of the Sisters of St. Joseph from the hands of the Vicar Apostolic of Norway, Bishop Fallie. Three of the postulants were Germans; the other four were British.

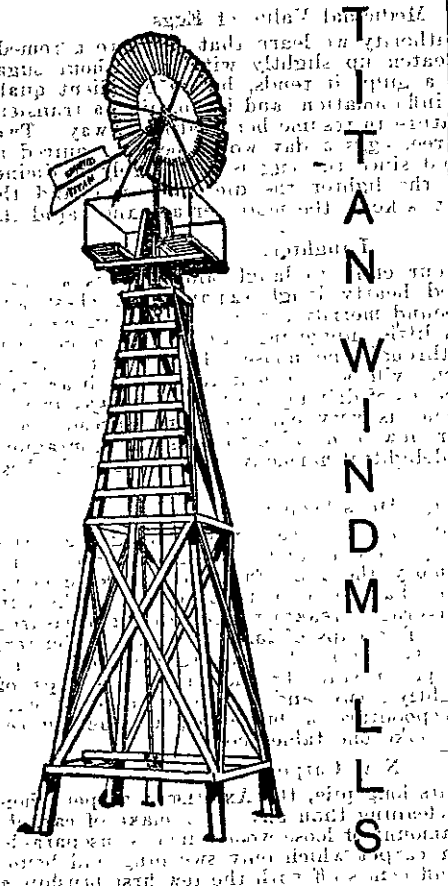
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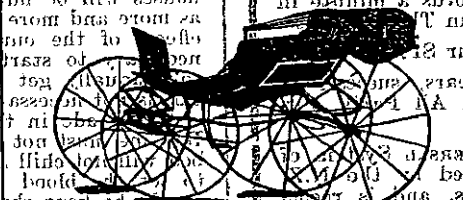
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Two of the latter came from the Catholic Nurses' Guild at Harrow. The Sisters of St. Joseph went to Norway in 1865. They started with four Sisters, but their work has increased and spread so rapidly that they now have six hospitals, besides schools and an orphanage, in the country. The aim of the Congregation is spiritual and corporal works of mercy. As the Catholic mission has only existed a short time in Norway, the Norwegians are incapable of supplying enough members to carry on the work of the Sisters of St. Joseph, but have to look to other countries for postulants.

### Newspaper Article Makes Converts

Workers for the Apostolate of the Press, says Father McMillan, of New York, should be encouraged by the following letter from a Catholic writer to his brother Edward, of De La Salle Institute, New York City. The writer, who is a teacher, says that where he is living at a mission all the people are converts. There are three hundred Catholics in the place.

How did they become Catholics? Some twenty-five years ago, a man named Monk received a package around which was wrapped a copy of a New York daily paper. In this paper was an article by Archbishop McCloskey on 'The Authority and Infallibility of the Church.' Dr. Monk read the article, and became so impressed by it that he wanted to read more about the Catholic Church. And he found that the nearest priest was Father Cross, of Wilmington, Del. Dr. Monk and all his family went to Wilmington to see Father Cross, and in due time the family were received into the Church.

Dr. Monk returned to his home, but not to be an idler in the work of the Lord. He went among his neighbors and told them of the worth of the Catholic Church, and many of them listened and studied and prayed, and in due season were baptised as children of the one true Church. One of Dr. Monk's granddaughters is now a Sister of Mercy, and a grandson recently joined the Benedictine Order at Belmont, N.C. Until Dr. Monk and his family became Catholics, there were no Catholics at Newton Grove, Del. Now a goodly part of the settlement are Catholics, and all these wonderful conversions came about through the grace of God and an old newspaper which contained a good article on the teachings of the Catholic Church.

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# Domestic

By MAUREEN

Egg Cocoa. Egg Cocoa is very nourishing and particularly so for invalids. Many people who have a dislike to eggs can take them in this way. After the cocoa is made in the usual way and very slightly cooled, add an egg just beaten enough to separate it, but not enough to make it foamy.

Keep the Sponge Clean.

How few people trouble to see that their sponge gets air-and-sunshine and becomes thoroughly dry every day. It is left on the washstand cold and clammy, and thus becomes a veritable happy hunting-ground for the pesty little microbes that are for ever waging war against us. The sponge should be hung up every day where it will receive sufficient sunshine to do violence to these health-destroying invaders.

