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

Pergant Directores et Scriptores New Zealand Tablet, Apostolica Benedictione confortati, Religionis et Justitiæ causam promovere per vias Veritatis et Pacis.
Die 4 Aprilis, 1900.

LEO XIII., P.M.

TRANSLATION.—Fortified by the Apostolic Blessing, let the Directors and Writers of the New Zealand Tablet continue to promote the cause of Religion and Justice by the ways of Truth and Peace.
April 4, 1900.

LEO XIII., Pope.

Current Topics.

A BOYS' BRIGADE.

THE question of Juvenile Branches was turned over and over and examined from various points of view on last Sunday at the Communion breakfast of the Hibernian Society in Dunedin. Such branches are in operation in Auckland and Wellington. They deserve the flattery of more widespread imitation, (1) because they furnish the best recruiting ground for our only Catholic Benefit Society; and (2) because they offer a partial solution of the aching difficulty of dealing with the dangers surrounding our boys who, at the close of their schooldays, are—as Cardinal Manning puts it—'cast headlong into the vortex of modern life, with no other stay and security than the half-digested instruction they have received in early childhood.' During their schooldays we cram and stuff them like Strassburg geese. But at or about their thirteenth year we suddenly drop them. We turn them adrift to shift for themselves during the most dangerous and impressionable period of human existence, and—in Carlyle's words—'when the hungry young look up to their spiritual nurses for food, they are bidden to eat the east wind.' At this plastic period of their lives their minds and hearts can readily be fashioned after the right model. It would be a task of far greater difficulty to reform them at a later age.

This idea is feelingly, but despairingly, expressed by the grown-up Tilda in the fascinating story, *No. 5, John Street*. Tilda was greatly neglected in her younger days, and this is what she says: 'I warn't made right at the start, I was a bit o' slop work. So was Covey. That's why we both got to 'ang together on the same peg. That's jest what's the matter with all on us in John street. We can't do no good with ourselves now. We want pickin' all to pieces, and if you begin that you'll only tear the stuff. Give the young uns a chance in their cradles, an' let the old uns die off; then you'll see a change. All these missions are trying to make us mealy-mouthed. It makes yer larf like, to 'ear us talkin' and to see our funny wyze. But some time you'll see us jest as we are. Then you'll git the 'ump, an' cuss the dye you tried to mike a lidy out of a fightin' flower-gal. "Oh, wy didn't yer ketch me when I was a kid?"'

Yes. If we are to hold our youths, we must 'ketch 'em when they're kids.' And if the Hibernian Society helps in the good work, it has established a fresh claim upon the support and encouragement of parents and priests.

QUACKS AND QUACKERY.

TOWARDS the close of last week a self-styled 'cancer specialist' was mulcted in Dunedin in the handsome fine of £50 for illegally using the title of 'Doctor.' The penalty was an exemplary one. But unfortunately 'The Medical Practitioners Act, 1869,' does not reach the root of the crying evil of quacks and quackery. It catches an incautious irregular practitioner here and there and at painfully long intervals. But it does nothing to prevent the wholesale and heartless frauds that are being perpetrated on the luckless

public from New Year's Day to St. Sylvester's by a horde of what we may term in Carlyle's phrase, 'brass-faced, vociferous, voracious' quacks who trade under the various titles of 'professors,' 'psychomants,' 'trance-mediums,' 'astro-mathematicians,' 'hypnotic healers,' 'mystic healers,' and heaven knows what besides. Your *malades imaginaires*, and a big section of the public that have got enlarged livers, rheumatic knee-joints, phthisical lungs, or tic-douloureux are, in the matter of healers and cure-alls, mere overgrown children, credulous, evergreen with verdant hope, and of their *gobemoucherie* there is no end. In the words of *Hudibras*:

Some with a noise and greasy light
Are snapped, as men catch larks at night. . .
Some with medicine and receipt
Are drawn to nibble at the bait.

Our paternal Government prosecutes the retail depredations of the miserable fortune-teller. It might legitimately afford more strenuous protection to the half-fledged public against those rapacious harpies of the quack fraternity, with their gaudy rings, their oily and (usually) ungrammatical tongues, their handfuls of dried 'yarbs,' their phials of corrosive sublimate, their non-committal pills, their copious shirt-fronts, their double dose of low cunning, and their brazen affectation of supernal knowledge, which is intended to mask a baptismal innocence of all acquaintance with even the elements of anatomy, physiology, or therapeutics. Their working creed is well summed up in the *Biglow Papers* :—

In short, I firmly du believe
In Humbug generally,
Fer it's a thing that I perceive
To hev a solid vally;
This heth my faithful shepherd been,
In pasturs sweet heth led me,
An' this'll keep the people green
To feed ez they hev fed me.

When you go a-mountaineering in Switzerland there is always the off-chance that the rope which bears you may break or fray over the jagged edge of a precipice, or that you may fall into the depths of a dark crevasse through the thin and treacherous coating of frozen snow which covers it. In either event your insurance policy soon comes due. But it does not matter so much to the guide. He has taken the precaution to make you pay in advance, and the money is in the hands of his careful *frau* in the valley far below. The quack doctor acts in a similar way. He and all unregistered 'medical' practitioners are debarred by law from enforcing payment of fees: the man in the street would do well to remember this. But this modicum of protection to the silly section of the public is usually rendered inoperative by the medical fraud almost invariably stipulating for, and receiving, his fees in advance. The law is much more far-reaching in France, where, less than two years ago, a notorious 'mystic healer' who had set all Paris agog was heavily fined for the elastic crime of 'imposing on the credulous.' In one of the States of the Australian Commonwealth—we cannot at this moment remember whether it is Victoria or New South Wales—the Postmaster-General has for some time past refused the use of post-office boxes to self-styled 'medical men' who have become objects of suspicion. He has, moreover, claimed and

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exercised the right of opening letters addressed to them, and has thus prevented some members of a fraudulent class from abusing a State Department to prey upon the ignorant by cunningly-worded advertisements and circulars, and in many instances following up the first extraction of abnormal fees by merciless terrorism, blackmail, and extortion. 'In all baseness and imposture,' says Kinglake in his *Eothen*, 'there is a coarse, vulgar spirit which, however artfully concealed for the time, must sooner or later show itself.' Medical imposture makes a gross display of itself in its rank self-laudation. And the newspaper Press deserves strong censure for the manner in which it aids and abets medical frauds by publishing their vulgar and clamorous advertisements, and thus making itself the sounding board of a whole school of heartless impostors and charlatans.

Nowadays the quack finds his victims almost exclusively among the masses. But there was a time when any plausible healer of human ills could impose his mighty pretensions on the dwellers in high places. Sir Kenelm Digby, for instance (1603-1665), stirred all the drawing-rooms of the English nobility and gentry of his day with his absurd 'sympathetic powder.' In the words of Charles Lamb, he was 'none of your hesitating half story-tellers, but a hearty, thorough-paced liar.' The British Parliament was so greatly impressed with the value of 'Stephens's Specific'—an old-time nostrum that was supposed to be, among its other marvellous virtues, a remedy for cancer—that it voted £5000 for the purchase of the secret of its composition. The sale was duly effected. Mrs. Stephens got the money stowed away in the unexplorable depths of her feminine pockets. Then she handed over the recipe for which the expectant world was waiting with craned neck and on eager tip-toe. It was published in the next issue of the *London Gazette*. But when the fickle public read the list of ingredients they suddenly lost all interest in 'Stephens's Specific.' The ingredients were as follow: Egg-shells, snail-shells (with the snails in them)—all calcined, hips and haws, swine-cess, and several other vegetables—all burned! Plunkett's 'great Irish cure for cancer' was sold by him in London after he had made a fortune by it, chiefly at the expense of the English gentry and moneyed classes. In six years the purchaser—one Richard Grey—had amassed by its sale as much money as satisfied his utmost ambition. He then published its ingredients, for the public benefit, in *Lloyd's Evening Post*. The recipe is worth reproducing, if only for the reason that it is just as good—or as bad—as that of any cancer-curer between Auckland and the Bluff; 'Crow's-foot which grows on low ground, one handful; dog-fennel, three sprigs, two to be well pounded; crude brimstone, three thimblefuls; white arsenic, the same quantity. All to be incorporated well in a mortar, then made into small balls the size of nutmegs, and dried in the sun.'

Times have changed and many things have changed with them. But the quack—medical, social, and political—and the dupe we have always with us. And 'quack and dupe,' as Carlyle reminds us in his *Past and Present*, 'are upper and under side of the selfsame substance; convertible personages. Turn up your dupe into the proper fostering element, and he himself can become a quack. There is in him the due prudent insincerity, open voracity for profit, and closed sense for truth, whereof quacks too, in all their kinds, are made.'

THE long butcher's knife called a sword has been from the world's infancy the emblem of war and of the last resort of brute energy in man. The hard-hitting old chieftain in *Ossian* called to his bard:

Sing me a song—a so' g
With a sword in every line.

In later days the bayonet has shared with the sword the place of a war-emblem in a modest and apologetic way—as Tom Pinch shared the seat of a country cart after his departure from the office of Pecksniff. We hear, for instance, of the throne of the Third Napoleon being supported on bayonets; and Barbaroux, in refusing military protection in 1793, declared: 'I require no bayonets to defend the liberty of my thoughts.' But the tired pressman must soon cast about for fresh figures of speech to apply to the art of war. The Anglo-Boer campaign may be said to have closed the era of the *arme blanche* or cold steel. Sword, bayonet, and the gay lance with its flying pennon have had their day and are now doomed to go. Almost from the beginning of the South African war the sword was discarded by British officers. Once, by a fluke, the lance found its way into action and did some irregular 'pig-sticking' among sundry luckless Boers who had thrown down arms and asked for quarter. In the early days of the struggle gushing war-correspondents represented the Republican farmer-soldiers as being scared out of their five senses at the mere sight of a fixed bayonet. But we know now that so far as actual service in battle was concerned the bayonet was about as useless to Thomas Atkins, Esquire, as the sword was

to his commanding officer, and that it might as advantageously have been left in store at Woolwich or sold as old iron or consigned as a curiosity to provincial museums.

Time was—as in the Peninsular War—when the bayonet was the last and most convincing argument in battle. In infantry encounters the opposing forces marched boldly up to within eighty or a hundred yards of each other, exchanged a volley or two by way of preliminary greeting, then rushed together and perforated each other to the best of their respective abilities with the long and ferocious-looking triangular bayonet that was fashionable in those days. The stronger party, or those who had the greater gluttony for punishment, remained the victors when the wild but brief mêlée was over. The weaker side gave way, took gallantly to its heels, was saluted with two or three farewell volleys, and escaped in a leisurely sort of way—unless the cavalry came thundering along; and then there was red havoc along the line of retreat. But nowadays battles are fought at long range. And the rapidity and intensity of modern rifle and artillery fire have closed for ever the period when the glittering lines of bayonets were, so to speak, the fringe on the drop-scene of the battlefield. In the English translation of his *Modern Weapons and Modern War* Bloch says of present day conditions: 'Before an attack with the bayonet can be made, a zone of murderous fire has first to be passed. Retreat after a repulsed attack upon a fortified position will be accomplished only after the loss of more than half the attacking force. At such short ranges as will be found in bayonet attacks almost every rifle bullet will disable one soldier, and often more than one. On a smokeless battlefield the results of such an overthrow will be visible to all. At such close ranges the present covered bullet will penetrate the cranium; but in other parts of the body will have a shattering and tearing effect.'

The casualties from cold steel have been quite insignificant in wars that have been waged with modern weapons of precision. 'Fisher,' says Bloch, 'estimates the proportion of wounds inflicted by cold steel in the war of 1866 in the Austrian army at four per cent., and in the Prussian army at five per cent., of all wounds. In the war of 1870-71 the proportion of wounds caused by cold steel in the German army was one per cent. In the Russo-Turkish war the percentage of wounds inflicted by cold steel was 2.5 per cent. in the Russian army of the Danube. The percentage of deaths caused by cold steel is also very inconsiderable. In the last Russo-Turkish war, of the number killed in the army of the Danube only 5.3 per cent. of deaths were caused by cold steel, and in the army of the Caucasus barely one per cent.' At close quarters even the stumpy, dagger-like bayonet that is used as an appendix to the Lee-Metford rifle is an ugly-looking close probe to fall upon. But soldiers don't get to particularly close quarters with the enemy nowadays. They squat as small as possible behind rocks or field-works half a mile to a mile or so apart, with about half an inch of scalp appearing above the shelter-line, and squirt hypodermic injections of lead at each other. The ambulance doctor does the probing—if any—afterwards.

A SHORT time ago the *New York Observer*, a non-Catholic religious paper, published an article on the state of the Protestant Churches in Germany. The writer displays a thinly-veiled animus against 'Romanism.' But he describes the Catholic Church in the German Federation as being more active and zealous than ever in the work of making converts. Referring to Saxony—which was for so long a period the greatest stronghold of the Reformed creed—he says: 'Here is perhaps one dark spot in the outlook—in Saxony. Here in the country where Luther was born, and where his wonderful Reformation work was begun, there is a singular tendency among the members of the oldest aristocratic families to join the Church of Rome. Whole families have gone over to Rome, families bearing names illustrious in the history of the Reformation. The reason is probably not far to seek. The royal house is zealously Catholic, and the King, now an aged man and no longer in the prime of mental vigor, shows a distinct inclination to fill all offices around his person and wherever his influence extends, with members of the Roman community. A near relative of the King's, Prince Max of Saxony, was recently consecrated a priest of the Catholic Church. This young man's influence among the Saxon nobles, especially among the ladies, is enormous, and it is probably these Royal and Court intrigues which are responsible for many of the recent conversions. German Protestant associations are much concerned at the feebleness of the Saxon nobles, and on more than one occasion recently earnest appeals have been addressed to them conjuring them not to forget the faith of their forefathers, and to remain true in the principles of the evangelical faith.'

Tussicura, the wonderful cough remedy—sold by all chemists and grocers.—*.*

IN THE WAKE OF THE RISING SUN.

By 'VIATOR.'

Beirut, Syria, Dec. 6, 1900.

ALEXANDRIA.

We were early awake on the morning of Tuesday, November 27, for the first streak of dawn was to herald our entrance into the harbor of Alexandria, the open gateway of modern Egypt. From the bridge we watched not in vain. In the roselate haze the Pharos rose in lonely grandeur, all alone out of the warm mists of the morning, but soon circling at its base—for it is a low reach of sand—we picked out the extending piles of the modern city. Up the narrow channel we thread our way, past many steamers lying at anchor, past the Khedive's yacht and the Khedive's Palace, till we find our berth alongside the quay. Of the ancient city of Alexandria, seat of science, and art, and culture, scarce a vestige remains, but beyond the purview of the native quarter, that in the Far East changeth not, rise the usual bright buildings of modern times. Though France has had to yield her sway in Egypt, there is much to remind the traveller of the impress made here by our Gallic neighbors when her power for colonising was stronger and more enduring than in these degenerate times. The names of the streets tell of fair France; most of the officials in the Civil Service hail from that country, and in the stores and shops on the boulevards, in the cafés, in the churches, you hear the echoes of the French language. Guides and dragomans, city police and railway officials, cab-drivers and donkey boys—all in their ready if halting language tell of the past ascendancy of France in these parts. What Chaucer wrote so slyly of the Abbess in his 'Tales' may without strain be quoted of the disjointed French spoken in the streets of Alexandria.

'Her French was the French of Stratford-at-Bowce,
For the French of Paris was to her unknowe.'

All trace of the Ptolemies and the Neo-Platonists is lost in modern Alexandria—a glittering city, save where the swarthy races foregather, and streets with a decidedly continental finish. But quite lately, within the last three or four months only, accident has unearthed the most startling discoveries of a buried city lying dormant and lost during the ages under piles of earth and rubbish. The antiquarian and the archeologist will have in disclosed streets and buildings and tombs a big field for study and discussion. We had a look at 'Pompey's Pillar,' at the canal running into the Nile at Cairo, at the public gardens rich and glorious in flowers, fruits and giant palms, at the Franciscan Church and the Jesuit College, and then took train to Cairo.

Leaving Alexandria at 4.30 we covered the 130 mile distance to Cairo in three hours and a half over a country peopled by the toiling fellahen of Egypt, still hugging the primitive past; still lagging on time's highway; still corded victims of manners, habits, and customs that bring the observer back to biblical pictures and biblical stories with a reality quite startling to western races. If aught is to be gathered from the toilers in the cotton, rice, and maize fields, from the mud huts crouching under the lee of the modest hills, from the toil-worn limbs and half-clad forms, albeit interesting in their many colors setting off the dusky skin, there is too in the land of the Nile a system of land tenure whose first principle is not to gift the toiler with the best fruits of his labor. Here for the first time are seen the Eastern women thickly veiled, or decked as to the visage with hideous 'yashmak' cunningly contrived to conceal the face and features, but with just enough opening for the eye to fix the gaze on others.

'Forsitan ut spectent, sed non spectentur ut ipsæ.'

In a little over three hours we cover the 130 miles between Alexandria and Cairo—in railway carriages quite up to the ease and comforts of Western countries. As we near the capital of modern Egypt, the Libyan chain of mountains is seen in the distance, gardens and neat cottages rush past the railway line, and minarets rising sheer in the still evening air tell us we are at Cairo. As we alight at the railway station, built in arabesque style, we are the centre of a mixed throng of dark and dusky noisy figures, befezzed and beturbaned, standing out in red, and yellow, and blue, and turquoise, and gold, and spotless white, all awaiting the 'express' from Alexandria.

CAIRO.

Cairo, the largest city in Africa, counts a population of more than 600,000 souls, of whom only some 25,000 are Europeans. The native population is made up of Arabs, Fellahs, Copts, Turks, Jews, Bedouins, Numidians, and others. It stands on the east bank of the Nile some 10 miles south of the point where the Rosetta and Damietta branches of the lordly river divide. Since the middle of present century, Cairo has rapidly developed on the European side, and as the principal residence of the Khedive, and of the Consul-General, the seat of Government and State Administration, is the centre, during the season, of a large and varied fashionable society. The strong hand of England is scarcely veiled under the filmy shadow of native administration, and the native in his own haunts is a thing not reckoned with. He is veritably a hewer of wood and a drawer of water in the ancient land of the Pharaohs. 'Shepherd's Hotel,' to which we were driven in an open drag with four horses, picked out of the many cabs and carriages hitched on to the wiry animals of Egypt, that lie in wait for the traveller, is a hostelry appointed in modern style of the highest order of comfort. We sauntered after dinner into the open streets, and in the clear moonlight breathed the late November air, as fresh, and soft, and clear as its fellow-evening at its summer best in far New Zealand. But we sauntered not far into the native quarter, that ramifies in lanes and passages and malodorous byways just off the European district—a stubborn proof of the strict conservatism, in spite of the

invasion of the restless Western, in spite of plague and epidemic—a conservatism writ large on Oriental habits even in the capital of Egypt.

Cairo would seem to me the rallying ground of wealthy Europeans seeking to cheat the rigid winters of the West, and anxious to gratify a natural desire of seeing the wonders strewn over this ancient land. Would that I could add that the motley peoples who cluster in these parts benefit to a slight degree by association with these birds of passage. Insoluble problem! They go their ways, and cherish their customs, and tread the beaten path of their fathers and glory in their unalterable ways, however dark-some, punitive, revolting, with a conviction and steadfastness of purpose that reek not of modification or change—'Quare fremuerunt gentes, et populi meditati sunt inania?'—Of the highest order of interest is Cairo with its environs.

THE JESUITS.

At Fagollah, a quarter of an hour's walk from Shepherd's Hotel, the Jesuit Fathers, always in the forefront of the battle, have a church and a college. I was able, through the courtesy of the Superior, to say Mass each morning, and with professional interest had a close insight into the college, its professors, pupils, opportunities, curriculum, and management. The church—public—is large and modern, of Roman style. The college is built of stone, with wide and airy corridors, for the heat from March to October is very trying to the staff. Here in the heart of Egypt, amid Mohammedan domination the Fathers of the Society pursue their noble work of education and culture. Here I saw in the various classes, Mohammedans, Copts, Greeks, Armenians, with a large number of Europeans, 300 in all, under the masters' eye, clearing the difficulties that beset the path of knowledge. The ubiquitous Irishman is here in the person of Rev. Patrick Kane, S.J., of Dublin, who did much to make our stay in Cairo interesting and profitable.

'One in fame and one in name
Is the sea-divided Gael.'

I was very much interested in the fact that in this fine, progressive College of Fagollah—where every intelligence, enthusiasm, personality is at the head—Moslem, Greek, and Christian sip the waters of sound and wholesome knowledge at the clear springs opened to their pupils by the pioneers and past masters of education, the Fathers of the Society of Jesus. Other churches there are in Cairo, but for me all the attraction was at the College and Church of Fagollah.

THE PYRAMIDS.

Out in the bright sunshine, under a cloudless sky with a rustling suspicion of breeze, we drive through the new Ismailizeh quarter, over the grandiose bridge—Kasr-el-Nil—that spans the eternal Nile, out on to the Ghezireh where we debouch on to a fine carriage drive, lined by acacia trees, that leads to Ghizeh and the Pyramids. We stop on the way to hastily glance at the exhibits shown in the Ghizeh Museum, a Palace boasting of close on 100 apartments built in an extensive park by Ismail Pasha at a cost of nearly one million pounds sterling. The Egyptian collection herein stored and classified is singular above all other collections in its wealth of monuments of the first six dynasties, and in the absolute reliability of the antiquities that startle and fascinate the visitor. Here you see a famous collection of *scarabs* or sacred beetles, the wooden statue of Shekh-el-Blod, the stone of Tanis with the celebrated decree of Carope, the treasure of Queen Aoh-hotep, the royal mummies of Deri-el-Bohay, and stones, inscriptions and mummies of every size, order, condition and class. A half-an-hour more brings us to the border of the Libyan desert, the home of the Pyramids and the Sphinx. A sumptuous hostelry—the Mena House Hotel—rises at the edge of the desert sands and here invalids inhale the fresh, dry air of the desert. On the sands are grouped the Ghizeh Pyramids, three in number, and the Sphinx. Pyramids are found only in the centre of a Necropolis, and thus furnish strong reason for believing that they were erected as tombs for the Egyptian Kings who reigned before the invasion of Hyksos, 1780 before Christ. According to some Arab authors, they were built by King Sarid 300 years before the Deluge. And here are they still. An interesting fact in connection with their position is, that the cardinal points are always exactly determined, and that the entrance is always on the north side. But tho' they rise bold and defiant on the desert sand, they were oft-time rifled of their treasures, and torn by greedy builders, who regarded them as mere quarries for supplying blocks of stone. Many of the mosques and sacred buildings in Cairo were erected with blocks taken from the Pyramids. The highest and greatest of the Ghizeh Pyramids—the Cheops—dates back, it is said, to Chufu, the second King of the fourth dynasty, before Christ, 2800. The measurements of the Cheops pyramid are at present 755ft at the base, and in height 451ft. But the original dimensions were greater by some 30ft or 40ft. The blocks of stones of which it is constructed are from the quarries of Mokattam and Tuna, near Cairo, and the contents amount to 85,000,000 cubic feet. We did not find the ascent too tiring, assisted as we were by two Bedouins to each of us, yet the stones average three feet in height. From the top, which is flat, a very charming view is to be had of the Delta. In the interior of the pyramid are three mortuary chambers, and the entrance is by sloping narrow passages, so close and low as to compel visitors to stoop and creep in passing through them. In the upper mortuary chamber is the red granite sarcophagus of Cheops, and in a chamber above the name of Cheops is found painted in red on the blocks.