### The Medicinal Value of Eggs.

On reliable authority we learn that eggs are a remedy for dysentery. Beaten up slightly with or without sugar and swallowed at a gulp; it tends, by its emollient qualities, to lessen the inflammation, and by forming a transient coating enables nature to resume her healthful sway. Two, or at the most three, eggs a day would be all required in ordinary cases; and since the egg is not merely medicine, but food as well, the lighter the diet otherwise, and the quieter the patient is kept, the more certain and rapid the recovery.

### Laughter.

'Encourage your child to laugh aloud,' says a great physician; 'a good hearty laugh expands the chest and makes the blood bound merrily along. Commend me to a good laugh—not a little sniggering laugh; but to one that will sound right through the house. It will not only do your child good, but will be a benefit to all who hear, and be an important means of driving the "blues" away from a dwelling. Merriment is very catching, and spreads in a remarkable manner, few being able to resist the contagion. A hearty laugh is delightful harmony; indeed, it is the best of all music.'

### What Every Housekeeper Should Know.

The handiest and quickest way of measuring quantities used in cooking is by the cup, and it would be worth while committing to memory the following little table showing the number of cups that go to make a pound. The cup should be of the average breakfast size, and is measured level with the rim. Two cups of lard, two cups of butter, four cups of flour, two cups of sugar (granulated), nine large eggs, two cups of stale breadcrumbs, two cups of raisins (pressed lightly), two and a quarter cups of currants. Two tablespoonfuls of butter equal one ounce. Three teaspoonfuls make one tablespoon.

### New Carpets.

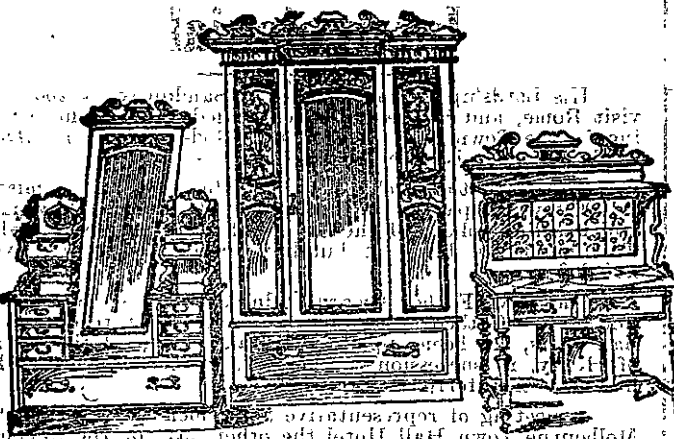
On account of its long pile, the Axminster carpet when new requires more cleaning than any other make of carpet. There is a certain amount of loose wool which is inseparable from the Axminster carpet which only sweeping will bring away. So when fluff comes off with the few first brushings there is no cause for uneasiness or doubt as to the quality of the carpet.

Don't use a new broom to sweep a new Brussels carpet. The fresh, rough fibre of the broom is apt to tug the loops out and cause it to look fuzzy. It is different when the carpet has been worn a little and the extreme freshness of the yarn has gone off. When from any cause this fuzzy appearance shows, whether from shoe-nails, rough sweeping, etc., the only remedy is careful and regular clipping, which does not in any way injure the carpet. The finer the carpet the more sensitive it is to rough treatment.

### Out-door Sleeping.

A noted lung-specialist predicts that before long all houses will be built with provisions for outdoor bedrooms, as more and more persons are coming to recognise the tonic effects of the out-of-door air. Many people think it is necessary to start outdoor sleep in warm weather, so as to gradually get accustomed to the change; but it seems this is not necessary, as a change from a steam-heated room can be made in the depth of winter without taking cold. But one must not dawdle over the transit. The dash to the bed will not chill if deep breaths of the frosty air are taken to set the blood tingling. The windows of the bedroom should be kept shut down so as to ensure a warm dressing room in the morning. Not only does one waken refreshed from a night in the open air, but less sleep seems to be necessary; seven hours outside being considered equal to ten in a heated room. For those who desire open-air sleeping, but have neither vent nor lean-to, it is claimed that good effects can be had indoors if doors or windows be thrown wide open.