It is recounted by the Greek historian Herodotus that this pyramid took 20 years to build, and that 100,000 men were employed in its construction. The pyramids, meaningless heaps of out stone, are immense, overawing, colossal, but they make no claim on the elegant or the æsthetic. Crowds of Bedouins took us in charge, or threatened to do so, as we stepped from the verdure of the plain of the Nile on to the eternal sands of the desert, but our faithful

dragoman, Sadi Osman—calm, alert, patient, imperturbable—re-pelled the invasion and adjusted the Bedouin claims and the tastes and curiosity of the visitors to the full satisfaction of all. One Mohamed Hassan, from among the Bedouins, offered for two francs to ascend the Cheops and return to its base in eight minutes. We took him at his word. Nimble-footed as a goat, but considerably faster in pace, Mohamed scaled the rough stones, rising higher and higher. He performed the feat within the time specified, and fairly earned his wager. From the pyramids we passed on camel back to the Sphinx.

THE ETERNAL SPHINX,

'Staring right on with calm, eternal eyes,' in lonely majesty, little altered by the ravages of time, impervious to decay. The Sphinx is cut out of the living rock, and represents a crouching lion with a human head. The body is rough-hewn from the rock, but the head has been sculptured with considerable care and not a little power. Still looking out into time, impassive, grave, unsympathetic, cynical, wrapped in the silence of ages, reeking nought of the changes that perturb the little world of men. The Sphinx is a type of immortality—yesterday, to-day, the same for ever. The face bears the damages of Arab marksmen, and the red color spread over the features is patchy—the head-dress and part of the beard are gone—still the Sphinx looks out into space with as placid and imperturbable an eye as when Abraham, son of Thare, because of a famine in the land, went down to Egypt and sojourned there when Abraham received the divine promise of a land for his children to extend from the river of Egypt to the Euphrates, when Jacob went down to the land of the Pharaohs to seek his son Joseph, when Moses rose in his might to lead the children of Israel out of the house of bondage, when the Holy Family sought refuge in flight from the murderous decree of Herod, when Napoleon mobilised his legions on the sands of the desert in vain boast of universal conquest. For thousands of years the Sphinx looking out into immensity from its bed of sand has furnished an enigma for traveller and archaeologist, and though modern antiquarians have stripped the colossus of much of the mystery which constituted its charm, the Sphinx still remains, the oldest monument in the world—colossal, fascinating—looking down unmoved at the wavelets of time breaking at its base. 'Comely the creature is, but the comeliness is not of this world; the once-worshipped beast is a deformity and a monster to this generation. Yet you can see that those lips, so thick and heavy, were fashioned according to some ancient mould of beauty—some mould of beauty now forgotten—forgotten because that Greece drew forth Cytherea from the flashing foam of the Aegean, and in her image created new forms of beauty and made it a law among men that the short and proudly-wreathed lips should stand for the sign and main condition of loveliness through all generations to come. Yet there still lives on the race of those who were beautiful in the fashion of the elder world; and Christian children of Gothic blood will look on you with the sad, serious gaze, and kiss your charitable hand with the big, pouting lips of the very Sphinx' (Kingslake). The year 2900 before Christ is set down as the date of the carving of the Sphinx.

Medieval critics write that the Sphinx is a model of human symmetry, wearing an expression of the softest beauty and the most winning grace. But though owing to the march of the Vandal in the ages that have passed, there is little concrete beauty in the colossal features. There is in the bald position, the solitary grandeur, the solemn surroundings, the mysterious traditions and the immemorial antiquity an overpowering fascination and charm in the Sphinx. Yesterday, to-day, the same for ever, may be written of the immortal Sphinx.

The body of the Sphinx is 150ft long, the paws 50ft, the well-proportioned head 30ft high and 14ft broad. It will give, some notion of its immense size, though it does not look so in the vast, sandy space, when I say that if a man stands on the top of one ear, he cannot reach the top of the Sphinx's head. Under the clear blue sky, on the lonely, sandy waste, flecked only by rusty camels, and Bedouin colors and our party of three, we stood lost in awe and wonder, gazing at this carved block of stone, that has resisted the shock of ages and stands silent and solid while empires rise like mushrooms and crumble to dust. A souvenir of our visit to the pyramids is a photograph of our party, mounted on camels, with dragoman and Bedouin guides in the foreground, and for background the pyramids, the immortal Sphinx, the Libyan desert. The picture is a satisfactory presentment of the travellers and will long serve as reminder of a delightful visit to the most interesting and fascinating monuments on this earth of ours.

An elderly man is required as gardener for the Convent, Nelson.—*

Wanted, about 50 clerks to help read testimonials *re* Tussicoura. Sole manufacturer, S. J. Evans, 2s 6d.—**

The McCormick Harvesting Machine Company built and sold 213,629 machines in the season of 1899. This is the greatest sale of harvesting machines ever made by one company.—**

The Railway department notifies that several alterations in and additions to the ordinary train service will be made in connection with the Dunedin autumn races to be held at Wingatui on February 27, and March 1 and 2. Full particulars will be found in our advertising columns.—**

Did you ever read *Helen's Babies*, and do you remember the delightful enthusiasm of little 'Toddy' when he got at the internal workings of some-body's watch and wanted to see 'the wheels go round'? And does it occur to you that wheels occupy a pretty important part in cycles? We have realised this fact, and as an evidence of the attention given the subject, want you to examine the latest Sterling chain, chainless, and free wheels. Built like a watch. New shipment just landed. Morrow, Bassett, and Co.—**

THE H.A.C.B. SOCIETY.

ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING.

THE annual meeting of the New Zealand District Board of the Hibernian Australasian Catholic Benefit Society was opened in St. Joseph's Hall, Dunedin, on Wednesday morning, February 20. All parts of the Colony were well represented. Bro. D. Flynn, District President, opened the proceedings with prayer, after which he welcomed the delegates, and expressed his pleasure at meeting them once more. He trusted that the greatest good would result to their excellent Society from their labors, and begged them to give close attention to the items on the order paper, and, considering the amount of business to be transacted, he asked them to be as brief as possible in their remarks.

The following telegraphic message was received from the Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan, Bishop of Auckland:—'Please convey to brethren Hibernian meeting my hearty good wishes.'

The president was directed to wire a reply thanking his Lordship for his kind message.

Bro. M. F. Dennehy was appointed assistant-secretary to the meeting.

The following is the list of delegates who were present:—District president, Bro. D. Flynn; D.V.P., Bro. M. O'Sullivan; D.T., Bro. M. J. Sheahan, J.P.; D.S., Bro. W. Kane; district trustees, Bro. John Patterson, J.P., and P. J. Nerheny (president Auckland branch); district auditors, Bro. O'Kane and J. B. R. Stead. Delegates from the following branches were also present:—Greymouth, Bro. W. Beehan; Charleston, Bro. J. O'Shaughnessy; Gramstown, Bro. C. Little; Dunedin, Bro. J. Marlow and J. O'Connor; Onehunga, Bro. Edward Carroll; Christchurch, Bro. G. J. Sellars, P.P., and F. J. Doolan; New Plymouth, Bro. James Casey; Wai-pawa, Bro. John Hally; Leeston, Bro. John McCabe; New Head-ford, Bro. D. McVeigh; Timaru, Bro. M. F. Dennehy and P. Kane; Oamaru, Bro. P. G. Duggan, S.; Milton, Bro. P. Walsh; Auckland, Bro. P. J. Nerheny, P.D.P.; St. John the Baptist (ladies' branch), Christchurch, Sister Burke; Wellington, Bro. Stratford, P.P.; St. Mary's, Wellington, Bro. Power; Santa Maria, Auckland (ladies' branch), Mrs. Kane.

The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The district officers' report was submitted, and the secretary explained that had the several branches forwarded their returns the figures would show to still greater advantage.

The report was adopted.

The balance sheet was read by the secretary, and showed the credit balance of the funeral fund to be £4450, being an increase of £220 on the year's transactions, although the sum of £80 was paid away in funeral claims. The statement of the investments in connection with this account showed the society to hold securities to the extent of double the amount of its various loans. In this connection the meeting passed a unanimous vote of thanks to the district trustees for their lucid statement of the investments, and for the evident care bestowed upon them.

The district secretary moved—'That with a view to the better government of the female division, the branches now in existence may amalgamate and be incorporated with the male branches in their respective localities, and female candidates may be admitted to membership in any male branch in this district, provided they are duly qualified according to law.'

The motion was seconded by Bro. Nerheny, and supported by Bros. Beehan, Dennehy, Duggan, Hally, and Carroll, and was opposed by Bros. Sellars, O'Connor, Stratford, Marlow, Power, Doolan, and Sister Burke. After a reply by the mover, the motion was carried.

It was moved by the district secretary—'That in order to place branches on a more satisfactory basis, the district executive shall, and is hereby empowered, to send a properly qualified district officer to see that branch books, etc., are properly kept, and, where necessary, to arrange matters in connection therewith.'

Bro. Dennehy seconded the motion.

The motion was approved of by Bros. Sellars, Marlow, and others, and was carried.

The following motion was also moved by the district secretary—'That a movable meeting be held every third year, commencing with 1904, and be styled or known as "The Triennial Movable Meeting" of the New Zealand District, No. 3, H.A.C.B.S.'

Bro. M. J. Sheahan, district treasurer, seconded the motion, which was spoken to by nearly all the delegates and passed.

It was moved by the district secretary—'That in the event of any branch being unable to send a delegate to a district board meeting through distance or other satisfactory cause, it shall have the privilege of being represented by a duly qualified member of the district, provided the district executive had been supplied by the branch concerned with written instructions to the delegate. The foregoing motion as amended by Bro. Marlow was carried. The meeting rose at 9 p.m. and adjourned until next day.

SECOND DAY.

The meeting opened on Thursday at 10 o'clock. The Rev. Father Cleary, editor of the N.Z. TABLET, entered the room, and was heartily welcomed. He invited the assembled delegates to visit the TABLET Company's premises during the afternoon. The invitation was accepted. By direction of the District President, Bro. Dennehy read the leader in the TABLET welcoming the Society to Dunedin. It evoked loud applause.

Bro. Stratford (Wellington), moved—'Consideration of an application from St. Patrick's branch, No. 95, Wellington, to reinstate a member, some time full benefit member, struck off for being in arrears, and later joined as an honorary member, which he is, under clause 2 of general law 103.

This was referred to the district officers to deal with.

The delegate for Christchurch branch (Bro. Doolan) moved—'That in the opinion of this meeting official visits of officers of branches, one to another, should take place where the location of branches are within reasonable limits, for the purpose of interchange of ideas relating to the Society, and for the purpose of instruction where necessary.'

Bro. M. J. Sheahan, district treasurer, seconded the motion, and after Bros. O'Connor, Duggan, Stratford, Beehan, Kane, Walsh, Nerheny, and Sellars had spoken the motion was carried.

Bro. Sellars moved and Bro. Stratford seconded—'That the archbishop and bishops of their respective dioceses be approached with a view of enlisting their sympathy, and, through them, the co-operation of their respective clergy, in advocating and advancing the interests of the Society.'

Bros. Sheahan, Doolan, Nerheny, McCabe, Walsh, Marlow, and O'Connor spoke in favor, and the motion was carried.

The delegate from the Timaru branch, Bro. P. Kane, moved 'That on the death of a full benefit member 12 calendar months after admission, and financial on the books, his representative shall be entitled to a funeral allowance of £30. Providing that the requirements of the Society's laws and the laws of the Friendly Societies' Act have been complied with.'

Bro. Nerheny (Auckland), seconded the motion. Bro. Doolan (Christchurch) moved as an amendment—'That the funeral claim be increased all round by £10.' This was further amended by Bro. McCabe (Leeston),—'That a member shall be five years in the Society before being entitled to the increased amount.' Both amendments and motion were lost.

Bro. O'Connor (Dunedin) moved the following motion—'That in order to facilitate direct representation and other important conveniences, and equalising the distances as near as possible of the northern and southern branches from the district executive, the District Board office be removed from Auckland to Wellington.' The mover explained that he had no other motive in moving the proposition than the advancement of the interests of the society, as the transference of the District Board office to a more central place would be of considerable advantage to the whole of the branches. In fact the Otago and Canterbury branches had been practically disfranchised through the District Office being located so far away. In bringing forward the motion, he did not in any way wish to disparage the excellent work of the Auckland members, but merely to get more direct representation for the southern lodges.

The motion was seconded by Bro. Stratford, Wellington.

Bros. Doolan (Christchurch) and McVeigh (New Headford) supported the motion, and Bros. Kane (Timaru) and Duggan (Oamaru) opposed it.

On the motion of Sister Burke (Christchurch) the discussion was adjourned until next morning.

THIRD DAY.

On resuming on Friday morning Sister Burke spoke in favor of Bro. O'Connor's motion and said that in the opinion of her branch it was desirable the district executive should be located in Wellington.

At this stage of the discussion Bro. O'Connor asked permission to withdraw the motion, which was granted.

Bro. Marlow (Dunedin) said that the motion was brought forward on theoretical grounds, but upon mature consideration it was found that practice was better than theory, therefore he acquiesced in the withdrawal of the motion.

The district secretary thanked the delegates for their kind eulogy on the management of the district by the district officers. He urged the great desirability of branches sending in their returns in time.

Bro. Dennehy (Timaru) moved—'That the next triennial meeting, in 1904, be held in Timaru.'

Bro. O'Connor, seconded the motion which was carried.

Bro. Sellars (Christchurch) moved—'That the secretary be instructed to write a letter expressing sorrow at the illness of P.D.P. Bro. D. O'Sullivan.' This was seconded by Bro. Nerheny and agreed to.

Bro. Beehan (Greymouth), moved and Bro. Nerheny, seconded—'That the executive be instructed to present Bro. Dennehy (Timaru) with a souvenir as a token of appreciation for his invaluable services as assistant secretary, at at this meeting,' which was unanimously agreed to.

FREEHOLD INVESTMENTS.

In reply to Bro. Dennehy, Bro. Nerheny, one of the trustees, gave a very comprehensive account of how the funds were invested. Having had a good deal of experience in valuing properties he devoted considerable attention to those on which the Society had lent money. The following table would show the security held by the Society:—

Property.	Amount Loan.	Government Valuation.	Rateable Value.
No. 3	£ 200	£ 600	62
" 4	100	400	30
" 5	350	650	60
" 6	200	375	32
" 7	1200	2500	200
" 8	300	640	18
" 9	150	295	24
" 10	150	300	26
" 11	800	1800	150
	£3450	£7560	£632

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The election of officers resulted as follows:—District president, Bro. Michael O'Sullivan; district vice-president, Bro. J. B. R.

Stad; district secretary, Bro. W. Kane; district treasurer, Bro. M. J. Sheahan; auditors, Bros. F. J. O'Meara and P. O'Kane.

The meeting then adjourned until 8 p.m.

During the interval the revising committee met and considered the rules. Upon re-assembling in the evening the report of this committee was submitted, and the amendments made were passed.

Bro. Dennehy moved—'That this annual meeting of the N.Z. District Board, No. 3, of the H.A.C.B. Society, held in Dunedin on February 22, desire to place on record their great gratification at the complete vindication of the Marist Brothers from the gross charges levelled against them in connection with the Stoke inquiry, and express their severe condemnation of those who in Parliament and in the Press used every means to arouse an adverse public opinion, thereby prejudicing the cause of innocent men, and calculating to defeat the ends of justice.' In speaking to the motion, Bro. Dennehy said that all would agree with him when he said that an injustice had been done the Brothers. Members of Parliament even went behind their privileges, and condemned the Brothers before they were put on their trial. Gold watches were even presented to those people who were instrumental in having the charges laid, and every attempt was made to injure the Brothers. Certain persons appeared to be carried away with excitement.

Bro. Sheahan, district treasurer, in seconding the motion, characterised the whole affair as a disgrace.

The motion was agreed to after remarks from Bros. Beehan (Greymouth), and Nerheny (Auckland).

On the motion of Bro. Kane, D.S., seconded by Bro. Sheahan, D.T., Bro. P. W. O'Shea, of Melbourne, was nominated as correspondent secretary for the next annual term. It was also moved by Bro. Kane that Bro. T. Whelan be nominated as chief treasurer by the N.Z. district. The nomination was seconded by Bro. G. J. Sellars, who said that the unity of the Society would be assured by the appointment of these brothers.

P.D.P. Bro. Sellars, at the request of the district president, installed the new officers in a very impressive manner. Upon resuming their seats the new executive officers were loudly applauded. They subsequently returned thanks for the very high honor conferred on them. Bro. Sellars congratulated the P.D.P. Bro. Flynn upon the able way in which he had conducted the meeting, and though present, he said, at many such gatherings he had never attended a better meeting.

Before dispersing the officers heartily thanked Bros. Marlow and O'Connor, president and secretary of the Dunedin branch, and the members thereof, for their very kind treatment of them during their stay in Dunedin.

The delegates, by invitation, visited the N.Z. TABLET office on Thursday afternoon, when they were received by the representatives of the directors, Mr. J. B. Callan (chairman) and Mr. C. Columb, Rev. Father Cleary (editor) and Mr. J. Murray (manager), and shown over the premises. Later on an adjournment was made to the manager's department. Mr. Callan, who presided, formally welcomed the delegates, and expressed the pleasure of himself and co-directors on receiving such a visit. Several of the visitors returned thanks for the courtesy extended to them by the company, one and all paying a tribute of praise to the manner in which the TABLET is conducted. Rev. Father Cleary and Mr. Murray responded, and after a few more speeches of a complimentary character the proceedings terminated.

On Thursday evening the members of the local branch held a social in honor of the visiting brethren, when there were about 200 persons present. St. Joseph's Hall, where the gathering was held, was very nicely decorated for the occasion.

Some of the northern delegates left for home on Saturday morning, and in the afternoon some of those who remained in Dunedin were taken for a drive in the suburbs, and shown places of interest.

At the nine o'clock Mass on Sunday at St. Joseph's Cathedral the members of the local branch approached the Holy Table in a body, and later on sat down to breakfast in St. Joseph's Hall, having as their guests his Lordship the Bishop, the visiting brethren, and Fathers Murphy, Coffey, and Cleary. Speeches eulogistic of the good work done by the H.A.C.B.S. were made by his Lordship and the clergy present, and valuable suggestions were thrown out for increasing the membership and efficiency of the society. Bro. Flynn, P.D.P. (Auckland), replied on behalf of the visiting delegates. The visitors were taken for a drive to Waitati in the afternoon, and needless to say enjoyed the pretty scenery along the route.

The northern delegates, who remained in Dunedin over Sunday, left for their homes on Monday by the express, when they were seen away by a large number of friends, receiving a very hearty send-off.

Notice is given by the Commissioner of Crown Lands, Dunedin that several pastoral runs will be submitted to auction for lease at the Crown Lands Office, Dunedin, on Tuesday, March 5. The runs are situated in the Tuapeka and Maniototo, Lake, and Waitaki counties. Further particulars will be found in our advertising columns.—*.*

Our readers are reminded that Messrs. Thomas S. Paterson and Andrew Paterson carry on the business of sharebrokers, mining and financial agents, in the Colonial Bank Buildings, Princes street, Dunedin, under the title of Paterson Bros. The first-named is a member of the Dunedin Stock Exchange.—*.*

The Dunlop Tyre Co. Melbourne, are so pleased with the result of their recent motor trials on the Western District Roads that they contemplate making a 24 hours' road ride at an early date. The Dunlop Tyre Co. recognise that there is a future for motoring on the Australian roads, and intend by means of long distance road rides, to demonstrate to the Australian public that the present up-to-date motor car is not a toy but a powerful adjunct to road travelling.—*.*

Diocesan News.

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON.

(From our own correspondent.)

February 23.

Very Rev. Father Smyth returned to Hastings on Monday last.

St. Mary of the Angels' choir and the children attending the Convent High School held their annual picnics this week.

The annual meeting of the Convent Ex-pupils' Association will be held on Monday evening next at St. Mary's Convent.

Perfect weather was enjoyed by the ex-pupils of St. Mary's Convent on the occasion of their annual outing held on Saturday last. The picnickers journeyed to Porirua by train and were from there conveyed by coach to Titahi Bay, where the sea-side residence of the nuns was placed at their disposal by the Mother-Superior. During the day the party visited a Maori meeting house which is in course of erection, and were greatly interested in the carving of the natives who were busily engaged therein. The party returned to town by the 5.30 train after spending a very enjoyable day.

The meeting of ladies convened by Rev. Father O'Shea, and held on Thursday afternoon to discuss the question of holding a bazaar this year, was well attended by representatives from Newtown and Te Aro parishes. Father O'Shea explained the necessity for the raising of funds to liquidate the heavy debt on the convent and ground at Newtown, and suggested that a bazaar was the best means of attaining that object. It was decided, after some discussion, that a bazaar should be held, the date to be fixed at a later meeting. The allotting of the stalls was then proceeded with, the ladies of Newtown and St. Mary's Convent ex-Pupils' Association, each undertaking the furnishing and management of a stall. The "tea kiosk" will be in charge of Miss O'Connor. The two remaining stalls are to be allotted at a future meeting. Mr. T. Davis was appointed secretary, and Mr. L. Dwan assistant secretary.