Maureen



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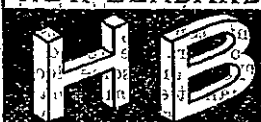
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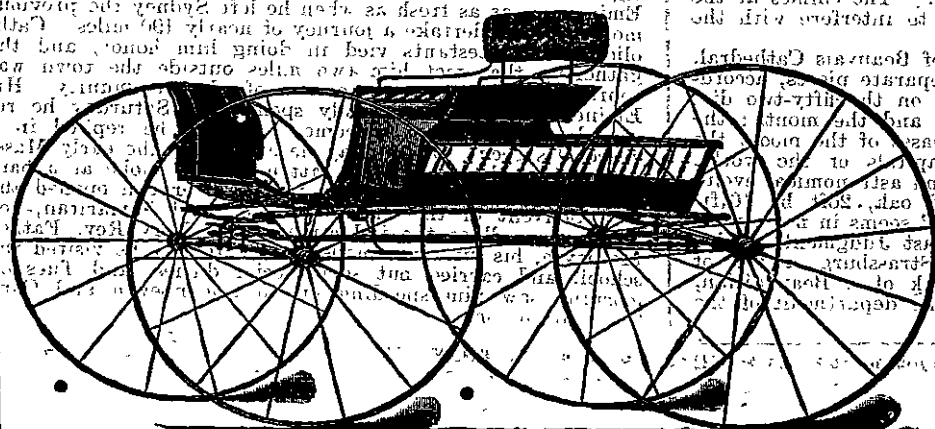
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## To the Centre of the Earth.

If a hole was bored through the earth's centre, what would happen to a body which fell down the hole? The question is discussed at length by M. Camille Flammarion, the great French scientist, in the *New York Herald*. The first thought, he says, is that as the force of gravity is nil at the centre of the earth, the body would come to rest there; but this assumption is false, he points out, for the momentum acquired in fall would suffice to carry it past the centre to the surface of the earth on the other side. Then there would be a series of similar falls—a perpetual oscillation between one end of the earth tunnel and the other. It would take about nineteen minutes to reach the centre, where its speed would be 31,300 feet a second, and in one hour sixteen minutes it would have returned to its starting point. Of course, if it started from a point high above the sea level it would emerge from the tunnel at the other end.

## A Peculiar Industry.

There are many peculiar industries and trades, but probably one of the most peculiar of these is a pearl oyster farm. Japan, the land of odd objects, dwarf trees, and ancient temples, boasts of possessing such a farm. The pearl oysters are found more or less along the whole coast. There are some localities famous for producing them in quantities, and many fine pearls have been obtained. There was a time when fishing for these precious shells was carried to an excess, so that the yield of pearls dwindled to almost nothing. To overcome this difficulty the desirability of cultivating the pearl oyster was suggested. Experiments were carried out with great success, the result being that to-day the pearl oyster farm has millions of pearl oysters on its culture ground, and is able to place annually a large crop of pearls on the market. This pearl oyster farm is in the Bay of Ago, on the Pacific side of Japan. The bay, like all in which the oyster grows in abundance, is a very quiet piece of water with a most irregular, highly broken up coast line full of deep running inlets and coves, affording most favorable shelter. The farm is arranged in two parts, the first part containing the young up to the age of three years, and the second part holding those that are over that age.

## Sound Shadows.

One would naturally suppose that a loud and continuous sound could be heard at about equal distances in all directions, in the absence of wind, and if no large solid body interposed. Repeated experiments have shown that this is not true, and that mariners who trust to their ears alone when they are on dangerous coasts guarded by fog signals run a great peril. 'Sound shadows' are formed, within which the ear detects no trace of the signal, although the whistle may be blowing with full force, and the sound may be perfectly audible on all sides of the shadow. Sometimes the cause of a sound shadow can readily be discovered, as, for instance, in the existence of a bluff just behind the whistle. In such a case the sound appears to ricochet like a cannon ball bounding over the water; in other words, it may be audible at one mile, inaudible at two miles, audible again at three miles, inaudible at four miles, and so on. But the intervals between the audible and inaudible points may be any other distance, and may also vary irregularly. Then there are sound shadows the origin of which has not been traced, but which doubtless are due to some peculiar condition of the atmosphere.