The half-yearly meeting of the Marist School Old Boys' Association was held last Tuesday evening. The Rev. Father O'Shea, S.M., presided. The report of the secretary sketched the progress made by the Association during the past six months, and complimented the members on the success that had attended their efforts in the direction of literary improvement and social amusement. The report of the treasurer disclosed a sound financial position. The election of officers for the ensuing six months resulted as follows:—Patron, Archbishop Redwood; president, Rev. Father O'Shea; vice-presidents, Very Rev. Father Lewis, V.G., and Rev. Fathers Goggan, Holly, Moloney, Ainsworth, Drs. Mackin and Grace, Messrs. J. J. Devine, M. Kennedy, O. McArdle, Lieutenant-Colonel Collins, J. Kays, J. P. Kelly, W. Missen and Hon. J. G. Ward; hon. secretary, Mr. H. McKeowen; assistant secretary, Mr. P. J. McGovern; hon. treasurer, Mr. F. McDonald; librarian, Mr. T. Lawlor; auditors, Messrs. J. Weybourne and J. E. Gamble; chairman of debating society, Mr. J. Kays; general committee, Messrs. C. Gamble, E. Fitzgibbon, H. C. Allan, E. J. Leydon, L. Reichel, A. S. Henderson, E. Gibbs, B. A. Guise, the secretary and assistant secretary to act *officio*. Votes of thanks were passed to the outgoing committee, to the chairman, to the Press and donors of trophies. A motion by Mr. McKeowen that Catholic young men who were not Marist Old Boys should be permitted to hold office was discussed for nearly three hours and finally carried. The Rev. Father O'Shea and Mr. Kays, judges of the 'Original Essays', announced that the first prize was won by Mr. E. Fitzgibbon, the second by Mr. C. Gamble, and the third by Mr. McKeowen. The prizes are to be presented next Thursday week at a meeting of the Literary Society. At the meeting complimentary references were made by members concerning the assiduity and capability of the hon. sec. Mr. McKeowen, assistant secretary, Mr. McGovern, and hon. treasurer, Mr. McDonald, all of whom were re-elected. The meeting to discuss the advisability of the Association publishing a journal in connection with the Literary Society will be held shortly, when the report of the sub-committee appointed will be presented.

WANGANUI.

(From our own correspondent.)

February 21.

Among the visitors to the bazaar held here recently were Rev. Fathers Tynons (Palmerston) and Cahill (Dannevirke). The latter was on his way to Rotorua.

The Lenten devotions began last Wednesday morning. There was a good attendance at the evening devotions.

The St. Patrick's Day celebration will, I understand, take the form of a concert.

Miss Kate Connell has booked the Opera House for her concert on March 1. She will be assisted by Miss Lorraine Tansley, and Mr Roland Boot.

The proceedings at the bazaar during the week are set forth in the following report from the *Herald*:—Last evening the Imperial Bazaar was brought to a close. Considering the many calls that have been made on the public of late, the interest in the function has been well maintained, during the six days' run, and the Very Rev. Dean Kirk and the ladies and others who have worked so hard, should feel gratified at the results. The takings at the various stalls were as follows:—India, £80; Ireland, £69; England, £48; Canada, £40; Africa, £36; refreshments, £32; and produce, £11. To this is to be added the sum of £50 taken at the doors, or a total of about £400. The expenses will be something over £20. Last evening the goods unsold at the various stalls, were submitted

to auction by Mr. J. H. Keesing. Several ballots were drawn during the evening, for the principal prizes in the art unions. A lad named A. H. Taylor (No. 1339) who is at present a patient in the hospital, had the good luck to secure the valuable and handsome hand-painted duchess table; Master E. Troy won the large oil painting, Mr. J. Cullinane a hand-painted mirror, and Messrs. Jefferson and Hean each won a handsome worked chair. The surplus is to be devoted to reducing the debt on the church, which has but recently been enlarged and generally improved at a cost of something like £1600. The sacred edifice of St. Mary's is now one of the largest and prettiest churches in New Zealand, and is a lasting tribute to the energy and enterprise of the Very Rev. Dean Kirk, who has done so much to further the interests of the Catholic Church in Wanganui, and who by his unflinching zeal, devotion to duty, and extreme courteousness to all, has endeared himself not only to the congregation of St. Mary's, but to members of all denominations.

(By telegraph.)

The results of the Junior Civil Service examination are just to hand, and among the successful candidates are four pupils of the local Catholic schools, viz:—Master T. Noble-Beasley (who received his education at the Marist Brothers' School) and Misses J. and F. Whelan and M. Steadman (all of the Wanganui Convent). These young ladies were the only pupils sent up by the Sisters, who after their successes at the Matriculation examination have good reason to be pleased with their record this year at the public examinations.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND.

(From our own correspondent.)

February 22.

On Sunday night at St. Patrick's Cathedral the Rev. Father Benedict, O.P., delivered a most instructive sermon on 'Our Blessed Lady,' to a large congregation.

All the Catholic schools of the diocese have been opened for three weeks or more, and the teachers are highly pleased with the increase and renewed diligence of the pupils.

A mission was commenced at St. Benedict's last Sunday, by two of the Passionist Fathers. Both at the 11 o'clock Mass and evening devotions the Rev. Father Augustine preached very impressive sermons to crowded congregations.

On Sunday at the 11 o'clock Mass at St. Patrick's the Rev. Father Corcoran, during the course of his sermon, made mention to the congregation of the fact that a young men's club had been established in their midst, and, if there were any desirous of joining it, they could do so by handing in their names to Mr. James Ford, the hon. secretary.

A pastoral has been issued by Bishop Lenihan to the clergy and laity (says the *Auckland Star*) detailing the progress made during the year. The pastoral states that the clergy had persuaded the Board of Education to allow their inspectors to examine pupils of the schools. Six Sisters of Mercy were professed, while the number of Sisters of St. Joseph had increased by 10. New churches had been built at Te Kōpuru, Pahitahi and Coromandel. The reductions made in church debts are shown; also the debts contracted by improvements and alterations. His Lordship hopes during the year to increase the staff of priests. During the year there were 460 confirmations. The Passionist and Dominican Fathers will give a series of missions throughout the diocese.

His Lordship the Bishop has made the following clerical changes:—The Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly returns to his former parish, the Thames. The Rev. Father Mahony has been transferred from the Thames to Puhoi; Rev. Father Patterson from Panmure to the Cathedral; Rev. Father Corcoran from the Cathedral to Panmure; Rev. Father Croke from Kihikihi to St. Patrick's; Rev. Father O'Carroll from the Cathedral to Kihikihi; Rev. Father Buckley from Hamilton to St. Benedict's; Rev. Father Darby from St. Benedict's to Hamilton; and Rev. Father Brodie from Puhoi to Waihi.

Regarding the transfer of Rev. Father Buckley from Hamilton to St. Benedict's parish, Auckland, the *Waikato Times* says:—We learn that the Rev. Father Buckley, of St. Mary's, Hamilton, and St. Peter's, Cambridge, is transferred to Auckland. During the time the Rev. Father has resided in Hamilton he has confined himself to the strict performance of the duties of his office. All those, however, who have had the pleasure of his acquaintance have found him a courteous gentleman and the people of his church an earnest priest. He will be succeeded by the Rev. J. C. Darby, of St. Benedict's, Auckland. We also learn that the Rev. Father Croke, of Kihikihi, is also transferred to Auckland, and will be succeeded by the Rev. M. A. O'Carroll, of St. Patrick's, Auckland.

Writing with reference to the departure of Rev. Father Croke from Kihikihi to the cathedral parish a correspondent of an Auckland contemporary writes:—Father Croke will be much regretted by his people. During his stay amongst them he endeared himself to all, and was popular with people of every creed. He succeeded the late Father Luck, and indeed proved himself a worthy successor. The many improvements he effected in his districts are standing monuments of his zeal. His duties extended over a very wide range of country, and were performed under many difficulties, especially in wet weather. In one of his journeys he got a wetting and contracted a cold, from which he still suffers, and which, we regret to say, has considerably impaired his health. His medical advisers have recommended him to try a hot climate for a change in the hope that his health may be thereby improved. His parishoners will undoubtedly extend their sympathy to him in his affliction; for it was in serving them and in discharging his sacred duties towards them that his present illness was contracted. His speedy recovery and perfect restoration to health is the ardent wish of all.

WAIHI NOTES.

February 18.

There is considerable excitement among the community here at the present time. What with the departure of men to join the contingents for South Africa, or to visit Auckland to see the Imperial troops, the agitation for increased wages, and the proposed sitting of the Conciliation Board, men have quite enough to talk about, to say nothing of the athletic sports which are to be held here on Miners' Union Day, and also on Easter Monday.

St. Joseph's Catholic Church congregation are now fortunate enough to have the services of a resident pastor. At nine o'clock Mass yesterday the Very Rev. Dean Hackett stated he had secured the services of the Rev. Father Brodie for Waihi, and trusted that the congregation would do all in their power to help him. The Very Rev. Dean returned thanks for the many kindnesses he had received from the Waihi public, and said he would be present at a meeting on Monday evening, 23rd inst., to introduce Father Brodie to the people, and also personally thank them for the many good turns they had done himself. After Mass many expressions of regret were heard that the genial Dean, whom we all know and love so well, was leaving the parish.

Owing to taking a leading part in the agitation for increased wages for miners and battery hands an esteemed member of the Catholic congregation here has been unfortunate in losing his employment in the mine.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

February 25.

The Christchurch Catholic Club and Marist Brothers' School Old Boys' Association renew their usual meetings this week after the Christmas vacation.

A general meeting of the congregations of the Pro-Cathedral and St. Mary's, Manchester street, is convened for this (Monday) evening in the Marist Brothers' Schoolroom, to consider the best means to be adopted for the due celebration of St. Patrick's Day.

Lenten instructions together with the usual devotions are given each Wednesday and Friday evening in the Pro-Cathedral. Many were present at the early Mass on Ash Wednesday, when the distribution of the ashes took place.

A strong and influential committee of citizens, including the Right Rev. Dr. Grimes, has been formed to devise some suitable recognition of the services rendered to the city by his Worship the Mayor and Mrs. Reece during Mr. Reece's term of office, which has been by far the most eventful in the history of Canterbury. Mr. and Mrs. Reece are leaving shortly on a visit to England.

At the Masses on Sunday the Very Rev. Vicar-General urged the necessity of increased membership to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and the Society of the Sacred Heart, each of which, in its respective sphere, was capable of incalculable benefit to the community. After referring to the spiritual and temporal aspects of these and other admirable institutions in connection with the church, the Very Rev. Father expressed a strong desire that his words should not be allowed to go unheeded.

AT THE RAGPICKERS' MASS

SUNDAY morning at 11 o'clock, at St. Severin at the 'Meuse des Chiffonniers'—the Ragpickers' Mass in Paris, all the Quartier Maubert is there, kneeling down, from the oldest 'megettiers' of the 'Maub' to the youngest and shabbiest unfortunate of the Rue Galande, repentant for a day. And who are those, think you, up in the organ gallery, their forms and faces dimly silhouetted against the dim religious glow of the painted windows, making music for this queerest of congregations? They are a few of the most famous musicians in Paris—in the world. And at the organ is Saint-Saens himself. Beside him is Taffanel, rippling out on his flute the purest, most bird-like fantasies. Thibault, with the hand of a magician, evokes for those poorest of listeners beneath him the wailing human soul which, as some fanciful French poet has said, lies buried in every 'little brown violin,' only to be made vocal by the hand of a master. And with these there are often women of the 'haute monde,' who sing to that wonderful accompaniment, though when this is so, Paul Vidal generally replaces Saint-Saens at the organ. There is so much gloom in Paris, and so much more abrupt and terrible a sundering of class from class than even in London, that it is pleasant to record how, once a week, a few gifted and generous souls are stretching forth kindly hands across the abyss. Moreover they are not doing it for self-glorification. They are too big to need it.

It is unnecessary to impress on our readers the excellence of the Hibernian Australasian Catholic Benefit Society, and how incumbent it is on all Catholics to give it their most cordial support. A perusal of a notice, which appears elsewhere in this issue, will show that the Society offers unsurpassed benefits and privileges to mended to Catholic young men and women, for it inculcates a members. In addition to this feature the Society is specially recom- love of the Catholic faith, and of fatherland.—*.*

Our town and country readers are reminded that Messrs. Simon Brothers, boot manufacturers, and direct importers of best English and Continental goods, George street, Dunedin, are holding a monster boot sale, which will only last until Saturday week. It therefore behoves those who are about to purchase foot-gear to pay an early visit to the establishment and secure some of the bargains.—*.*

Friends at Court.

GLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR.

- March 3, Sunday.—Second Sunday in Lent.
- " 4, Monday.—St. Lucina I, Pope and Martyr.
- " 5, Tuesday.—St. Casimir, King and Confessor
- " 6, Wednesday.—St. Fridolinus, Abbot.
- " 7, Thursday.—St. Thomas Aquinas, Confessor and Doctor.
- " 8, Friday.—St. Cathaldus, Bishop and Confessor.
- " 9, Saturday.—St. Frances of Rome, Widow.

ST. CATHALDUS, BISHOP AND CONFESSOR.

THE great glory of the school of Lismore was St. Cathaldus. Like many other Irishmen who left home and died abroad, he has been almost forgotten by our native writers. But the country of his love and his adoption has not been ungrateful to Ireland. With one accord all foreign writers, following the testimony of Tarentum itself, proclaim that Cathaldus, its second apostle and patron saint, was an Irishman and a scholar of the great school of Lismore.

Lismore is far away from Taranto, as it is now called, Tarentum was a city of Magna Graecia, frequently hostile to Rome, and at the best of times yielding only a reluctant obedience to the Queen of the Seven Hills. Strange that this Greek-Italian city, situated in the very heel of Italy, should get its apostle from a Munster monastery. Yet such is the fact, to which its own writers bear unanimous and grateful testimony.

The *Life of St. Cathaldus* has been written by two Tarentines—the brothers Bartholomew and Bonaventure Morini—of whom the former wrote his account in prose and the latter in poetry. The substance of their account is as follows:—Cathaldus, or Cathaldus, which is the Latin form of Cathal, a very common Irish name, 'came from Hibernia, which is an island beyond Britain, in the western sea, smaller in area, but fully equal to it in the fertility of soil and productiveness of cattle, whilst in the warmth of the land, in the temperature of the climate, and the salubrity of the air it is even superior to Britain.' Some say, continues Morini, that Rachau was the Irish city in which he was born, because in many books he is called Cathaldus of Rachau, but the writer rather thinks his native town was Cathandum, which by a change of letter would be Cathaldum, the town of Cathal.

His father's name was Euchus and his mother's name is rendered Achlena or Athnea. Euchus is an attempt at Latinising the Irish Eochaidh. Achlena was a not unfrequent Irish female name, which was borne by the mothers of St. Fintan and St. Columbanus.

The young Cathal, who seems to have been born about the year A.D. 615, grew up in holiness and grace before God and men; and, according to the author, was whilst yet a youth sent to study in the great monastic school of Lismore. Morini's account of our saint at Lismore would seem to imply that he was a professor there as well as student, for he tells us that the fame of his learning and virtues attracted many disciples to the new college, and, what is more, raised up against himself many powerful enemies. He not only taught in the schools, but he preached the Gospel most successfully in all the country of the Desii, working many miracles too, and building churches—one of which, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, is specially mentioned in his life as the glory of Lismore.

After Cathaldus had ruled the See of Rachau for some years, with his brother Donatus and some companions he went on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem—a journey that it was by no means unusual for the fervent saints of Erin to accomplish even at that early period. On their return from Palestine their vessel was wrecked in the Gulf of Taranto, not far from the city of the same name. Taranto, the classical Tarentum, was an ancient and famous city, beautifully situated on the northern shore of the bay. It was founded by a Spartan colony of young men who had left their native country. The climate was delightful, the air bracing and salubrious; for the summer heats were tempered by the sea breezes and the mountains sheltered them from the biting winds of winter. But its inhabitants, even in the days of Phyrus, were said to be an effeminate and licentious people, more devoted to the pleasures of peace than to the arts of war.

When the Irish Bishop saw this beautiful city given over to pleasure and to vice, like St. Paul at Athens his spirit was moved within him, and in burning language he implored the inhabitants to return to the service of God, Whom they had forgotten. He performed also many striking miracles in the sight of all the people, healing the sick, and even, it is said, raising the dead to life. It happened at this time that there was no Bishop in the city, so the Tarentines besought the Irish saint to become their Bishop, and promised to obey his commands and follow all his counsels. Reluctantly he consented, in the hope that he might thus be able to win them back to the service of God. His efforts were crowned with complete success. Once more Tarentum became a Christian city in reality as well as in name, and Cathaldus was venerated as the second apostle and patron saint of the city. Cathaldus spent some years in his new See, then feeling his end approaching the saint once more exhorted the people and the clergy, in language of the most tender affection, to be true to the profession and practice of the Christian Faith. He died shortly after in his city of Tarentum, towards the close of the seventh century, on the eighth day of March. The holy remains, by which many miracles were wrought, were buried in a marble tomb, which up to this day is preserved in the sacristy of the Cathedral of Tarentum.

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(Late R. J. B. Yule).

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him without any difference in fee. Any
alterations and so on free of charge.HOURS OF CONSULTATION—9 a.m.
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being able to leave by the early trains.Guests may depend upon being called in
time, a porter being kept for that purpose.The Bedrooms are well and comfortably
furnished, and the Fittings and Accommoda-
tion throughout is all that could be desired.The Wines and Spirits are all of the
Choicest and Best Brands. Dunedin XXXX
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Irish News.

CORK.—Death of an Ex-Mayor.—The death is reported of Mr. Paul J. Madden, Cork, who died at his residence, Blackrock road, in the early part of January. Mr. Madden—or Alderman Madden, as he was better known in the South—was a prominent figure in Cork public life for close on a quarter of a century, and occupied the honorable position of Mayor of Cork for two years—1835 and 1885. His term of office was by no means uneventful. During that period many useful economic works were perfected in Cork. The visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales to the city took place during the first year of his office. It will be remembered that Lord Aberdeen was selected as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland under Mr. Gladstone's Home Rule Government in 1886. In that capacity his Excellency visited the city, and gained a very hearty reception. He was entertained at the Imperial Hotel by an influential body of citizens, and it is a matter of common knowledge that on that occasion the Mayor was offered by his Excellency a knighthood which he did not deem it dignified or consistent as a Nationalist to accept. This action on the part of his Worship won the warm admiration of the vast bulk of the citizens. When the split in the Nationalist ranks occurred, Mr. Madden took the side of Mr. Parnell, and remained a rather active and prominent member of the Parnellite Party in the Council to the end. In charitable circles the deceased was well known for his acts of generosity to the Cork poor.

DERRY.—Ordinations to the Priesthood.—On the first Thursday in January an ordination service was held in St. Eugene's Cathedral in the presence of a large congregation. Mass was celebrated at nine o'clock by the Most Rev. Dr. O'Doherty. Subsequently his Lordship administered the Sacrament of Holy Orders to Rev. John M'Shane and Rev. Michael Bradley. One of the newly ordained priests, Father M'Shane, belongs to an esteemed County Derry family. He was educated at the Irish College, Rome. Father Bradley belongs to a respected County Donegal family. He was prepared for his sacred office at Maynooth College.

DOWN.—Presentation to the Bishop of Kilmore.—The absence of Most Rev. Dr. M'Gennis, in Rome, was chosen by the laity of the Diocese of Kilmore as a fitting opportunity to make arrangements for the presentation of a carriage and a pair of horses to his Lordship on his return. On the Bishop's home-coming notification was made of the people's intention, and his Lordship, having signified his willingness to accept the offering, fixed Monday, December 17, as the date on which he would receive the committee of the subscribers. On that date the gentlemen nominated attended at Cullies House, and having made the presentation, for which his Lordship returned thanks, were entertained by Most Rev. Dr. M'Gennis at lunch.

KILDARE.—Naas Technical Instruction Committee.—Rev. D. Gorry has been co-opted a member of the Naas Technical Instruction Committee, in room of the Rev. Father Morrin, who, owing to failing health, found himself unable to act.

LIMERICK.—The Punishment of Boys.—Judge Adams, speaking in Limerick recently, referred to the suggestion of whipping as a punishment for boys. He said he would never be in favor of that system, which was an anachronism and a barbarism. It would degrade the children and the parents. It was a system of punishment which the national opinion of Ireland was entirely against.

A Wholesome Principle.—When dealing with licensing applications at the Limerick Quarter Sessions, Judge Adams said that a great deal had been said about licensing bodies throughout the country, but he should say for the Bench of the City of Limerick that they had never in his experience departed from the wholesome, conservative, and honest principle of not granting new licenses unless three licenses were extinguished. The result had been a great diminution in the disgraceful and extravagant number of public-houses in the town.

MAYO.—Stopping Public Meetings.—A series of most successful meetings was held in and around Foxford on New Year's Day. The police assaulted Mr. John Dillon, M.P., and behaved with great brutality towards the people of his constituency. An open-air meeting was held at Kiltimagh immediately on the conclusion of Midnight Mass on the previous night, and speeches were delivered by Mr. Dillon and Father O'Hara. The police authorities were completely baffled in their efforts to put down the right of free speech and public meeting.

MEATH.—The Diocesan Cathedral.—A very successful meeting has been held in Mullingar with the object of raising funds for the erection of a Catholic Cathedral for the diocese of Meath. The Most Rev. Dr. Gaffney, who occupied the chair, delivered a vigorous address, in the course of which he pointed out the great necessity that existed for a Cathedral worthy of the diocese. Continuing, his Lordship said that though they had the diocese they had not the people. They had a diocese rich in soil and yet so depopulated that they could not approach the people. What then were they to do? What he would say was—let them follow the people where they had gone. That was his answer. Though driven from their country, they were proud of the name of Meath and held it high aloft abroad; and he would say that those people, when appealed to on behalf of this Cathedral of Meath, would make a noble response. Dr. Gaffney's own subscription to the project he announced as £1000. The Dean of Ardagh gave £50 and the parish priest of Moate a similar sum. Letters of apology were read from the Right Hon. the Lord Chief Baron, who sent a subscription of £25; Mr. W. B. Molloy, Commissioner of National Education, enclosing ten guineas; Judge Curran, first contribution of £5;

Simon Mangan, H.M.L., Meath, sending £25; Mr. M'Loughlin, who enclosed £25 and offered to place the Culleen quarries at the disposal of the Bishop for the building, and Mr. J. M'Cann, M.P., enclosing a draft for £50; Mr. John Clark, solicitor, Dublin, £25; Rev. Father Everard, P.P., Batoath, £300; Very Rev. Father Farrelly, P.P., Castlepollard, £500; Rev. Father Farrelly, Ballymore, £200; Rev. P. Callary, P.P., Tullamore, £300; Mrs. Connolly, Charleston, £300; Miss Kelly, Mayville, £100; from the Provincial of the Jesuits, (Very Rev. J. J. Murphy, S.J.), £50; Right Rev. Monsignor Gaughran, P.P., V.G., Kells, £300, to be contributed in three instalments: Presentation Convent Mullingar, £1000; Loretto Convent, Mullingar and Navan, £1000; Convent of Mercy, Tullamore, £1000; ditto Navan, £500; Clare Convent, £300.