## Complicated French Clocks.

The clock of Lyons Cathedral is a wonderful piece of mechanism, and the legend describing it is as follows: The cock crows, the bell sounds the hours, the little bells the Sancte Spiritus; the angel opens the gate to salute the Virgin Mary. The two heads of the lions move the eyes and the tongue. The astrolabe shows the hours in its degree, and the movement of the moon. Moreover, the perpetual calendar shows all the days of the year, the feast days and the bissextile. The hours at which the chimes are complete are 5 and 6 in the morning, midday, and 1 and 2 o'clock in the afternoon. The chimes at the other hours are restricted so as not to interfere with the Cathedral services.

Complicated indeed is the clock of Beauvais Cathedral. It is said to be composed of 92,000 separate pieces, according to a French journal. One sees on the fifty-two dial plates the hour, the day, the week, and the month; the rising and the setting of the sun, phases of the moon, the tides, the time in the principal capitals of the world, together with a series of terrestrial and astronomical evolutions. The framework is of carved oak, 26ft by 16ft. When the clock strikes all the 'edifice' seems in movement. The designer intended to depict the Last Judgment. This wonderful work recalls the clock of Strassburg, and is of modern construction. It is the work of a Beauvaisian, M. Verite, who was in the engineering department of the Nord Railway. He died in 1887.

# Intercolonial

His Lordship Bishop Reville, of Sandhurst, is about to visit Rome, and his people have decided on a public meeting in the Town Hall to wish him God-speed. The silver jubilee of his episcopacy occurs next year.

His Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne has promised £1000 towards paying of the debt on the Central Novitiate and training college of the Sisters of Mercy at Ascot Vale. This handsome block of buildings cost considerably over £10,000.

The Rev. Father Cleary, Administrator of St. Peter and Paul's Cathedral, Goulburn, for the past three and a half years, has been appointed to take charge of the parish of Heilly, in succession to the Rev. Father McAroy, who has been transferred to Grenfell.

A meeting of representative gentlemen was held at the Melbourne Town Hall Hotel the other day for the purpose of making arrangements for presenting a suitable testimonial to Mr. T. Monaghan, a veteran Melbourne journalist, who will shortly retire into private life after being connected with the Victorian press for the past 46 years.

The edifying sight was witnessed (says the *Melbourne Advocate*) of 2000 men, young and old, approaching the Holy Table on Sunday morning, November 21, the occasion being the annual demonstration of the Catholic Young Men's Society. The members represented the various branches of the city and suburbs, and came in drags from the more distant suburbs.

The death is reported of Captain D. J. O'Flanagan, of Waverley. The deceased gentleman passed away on November 23, and leaves a widow and one son, Dr. O'Flanagan, of Junee. The late captain, who retired from the British army some years ago, had a splendid record, and served through the Crimean war and the Indian Mutiny. Deceased was a native of Ireland, and was 78 years of age at the time of his death.

On Sunday, November 21, his Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne made an appeal in the Cathedral on behalf of the Sisters of Mercy Central Novitiate, Ascot Vale. In the course of his discourse his Grace said: 'Fully 5000 Catholic children are being taught in the schools of the Sisters of Mercy in this diocese alone. A large number are taught in the dioceses of Ballarat and Bendigo also. These numbers show how important is the stake at issue—how vitally the interests of our schools are bound up with the well-being of this general Novitiate and Training College.'

Mr. Thomas O'Loughlin, K.S.G., of 'Killarney,' Ballarat, appears to be never weary of well-doing. Recently he presented a fine block of land for educational purposes in East Ballarat. At a meeting when the gift was announced, his Lordship Bishop Higgins said it was only another instance of that gentleman's large-hearted generosity in matters that concerned the Church, and he desired to express his lively appreciation of such uniform liberality.

From a reliable source (says the *Freeman's Journal*) we learn that a great change is about to take place in the Order of Redemptorists in Australia. It is stated that the Very Rev. Father Murray, who has been for a long time in charge of St. Alphonsus' Monastery, Waratah, has been promoted to the charge of the Wellington (N.Z.) house of that Order. Father Lynch is to succeed Father Murray, while Very Rev. Father Clune, who is well known in this State, and who was some time ago appointed to the charge of Wellington (N.Z.), has now been appointed to Perth (W.A.) house. The likelihood of losing so zealous and able a preacher as Father Murray will cause a pang of regret to the Catholics throughout New South Wales, but it is at least consoling to know that the mother house at home has seen fit to recognise Father Murray's great work in New South Wales in appointing him to the charge of Wellington.