QUEEN'S COUNTY.—Death of the Pastor of Maryborough.—At the Parochial House, Maryborough, on Sunday, January 6, the Very Rev. Mgr. Phelan passed to his eternal reward. Deceased, who was in his seventieth year, had been in delicate health for some years, but continued to discharge his sacred duties up to the end. The Very Rev. Mgr. Phelan was a member of an old Catholic family of the Queen's County. After a distinguished course at Maynooth he was appointed Professor in Carlow College. Hearing of the want of priests in the Australian missions, he offered his services to the diocese of Maitland, and shortly afterwards went there. Towards the close of 1869 the late Most Rev. Dr. Walsh, Bishop of Kildare, wrote to Father Phelan, urgently requesting him to return to Ireland. In the following summer he returned to Carlow, and undertook the position of Administrator of the Cathedral parish. In 1878 he was appointed parish priest of Philipstown, King's County. From that parish he passed to Mountrath, Queen's County, and on the death of the Very Rev. John Doyle, in the year 1884, he was translated to the important parish of Maryborough. By his death the evicted tenants have lost one of their best friends, one who was ever ready to assist them.

ROSCOMMON.—A Tribute from the National Teachers.—A preliminary meeting was held in the National School, Roscommon, in the early part of January, for the purpose of organising a special tribute to the memory of the late Most Rev. Dr. Gilhooly from the National teachers of the diocese.

SLIGO.—The Pastor of Crossmolina.—The people of Crossmolina parish (says the *Sligo Champion*) have presented an address, accompanied by a presentation, to Mgr. O'Hara, their esteemed parish priest, on his return from Rome, whither he had accompanied the Bishop of Killala.

Presentation to Mr. McHugh.—A beautiful address and miniature silver sledge-hammer from the Nationalists of Sligo resident in Sheffield have been presented to Mr. McHugh, Sligo. The presentation was made by Mr. O'Dowd, M.P., on behalf of the Sheffield men.

TIPPERARY.—The Archbishopric of Cashel.—The canons and parish priests of the archdiocese of Cashel assembled in the Cathedral, Thurles, early in January, for the purpose of nominating a coadjutor, with right of succession, to his Grace the Most Rev. Dr. Croke. High Mass was celebrated by his Grace at 11 o'clock, after which the business of nomination was proceeded with, the doors of the Cathedral having been locked and the laity excluded. Under the presidency of his Grace a ballot was taken of the names selected, with the following results:—Rev. Thomas Fennelly, P.P., Moycarkey, *dignus* (15 votes); Very Rev. T. H. Kinane, Dean of Cashel, *dignior* (10 votes); Most Rev. Dr. Kelly, Bishop of Ross, and Rev. T. R. Power, Professor, St. Patrick's College, *digni* (six votes each). On January 17 a meeting of the bishops of the Province of Munster took place at Thurles to consider the names selected, and to forward them with their observations to Rome.

TYRONE.—Golden Jubilee of a Nun.—The last days of the old century witnessed a very impressive ceremony in the Loretto Convent, Omagh, the occasion being the golden jubilee of the Venerable Mother Anastasia, whose name is a household word through the north-east of Ireland, whither it has been carried by the alumni who have passed under the gentle sway of Mother Anastasia. She has spent 40 of the 50 years in Omagh. The Right Rev. Monsignor McNamee celebrated the jubilee in the Church of the Sacred Heart, and afterwards the priests of Omagh and Cappagh were entertained to a dinner in the Loretto Convent.

WEXFORD.—Successful Violinists.—The Sisters of the Loretto Community, Gorey, have been congratulated on the success of their pupils. At the examinations for membership of the London College of Violinists, held at the Instrumental Clubroom, Merrion row, Dublin, on the 14th December, by Professor Polonaski, three young lady pupils at Gorey Convent passed most successfully and became members of the college. Miss Margaret Casey and Miss Bridget Casey, of Bray, both secured licentiate certificates, and they well merit their L.C.V. Miss Euphenia J. Merder also passed with distinction, and becomes an associate of the college.

GENERAL.

Experiments in Tobacco Culture.—During the past year a series of experiments in tobacco culture under the superintendence of Professor Lecornet, and under the auspices of the Irish Department of Agriculture, have been carried out in Ireland. The results from 25 plots in various parts of the country tend to prove that tobacco can be grown as well in Ireland as in the north of France, and it now only remains to be seen whether the half-ton of tobacco leaves that has been carefully gathered this season will produce when manufactured a 'weed' of good quality.

The Land Question.—Mr. William O'Brien, M.P., has written declining to address a meeting in Cork on the land question in conjunction with Mr. T. W. Russell. Mr. O'Brien says that whatever

humble energies he possesses will be most usefully devoted to strengthening the only organisation which is likely to make much impression on Lord Salisbury. He thinks Mr. Russell will see equally good reasons for following his own course untrammelled.

Visit of the Late Queen to an Irish Exhibition—The visit of the late Queen to the Irish Exhibition at the Guild-hall, Windsor, recently, resulted in the bazaar being more successful than even the most confident could have hoped for, the building being crowded all day. Her Majesty drove to the Guild-hall shortly after half-past 12, and was received at the entrance by the Earl of Arran and Earl of Lucan. On entering the room the Queen was received by the Duchess of Abercorn, the Countess of Arran, the Countess of Lucan, the Countess of Mayo, Viscountess Castlerosse, Lady Dunboyne, and others. A tour of inspection was then made of the various stalls, the late Queen showing a keen interest in everything, and making several purchases. On concluding her visit the Mayor (Mr. W. P. Reavell) and the ex-Mayor (Mr. A. T. Barber) were presented by the Earl of Arran. Addressing the Mayor her Majesty said: 'This is a very interesting exhibition.' The Mayor replied: 'We are pleased to have had the honor of welcoming you here.' Her Majesty, looking pleased and happy, then left the building, and returned to the Castle.

The Archbishop of Dublin and the Stage.—His Grace the Archbishop of Dublin will, we (*Catholic Times*) feel sure, have the sympathy not merely of the public at large, but of the best actors as well, in his denunciation of immoral plays. The Archbishop is no enemy of the stage if it is not degraded by impropriety, but degraded it is at times, and his Grace in his speech expressed regret that some of the worst offences of the kind have been openly and ostentatiously encouraged by the patronage of 'those who are under a more than common obligation to keep up the tone of public social life in Dublin.' Dr. Walsh, it seems to us, very accurately prescribed the remedy. The daily papers, if they do their duty fearlessly, can at any time put a stop to indecent plays. The *Freeman's Journal* complains that newspaper influence in the matter is very ineffective because on a recent occasion it described a play as being notable for 'indelicacy of costume and dialogue, suggestiveness, drunkenness, dissipation, immorality, and conjugal infidelity,' and the following evening the Countess Cadogan and a party, including Mr. Wyndham, the Chief Secretary, were present to witness the performance of the same piece. We venture to think that if the *Freeman* there and then took the Viceroyal party to task without waiting for a lead from the *Leader* and Archbishop Walsh, there would have been no need for further comment. At any rate, there would have been no danger of self-respecting people being misled.

The Irish National Convention.—The Irish National Convention met in Dublin on Tuesday, December 11. About 3000 delegates were present. Mr. John Redmond, M.P., presided. A resolution was adopted in regard to the war in South Africa on the motion of Mr. John Dillon, M.P., seconded by Mr. W. Redmond, M.P. The Convention desired by this resolution to place on record in the most solemn manner the fact that the Irish nation was free from all responsibility for this 'unjust and criminal war of aggression,' entered upon in the interests of capitalists and mine owners, and the chairman was requested to cable to Mr. De Villiers an expression of the sympathy of the Irish people. The Convention discussed for six hours the position of Mr. T. M. Healy, M.P., in relation to the United Irish Parliamentary Party. A resolution was moved by Mr. W. O'Brien, M.P., giving in detail reasons why Mr. Healy had disentitled himself to membership. Mr. J. L. Carew, M.P., was also included in the scope of the resolution. Mr. T. Harrington, M.P., was among those who opposed the resolution. An amendment was moved by a Catholic priest from Louth that the Convention should forgive past differences and leave it to the chairman of the party to enforce discipline in the future. The resolution was adopted and a meeting is to be held at an early date to formally constitute the United Irish Parliamentary Party.

The Grand Prix was the highest award obtainable at the Paris Exhibition, and the McCormick Harvesting Machine Company, of Chicago, secured this coveted honor, and not only this but they obtained more special prizes than all other competitors. Such a tribute to the worth of the McCormick machines is proof positive of their excellence. Messrs. Morrow, Bassett and Co., Christchurch, Ashburton, and Dunedin, are the agents for the Company's manufactures in New Zealand.—*.*

A RICH RETURN.

When a mixture attains so wonderful a success in so short a time as Tussicura has managed to do, it is difficult to speak of the matter in a way that does not appear like exaggeration. Let us look back at the career of this extraordinary medicine from the start. It is only a few months since the proprietor launched it upon the market, and, as it was produced in a comparatively obscure town in Central Otago, it will be seen that the inventor was considerably handicapped. There was no idea of putting forth a cheap mixture—for there are only too many of these before the public at the present time—but the object in view was to use the very best drugs procurable after a careful consideration as to the effect they would have on the systems of persons suffering from particular complaints. People are, not unnaturally, chary of trying a new remedy unless it comes to them heralded by all sorts of 'bold advertisements,' and the proprietor of Tussicura, although he might have expected to have an extremely hard fight in convincing the public of the excellence of his preparation, is naturally gratified at its immediate success. At the same time he recognises that, in order to recoup him for his large expense that he has been put to in preparing the mixture, he must seek a wider field, and the number of testimonials he has received amply justified him in anticipating a success.—*.*

People We Hear About.

Princess Clementine, daughter of King Leopold of the Belgians has entered a convent.

Last month Mr. Aubrey de Vere, Adare, Limerick, the venerable poet, celebrated his 87th birthday.

The late Sir Edward Stafford was the son of a country gentleman in County Louth, Ireland, and was born on April 23, 1820.

Mr. Michael Davitt is at present busily engaged at his residence Mount Salus Villa, Dalkey, in writing a book on the South African war.

Mr. Theo. Cooper, New Zealand, who has just been appointed to the Supreme Court Bench, began life in the sixties as a reader's boy and compositor in an Auckland newspaper office.

In the current *North American Review*, the name of Robert Fulton is incidentally referred to as the first builder of a submarine boat. Fulton was the son of an Irishman from Kilkenny.

The Nestor among the priests of the diocese of Vienna, Rev. Jos. Boeck, has died, aged more than 97 years. He was a priest for 72 years, and celebrated twice his Silver Jubilee as pastor of a parish; in 1853 in one parish and in 1878 in another.

Miss O'Connell, whose engagement to General Charles Tucker is announced, is the daughter of the late Sir Maurice O'Connell, second baronet, and a sister of Sir Daniel Ross O'Connell, third baronet, of Lake View, Killarney. The family is Catholic.

Princess Clementine of Coburg, who is in her 84th year, is suffering from an attack of bronchitis. She spent a week in Rome, attending services in all the important churches, and being present at the closing of the Holy Door, and it was in Rome that she took cold. She travelled to Vienna to be there on Christmas Eve and arrived much depressed and ill.

The Rev. Dr. Kolbe, who severed his connection with the *South African Catholic Magazine* soon after the commencement of the war, as his political opinions ran counter to those of many of the readers of the magazine, has consented to resume the editorship again. His determination will be hailed with delight by his many friends in South Africa and his numerous admirers in other parts of the world.

The rare books, manuscripts, and curios, the gift of Sir Charles Gavan Duffy to the Royal Irish Academy, include a notable item in a large volume entitled 'Illustrations of Irish History.' In this book all the Irish eras, from Grattan down to the present day, are separately illustrated with portraits of the leading men, Irish and English, historical scenes, and current caricatures. The next most notable item is a book of autographs containing letters or autographs of nearly all the distinguished men who have appeared in Ireland and England for the last sixty years.

The Duke of Norfolk is said to be the possessor of a vast number of Rosaries. He has one of those which Mary Queen of Scots used on the scaffold. He was presented with a Rosary before leaving Rome, the gift of his fellow-pilgrims there. It was contained in a little box bearing an inscription which expressed the general sentiment of the pilgrims for his unwearied efforts to make their journey one of spiritual profit and temporal pleasure. 'The Grace of the Pilgrimage' was the title which had been bestowed upon him in Rome.

A Birmingham barrister writes to say that he believes the suggestion that Kaid Guilooly, who recently upset the tranquility of the Ha-ha tribes, is of Irish extraction is correct. He says that in Morocco, Algiers, and the northern parts of Africa generally, several native family names—such as Daly—strongly suggest Irish origin. It seems that down to a comparatively recent date the piratical Moors of North Africa were in the habit of raiding the South-west coast coast of Ireland for booty and slaves. One of the most terrible and sweeping of these descents was that known as the 'Sack of Baltimore (Cork)' in 1631.

Lord Dunboyne, who has been elected an Irish representative peer in the place of the late Lord Oranmore and Browne, only succeeded his father in the title two years ago. He is a member of the Bar and one of the Masters of the High Court. One of his predecessors (says the *Catholic Times*) was Catholic Bishop of Cork, who inherited the peerage unexpectedly through the death of a nephew. Wishing to perpetuate his family, he applied to Pope Pius the Sixth for a dispensation to retire from the episcopate and marry. The Pope replied in the severest terms of censure, whereupon Lord Dunboyne broke his vows and married a Protestant lady. There was, however, no issue of the marriage, and before his death Lord Dunboyne returned to the bosom of the Church. He performed many acts which showed that he was genuinely penitent for what he had done, and he it was who founded the Dunboyne establishment at Maynooth.

The gigantic expansion of output is not due merely to the everlasting raising of the McCormick standard of excellence higher, higher, and still higher, but to the quick intelligence of the host of farmer buyers who discern that the only profitable machine, the only reliable-at-harvest-time machine is the McCormick.—*.*

MYERS AND CO., Dentists, Octagon, corner of George street. They guarantee highest class work at moderate fees. Their artificial teeth give general satisfaction, and the fact of them supplying a temporary denture while the gums are healing does away with the inconvenience of being months without teeth. They manufacture a single artificial tooth for Ten Shillings, and sets equally moderate. The administration of nitrous-oxide gas is also a great boon to those needing the extraction of a tooth. Read advertisement.—*.*

Largest "Pot-Still" Distillers in the World.

THE DUBLIN DISTILLERS' COMPANY, LTD.

The Popular Brands of this Company are

WM. JAMESON & CO.'S "HARP BRAND,"

GEO. ROE & CO.,

"G.R."

Guaranteed absolutely Pure Malt Whisky.

Head Office for Australasia :

JOHN MEAGHER & CO.,

82A Pitt Street, Sydney, N.S.W

£20 for a NAME

for the Second-Grade Dunlop Tyre we intend placing on the market to meet the existing demand for a

Good Wearing Tyre at a Low Figure.

CONDITIONS of COMPETITION.

The *Name* to be concise and appropriate.

The Competition is open to all.

Competitors may send in as many selections as they like, provided that they are sent in separately, with the selected name on one side of a sheet of paper and the senders name and address on the other.

Should more than one Competitor select the winning *Name*, the award will be made by priority. All letters will be numbered and filed as received, so that it is advisable for Competitors to send in their selections as soon as possible.

Letters to be addressed to "A." care of any of our Australasian Depots.

The Competition will close on December 31st, and our award advertised early in January.

The Dunlop Tyre Co. to be sole judge of the winning *Name*, which will be the property of the Coy.

A cheque for £20 will be forwarded to the successful Competitor as soon as our award is made.

THE DUNLOP PNEUMATIC TYRE CO. OF AUSTRALASIA LTD.,

ESTABLISHED 1859.

NEW ZEALAND INSURANCE COMPANY

(FIRE AND MARINE).

CAPITAL **£1,000,000****PAID UP AND RESERVES** **£420,000**

WITH UNLIMITED LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS.

THE PREMIER COLONIAL COMPANY

Fire and Marine Risks accepted at Lowest Current Rates. Losses settled with promptitude and liberality.

OTAGO BRANCH: Corner of Rattray and Crawford Streets, Dunedin.

WILLIAM I. BOLAM, Manager.

GLOBE HOTEL,
OAMARU.

P. KELLY, Proprietor.
P. KELLY wishes to inform his friends and the public generally that he has purchased the Globe Hotel, and will be happy to meet them there. Country Visitors and the Travelling Public will find every convenience. The Hotel, which is being renovated throughout, has accommodation for a number of Boarders; has its Private Sitting Rooms, Billiard Room, Bath Room, etc. Convenient to the New Railway Station and opposite the Theatre Royal. A good table kept. All Wines and Spirits of the Best Quality. Free Stabling accommodation.

MUSICAL EXCHANGE
FOR
PIANOS AND ORGANS.

Either for Cash or very easy Time Payments.

R. FRANCIS,
159 & 161 MANCHESTER STREET
CHRISTCHURCH.**RAILWAY HOTEL,**
MANCHESTER STREET,
CHRISTCHURCH

(One minute from the Railway Station).

WILLIAM JOHNSTON, late of Timaru Refreshment Rooms, has taken over the above favourite house, and offers every comfort to his patrons and friends.

FLETCHER, HUMPHREYS & CO.,

WINE, SPIRIT, & CIDER MERCHANTS.

Also Importers of

Cigars, Cigarettes, Indian, Ceylon, and China Teas, and American Goods

WAREHOUSE AND BONDED STORES:

CATHEDRAL SQUARE,

CHRISTCHURCH.

WAVERLEY HOTEL,
QUEEN STREET,
AUCKLAND.

MAURICE O'CONNOR (late of Christchurch and Dunedin) begs to notify that he has taken over the above favourite hotel, close to Train and Wharf. Splendid view of Harbour.

Best brands of Wines and Spirits always on hand.

MAURICE O'CONNOR.

JAS. SPEIGHT AND CO
MALTSTERS AND BREWERS,

CITY BREWERY, DUNEDIN.

TERTIARY SHOERING FORGE,
WASHDYKE, TIMARU.

JOHN ROBERTSON, PROPRIETOR

(Late of Oamaru),

thanks for the liberal support accorded to him by the public, and trusts by strict attention to business to merit a continuance of favors. All work done to order.

SHOERING A SPECIALITY.

ESTABLISHED 1880. TELEPHONE No. 69

BAKER BROTHERS,
FURNISHING UNDERTAKERS,
ASHBURTON.

Direct Importers of Best and Latest Designs in Funeral Furnishings.

FUNERALS Conducted with the greatest Care and Satisfaction, at most Reasonable Charges.

Corner of Wakanni Road and Cass streets, and Baker and Brown's Coach Factory.

GENUINE SEEDS

From a

RELIABLE FIRM.

It is rapidly becoming known throughout

N.Z., that

CRAVEN'S SEEDS GROW.

Sound, pure and reliable seeds are

WHAT YOU WANT,

And

WE WANT TO SUPPLY THEM.

Illustrated catalogue and guide,
free to any address.**JAMES CRAVEN AND CO**

SEED SPECIALISTS,

2 MANNERS ST.,

WELLINGTON

MACALISTER AND CO

(J. J. HISKENS),

CHEMISTS, INVERCARGILL.

A Complete Stock of Everything that is looked for in a first-class Pharmacy

Sole Agents for the supply of

PURE NATURAL LYMPH FOR
VACCINATION.

P.O. Box 120, Telephone 90,

INVERCARGILL.

JOHN GILLIES

Furniture, Carpet, Floorcloths, and

Linoleum Warehouse,

8 GEORGE STREET, DUNEDIN.

Has just landed Brussels and Tapestry Carpet of magnificent designs, Floorcloths and Linoleums, all widths up to 12 feet in new designs and various qualities.

Bedsteads and Bedding, all kinds fresh and new.

A large assortment of Bamboo Tables, Whatnots, Brackets, Screens, Stools, new colourings and designs.

A large stock of New Furniture of latest new styles.

Houses Furnished on the Time-Payment System. Terms very easy. Everybody in town and country cordially invited to visit and inspect our Immense Stock.

THOMSON, BRIDGER AND CO.,
DUNEDIN AND INVERCARGILL.IRONMONGERS, HARDWARE AND TIMBER
MERCHANTS AND MANUFACTURERS.Importers of Fencing Wire (plain and galvanised),
Barbed Wire, Sheep and Rabbit Netting, Fencing
Standard on 'Kiwi' and 'Reliance,'
Rabbit Traps, etc., etc., including all
kinds of Farmers' requirements
in Hardware.

STANDARDS PUNCHED

True to gauge. Net weight after punching only charged.

Manufacturers of Doors, Sashes, and all Building Requisites, also
of Churns, Butter Workers, Printers, Milk Vats, and all
Dairy Implements.General, Builders', and Furnishing Ironmongery, Electro-Plated
Ware, Cutlery, &c., &c., in great variety.

PRICES LOW.

QUALITY EXCELLENT.

Building Timber of all kinds supplied direct from Sawmills when
required.
Totara and Black Pine, to any description, from our own mills at
OWAKA.

THOMSON, BRIDGER AND CO.,

Princes Street, DUNEDIN; Dee Street, INVERCARGILL.

For **STYLISH,**
RELIABLE **Boots and Shoes**

VISIT

H. R. MORRISON'S,

95 GEORGE STREET, DUNEDIN.

NOTE.—Shipments of the cream of the World's Markets constantly
coming to hand. SEE WINDOWS.



<p>FIRST. Boots with this Brand on the heel are Guaranteed to Fit and Wear well.</p>	<p>SECOND. On this Brand only the Very Best of Workmen are employed.</p>	<p>THIRD. Only the Very Best of Materials are used in this Brand of Boots and Shoes.</p>	<p>FOURTH. Farmers, Miners, and all who want to keep their feet dry, try this Brand.</p>	<p>FIFTH. The "STANDARD" Brand Boots and Shoes are known from Auckland to the Bluff for sterling quality.</p>
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Commercial.

(For week ending February 27.)

PRODUCE.

London, February 19.—Wheat on Mark Lane is quoted 6d lower on the week. The Invercauld's cargo of Victorian sold at 30s 9d.

Napier, February 21.—Nelson Bros have received the following cable from the Colonial Consignment and Distributing Company: 'There is a further heavy fall in prices. Mutton quotations: Best Canterbury, 4½d; Napier and North Island 4½d.'

London, February 22.—The wheat markets are quiet, and generally steady, the London market being dull, and cargoes are neglected. Parcels are firm.

London, February 24.—Frozen Meat.—Cross-bred wethers and maiden ewes: Canterbury, 4½d. Dunedin and Southland, 4½d; North Island, 4½d. Lamb: Prime Canterbury, 6d; fair average (including Dunedin, Southland, Wellington, and secondary Canterbury), 5½d. River Plate crossbred or merino wethers: Heavy, 3 15-16d; light, 3 11-16d. New Zealand beef (180lb to 220lb), fair average quality: Ox fores, 3½d; hinds, 3½d.

MR. F. MEENAN, King street, reports.—Wholesale prices only—Oats: Feed, fair to good, 1s 4d to 1s 6d; milling, 1s 6d to 1s 7d. Wheat: milling, 2s 5d to 2s 6d; fowls', 1s 9d to 2s 2d. Potatoes: New local, 15s. Chaff: Good demand for prime up to L2 15s, inferior, hard to sell; medium, L2 5s. Straw: pressed 35s, market bare; loose, 30s. Flour: Sacks, 200lbs, L6 10s; 50lbs, L7; 25lbs, L7 5s. Oatmeal: 25lbs, L9 10s. Butter: Dairy, 6d to 8d; factory, 9½d to 10½d. Cheese: Dairy, 5d; factory, 5½d. Eggs, 1s. Onions: Melbourne, L9 10s; Canterbury, L7.

Messrs. Donald Reid and Co, report as follows:—

OATS—The market has been quiet during the past week, and in view of the new crop being offered at the northern ports local values are a shade easier. We quote: Prime milling, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; good to best feed, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; medium and inferior, 1s 2d to 1s 4½d per bushel (sacks extra).

WHEAT—In milling quality prime samples continue to be most in favor. Good whole fowl wheat is also in demand at late values. We quote: Prime milling, 2s 6d to 2s 7d; medium to good, 2s 3d to 2s 5d; whole fowl wheat, 2s to 2s 2d; broken, 1s 8d to 1s 11d per bushel (sacks in).

POTATOES—Moderate supplies have been coming to hand, and all on offer to-day met with keen competition, best Derwents being quitted at L5 5s to L5 10s; kidneys, L4 10s to L5 per ton (sacks in).

CHAFF—Prime oaten sheaf is in fair demand at late values. Medium quality is in over-supply, and difficult to place. We quote: Prime oaten sheaf, L2 10s to L2 12s 6d; extra heavy, L2 15s; medium to good, L2 to L2 7s 6d per ton (bags extra).

Messrs. Stronach Bros. and Morris report as follows:—

WHEAT—Market unchanged. Prime milling, 2s 6d to 2s 7d; medium, 2s 2d to 2s 5d; fowl wheat, 1s 11d to 2s 1½d per bushel (sacks in).

OATS—The market has been quiet during the week and prices are slightly easier. Milling, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; good to best feed, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; medium, 1s 3d to 1s 4½d per bushel (sacks extra).

CHAFF—Market unchanged. Prime oaten sheaf, L2 10s to L2 15s; medium, L2 to L2 7s 6d per ton (bags extra).

POTATOES—Best Derwents, L5 to L5 10s; Kidneys, L4 10s to L4 15s per ton (bags in).

SOUTHLAND PRODUCE MARKET.

Invercargill prices current:—Wholesale: Butter, fresh, 7d, factory, bulk, 10d; pats, 10½d; eggs, 1s per doz; cheese, farm, 3½d; bacon, farm, 7d; do (rolled) farm, 6d; hams 8d; potatoes, L4 per ton; barley, 2s to 2s 6d; fowl wheat, 2s; chaff, L2 10s; flour, L6 10s to L7 5s; oatmeal, L9 10s to L10; pollard, L4; bran, L3 10s, including bags. Retail—Fresh butter, 9d, factory, bulk, 1s; pats, 1s 0½d; eggs, 1s 3d per doz; cheese, 6d; bacon, rolled, 8d, sliced 9d; hams, 10d; potatoes, 5s per cwt; flour, 200lbs, 14s; 50lb, 4s; oatmeal, 50lb, 6s; 25lb, 3s; pollard, 6s 6d per bag; bran, 4s per bag; chaff, L3 per ton; fowls' feed, 2s 9d per bushel.

WOOL, SKINS, TALLOW, ETC.

London, February 21.—At the tallow sales 925 casks were offered and 525 were sold. Prices of all kinds are unchanged.

London, February 22.—The Bradford wool market is firm, and prices are unchanged. For the next series in London of colonial sales 297,759 bales have arrived. Eighty-three thousand bales have been forwarded direct to the manufacturers, leaving 218,500 available for the sales.

Messrs. Stronach Bros. and Morris report as follows:—

RABBITSKINS—Market very firm. Winters, 15d to 16½d; springs, 9d to 11½d; summers, 6d to 8½d; suckers and runners, 3d to 5½d per lb.

SHEEPSKINS—Market unchanged.

HIDES—In good demand. Prime heavy ox, 4d to 4½d; medium, 3½d to 3¾d; cow hides, 3¾d to 3¾d per lb.

TALLOW—In good demand. Best rendered mutton, 16s to 17s 6d; medium, 13s 6d to 15s 6d; rough fat, 11s to 12s 6d per cwt.

DUNEDIN WOOL SALES.

The fourth wool sale of the season was held in Dunedin on Friday, when 2513 bales were submitted. The total offerings for the series show a falling off of close on 2000 bales. The attendance of buyers was well up to the average and the decline noted in the north was not reflected. Owing to the brisk competition, prices, although irregular, were slightly firmer all round than at last sale. The range of prices was: Greasy half-bred, 4½d to 7½d; crossbred, 4½d to 6½d; merino, 5½d to 7½d; pieces, 2½d to 5½d; bellies, 2½d to 4½d; locks, 1½d to 3d; slips lamb, 6d to 6½d; scoured crossbred, 6½d to 7½d.

DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS.

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

Good horses of all descriptions were conspicuous by their absence at our sale on Saturday last. The entry was composed of about 30 inferior and aged draught horses, and very few changed hands. There is a good demand for first-class animals of all classes, and any but these are exceedingly hard to quit. We have numerous buyers for carriage and buggy pairs, first-class draught and spring-cart and butchers' basket horses, and we are sure that consignments of any of these would realise very satisfactory prices. We shall shortly be offering a consignment of first-class draught and farm horses from New South Wales. There will be no sale next Saturday, it being a race day. We quote as follows:—Superior young draught geldings, L45 to L50; extra good prize horses, L60 to L65; medium draught mares and geldings, L30 to L40; aged do, L20 to L25; upstanding carriage horses, L25 to L35; well-matched carriage pairs, L70 to L80; strong spring-van horses, L25 to L30; milk-cart and butchers' order-cart horses, L18 to L25; tram horses, L12 to L16; light hacks, L7 to L10; extra good hacks, L18 to L25; weedy and aged hacks and harness horses, L2 to L5.

J. G. WARD & CO. WOOL, GRAIN, SEED, AND MANURE MERCHANTS,

AUCTIONEERS AND STOCK AGENTS,

Full Stocks of Cornsacks, Woolpacks, Manures Seeds, etc., kept, and Farmers are asked to call upon us before purchasing their requirements.

Invercargill, Gore and Bluff.

AGENTS FOR—Massey-Harris Implements, Hudgart, Parker Steamers, Manchester Fire Insurance Co., Lyster's Dips and Manures
MANAGING AGENTS FOR—Ocean Beach Freezing Works, (Birt & Co., Limited, Proprietors).

B O U S K I L L A N D M C N A B

THREE FIRST AWARDS AND SPECIAL GOLD MEDAL AT THE AUCKLAND EXHIBITION, 1899.

These Awards were gained by work manufactured on our premises, Symonds street, and distanced all competing work, both local and imported. We invite inspection of our large stock of

MONUMENTS, TOMBS, HEADSTONES, CROSSES, ETC.

The Largest Stock of Designs of IRON TOMB RAILINGS in the Colony. Designs and Prices forwarded Free on Application.

Lowest possible Prices consistent with Good Work and Material.

B O U S K I L L A N D M C N A B,
SYMONDS STREET,
AUCKLAND.

J. FANNING & CO.

Telephone 650.

House, Land, Estate, & Financial Agents.

ROYAL EXCHANGE, OPERA HOUSE,
WELLINGTON.

Money Invested, Loans Negotiated, and entire Management of Properties and Collection of Rents undertaken.

The firm have Special Facilities for disposing of Town and Country Properties.

Correspondence invited from property owners also persons wishing to buy.

S C O T I A H O T E L

Corner of
LEITH AND DUNDAS STREETS DUNEDIN

MICHAEL O'HALLORAN (late of the Police Force, Dunedin and Ashburton), Proprietor.

Having leased the above well-known and popular Hotel, which has undergone a thorough renovation. Mr O'Halloran is now prepared to offer first-class accommodation to families, boarders, and the general public.

The very best of Wines, Ales, and Spirits supplied.

N E W B U T C H E R Y.

JOHN MCINTOSH
(For many years salesman to City Co.),

Opposite Phoenix Company,
MACLAGGAN STREET, DUNEDIN,

Has opened as above.

Only the best of meat at lowest possible prices.

Families waited on for Orders.

A TRIAL SOLICITED.

G E O R G E D E N N I S,

Late of Park Hotel, Newtown, Wellington and West Coast South Island,

Has taken over BARRETT'S HOTEL Lambton Quay, WELLINGTON, where he is prepared to provide for his old patrons and the public generally every accommodation.

Two minutes' walk from Post Office and wharf.

Tram passes door.

E. W. DUNNE, BOOKSELLER,

43 GEORGE STREET, DUNEDIN.

JUST REMOVED TO NEW PREMISES.

Special inducements are now offered to Customers and the General Public to kindly inspect our NEW STOCKS in every line.

Just Opened :

THE LATEST IN BOOKS, STATIONERY,
AND ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF GENERAL & FANCY GOODS.

Inspection freely invited.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

D U N E D I N P A W N O F F I C E,

5 GEORGE STREET, DUNEDIN.

(Late A. Solomon.)

W. G. ROSSITER (for the last 15 years Manager for the late Mr. A. Solomon) having bought the old-established and well-known pawnbroking business of the late Mr. A. Solomon, begs to announce to the public of Dunedin and Suburbs that he will carry on the business with the same attention and fidelity as formerly.

Note Address :

W. G. ROSSITER,

PRACTICAL WATCH AND CLOCK MAKER,

NO. 5, GEORGE STREET, DUNEDIN.

W A I M A T E H O T E L, W A I M A T E

T. TWOMEY ... Proprietor.

T. TWOMEY (late of the Grosvenor Hotel, Christchurch) having now taken possession of the above favorite and centrally-situated house, will spare no pains to make the place as comfortable as possible.

Wines and Spirits of the best brands.

The Hotel is being refurnished and renovated throughout.

J. A N D W. G R A N T

Blacksmiths, Wheelwrights, and Coachbuilders, Temuka.

J. and W. G., in thanking the public for their support in the past, beg to solicit a continuance of the same. As we have now a very complete stock for carrying on our several branches, and having secured the services of one of the best painters in the Colony, we have now a very strong staff of men in their different lines.

Shoing, as usual, a speciality.

H U G H G O U R L E Y

desires to inform the public he still continues the Undertaking Business as formerly at the Establishment, corner Clarke and MacLaggan streets, Dunedin.

Fare-boards attended in Town or Country with promptness and economy.

S A N I T A R Y P I P E

AND STONEWARE FACTORY
KENSINGTON.

The undersigned, having purchased the above Works, is prepared to sell at Lowest Current Rates.

J. H. LAMBERT,
NORTH-EAST VALLEY AND KENSINGTON.

U N I O N S T E A M S H I P COMPANY OF NEW ZEALAND LIMITED

Steamers will be despatched as under (weather and other circumstances permitting):

LYTTELTON and WELLINGTON—
Monowai Thurs. Feb 28 2.30 p.m. tr'n
Te Anau Fri. March 1 3 p.m. D'din
Mararoa Tues. March 5 3 p.m. D'din
NAPIER, GISBORNE and AUCKLAND—
Te Anau Fri. March 1 3 p.m. D'din
Mararoa Tues. March 5 3 p.m. D'din

SYDNEY, via WELLINGTON—
Monowai Thurs. Feb. 28 2.30 p.m. tr'n
Mokoia Thurs. March 7 4 p.m. D'din

SYDNEY via AUCKLAND—
Mararoa Tues. March 5 3 p.m. D'din
Waikare Tues. March 19 2 p.m. D'din

MELBOURNE via BLUFF and HOBART—
Tajune Mon. March 4 3 p.m. D'din
Monowai Mon. March 18 2 p.m. D'din

WESTPORT via OAMARU, TIMARU, AKAROA, LYTTELTON, WELLINGTON, NEW PLYMOUTH, and GREYMOUTH.
Cargo only.

Corinna Thurs. March 7 3 p.m. D'din
WESTPORT via TIMARU, LYTTELTON, and WELLINGTON (cargo only).—

Upolu Fri. March 1 3 p.m. D'din
GREYMOUTH via OAMARU, TIMARU, LYTTELTON, WELLINGTON and NEW PLYMOUTH (cargo only).—

Janet Nicoll Fri. March 1 3 p.m. D'din
SOUTH SEA ISLAND SERVICE.
For FIJI (From Auckland).

Taviuni Wed. March 6
TONGA, SAMOA, FIJI, and SYDNEY (From Auckland.)

Hauoto Wed. March 13
RAROTONGA and TAHITI (From Auckland.)

Ovalau Tues. March 12.

"DEAR ME!

I've forgotten that SYMINGTON COFFEE ESSENCE, whatever shall I do? Call at the nearest Store you pass they All Keep it.

LIVE STOCK.

ADDINGTON STOCK MARKET.

The entries at Addington market to-day comprised 5000 fat sheep, 5100 fat lambs, 6000 store sheep.

FAT CATTLE—143 head yarded, mostly lightweights, with the exception of a few bullocks. The market was irregular, and prices slightly easier. Bullocks realised from 1.8 to 1.9 12s 6d; steers, 1.5 2s 6d to 1.7 15s; heifers, 1.4 17s 6d to 1.7; cows, 1.4 17s 6d to 1.6 15s.

STORE CATTLE—There was a keen demand. Three and four-year steers brought 1.7 10s; three-year old heifers, 1.4 5s; two-year do, 1.3 15; 18-months cattle, 1.2 7s to 1.2 10s; calves and yearlings, 1.1 9s to 1.1 12s.

FAT SHEEP—The bulk of the yarding were ewes, which were in over supply, and sold irregularly, the market showing a drop of 1d per head. Export buyers were indifferent, and wethers and maiden ewes were slightly easier. Heavy wethers sold up to 21s 8d; freezing do, 18s to 20s; lighter, down to 17s; maiden ewes, 16s 3d to 19s; heavy ewes, 14s 6d to 16s 3d; aged and lighter, 9s 6d to 13s; merino wethers, 12s 5d; and ewes, 7s 11d.

FAT LAMBS—These were mostly of secondary quality. Export buyers were holding off at the start, and about 1000 were passed in, but matters improved later on, and came within 6d of last week's rates. A few extra heavy were sold to butchers at 16s; freezers, 13s 6d to 15s 10d; lighter, down to 12s 6d.

STORE SHEEP—These were mostly breeding ewes and lambs, with a few wethers. There was not very much demand, and with the exception of the mature ewes prices were easier. Wethers sold at from 14s 5d to 15s 2d; young ewes, 15s to 16s 4d; aged do, 11s 8d to 13s 6d; lambs, 8s 9d to 12s 6d.

PIGS—There was a fair demand for fats. Baconers sold at 34s to 45s, and up to 50s for extra prime; porkers, 22s to 32s; stores (in very strong demand for stubbling), 13s to 27s 6d; suckers and weaners, 6s to 11s.

WHISPERING IN CHURCH.

THE worst of all kinds of sounds in church is that of human voices not engaged in the service; worst in indecency, worst in moral transgression. Even religious conversation is wrong. Secular conversation is profanity. Comments on the service itself, if favorable and friendly, are impertinent: if critical, are disgraceful; if comical, or calculated to provoke laughter, are infamous. For all mutual communication, that appear to be necessary, a sufficient forethought would in most instances obviate the necessity.

If those who whisper would think twice, first, they would commonly see that no serious harm would come of keeping still until after the service. The insult lies against religion, against the authorities of the church, against the congregation itself. A whisper reaches farther than the whisperer imagines. And wherever it reaches, it may rightly stir indignation. It is a form of ill-manners, the more deplorable because it is scarcely capable of rebuke and suppression by any other means than a general sense of good behavior and a right education.

WEDDING BELLS.

WARREN—MULHOLLAND.

At St. Mary of the Angels' Church on the 13th inst. (writes our Wellington correspondent), Mr. Joseph Warren, youngest son of the late Mr. W. Warren, of the 65th Regiment, was married to Miss Jane Mulholland, third daughter of Mr. Mulholland, of Ebor street, Wellington. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Father O'Shea. The bride was neatly attired in a dress of grey cloth trimmed with white satin and silk chiffon, with hat to match. The bridesmaids wore dresses of white tucked muslin and black picture hats. The bridegroom's present to the bride was a gold cable bangle and to each bridesmaid a gold ring and a gold brooch.

COTTER—DE LA PERRELLE.

The marriage took place on Tuesday week at Arrowtown (says the *Wakatip Mail*) of Mr. Richard J Cotter, of the firm of Cotter Bros., storekeepers, Bullendale and Arrowtown, and Miss de la Perrelle, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Elias de la Perrelle. The ceremony took place in St. Patrick's Church, and was performed by the Rev. Father J. F. O'Donnell. Mr. P. de la Perrelle gave his sister away. The position of best man was filled by Mr. P. Reid, while Miss Lizzie, sister of the bride, and Miss Welsh acted as bridesmaids. At the conclusion of the ceremony the Wedding March was played. The party then adjourned to the house of the bride's mother where a dainty breakfast was partaken of. The time being short, the happy pair, accompanied by a number of friends, soon took their departure to meet the 10 o'clock steamer at Queenstown, en route for Dunedin. The residents gave them a hearty send-off with a hundred and one good wishes for their future happiness, the union being a very popular one. The happy pair were the recipients of numerous costly presents.

At Atherton in the Chillagoe district (North Queensland) in the heart of the forest is a gigantic fig tree measuring 158ft in circumference at 3ft from the ground and towering to a height of over 200ft. Its foliage is bright and beautiful, spreading a shade over a large area of ground. This giant of the forest has a cavity in its base of noble proportions, and sufficiently large to accommodate picnic parties of 50 persons. It is no uncommon circumstance for the Rev. Father W. O'Brien to assemble his flock within this natural temple for Divine worship.

Wanted, everyone who has proved the worth of Tussiora to recommend it to their friend.—*.*

Witches Oil cures pains and aches, neuralgia, headache, sciatica, rheumatism. Price, 2s 6d. Try it.—*.*

E.  R.

NEW ZEALAND RAILWAYS.

DUNEDIN AUTUMN RACES AT WINGATUI.

FEBRUARY 27 and MARCH 1 and 2, 1901.

The following Alterations in and Additions to the ordinary train service will be made in connection with the above:—
WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY, and SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27 and MARCH 1 and 2.

The train usually leaving Dunedin for Port Chalmers at 6.15 p.m. will leave at 6.5 p.m.

The train usually leaving Dunedin for Palmerston at 4.0 p.m. will not leave until 6.25 p.m., Sawyers' Bay 6.55 p.m., Purakanui 7.28 p.m., Waitati 8.7 p.m., Seacliff 8.40 p.m., Waikouaiti 9.10 p.m.

The train usually leaving Dunedin for Clinton at 4.20 p.m. will leave at 5.20 p.m., leaving Wingatui at 6.12 p.m.

The evening train to Outram will not leave Mosgiel until 6.20 p.m.

The evening Lawrence Branch train will not leave Milton until 8.10 p.m.

The evening train to Owaka on Wednesday and Friday will not leave Balclutha until 9.10 p.m.

The ordinary time table between Dunedin and Mosgiel will be suspended from 9.15 a.m. till 7.5 p.m.

Trains will leave Dunedin for Mosgiel and intermediate stations at 9.20 a.m., 11.0 a.m., 1.0 p.m. (on Wednesday and Friday), 1.15 p.m. (on Saturday), 3.30 p.m., 5.20 p.m., and 6.20 p.m., returning from Mosgiel at 10.8 a.m., 1.10 p.m. (on Wednesday and Friday), 1.20 p.m. (on Saturday), 5.30 p.m., and 6.25 p.m.

Trains will leave Dunedin for Wingatui Racecourse at 9.20 a.m., 11.0 a.m., 11.20 a.m., 11.40 a.m., 12.20 p.m. and 1.15 p.m.

The 11.20 a.m., 11.40 a.m., and 12.20 p.m. trains will not stop at intermediate stations.

Trains return from Wingatui Racecourse at 4.50 p.m., 5.30 p.m., 5.45 p.m., and 6.5 p.m.; and from Wingatui Station at 5.5, p.m., and 6.30 p.m.

The 4.50 p.m., 5.30 p.m., and 5.15 p.m. trains will not stop at intermediate stations.

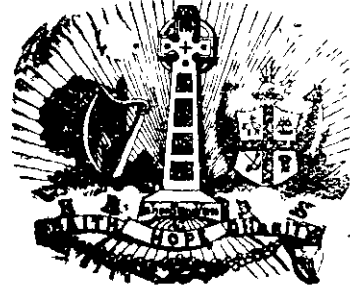
The Return Fares to Wingatui (including Admission to Course) will be:—From Dunedin, Caversham, Cattle Yards, Burnside, and Abbotsford—Carriages, 2s 6d; Seated Waggon, 2s.

SATURDAY, MARCH 2.

Special train will leave Dunedin for Christchurch at 9.0 p.m., Waitati 10.0 p.m., Seacliff 10.28 p.m., Waikouaiti 10.53 p.m., Palmerston, 11.25 p.m., Hampden 12.10 a.m., Oamaru 1.40 a.m., arriving Christchurch 8.10 a.m. on 3rd March. This train will stop at Waitati, Seacliff, Waikouaiti, Palmerston, Hampden, Herbert, Maheno, and any station north of Oamaru to set down passengers.

A train will leave Dunedin for Balclutha and intermediate stations at 11.20 p.m.

By Order.



HIBERNIAN-AUSTRALASIAN CATHOLIC BENEFIT SOCIETY, NEW ZEALAND DISTRICT, No. 3.

The Catholic Community is earnestly requested to support this excellent Organisation, for it inculcates a love of Holy Faith and Patriotism in addition to the unsurpassed benefits and privileges of Membership.

The Entrance Fees are from 5s to £4, according to age and time of Admission.

Sick Benefits: 20s per week for 26 weeks, 15s per week for the next 13 weeks, and 10s a week for the following 13 weeks. In case of a further continuance of his illness a member of Seven Years' Standing previous to the commencement of such illness will be allowed 5s per week as superannuation during incapacity.

Funeral Allowance £20 at the death of a Member, and £10 at the death of a Member's Wife.

In addition to the foregoing provision is made for the admission of Honorary Members, Reduced Benefit Members, and the establishment of Sisters' Branches and Juvenile Contingents. Full information may be obtained from Local Branch Officers or direct from the District Secretary.

The District Officers are anxious to open New Branches, and will give all possible assistance and information to applicants. Branches being established in the various centres throughout the Colonies an invaluable measure of reciprocity obtains.