Every day (says the *Catholic Press*) the Cardinal gives fresh proofs of his energy and vitality. Although entering on his 80th year, he left Sydney last Friday morning, November 19, for Goulburn, where he was the guest of Bishop Gallagher till Saturday afternoon, when he set out for Braidwood by motor car. He was accompanied by Monsignor O'Haran, and when they arrived at Braidwood his Eminence was as fresh as when he left Sydney the previous morning to undertake a journey of nearly 190 miles. Catholics and Protestants vied in doing him honor, and the gathering that met him two miles outside the town was representative of every section of the community. His Eminence's days were busily spent. On Saturday he received an address of welcome, to which he replied in a graceful speech. On Sunday he celebrated the early Mass, presided at the High Mass, attended and spoke at a banquet given in his honor, and in the afternoon opened the new Convent of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan, for which, as well as the induction of the Very Rev. Father McIntyre, his visit was made. On Monday he visited the school and carried out some social duties, and Tuesday morning saw him speeding off to Queanbeyan and Canberra by motor.

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A girl had fits in such rapid succession that she was unable to take food or drink, and the doctor who was attending her, said she could not live more than 48 hours. Trench's Remedy at once stopped the fits, and there has not been a further attack since - over 2 1/2 years - and none of the Remedy has been taken for over a year.

DECLARED TO BE INCURABLE.

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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# The Family Circle

## SHINE JUST WHERE YOU ARE

Don't waste your time in longing  
For bright, impossible things;  
Don't sit supinely yearning  
For the swiftness of angel wings;  
Don't spurn to be a rushlight,  
Because you are not a star;  
But brighten some bit of darkness  
By shining just where you are.

There is need of the tiniest candle,  
As well as the garish sun;  
The humblest deed is ennobled  
When it is worthily done;  
You may never be called to brighten  
The darkened regions afar;  
So fill, for the day, your mission  
By shining just where you are.

Just where you are, my brother,  
Just where God bids you stand,  
Though down in the deepest shadow,  
Instead of the sunlit land;  
You may carry a brightness with you  
That no gloom or darkness can mar,  
For the light of a Christlike spirit  
Will be shining, wherever you are.

## THE IMPRISONMENT OF WINIFRED MARY

'Winifred Mary is missing!' announced Sylvia, as she cast a practised eye over her assembled dolls.

Sylvia's Uncle Joe put down his newspaper and looked at her with amused interest.

'Hadn't you better call the roll?' he suggested, and Sylvia, in some anxiety, began her arrangements for this mighty ceremony. She arranged the dolls in an orderly line, and then said inquiringly, 'Arabella?'

Arabella, a tall, flaxen-haired doll, arose, assisted by Sylvia, and responded in a small high voice, 'Present!'

'Belinda?' Belinda was present also; so were Isabel, Susie, and Carlotta. There was a painful silence after the calling of Winifred Mary's name. Winifred Mary was clearly absent, and so, as it later appeared, was Florabella.

'Two!' mourned Sylvia. 'I don't mind so much about Florabella, but—O, Uncle Joe!' For Uncle Joe had drawn from his pocket a small, dishevelled creature. 'Which is this?' he asked; 'I found her under the currant bushes.'

Sylvia always remembered after things were found just how she had happened to leave them in such singular places. It seemed a pity, as Uncle Joe frequently pointed out, that she could never remember before.

'That's Florabella!' she exclaimed. 'I remember now. I was going to make a swing for her under the currant bush, and then I went to feed my chickens and forgot. But what can have become of Winifred Mary? She's the smallest of all my dolls, and the prettiest, and I've always taken such care of her!'

Uncle Joe tried to smother a laugh and grandmother sighed. 'Sylvia, child,' she said, 'I don't believe you know how to take care of anything. I have heard before of children who were careless enough to lose their hats and their overshoes, but I never knew another little girl who habitually lost her own dolls.'

The next day Sylvia and Uncle Joe became a search party, and hunted for Winifred Mary. They looked in the orchard, and the barn, and the carriage house, and the flower garden, and beside the brook; they found a handkerchief, two hair ribbons, and Belinda's best dress; but no trace of Winifred Mary was to be seen. A very small doll lost on a very large farm is not an easy thing to find.

Sylvia was an affectionate, if a careless, mother. She searched and mourned faithfully for the missing Winifred Mary, and included her name tenderly each night in the roll call. Uncle Joe soon saw in the window of the village shop a small doll which, he said, looked to him so strikingly like Sylvia's missing child that he brought it home to her. At first he was inclined to insist that this was Winifred Mary, but when Sylvia pointed out that the new doll had brown hair, whereas Winifred Mary's was golden yellow, and that she was so large that not one of Winifred Mary's tiny frocks could possibly be coaxed onto her, he was forced to admit that there was only a strong family resemblance. He wished the new doll to be called Winifred Mary, so that the roll call might be complete; but this Sylvia steadily refused to do. 'Suppose Winifred Mary should be found?' she argued.

In September, when Sylvia said good-bye to grandmother and Uncle Joe, and went back to the city, Winifred Mary was still missing. 'I'll send her by express, if I find her,' promised Uncle Joe, but Sylvia had given up hope.

Poor Winifred Mary was almost forgotten when one cold November morning a package arrived from the farm for Sylvia.

'What can they have sent me in a round hat box?' she wondered, and she wondered still more when the box was opened and disclosed a very large cabbage.

'It must be one of Uncle Joe's jokes,' said Sylvia's mother. 'Untrue, dear. For the cabbage had been cut in quarters and then tied together with red ribbon.'

Sylvia untied the ribbon, the cabbage fell apart, and there, almost in its centre, lay Winifred Mary!

'Why—why?' began Sylvia, and then, as usual, she remembered. 'Mother,' she cried, 'I put Winifred Mary down in a big cabbage—I thought it would make such a cunning house for her—and then I went back to get the other little dolls, and—'

'And you thought of something else to do and forgot poor Winifred Mary,' finished her mother, when she had done laughing, 'and the cabbage kept right on growing, and folded its big inner leaves over her and held her snug and warm—and how surprised grandmother must have been when she cut open that cabbage!'

'It's like the Faithful Tin Soldier in the fish,' said Sylvia, solemnly; 'but, oh, mother, suppose they had boiled the cabbage!'

## ASHAMED OF MOTHER

It is a sorry day for the girl when she feels herself superior to her mother, and considers herself called upon to apologise for her bad grammar, mispronounced words, or slips in her speech. When a girl becomes so small and contemptible that she is ashamed to appear in public with her mother, because she is old-fashioned and dowdy in appearance, her hands brawny, her face prematurely wrinkled and her form bent by long years of drudgery for her children, she is indeed to be pitied. She has fallen below contempt. The girls who are ashamed of their hard-working mothers are few, happily, compared with the vast number who appreciate and endeavor to repay their mother's sacrifice. Still, there are too many of them—girls who do not even darn their own stockings, mend their own clothes, or make their own beds.

## A SHARP RETORT

Occasionally a just lawyer will have trouble with an unjust judge. A judge named Robinson was noted for his peevish, sneering manner, and especially for the form of contempt for young men which was characteristic of Walpole, and which called forth from the then young Pitt the ironical sentence beginning, 'The atrocious crime of being a young man.'

Hoare, the Irish lawyer, was once arguing a case before Robinson. The judge was unusually stern, and finally roused the young barrister by accusing him of intending to bring the King's commission into contempt.

'No, my lord,' said Hoare; 'I have read in a book that when a peasant, during the troubles of Charles I., found the crown in a bush, he showed it all reverence. In like manner I shall respect the King's commission, though I find it on a bramble.'

Robinson was reported to have risen to his rank by the publication of some slavish and scurrilous pamphlets. Once in the days when Curran was poor and unknown, struggling against great adversity, he appeared before Robinson. The judge tried to extinguish him. When Curran declared that he had consulted all his law books and could not find a case that did not support his position, Robinson answered:

'I suspect your law library is rather contracted. This brutal and unnecessary remark stung Curran's pride and roused him at once.