W. KANE,
District Secretary,
Auckland.

Ashburton Residents

and the public generally are reminded that T. H. UNDRILL & CO., Tancred Street, Furnishing Warehousemen and UNDERTAKERS, deserve your patronage.

WHITAKER BROS.,

New Zealand Catholic Depot,

WELLINGTON AND GREYMOUTH.

FATHER SHEEHAN'S 'MY NEW CURATE,' 6s; posted, 6s 6d.

(This Book has had an enormous sale; 8 editions in 8 months.)

NEW SUPPLIES DIRECT FROM MANUFACTURERS.

ROSARIES, CRUCIFIXES, FONTS, MEDALS,
WAX CANDLES, CHARCOAL, TAPERS,
ETC., ETC., ETC.

SPLENDID INCENSE, 1s 6d lb Tin.

STATUES SACRED HEART, BLESSED VIRGIN, ST. JOSEPH
ST. ANTHONY,

10d, 1s 6d, 2s 6d, 3s 6d, 5s 6d, 12s 6d, 14s 6d, and upwards.

SPECIAL NOTE.

In answer to numerous enquiries, so soon as the proposed New Catechism is finally settled by the coming Synod, we shall advertise same without delay. In the meantime we are authorised to supply the Catechisms approved by the Plenary Council.

THE PROVINCIAL ECCLESIASTICAL SEMINARY.

HOLY CROSS COLLEGE, MOSGIEL.

RE-OPENED ON FRIDAY, 15th INST.

IN conformity with arrangements made at the First Provincial Synod held at Wellington in January, 1899, this Seminary has been established for the EDUCATION OF STUDENTS from all parts of New Zealand who wish to devote themselves to the Priesthood.

Candidates for admission must be at least 12 years old, and must present satisfactory testimonials from the Parochial Clergy and from the Superiors of Schools where they have last studied.

The Pension is £35 a year. It provides for Board and Lodging, Tuition, School Books, Furniture, Bedding, and House Laven.

The only Extra Charges are: Washing, £1 10s a year, and Medicine and Medical Attendance if required.

The Seminary is under the patronage and direction of the Archbishop and Bishops of New Zealand, and under the immediate personal supervision of the Right Rev. Bishop of Dunedin, who will act as Rector.

Applications to be made to the Right Rev. Rector; or the Vice-Rector, Holy Cross College, Mosgiel.

J. M. J.

SACRED HEART COLLEGE,
AUCKLAND.

CONDUCTED BY THE MARIST BROTHERS.

Under the patronage of his Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Linnhan.

The System of Teaching is that followed in our popular and eminently successful Sydney College (St. Joseph's).

The curriculum includes the subjects required for the Civil SERVICE (Junior and Senior), LAW, MATRICULATION, and other Examinations. In the interests of those desirous of entering on a Mercantile Career, special attention is devoted to

SHORTHAND AND BOOK-KEEPING.

TERMS: For Board and Education (including washing and mending, as well as the use of school books and bedding), 30 Guineas Lower Standards, 33 Guineas Higher Standards, per scholastic year, payable in advance, in three equal instalments—viz., First Week in February, June, and September. But pupils may enter at any time of the year, and are charged from date of admission.

DRAWING, PAINTING, AND SHORTHAND are not Extras.

Further information may be obtained by writing to the Director,

BROTHER BASIL.

JONES PLANO LEVER BINDER.

Jones Chain Drive Mowers. Light-Running, Keen cutting, Two sprockets, one chain constitute the mechanism of the Plano Mower. Simplest and Strongest Binder on earth.

Great Binder Competition.—We are pleased to inform you that at a Binder Trial, held under the auspices of the Inverk Society, Kilkenny, Ireland, the following was the result:—

PLANO: 1ST PRIZE and SPECIAL GOLD MEDAL.

We are also happy to state that we received from the hands of the Royal Cornwall Polytechnic Society Highest Award, First Prize, and Special Gold Medal for our Binders and a Special Medal for our Sickle Grinders. Also Special Gold Medal for our Reapers and Binders at the Paris Exhibition.

TOTHILL, WATSON, AND CO.,
SOLE IMPORTERS,
OTAGO AND SOUTHLAND.

E.



R.

PASTORAL RUNS FOR LEASE BY PUBLIC AUCTION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the under-mentioned PASTORAL RUNS will be submitted to auction for LEASE at this Office on TUESDAY, 5th March, 1901, at 11 o'clock a.m. :—

Run No. 353c, Tuapeka and Maniototo Counties; area, 8600 acres; term, fourteen years. Upset annual rental, £25.

Sections 4 to 7 and 10 to 13, Block VI., 27, 28, and 29, Block V., and 8 and 10 to 16, Block VII., Lower Hawea District, Lake County; area, 4152 acres; term, fourteen years. Upset annual rental, £10.

Sections 4, 5, 10, 11, 16, 17, 20 to 24, and 24A, Block IV., 30, Block V., and 3, Block VI., Lower Hawea District, Lake County; area, 1774 acres; term, ten years. Upset annual rental, £4.

Run No. 346, Lake County; area, 14,300 acres; term, fourteen years; upset annual rental, £5; valuation for improvements, £210.

Run No. 346D, Lake County; area, 16,000 acres; term, fourteen years. Upset annual rental, £15; valuation for improvements, £320 13s.

Run No. 17A and Section 1, Block VIII., Domet District, Waitaki County; area, 4257 acres; term, ten years. Upset annual rental, £25; valuation for improvements, £155 2s 6d.

Possession of above Runs will be given on day of sale. Valuations for improvements must be paid to the Receiver of Land Revenue, Dunedin, before licences will be let into possession.

Purchasers must deposit statutory declarations required by section 62 of 'The Land Act, 1892,' and pay the first half-year's rent, together with license fee (£1 1s), on fall of the hammer.

D. BARRON,

Commissioner of Crown Lands.

District Land and Survey Office,
Dunedin, 12th February, 1901.

WANTED, a GARDENER, an elderly man, without encumbrance.

Salary, £50 per year and kept. Good references required.

Apply

CONVENT, Nelson.

WANTED, Catholic girl to assist in housework and mind young children. For particulars apply 'TABLET' Office.

MARRIAGE.

COTTER—DE LA PERRELLE.—On the 19th February, at St. Patrick's Church, Arrowtown, by the Rev. Father O'Donnell, Richard Joseph, third son of Mr. R. Cotter, to Marie, eldest daughter of the late Elias de la Perrelle.

Insure your crops by purchasing McCormick machinery. The best in the world. Costliest to build, best to buy, and easiest in the field.—*.*

There is nothing more refreshing than a cup of good tea, but you cannot have this unless you invest in a good article, with a well-established reputation. Now Tiger tea has earned a well-deserved name for itself, being a special favorite with discerning housewives. Those who have used it continue to do so, whilst those who have not should not delay in trying it. The importers say it is the best in the market at the price.—*.*

Those who have smoked 'Harlequin,' a favorite brand of pure Virginian tobacco, speak very highly of it, and recommend it to their friends. Smokers should give it a trial, for there is nothing like a practical test of the qualities of any article.—*.*

THE FAMOUS "VICTORY" SEWING
for Catalogue (mention this paper).

MACHINE. EASY TO WORK, EASY TO LEARN EASY
TO PURCHASE on our Special Terms. Write
6 PRINCES STREET, DUNEDIN.

NOTICE.

Correspondents are particularly requested to bear in mind that to insure publication in any particular issue of the paper communications must reach this Office not later than Tuesday morning.

Correspondents forwarding obituary and marriage notices are particularly requested to be as concise as possible.

All communications connected with the literary department, reports, correspondence, newspaper cuttings, etc., should be addressed to the Editor.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Complaints re irregular Delivery of Paper should be made without delay to the Manager.

All Communications with the Commercial Department of the 'N.Z. Tablet' Newspaper are to be addressed to John Murray, Secretary, to whom all Post Office Orders and Cheques are in all instances to be made payable.

Annual Subscription, 25s. booked; 22s. 6d. if paid in advance; shorter periods at proportional rates.

NOTE.—Our limit of Credit is Six Months.



'To promote the cause of Religion and Justice by the ways of Truth and Peace.'

LEO XIII. to the N.Z. TABLET.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1901.

THE H. A. C. B. S.



THE Wise man wrote: 'A brother that is helped by his brother is like a strong city'; and again: 'It is better that two should be together than one; for they have the advantage of their society. If the one fall he shall be supported by the other. Woe to him that is alone, for when he falleth, he hath none to lift him up.'

We are reminded of these words by the annual movable meeting of the Hibernian-Australasian Catholic Benefit Society of the New Zealand District, which was held in Dunedin at the close of last week. This excellent organisation presents in concrete form the idea of the inspired royal writer. It is an association of brothers to stand by one another and to lift up one another in the day of need and suffering and sorrow. It offers at least as high monetary benefits as the least objectionable non-Catholic associations of a similar nature. It presents, moreover, the vital advantage of social intercourse between Catholics and Catholics in a Catholic atmosphere. It provides warm Catholic sympathy by the bedside of the sick and the open grave of the dead, and its sweet charity goes out to the deceased brother or sister beyond the portals of death. It is the only representative in our midst of those ideal benefit and social organisations, the old Catholic guilds of the middle age, which did so much to emancipate and dignify honest toil, and to make the England of pre-Reformation days the paradise of the worker of every degree.

The Hibernian Society is emphatically the association for a pioneer land. There is in it a potential energy for good, the splendid possibilities of which, however, have never yet been fully evolved. In this Colony—for whose needs it is so eminently suited—it is practically everywhere working at low pressure. The machine is right. What it wants is more steam—more motive energy in the shape of active members. According to Mr. COCHLAN's estimate, there were in New Zealand at the close of 1899 105,150 Catholics. And yet the numerical strength of the Hibernian Society is well under 2000 members. A few branches are suffering from

marasmus. In great tracts of heavily populated country in every province of New Zealand—dotted here and there with considerable towns—the emerald sash is seen almost as rarely as the Cross of the Legion of Honor. And over those wide areas our workers are in a manner forced into benefit organisations whose rules, rituals, and associations are unfavourable to the growth and cultivation of Catholic sentiment. In twenty centres there are altogether twenty-three branches of the H.A.C.B.S.—usually consisting of small but devoted groups of earnest men and women struggling on in comparative neglect and obscurity—frost-bitten, so to speak, by the icy apathy of the very people for whose physical and moral benefit the Society was founded.

What is the cause of this lack of appreciation of a great and good work that is going on quietly and unostentatiously in our midst? It seems to us that the lion's share of the blame must fall upon the apathy of that portion of the Catholic public to which the H.A.C.B.S. is entitled to look for its chief support. Some of our people live on in happy-go-lucky indifference towards the whole system of providing for a rainy day through the medium of any benefit society whatsoever. Others turn up the tips of their lordly noses, or nourish small-minded grudges, against this or that trifling and non-essential detail of the Society's working—such as, for instance, the personnel of a particular Branch. Others are led, beguiled, or—in places where there is no Branch of the H.A.C.B.S.—to some extent compelled by the pressure of circumstances into membership of non-Catholic benefit associations. Some of these societies are as baldly secular as the State-school system. Others—like the Rechabites—are a sort of annex to some Protestant denomination. Some—like the Oddfellows—are semi-secret organisations, and make use of signs, grips, pass-words, and much of the puerile and ridiculous 'flummery' of societies that are in very earnest secret and forbidden by the law of God. It requires no violent stretch of fancy to perceive how such associations might become, for individual Catholics here and there, vestibules to the Freemasons' lodge. Most of these non-Catholic benefit societies have rituals of introduction or for funeral use which are altogether out of harmony with Catholic usage and feeling. In the United States the Oddfellows are, and have long been, under the ban of the Church. For Catholics in any country it is not lawful to be officials of societies having non-Catholic prayer rituals, or using secret signs, grips, pass-words, etc. Neither is it permissible to attend their meetings. Membership of the associations referred to, even when tolerated under certain conditions, is contrary to the spirit of the Church's legislation in point. Such associations, moreover, serve only to enhance the dangers that are inseparable from a country in which the social atmosphere is decidedly non-Catholic, even when it is not anti-Catholic or non-religious or irreligious.

We stand in crying need of two things: (1) the formation of a public conscience among Catholics regarding this matter of benefit societies; and (2) greater facilities and greater encouragement for Catholics to become members of that benefit organisation which has the first and most urgent claim upon their support. The formation of a Catholic conscience in point is a matter in which the hierarchy and the parochial clergy can give the most direct and powerful help. In their joint Pastoral Letter—which was published just two years ago this week—the Archbishops and Bishops of New Zealand strongly urged the clergy and laity to make the young people under their care 'members of a good Catholic Benefit Society or other approved and pious associations.' By this means (said they) 'you promote their temporal welfare while safeguarding and increasing their piety and religion.' And we have no doubt that the clergy everywhere throughout the Colony are prepared to do what in them lies to foster the H.A.C.B.S., and to extend its good influence by every reasonable means at their disposal. It will, however, be of little avail to form a Catholic conscience in this matter of benefit societies unless the Catholic public are provided with reasonable facilities for giving in their adhesion to the H.A.C.B.S. And this can be effected only when the clergy, parents, and members of the Society join in 'a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull all together' in cordial co-operation throughout the length and breadth of the Colony.

KINGSLAND & FERGUSON

UNDERTAKERS AND MONUMENTAL MASONS, SPEY AND DEE STREETS

INVERCARGILL. Funerals conducted to or from any part of Southland.

Every description of Monuments Stock. We supply and erect all kinds of grave fences. Inscriptions neatly cut. Telephone, 26.

But there still remain certain conditions previous to success. Without them the best-meant efforts of cleric or layman would be tolerably sure, sooner or later, to 'gang alee.' These conditions chiefly regard the Society itself. We are deeply convinced that a strong, judicious, and well-sustained effort to still further and ever further popularise the H.A.C.B.S. would result in increasing its numerical strength and consequent usefulness. Practically what is needed is a keener consciousness on the part of the Executive of the increasing strain of competition to which the Society is being subjected. (1) Subject to correction we venture to suggest a greater flexibility in certain details of payments and benefits—with a watchful eye for new departures in other similar organisations. (2) We fear that sufficient attention has not been paid to the formation and spread of Juvenile Branches. These, if well managed, would form rich recruiting grounds for the Society. We have taken the liberty of suggesting, in connection with the juveniles, a scheme of reduced medical and funeral benefits, coupled with the payment of a sum of money on their twenty-first birthday, to financial survivors as a means of supplying to youthful members the wherewithal for a modest start in life. (3) It seems to us that the future well-being of the Society depends in a considerable measure on its Branches becoming, as far as possible, centres or foci of Catholic social intercourse. Such a programme lies fairly within the scope of the H.A.C.B.S. It is, moreover, forced upon it by the fact that rival associations are already in the field in the same direction, and the friendly and pleasant social gatherings that form the fixed item in their policy have had much to do with their success in attracting to their ranks Catholic young men whose proper place is within the safer portals of the H.A.C.B.S. This is no mere untried suggestion. It has been followed up with the happiest results elsewhere. We need only instance Bendigo (Victoria), where interesting reunions, lectures, socials, entertainments, etc., take place regularly at 8.30 p.m. at the close of the meetings of the local branch, form a pleasing feature in the Catholic social life of the Golden City, and have made the Hibernian Society the most popular, and, numerically, the strongest association in the place. This pleasant social intercourse, coupled with a bonus of 2s 6d for the introduction of each new member, has resulted in rapidly augmenting the ranks of the branch till its membership stands at over 600. It is, in fact, one of the most flourishing Branches—perhaps the most flourishing—of the Society within the seas that wash the shores of Australasia. Its example might, we think, be advantageously followed throughout New Zealand. By the exercise of a little judicious management other existing Catholic societies, clubs, confraternities, etc., might also be brought within the sphere of the social influence of the H.A.C.B.S. and made contributory to its further spread and usefulness.

(4) Two years ago we urged upon the Executive 'a more energetic and systematic canvassing crusade.' Writing upon this point we said: 'We cannot help thinking that much good might be effected by an active, energetic organising secretary of good manners and address, thoroughly posted in his subject and supplied with suitable leaflets, etc., for distribution among possible members and their friends. Such a man, properly deputed by the Executive, would undoubtedly have the cordial co-operation of the clergy everywhere, would strengthen existing Branches, and found new Branches in many centres of population where the green sash has never yet appeared. But mere spasmodic effort is not enough. If eternal vigilance is the price of liberty, perpetual energy is the price of success in the organisation of such bodies as the Hibernian-Australasian Catholic Benefit Society.'

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Subscribers are entreated to forward the amounts due by them at the earliest possible moment. The amounts due by individual subscribers are not considerable, but taken together they amount to a very large sum. The many calls that we have to meet make it imperative on us to greatly reduce the amount of indebtedness of our subscribers. We therefore ask those who have received accounts to wipe off their indebtedness to us before the close of the dying century. This will be a suitable mode of celebrating the parting of the nineteenth, and the beginning of the twentieth century.

A STUPID CALUMNY.

WE are unable to determine whether the cat-o'-nine-tails or the strait-waistcoat is the proper 'application' for the cable demon who is responsible for the following message which appeared in yesterday's morning, and Tuesday's evening, papers:—

'London, February 25.—Fresh opposition is being shown to the Jesuits in Spain and Portugal owing to the detention of several heiresses in the convents of that Order.'

In our last issue (p. 2) we showed that, after the revolution of 1868, the Jesuits were, as a consequence of political and anti-religious intrigues, driven finally and completely out of the Spanish peninsula. There is not now in Spain, nor has there been at any time since 1868, any Jesuit 'convent,' house, college, or any other institution whatsoever. Neither is there in the country any resident Jesuit, nor even a 'Jesuit in disguise.' The whole story of the 'detention of heiresses' is a brutal and clumsy fabrication, unfit for the columns of any decent paper, and at home only at a Slattery meeting or within the portals of an Orange lodge.

The Jesuits were expelled from Portugal in 1834. They are now permitted to live in the country, and their establishment in Lisbon is one of the highest centres of culture and refinement in Southern Europe. They have been, however, made from time to time the object of the ferocious and active hate with which the Order is viewed by the oath-bound fraternity of the Freemasons on the whole of Continental Europe. In August, 1895, a peculiarly contemptible, but happily unsuccessful, attempt was made to discredit the sons of St. Ignatius in the minds of the populace of Lisbon. The *Correio Nacional*—the leading newspaper in the city—stated that the disorders arising out of the attacks on the Jesuits were entirely the work of the Masonic lodges. Men dressed as priests were (said the *Correio*) sent out by them to steal, or feign to steal, children, and in order to render the Jesuits objects of popular execration, the calumny was industriously circulated that they killed the little ones to make human oil! The grotesque story was not, of course, believed by any person of education, and the Catholic and many of the less extreme 'Liberal' or anti-clerical papers defied the Jacobin organs to name any priest who had given the shadow of foundation for so monstrous a charge. The public of Lisbon waxed very indignant over the contemptible trick, and addresses of protest were extensively signed and presented to the King. The cause of religion, so far from being discredited, was served by the infamous imposture, and the disgrace recoiled on the head of its authors. The cable-message published in yesterday's morning papers is evidently a fresh attempt by the sectaries to hound up a feeling against the sons of St. Ignatius.

A MATTER OF BOOKS.

A WEST COAST CONTROVERSY.

UNDER the pen-name of 'Catholic' a writer has contributed to recent issues of the *Westport Times* a few trenchant letters on a topic of vital public interest—namely, the responsibility of the Book Committees of our public and circulating libraries in the matter of the selection of literary pabulum to be placed before their subscribers. The question is one of the gravest import, and 'Catholic' deserves the thanks of the community for his courage in having brought it up for definite discussion. 'Be as careful of the books you read,' says Paxton Hood, 'as of the company you keep; for your habits and character will be as much influenced by the former as the latter.' 'Catholic' very properly objected to the presence, on the shelves of the local Athenæum, of a recent novel by the hysterical Marie Corelli—a book which is not merely a gross and direct attack upon the Catholic Church, but upon every form of Christian belief, and which is notorious for its blasphemously incongruous blending of the Most Sacred with the most profane.

'Catholic's' protest in the *Westport Times* aroused a lively little hum of controversy which is still proceeding. He wields a vigorous and facile pen and impales his rivals as fast as they can come on. The local Athenæum, he retorts to one, 'is certainly for all people. It is also supported by all people—by Catholics amongst others; and all we ask in return is that our money shall not go towards obtaining books which slander and degrade our religion and which so distort our most sacred principles as to directly impugn the personal honor of those who adopt and live by them. A recent law case in an Australian colony has proved that this latter is no fanciful grievance.' Here are some samples of 'Catholic's' 'retort courteous' and 'quip modest': To one who said that Miss Corelli's works are widely read: 'This is quite a gratuitous piece of information. So are the *Adventures of Buffalo Bill* and *Deadeye Dick*; but that is no reason why they should

obtain a place in an institution like the Athenæum.' To a smug Pharisee who contended that he had read without mental or moral harm the novel complained of, 'Catholic' makes reply: 'This is certainly a comfort. I hope it is not to be explained on the principle that you cannot spoil a bad egg—not even by pointing at it the finger of scorn.' And again: 'If "Freedom" has a habit of sampling literary garbage it is not the Athenæum, I should conceive, that must act the part of a scavenger for his convenience.' Here is another bit of practical wisdom and enlightened common-sense from the hard-hitting letters of the writer referred to: 'People deficient in mental training or, what is more important, mental ability, who go in for "reading everything" invariably become illustrations of a truthful adage, "Set a beggar on horseback and he will ride to perdition." Liberty to do so no one will deny them, but surely it is not public subscription that is to provide the horse.'

Meantime the local Athenæum Committee have acted a straightforward and honorable part. They have withdrawn the offending book from the Library shelves pending a meeting of the Committee and have requested 'Catholic' to bring or send to the Librarian a list of the books to which exception is taken, and a meeting of the general committee will be at once called for the purpose of dealing with the complaint.' 'Catholic' has raised a question of far more than local interest. We shall watch with interest the further course of the affair, and in the meantime shall have something to say upon the matter in an early issue of the N.Z. TABLET.

Notes.

An Australian exchange says: 'The New Woman will soon rule in Maoriland. She has votes for parliamentary and municipal elections. She is entitled to sit in municipal councils—and has sat. She has even been mayor—very much—at Onehunga. And in a brief space we may expect to hear of women sitting in Parliament.' Our contemporary's information is a bit antiquated. Every one in New Zealand knows that there are a dozen or so of women sitting in our Parliament—old women, of course.

It is well for the Treasury of various countries that there is a conscience abroad with a sjambok in its hand or a sharp goal, and—among other things—a confession to apply the rawhide or the keen point to the quarter where it is calculated to do most good. The Colonial Treasurer probably realises this; for, in last week's *Gazette*, by his direction, the Receiver-general (Mr. J. B. Heywood) acknowledged the receipt of £2 in bank notes from an anonymous person, with the following words: 'Whoso covereth his sins shall not prosper, but he that confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.'