'It is true, my lord,' he said, after a moment's contemptuous silence, 'that I am poor, and that circumstance has curtailed my library. My books are not numerous, but they are select, and I hope I have perused them well. I have prepared myself for this high profession rather by the study of a few good books than by the composition of a great many bad ones.'

## ONE THOUSAND SUCCESSFUL MEN

I have on my desk a list of 1000 successful men of this nation (says a writer in an American exchange). By 'successful' I do not mean mere money-makers, but men who have given us new conceptions of steam, electricity, construction work, education, art, etc. These are the men who influence our moral as well as physical lives. They construct for better things.

How these men started in work is interesting. Their first foothold in work is a fine study:  
Three hundred started as farmers' sons;  
Two hundred started as messenger boys;  
Two hundred were newsboys;  
One hundred were apprentices;  
One hundred were apprenticed in manufactories.

Fifty began at the bottom of railway work. Fifty—only fifty—only fifty parents to give them a start.

OUT FOR A RIDE IN THE DARK

Most of us are acquainted with the person who asks obvious questions—the sort of man who stops you in the middle of a headlong rush and asks you if you are in a hurry. Mr. E. is one of these pests, and during a walk abroad he paused in astonishment outside a friend's house. Before it, he found three huge moving vans. The vans were almost covered with articles of furniture of various sorts—pictures, wardrobes, and china. And there was his old friend B. who begrimed, weary and ill-tempered, directing operations in his shirt-sleeves. What, B. exclaimed, Mr. E. is here with a moving van. Not at all, not at all, snapped B., with elaborate sarcasm. I'm taking my furniture out for a ride!

WHY BRIDES WEAR ORANGE BLOSSOMS

Contrary to general belief, we have not to go far to trace the origin of the bridal orange blossom custom. Like most feminine fashions, this one came from France, and was introduced into England by Queen Victoria, and from that country into America. France, in the first place, had copied it from Spain. This is the Spanish story. According to an old legend, the Moors presented the orange tree to their sovereign, the French ambassador offered the royal gardener a large sum for a cutting, but the bribe was scornfully refused. The gardener's daughter, a poor girl, who had prevented her marrying, to obtain the necessary dowry, she secretly cut off and sold a slip of the orange tree to the ambassador. On her marriage, in recognition of her debt to the plant, which had brought about the happy event, she wore a wreath of orange blossoms and this originated the custom.

HARVEST HOMING

Frederic Mistral, the Provençal poet, tells a charming story of the first meeting of his father and mother. Like all romances, it has its like in a more ancient legend, suggesting, even to the scene, the ever beautiful story of Ruth and Boaz. Mistral was born at Maillane, a village at the foot of the Alps. He was a child of a second marriage, contracted when his father was about 55, a marriage of pure romance. This was the meeting of the middle-aged man and the girl who became his wife. One year, on St. John's Day, Maître François Mistral was in the midst of his wheat, which a company of harvesters were reaping. A throng of young girls, gleefully followed the reapers and raked up the ears that fell. Maître François, my father, noticed a beautiful girl who remained behind, as if she were ashamed to glean like the others. He drew near and said to her: 'My child, whose daughter are you? What is your name?' The young girl replied: 'I am the daughter of Etienne Poulinet, Maître of Maillane. My name is Delaïde.' 'What is the daughter of the Maître of Maillane, gleaning?' 'Maitre,' she replied, 'our family is large, six girls and two boys, and although our father is pretty well-to-do, as you know, when we ask him for clothes he replies, 'Girls, if you want finery, earn it.' And that is why I came to glean.' Six months after this meeting Maître François asked Maître Poulinet for the hand of Delaïde, and of that marriage I was born.