'A bookless house is a desert,' says the *New Century*. 'But a house where books have not been chosen with care, is a field of luxuriant and poisonous weeds. A list of the best one hundred books, chosen from the Catholic point of view, ought to be made by some professors of books, as Emerson phrases it. The spiritual life must be fed by the sacraments and prayer, but there must be food for the memory, the imagination, and the judgment. We do not want to encourage a race of polemicists, but there is great need that the young should have their minds stored with reasons for the faith they hold. A well-chosen book never grows stale or tiresome. It is a perpetual and good friend.'

There is scarcely anything in the air above or on the earth or in the waters beneath the earth but some curious statist with plenty of time on his hands has counted and classified and catalogued. An English enthusiast of this kind has been probing the present century with the following results: It will (he informs us) have twenty-four leap years—the greatest number possible. February will have five Sundays three times—1920, 1948, and 1976. The earliest possible date on which Easter can occur is March 12th. The last time it occurred on that date was 1818. The latest date that Easter can occur is April 27th. It will occur but once in the twentieth century on that date—1943. The middle day of the century will be January 1st, 1951. And the century will be marked by a grand total of 380 eclipses.

Stray donkeys and frolicsome ghosts should not be allowed to be at large at unseasonable hours. No self-respecting ghost ought to be seen abroad earlier than midnight, otherwise his presence is likely to frighten nervous people. Neither should he be found at any great distance from some grim castle or antiquated pile of buildings, otherwise the unsentimental people of this prosaic age

will cast doubts on his genuineness, and question his *bona fides*. A 'ghost,' who did not keep proper hours, was haled before the Wellington Stipendiary Magistrate the other day, and severely admonished. This was much better than to have received the contents of some pea rifles, with which a few irate individuals, whose friends had been scared, awaited his coming.

Belgium is, *par excellence*, the Catholic country of Europe. By all the theories that have found favor in some non-Catholic pulpits and newspapers in this Colony Belgium ought, therefore, to be a melancholy example of ignorance, unprogressiveness, all-round villainy, and general chuckle-headedness to the rest of Europe. But, alack for the theorists! it is the most thickly populated, the most contented, the most progressive, and probably the best educated country on or off the Continent. The Paris Exposition awarded to the Belgian teaching method in primary schools the first and highest award. And now comes the administrative commission of the Pedagogical Museum of Switzerland, and says: 'On the occasion of the Universal Exposition we intend to complete our educational collections by adding to them what in Paris appeared to bear the seal of progress. On this point the exhibit made by the Kingdom of Belgium was considered by us as being without rival; everything is worth noticing in the different sections in which the Belgian State has admirably synthesised what it does to realise its noble motto, "The School for Life." We may add that Spain, with less than half the population of the United Kingdom, has, according to Mulhall's *Dictionary of Statistics* (ed. 1900, p. 232) absolutely more students in its universities than England and Wales, Scotland, and Ireland combined. Mulhall adds: 'The number of university students compared with population is much greater in Spain and Belgium than in other European countries.'

MARIST BROTHERS' FUND.

THE Rev. Father O'Shea, Wellington, hon. sec. Marist Brothers' Indemnity Fund, informs us that the total amount received to date for the above fund is £334, this being about half of the expenses incurred in defending the Brothers.

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN.

Mr. J. B. Callan, jun., has passed the first section of the B.A. and first section of the LL.B. degrees.

We understand that the amount received at the laying of the foundation stone of the Convent of Mercy, South Dunedin, and the subscriptions since come to hand, bring the total up to £500.

On Sunday next Rev. Father Coffey will be in Mossburn, after which he will visit Dipton and Winton, and will take up subscriptions throughout the mission in aid of the St. Vincent de Paul Orphanage, South Dunedin.

In the list of successful candidates at the recent Junior Civil Service examination will be found the names of the following pupils of the Christian Brothers' School, Dunedin:—John F. O'Leary, Otakia; John Seaman Milon, J. A. Knox, Dunedin; J. J. Delargey, Waikanae.

We are pleased to hear that Dr. Hall, son of Mr. W. J. Hall, registrar of births, deaths, and marriages at Dunedin, has been appointed senior house surgeon at the Dunedin Hospital, in place of Dr. O'Neill who went with the sixth contingent to South Africa. Dr. Hall had been for some time acting as assistant house surgeon at the Christchurch Hospital.

The retreat for women, conducted by the Very Rev. Father Boyle, C.M., Sydney, was brought to a close in St. Joseph's Cathedral on Sunday afternoon, when there was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and renewal of baptismal vows. The attendance at the various exercises during the week was very good, and the unprecedentedly large number of persons who approached the Holy Table at the early Masses on Sunday was not only most edifying, but gave ample evidence that the labors of the Very Rev. Father Boyle during the previous week had borne good fruit. On Sunday evening a retreat for men was opened, and will be brought to a close at Veppers on Sunday.

THE HIBERNIAN SOCIETY.

OPENING A NEW BRANCH AT WAIMATE.

(By one of the Delegates.)

ONE more branch has been added to the many already existing of that excellent organisation, the Hibernian Society, this time at Waimate. The credit of the starting of the new branch is due to Rev. Fathers Regnault and O'Connell. It was at the former's request that the district officers, on their way northwards after attending the Dunedin conference, visited Waimate. They were met on arrival by the zealous pastor, who heartily welcomed them. The executive officers comprised the D.P., Bro. M. O'Sullivan; P.D.P., Bro. Flynn; D.S., Bro. W. Kane; and D.T., Bro. M. J. Sheahan, who were accompanied by P.D.P., Bros. Sellars (Christchurch),

and Little (Auckland), Sister Kane (Auckland), and Bro. Doolan (Christchurch). The meeting was opened in the schoolroom adjoining the handsome little church of St. Patrick's, the Rev. Father Regnault presiding. There were also present Rev. Father O'Connell, the D.E. officers, delegates, and a representative gathering of the Catholics of the district. It was a cheering sight indeed to see the spontaneity and unanimity that existed between priests and people. The rev. chairman, in a few appropriate remarks, introduced the visitors, and showed the necessity for opening and maintaining a branch of the Society in Waimate. P.D.P., Bro. Flynn, followed after whom were Bros. Sellars, Sheehan, and Kery, who extolled the many benefits spiritual and temporal, to be derived from membership of the Society. Whilst the candidates were being medically examined, musical items were rendered by Miss Turkington, Mr. Goldstone, Bro. M. J. Sheehan, and Rev. Father O'Connell, Miss Hoban being the accompanist. Refreshments were handed round by a number of ladies. The initiation of members by Bro. D. Flynn then took place. The following officers were elected:—President, Rev. Father O'Connell; vice-president, Bro. T. O. Flaherty; secretary, Bro. Goldstone; treasurer, Bro. J. O'Brien; warden, Bro. Jos Sims; guardian, Bro. Costello; sick visitors, Bros. Jas. Hickey, and John Cremin; chaplain, Rev. Father Regnault. The new officers were then installed by Bro. Flynn, after which they took up their respective positions and returned thanks to the members for the high honors conferred upon them, and promising to use their best endeavors to make St. Patrick's Branch, Waimate, second to none in this Colony. Rev. Father Regnault thanked the visiting officers and delegates for their kindness in coming to Waimate, and said that the good work inaugurated might bear the very best results.

Rev. Father Regnault afterwards entertained the visitors at the presbytery. The visitors resumed their journey north by the express train in the evening, well pleased with the good work so auspiciously commenced under the shadow of St. Patrick's Church, in the midst of the good priests and people of Waimate.

NEW ZEALAND: GENERAL.

WE have to thank the Registrar-General for *Statistics of the Colony of New Zealand* for the year 1899.

THE Wellington St. Patrick's Day sports will be held at the Basin Reserve on Saturday, March 16, and in the evening an Irish National concert will be given.

MISS CATHERINE A BOLAND, a pupil of the Sisters of Mercy, Darfield, was successful at the recent Junior Civil Service examination.

THE population of the Colony on December 31 was estimated at 810,536, inclusive of 39,851 Maoris. At the end of 1899 the estimated population, exclusive of Maoris, was 756,595.

THE Commonwealth Premier has requested the Right Hon R. J. Seddon to send 1000 troops from New Zealand for the opening of the Federal Parliament. It is suggested that half the number should be Maoris.

INCLUDING the sixth contingent, the total number sent to South Africa by New Zealand was 89 officers and 2283 men. Of these 4 officers and 69 men were killed, 3 officers and 101 men discharged, 1 officer resigned, 2 officers and 1 man were transferred, 2 men dismissed, and 11 officers and 223 men are on leave in New Zealand. The present strength in South Africa, including men going or returning, 60 officers and 1887 men.

A RARE act of high commercial honor is recorded by the *Mataura Ensign*. Some 12 years ago (says our southern contemporary) the late Mr. M. Griffin, who kept the Club Hotel, Gore, had to seek the protection of the Bankruptcy Court, there being few, if any, assets in the estate. Some time afterwards he took over the Nightcaps Hotel, and on his death his widow conducted the business, and has remained in charge of it ever since. Mrs. Griffin, a few days ago, instructed Mr. D. L. Poppelwell, solicitor, to call the Gore creditors in her late husband's estate together, and on their assembling on Friday the pleasing intimation was made to them that Mrs. Griffin had decided to pay all the debts in full, which was done there and then. The Invercargill creditors are to meet this week on a similarly pleasing mission. The amount Mrs. Griffin is distributing for this honorable purpose runs into something like £400. It is understood there is a movement on foot among the Gore creditors to present Mrs. Griffin with some tangible token of their appreciation of her action.

THE *Woodville Examiner* takes a member of the Maharajah West School Committee severely to task for getting parents to sign a petition against the appointment of a lady teacher because, as he thought, she was a Catholic. It was subsequently discovered that the lady in question was not a Catholic, and when the parents saw what a grave error they had made in signing the petition, they immediately sought to rectify it by writing to both Miss Tester and the Board, expressing their regret for having signed the petition. Miss Tester very properly declined to accept any apology, and refused to reconsider her previous decision. Commenting on the above, the *Examiner* says:—It is a thousand pities that such an affair should now be allowed to rest without some restitution being made to the young lady for the pain and inconvenience to which she has been put. We had thought that the days of that narrow-minded bigotry which has been so apparent throughout this business were passed. What right has any community to say what the religious principles of any of their teachers shall be? Even had Miss Tester been a Roman Catholic, who will dare to say that that would affect in any way her capabilities as a teacher or her influence over the children? The days of that kind of thing are passed long ago, and the sooner such people as these mixed up in this particular case

allow their minds to become broadened by the spirit of the times, the less chance will there be of their landing themselves into such an unpleasant position as they are now in.

INTERCOLONIAL.

Over 3500 old age pensions have already been granted in Victoria, and as only 6000 had been provided for by Parliament, it is feared that a large number of applicants will be disappointed.

Notwithstanding the cleansing process to which Sydney had been subjected during the prevalence of the plague still there were over 1000 cases of typhoid in the city last year.

It is proposed that the site of the Commonwealth proclamation on the Centennial Park, Sydney, shall be marked by the erection of a permanent pavilion on the lines of the temporary one, at a cost of £17,000.

The Rev. Mother Xavier, Superioress of the Convent of Mercy, Ballarat, Victoria, has returned to that colony after a visit to Europe, bringing with her a number of novices of her Order.

The Rev. W. Grey, Presbyterian minister of Jamestown, writes as follows to an Australian contemporary:—'The Cardinal's position is this. The head of the Roman Catholic Church in Australia is a Cardinal. According to the best authorities on the rules that govern society, a Cardinal takes his rank next to kings and princes, and above all other Church functionaries. To put Cardinal Moran below the Primate was a violation of this recognised rule. And from the Cardinal's point of view his action is right and dignified.'

The conductor of St. Mary's Cathedral Choir, Sydney, Mr. J. A. Delany, has received a flattering token of the kindly feeling in which the members of St. Mary's Cathedral orchestra regard him in the presentation of a handsome ivory and silver-mounted umbrella suitably inscribed. In offering their gift the members referred to the good will felt by all the performers towards their conductor. Mr. Delany, in acknowledgment, very heartily thanked his well-wishers, and sincerely hoped that the present amicable state of unison and concord between himself and the gentlemen working under his baton might remain unchanged.

The uncertainty of life was exemplified some days ago in Melbourne when a young man named William McDougall was drowned in the Yarra. The day before his death he had received official notification that he would be recommended for recognition by the Humane Society for saving a person from drowning. On the day of his death he was in a boat on the Yarra with two companions, and went into the water to bathe, and before his companions could come to his assistance he was drowned, having been seized with cramps.

Mr. John Fitzsimons, who left Sydney the other day for London for the purpose of establishing a branch of the Citizens' Life Assurance Company there, was given a most enthusiastic send-off by his friends. The steamer Greyhound had been chartered for the occasion, and on board were a large number of employes of the company, besides several representatives of the St. Ignatius' College Ex-Students' Union, the Balmain Rowing Club, and Balmain Football Club, with each of which institutions Mr. Fitzsimons had been prominently identified. The steamer accompanied the ocean liner as far as the Heads, and after a parting greeting a return was made to town. Mr. Fitzsimons entered the service of the company on leaving school, some ten years ago, so that his advancement has been very rapid.

By the last mail Lady M'Eachern, wife of the ex-Mayor of Melbourne, forwarded from London a cheque for £50 as a donation to the building fund of the nuns of the Good Shepherd at Abbotsford.

THE H.A.C.B. SOCIETY.

IN consequence of a flaw in the process-block we are unable at the last moment to publish the portraits of the delegates present at the recent movable meeting of the Hibernian Society in Dunedin. The portraits will appear in our next issue.

Mataafa, the Catholic Samoan chief who was deposed in favor of Tano, has at last received justice. He has been appointed high chief of Samoa. Mataafa's installation, which was witnessed by Bishop Broyer and a large number of natives, was an impressive ceremony.

American Presidents, save Washington, have never been rich and Mr. McKinley is no exception. Jefferson died so poor that had not Congress bought his library his estate would scarcely have been solvent. Monroe did not leave enough to pay his funeral expenses. Lincoln left only £15,000. Grant, who knew only too well the bitterness of extreme poverty, bade fair at one time to be rich, but lost all, and only provided for his family by his book on the American War. It is significant of what he inherited from his father that the latter's effects were sold at death for £152.

Rev. Father Manoritta, who has been the pastor of the Catholic Church of St. Anthony of Padua, New Orleans, for 25 years, has presented his church, which is his personal property, to the Catholic diocese of New Orleans, and will return to his native country, Sardinia, to live out his remaining years. Father Manoritta is 70 years old. He has been in America 47 years, and in Louisiana 36. When the Church of St. Anthony was sold at auction a quarter of a century ago he bought it, using his own private fortune to do so, and preached in it to the Italians of New Orleans.

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No reduction may be expected in the case of absence or withdrawal before the end of a term.

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MR. JAMES WALL, Karangahake, is appointed Agent for the N.Z. TABLET for the districts of Karangahake, Waikino, Waitakauri, and Paeroa, in place of Mr. M. D. Regan, resigned.

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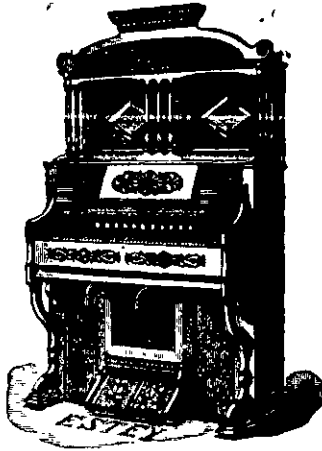
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(Conclusion.)

CHAPTER III.

Not long after the departure of Father Donogh, Humphrey Bedingfield had an unexpected visitor. This was Captain Edward Piers, who had received a grant of the lands of Dunboyne in Meath from the Commissioners of the Revenue in Dublin on the terms of maintaining at Dublin and Dunboyne wolf-dogs and a pack of hounds for the purpose of hunting the wolves with which the country had become infested. This terrible increase in numbers of the savage animal was solely due to the wars and the wholesale massacres that had taken place by Cromwell's orders, and as the dead were permitted to lie in heaps unburied the wolves had, in consequence, fine feasting. Captain Piers, on his way to the hunt one blustery November day, thought it would be neighborly to pay his devoirs to the new steward of Castle Carra, whose relationship with Sir William Kendrick he was aware of.

Accordingly he halted his party before the tower and dismounting proceeded to knock with his whip-handle on the massive oaken door. Unfortunately none of the maids were within call, so Una, hearing the uproar as she passed down the stairs undid the bolts and opened to the impatient stranger.

Now this was a thing which Humphrey had expressly forbidden her to do, but knowing that he was not within, and that Dame Honora was confined to her room with a feverish cold, she, forgetting his admonitions, hurried to attend to the summons.

Her surprise at the sight of the intruder, surrounded by the yelping dogs, was equalled by his surprise at the vision of loveliness which confronted him in the gloom of the dark hall. For a moment he did not speak, then as the girl gazed at him with a gathering fear in her eyes he remembered what politeness demanded.

'Your pardon, fair mistress. I came to have speech with Master Humphrey Bedingfield, whose neighbor I am by reason of my residence at Dunboyne. Is he within?'

'Nay, sir,' Una answered with a shy blush under the bold admiration of his look, 'but he is not far distant. If you will enter I shall inform him.'

Nothing loth, Captain Piers followed her through the hall and into the sitting-room, where, despite his efforts to engage her in conversation, she left him to seek for Humphrey. When she found the latter and acquainted him with the name of the visitor, he gravely reproved her for her indiscretion in admitting the wolf-hunting adventurer.

'Captain Piers is a dangerous man, child, and an enemy of my cousin, Sir William. It has been told me since our coming here that he had hoped to obtain a grant of these lands for himself, and was in a fury because he was forestalled. His visit can bode us no good. But do not fret, child. Go upstairs to Dame Honora, and remember, should Piers or any of his men make inquiries as to your position in the household, that you are my daughter. It would be well to warn the maids also.'

Meanwhile Captain Piers sat impatiently waiting Una's return. When the door opened and he saw a stern-faced man enter instead, his eyes showed evident disappointment, but only for an instant. Before Humphrey could speak he was on his feet and smiling blandly into the unsmiling countenance of the other.

'Piers is my name, Captain Edward Piers of Dunboyne, at your service,' he said glibly. 'And is it my pleasure to address Master Humphrey Bedingfield?'

'The same, good sir,' answered Humphrey, coldly. 'I made bold to call, Master Bedingfield, it being but a neighborly to invite you on our wolf-hunt to day. There is a very reason to expect good sport, and, knowing that you have lately come into these parts, it occurred to me that you might wish to join the chase. I am under terms with the Commissioners, as doubtless you are aware, to keep the lands of Meath free of these pests, and would gladly hail your company such times as it might be agreeable to you to honor us.'

He was a very handsome man, this Captain Piers, of middle size, strongly built, and of an ingenuous, pleasant appearance. His eyes were a frank blue, and his good-humored mouth, even when he spoke, did not lose its smile. His age might have been 35, though his florid complexion and fair hair gave him a certain youthfulness. This was not the style of man Humphrey had expected to see, and for an instant he doubted that he had quite caught the name aright.

'Captain Edward Piers, I think you said, good sir.'

'Even so,' smiled the worthy captain. Humphrey bowed stately. 'I am duly grateful for the honor of your visit, Captain Piers; but it chanches that I cannot be one of your party on this occasion. My wife, being in ill-health, is doubly timorous these unsettled times, and I dare not leave her even for a day.'

'I had the privilege of meeting another lady of your household on my entrance,' and the captain looked interrogatively at his host. 'A pretty wench, I' faith, a very pretty wench.'

'My daughter, sir,' said Humphrey, curtly. 'I thought as much. Well, Master Bedingfield, I envy you such a daughter. A charming maid, and I have no doubt, an obedient one. I hope to have the pleasure of paying my duty to her before long.'

He smirked complacently, while Humphrey only registered a vow that his neighbor of Dunboyne should not see Una again if he could help it.

But he reckoned without understanding the character of the man. Piers began to haunt Carra Castle, coming at all unexpected times on trivial excuses, so that it was impossible for Una to avoid him.

Besides, his cheerful air of considering himself quite at home made it difficult to show him that his frequent appearance was an intrusion. His frank admiration for Una was a serious embarrassment to her, but Humphrey counselled her to refrain from exhibiting any displeasure, as he suspected there might be some secret motive underlying the captain's apparent friendship. He thought it might be a menace to Sir William Kendrick, but Una held a different opinion.

'He is a wolf-hunter, guardian,' she said, 'and the folk whisper that he is a priest-hunter as well. I like not that perpetual smile of his, nor the way he comes here by stealth as it were. His visits are duly timed, else why should he come so early and so late? It is our good Father Donogh he is seeking, perchance.'

Dame Honora, slowly recovering from her sickness, lay and listened to the discussion between the other two. She was filled with a vague unrest, which aggravated her complaint, and made her convalescence more tedious than it should have been. She could only pray that her dear ones might be saved from the deadly wiles of this man, whose name was one of terror far and near.

At length Captain Piers proved to the amazed and indignant Una that he was no laggard in love. One noon he came boldly into her presence where she sat at her embroidery, and without any preliminaries abruptly offered her his hand and fortune. The girl shrank back as from a blow, while the smiling eyes of the wooer noted her discomfiture and seemed in no way displeased.

'I cannot,' at last she murmured faintly. 'Take leisure to think, fair mistress,' enjoined the captain. 'My time is yours.'

'Tis too great an honor, Captain Piers, for a penniless maid,' said Una, bravely striving to meet his amorous glances.

'An' it be an honor, sweet Una, it is an honor I am quite willing to bestow.'

'But, sir, I do not love you.'

'That will come.'

'I fear not.'

'How so, mistress? Have I a rival? Gad'—and the captain stamped his thigh in un-Puritan-like enjoyment—'then the sport will be something worth while. I did not think it was in you, sweet, to add such zest to my wooing. Who is it now—this rival? Some gay dog of a soldier from the camp below, or a wild Tory from the mountains over yonder?'

The girl grew white to the lips. 'Speak, mistress, speak. I am keen to strive with him for the prize. Speak,' and he thrust his finger under her chin, lifting her face so that he could look into her downcast eyes. She drew back from the contact.

'Oh, sir, leave me,' she breathed piteously, endeavoring to rise. 'Leave you, fairest? Why, I mean to stay with you always. Tell me now, who is it has dared to love you? Not Sir William Kendrick surely?'

A black frown gathered on his brow.

'No, no,' cried Una.

He threw his arms around her, drawing her closer. She gave a wild scream and sprang to her feet. Just then the door opened and Humphrey entered.

'What means this?' he demanded sternly, looking from one to the other.

'Oh, father!' sobbed Una as she clung to him. 'Oh, father!'