FAMILY FUN

Interesting Experiments: Fill a glass with water, up to the brim, so that the surface of the water is rounded. Then ask your friends how many coins can be put into the glass without the water overflowing. Some will say that it will not hold one. By dropping the coins very carefully into the water edgewise it will be found that even as many as five or six coins the size of a shilling can be dropped into the water before it overflows. Get a rot light piece of paper and when it begins to burn brightly thrust it into an empty decanter or water bottle. Within a few seconds close the neck of the bottle with a hard-boiled egg from which the shell has been removed. The burning of the paper exhausts the air in the bottle, and the egg is gradually thrust in by the pressure of the outside atmosphere. It will finally pass completely through the neck of the bottle. Another simple device illustrating the same principle is as follows: Fill a plate half full of water. Let a piece of cork float in the water, and on it place a burning piece of paper. Cover the flame with a glass turned upside down. The burning of the paper consumes a part of the oxygen in the air, thus diminishing its volume. The pressure of the outside atmosphere forces the water into the glass to fill up the vacuum.

General Sorcery

Give a young man a wax doll as feeding ice cream to a wax doll.

Lots of men know how they could get rich if other men would put in their claim. A woman appreciates her indulgent husband—if he doesn't allow the indulgence to stop with himself.

It is more blessed to give than it is to receive, but most of us are willing to let the other fellow have the blessing.

If a man makes a specialty of handing advice to his neighbors it doesn't take him long to acquire a reputation as a meddler.

What is Johnson's business, do you think he is a book-keeper? At least, he never brought back the one he borrowed from me last summer.

He: I think a man should marry a girl he has known from his childhood. She: Yes, but if a girl knew a man from childhood she would probably know better than to marry him.

Bank Clerk: You will have to be identified with a Lady Customer. My friend here will identify me.

Bank Clerk: But I don't know her. Lady Customer: Oh, what! Tell me her name. Don't you believe me? I've cried the fair, I've advocated women's rights, that men live faster than women, and I am sure I do, replied the mere man.

The consumption of coffee and tea in the United States leads the world, while she holds third rank among the nations in her imports of tea. Her imports amount to more than one-third of the coffee, nearly one-fourth of the cocoa and about one-seventh of the tea entering the world's markets.

'Excuse me, sir,' said the circus attendant, 'but no dogs are admitted here.'

'Well, I haven't any dog,' rejoined the man who had just entered. 'But this dog followed you in, protested the attendant. 'So did you,' rejoined the other, 'but that is no proof of ownership.'

Edwin, aged four, owned a picture-book in which a fierce-looking cow was running after a small boy. He looked at it a long time then carefully closing the book he laid it away. A few days later he got the book again, and turned to the picture. Bringing his chubby fist down on the cow, he exclaimed in a tone of triumph: 'She ain't caught him yet!'

The slow flapping of a butterfly's wings produces no sound. When the movements are rapid, a noise is produced which increases with the number of vibrations. Thus the house fly which produces the sound of F vibrates its wings 21,120 times a minute or 335 times a second, and the bee, which makes a sound of A, vibrates 26,400 times, or 440 times a second. A tired bee hums on E, and therefore, according to theory, vibrates its wings only 330 times a second.

Birds of passage make their longest flight somewhere near Belling Strait. A naturalist says that probably the longest 'continuous flight' made by the feathered travellers in their peregrinations is accomplished by some of the shore and water birds that nest in the islands of Bellring Sea and spend the winter at Hawaii and Diamond Island, 2200 miles away. As some of the birds live entirely on the shore and are probably unable to rest on the surface of the water, they must accomplish the whole distance in a single flight, yet they make their way to their destination with absolute precision. Many of the flowers received their names from the people named after people. The lilies are called so because they were discovered by Leonard and Kuchel Dahlia were named after Andre Dahl, who first brought them from Peru. The carnation received its name from an inscription named by a who carried specimens of these flowers from the island of France. The magnum was named in honor of Magno de Montpelier. Other flowers names are descriptive. Lady's slipper resembles a lady's slipper, the blossoms of lady's tresses are twisted like a braid or hair, the flowers of the foxglove are like the fingers of a glove, the name foxglove is said to be a corruption of foxglove, and foxglove means star and received its name from the starlike rays of this flower. Daisy is really day's eye. Dandelion means lion's tooth. Anemone means wind flower. The anemone is so delicately poised that it trembles in the slightest breeze. Morning glories bloom only in the morning and their buds do not open until that hour of the afternoon. Our Christmas is coming, if you have a Christmas message for dispatch to some friend abroad, get us to send it. Our systems is safe and speedy parcels packed in cases and dispatched direct by steamer. The N.Z. EXPRESS CO., LTD. Office, Crawford street....