He put his arm about her tenderly.

'I repeat, sir, what does this mean?'

'Nothing, Master Bedingfield, but that I have asked the maid here to be my wife, and she has but taken to the wilful ways of women under such circumstances.'

'You have abused my hospitality in presuming so,' replied Humphrey. 'My daughter is not for such as you. And let me tell you plainly that though I have not refused you the courtesy of an open door when you have forced yourself upon my home, I am not blind to your character. This innocent child is as far above you as the heavens above the earth.'

'Have a care, Master Bedingfield, have a care, for it may be that I know more concerning her than you dream.'

'Your threats cannot alarm me, sir. Go, and never enter this house again.'

Piers stood silent for a second, then he turned and lifted his hat from the table.

'I had thought to argue the matter with you,' he said, 'so as to give you a chance. But now I shall defer the argument until I come again. Like death and judgment I shall enter when you least expect me.'

He kissed his hand gaily to the shrinking girl as he went out. Dame Honora's motherly bosom pillowed Una's tear-wet face as she sobbed out her story.

'He means to work evil on us,' she said when the tale was ended. 'He suspects you are not our daughter, and God grant he does not guess you are the child of O'More. I must cast aside my weakness now and be ready to guard my treasure as a mother should. Better death—aye, a thousand times over—than that you should fall into the power of such a man.'

'If only Con were here, sobbed Una, 'if only Con were here.'

CHAPTER IV.

In the priest's room of Carra Castle a little group was assembled on the Eve of Christmas. Humphrey and Dame Honora were there, and Una, too, kneeling beside a stalwart youth whose dark head was bowed in prayer. Standing before the improvised altar was Father Donogh Heggerty—no longer a miserable mendicant—but the venerable minister of God, clad in his sacred vestments,

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with hand uplifted to give the blessing of the Midnight Mass. When it was over, Una and the tall youth approached and knelt together at his feet. Then above the two young heads—the brown and the black—the old priest murmured slowly the words of the marriage service. Una's silvery response came like a whisper, but Con O'Hanlon's deep voice echoed through the room, while from her place beside the fair bride Dame Honora's sobs mingled with the wild sighing of the wind outside.

'Tis a wild night for your journey,' said Humphrey to the bridegroom, when their congratulations had been bestowed upon the wedded pair.

'The wilder the better,' he replied. 'Few will care to be about, and though I flinch not at fighting, I had rather not leave my bride for the battle on our wedding-day.'

'How came you to be so late?' Humphrey queried. 'We had almost given up hope of a Midnight Mass when your whistle sounded.'

'It was a terrible journey through the snow,' answered O'Hanlon; 'and our horses could hardly make their way. A terrible journey, indeed, and full of sad sights. Men, women, and children were lying in the fields and on the roadsides, starved and frozen to death. Death was with us everywhere, and when we came to the river the dead too were on its banks.'

'The curse of Cromwell is all over the land,' said the priest sorrowfully.

'And when we reached the crossing-place there was no ford to be seen,' continued O'Hanlon; 'the water was frozen over. So we crossed on foot, and my men remain beyond at the entrance to the secret passage, where I placed them lest there should be a surprise. Una I may thank for my knowledge of the place, since she first showed it to me in our childhood.'

'That is well,' said Humphrey.

'And on the opposite bank my cousin Remy waits with a strong force of his men, so if this Piers who, it seems, you dread, should come a-hunting he may find himself the quarry instead of the hunter.'

Just then through the storm the loud rattle of horses' feet was heard in the courtyard and the command to halt given in authoritative tones. All bent their heads to listen.

'Piers!' cried Humphrey, straightening himself with a start.

'Piers,' murmured Dame Honora, making the Sign of the Cross. 'He has tracked you here.'

'Have no fear, pulse of my heart,' whispered Con O'Hanlon, drawing Una into his arms and kissing her trembling lips. 'Remy is at hand and he can hold his own. We must slip down the secret stair, and I shall give him the call across the water.'

He lifted her to bear her away but she stopped him.

'I cannot leave my dear friends behind,' she said. 'My more than mother and my kind guardian. How could I go in peace and they in danger? They must come with us.'

Dame Honora gazed at Humphrey with tears in her eyes.

'She is all we have,' she murmured.

'Then let us go, wife,' Humphrey replied.

Down the passage they made their way cautiously, and at length felt the cold air blowing upon their faces as they neared the entrance. The snow had drifted in between the screening brambles until it made a white carpet under foot. Bidding them stay in a sheltered niche, Con crawled out into the open, first giving a low whistle which was only heard by his men crouched among the trees.

They were around him in an instant, pointing towards the tower. When he looked in that direction he saw a sudden tongue of flame shoot up, then another.

'The hell-hounds,' he cried. 'They are setting it on fire.'

Then clear, shrill, far-reaching through the night air went the cry of a plover. The Puritans at their congenial task heard it not, but Remy the Rapparee on the further bank had keener ears and he knew his cousin Con had need of him. Over the ice-bound river he and his kerns stole noiselessly and unseen, for the sky was dark without moon or stars. The crackling of the flames deadened their footfalls over the rough ground, and then—

'O'Hanlon abu! abu!'

That wild shout made the enemy turn quickly, hand to sword. But it was easy to see they were outnumbered as the mountain men swooped down on them with battleaxe and spear. One trooper fell, then another, and another, as if a blight had struck them, so suddenly and surely did retaliation overtake their evil work.

Then by the leaping glare Con saw one man who fought like a lion—a fair, ruddy man of middle height.

'This is my prey, the wolf-hunter,' he cried, as he dashed through the smoke and faced him.

'O'Hanlon abu!'

Piers turned, not unwilling to try issues with a fresh adversary. They hacked at each other with deadly skill, slipping on the icy ground, now nearly in hands-grips, again drawing far apart to take fresh breath. At last O'Hanlon's sinewy hardness and great height told, for, reaching over the guard of the other, he ran him through below the shoulder. A strangled sob broke in Piers's throat as he reeled and fell heavily.

He lifted himself on his elbow, while the blood oozed forth from the wound, and gasped:

'Tis is my last—my last.' The words stuck. Then 'Who are you?' he whispered.

'One who was in time to save the innocent from your hellish plot.'

'Are you the other, my rival? Mistress Una's lover?'

'I am her husband.'

'Curse her—and you. She scorned me. . . . They all scorned me. And I tracked the priest. Curse you! It had been a fine sport but for you. Curse—'

His head fell backwards, and Captain Piers had gone to his account.

Early in January a ship sailed from the Bay of Carlingford. It was a Spanish ship, bound for Lisbon, and on board were many poor fugitives from Irish plains and valleys, who crowded the decks to look their last upon the land of their love and sorrow.

Una and her husband stood together, hand in hand, and near by Humphrey Bedingfield and Dame Honora gazed sadly at the receding shore. When the blue peaks of Mourne were fading into the greyness of the wintry day, they knelt down and prayed fervently that God might lift her heavy burden of woe from poor Ireland, and grant her children once more peace and happiness on the soil that gave them birth.

Father Donogh Heggerty did not accompany the others to Spain. He remained to do his Master's bidding among the poor and needy of his Faith, and the State Papers of that day tell of his consequent imprisonment and execution in the Gaol of Clonmel.—*Catholic Fireside.*

The Catholic World.

CANADA.—Appreciation of the Work of a Chaplain.—The Daughters of the Empire of Montreal, who some time ago decided to present the Rev. Father O'Leary, Catholic chaplain of the first contingent, with a handsome chalice and paten as a mark of their appreciation of the splendid services he rendered to the Protestant wounded and dying in South Africa, have also decided not to limit the subscriptions to the Protestant section of the community.

ENGLAND.—Honor for a Jesuit.—The Rev. Father Michael Maher, S.J., Professor of Mental and Moral Philosophy at Stonyhurst, has been awarded the degree of Doctor of Literature by special vote of the Senate of the University of London. What makes Father Maher's success a matter of special gratification is that he gains it by presenting his new work on psychology as the necessary essay required as a qualification. The normal course for obtaining this degree is by a stiff examination following on the attainment of the M.A. degree, but in the present case the University Examiners have recommended the Senate to free the candidate from this further examination on the ground that his book 'is of such special excellence as to justify exemption of the author from further test.' As this degree has so far been conferred on not more than 10 men since the foundation of the University, and only on one during the last 10 years, the testimony rendered to the new book is of high value, the more so as it comes from a University which for many years past has thrown the whole weight of its influence into the scale on behalf of the material and empirical philosophy of the school of Bain and Sully. It should be an encouragement to Catholic students to know on such authority that they possess a text-book not merely in complete harmony with the scholastic philosophy which the Church has so often stamped with her approval, but also thoroughly up to date and abreast of the most recent psychological thought.

Death of Lord Dormer.—The death is reported of Lord Dormer. The Bishop of Birmingham, in his touching remarks at the interment, said his hearers would have the consolation of knowing that when the summons came Lord Dormer's instinct led him to prayer. He was found with the rosary in his hand, and during his life his intimate friends knew of the piety he maintained, that after the company had retired, if he was in a place where the Blessed Sacrament was reserved, it was his delight to go and spend some time in prayer before it. This instinct was cherished from his earliest years and through life. Lord Dormer received his early education at Oscott College, where so many of the sons of the English Catholic nobility and gentry have been trained. He had an active early life. Joining the Royal Horse Guards, he afterwards transferred to the Grenadier Guards, and then to the 74th Highlanders. While in the Guards he served in the Crimea in 1854-5, and later he served seven years in India. It was probably during this time that he acquired that taste for Oriental lands and customs which he held till the day of his death. The new Lord Dormer, who is the 13th in succession, is Mr. Roland Dormer, nephew of the late peer. At Cairo he is well known as sub-director of the Ministry of Finance. He is the eldest son of the late General Sir James Dormer, and is 38 years of age. He was married a year or two ago to a lady of Spanish descent, who is said to be one of the most charming figures in Cairo society. Like his predecessor, the new Lord Dormer was educated at Oscott College.

The New Abbot of Bury St. Edmunds.—After having spent 17 years as Prior at Douai, Father O'Neill, O.S.B., has said farewell to the students. He has been the recipient of touching proofs of the esteem and affection in which he is held. Prior O'Neill is to become Abbot of Bury St. Edmunds.

Death of an Oratorian.—The funeral took place on January 4, at Sydenham, of Father Richard Stanton, of Brompton Oratory who died on New Year's Day, at the age of 81 years. Father Stanton had the distinction of journeying to Rome with the late Cardinal Newman just before the founding of the Order of Oratorians, and upon his return was actually the first to wear its habit in England. Up till the time of his death he retained the full power of his faculties, although he had been in failing health for some years. His death removes the last of the original members of the Order founded by Cardinal Newman. Fifty-five years ago he joined the Catholic Church in company with his friend, Frederick William Faber, the popular hymn-writer.

Jubilee of the Vicar-General of Liverpool.—The clergy of the diocese of Liverpool celebrated the jubilee of Mgr. Carr, V.G.,

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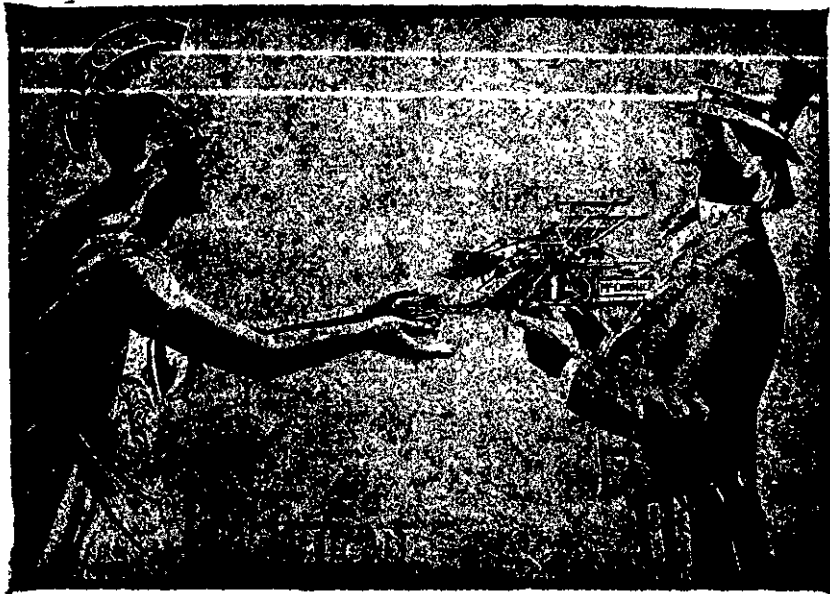
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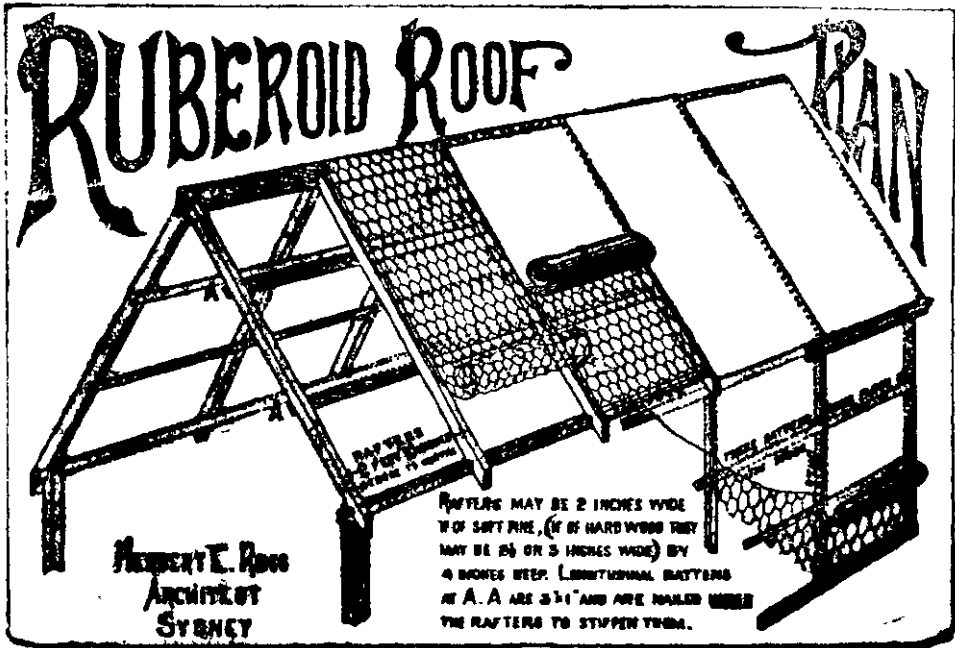
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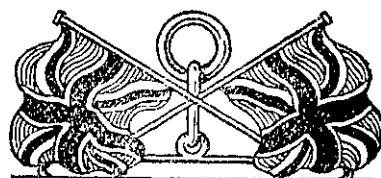
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by entertaining him to a dinner at the Adelphi Hotel, and presenting him with an address and a purse containing 300 sovereigns. The Bishop, Right Rev. Dr. Whiteside, presided.

Death of a Leading Lancashire Catholic.—Mr. George Chamberlain died at Southport recently at the age of 75. The deceased, who was one of the best known figures in financial circles in Lancashire, taking part as a member of the Liverpool Stock Exchange in many large transactions, was chairman of several public companies. Mr. Chamberlain, who was a Catholic, and was educated at Ampforth College, attracted the esteem of all with whom he came into contact, not only by his eminent qualifications and straightforwardness as a business man, but by his genial personal characteristics and readiness to hold out a helping hand to those who sought his assistance.

FRANCE.—A Bishop on the Temperance Cause.—The Bishop of Châlons, Mgr. Latty, believes that in France the drink evil is a national danger, and in combating it he has just taken very decisive action. He has founded a temperance society for the priests of his diocese, and enjoins abstinence from fermented liquors at all gatherings of priests and at any entertainments offered to them. He declares that priests have always been foremost in self-denial and in meeting national dangers. In this case, he adds, the very morality, blood, and race of France have to be safeguarded. In France there is a good deal of tippling, but drunkenness is rare—so rare that one may live in a large town and not see a man drunk in the course of 12 months.

GERMANY.—A Protest Against Duelling.—The brutal and cowardly practice of duelling prevalent in the German army appears too strong to be repressed even by the Kaiser. One occurrence shows the degree in which the military element is inoculated by the virus. At Cologne three young men had fully qualified as officers, and applied for their appointments. The body of officers, however, objected to them on account of their views as consistent Catholics on the subject of duelling. They were asked what their standpoint was in this question, and when they expressed the opinion that the duel should not be obligatory, they were black-balled. The War Minister cancelled the vote. A second ballot had the same issue. The affair will now be brought before Parliament. The Centre party should be able to compel the doing of justice. The discipline seems odd which tolerates the War Minister being rebuffed by regimental martinetts.

ROME.—The Holy Father's Charity—The sum of 367,575 lire was distributed in charities by his Holiness the Pope during the holy year.

A Memento of the Holy Year.—As a memento of the holy year the Queen-Regent of Spain has sent a beautiful gold cross to the Holy Father.

The Pope and the Duke of Norfolk—His Holiness Leo XIII. received the Duke of Norfolk in private audience on January

4. The Pontiff, who greeted the Duke most cordially, congratulated his Grace on his work on behalf of Catholicism in England, and thanked him for having conducted the pilgrimage to Rome.

The Liberals Indignant.—We are told that 'great indignation prevailed in Liberal circles in Rome' at the protest of the Duke of Norfolk and the other English pilgrims against the wish expressed in their address for the temporal independence of the Holy See. The 'Liberal circles' knew pretty well before that on this point the sentiment of the English pilgrims is (says the *Catholic Times*) the sentiment of the whole Catholic world. The Italian authorities ordered the police to seize all copies of the *Osservatore Romano* and the *Voce della Verità* which reproduced the words of the address to his Holiness.

UNITED STATES—Church Property in Cuba.—Bishop Sbarretti has won a decided victory in the celebrated Church property contest in the diocese of Havana. The commission, consisting of three judges of the Supreme Court, have decided that justice demands that this property now in the possession of the Cuban Government shall be restored to the Church, and that the Church shall be compensated for its use since January 1, 1899, the date of the American occupation. With regard to the property alienated prior to that date the commission holds that the Church has no recourse, except against the Spanish Government.

Successful Debaters.—Holy Cross College, Worcester, U.S.A., is rejoicing over the victory won by three of its students in a public debate between a like number of Harvard students. The contest took place on December 12 in the presence of 1200 people. One of the Supreme Court judges of the States who was judge had little difficulty in awarding the place of honor to the Catholic boys. The result of the debating contest must be gratifying to the Jesuit Fathers. Moreover, as President Eliot, of Harvard University, some time before cast strictures on the present system of teaching.

GENERAL.

The Catholic Population of the United Kingdom.—The estimated Catholic population of the United Kingdom is nearly 5,500,000—namely, England, 1,500,000; Scotland, 365,000; Ireland (according to the census of 1891), 3,549,956.

Catholic Peers and Legislators in Great Britain and Ireland.—There are in the United Kingdom 41 Catholic peers; 15 Catholic lords who are not peers; 52 Catholic baronets; 26 Catholic knights; 17 Catholic members of the Privy Council; four Catholic members of the House of Commons for England and 73 for Ireland.

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Having LEASED my HOTEL to Messrs. J. J. CONNOR and J. T. HARRIS, I have to THANK the PATRONS of the 'City' for their LIBERAL PATRONAGE; and in bespeaking a Continuance of the same for my successors I feel quite satisfied that the reputation the Hotel has enjoyed will be fully maintained under their Management.

J. F. NIXON

WITH reference to the above, we feel that it is hardly necessary to assure our Friends and the Patrons of the 'City' that no effort will be spared on our part to merit the Patronage so liberally bestowed on our esteemed predecessor.

J. J. CONNOR } Proprietors.
J. T. HARRIS }

CRITERION HOTEL,

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CONNOR AND HARRIS, PROPRIETORS.

We have great pleasure in announcing that we have purchased the above well-known house from MR. JAMES LISTON, so long and favourably known in connection with its management. We need hardly assure our Friends and the General Public that we will make the CRITERION a really comfortable home for COMMERCIAL MEN and TRAVELLERS.

IN reference to the above announcement by MESSRS. CONNOR AND HARRIS, I regret that, owing to ill-health, I am compelled to retire from active business and have sold them my interest in the CRITERION. I have to thank all my Friends for the liberal support I have received in this favourite house, and now bespeak continuance of this support for my esteemed successors, who, I feel sure, will make the CRITERION HOTEL one of the best houses in the Colony.

JAMES LISTON.

THE CLOSING OF THE HOLY DOOR.

His Holiness the Pope on Monday, December 24, performed the ceremony of closing the Holy Door at St. Peter's, which had been open during the year of jubilee. The ceremony was attended by all the solemnities incidental to great functions of the Church in Rome.

The Pope left the Vatican at a quarter to 12, preceded by a long train of clergy, bearing lighted candles and surrounded by Bishops, Archbishops, Cardinals, and Noble and Swiss Guards, his Holiness himself being carried in the portontina as far as the entrance to the portico of St. Peter's. Here he alighted and entered the cathedral by the Holy Door. The appearance of the Sacerdos Magnus within the basilica was hailed by the soft and solemn strains of the silver trumpets. The interior of St. Peter's furnished a magnificent spectacle. It was crowded in every part. As many as 80,000 invitations to the ceremony were issued. The vast church was superbly decorated, red and gold being the prevailing colors, while all the candelabra used on great occasions were displayed. The portico in which the ceremony was to take place was also handsomely draped with red hangings bordered with gold. To the left of the Holy Door was the Papal throne, covered with crimson cloth. Holy water was offered to the Pope, who, entering the Sedia Gestatoria, was borne through the cathedral, blessing the assembled worshippers, to the high altar, on which the most precious relics of the Church were exposed. His Holiness having knelt for a while before the altar, was next borne to the Altar of the Holy Sacrament, where he once more engaged in prayer.

The procession then moved to the portico for the performance of the ceremony of the day. His Holiness allowed every one of his train to pass first through the Holy Door, and then followed himself on foot, walking to the throne, on which he took his seat. Then, rising, the Holy Father blessed all the material necessary for the closing of the Holy Door, and, kneeling in front of the portal, laid three portions of lime with a golden trowel on the threshold, and afterwards three bricks, each containing a commemorative inscription. By the side of the bricks was placed an urn containing gold, silver, and bronze medals with portraits of the Pope, and inscriptions recording the opening and closing of the Holy Door by Pope Leo XIII.

His Holiness then returned to the throne, and Cardinal Serafino Vannutelli and four other penitentiaries in sacerdotal vestments performed the same ceremony with the lime and bricks. This concluded, the workmen in attendance covered the door on the inside with cloth painted in imitation of marble, with a cross in the centre.

The Pope on leaving St. Peter's was enthusiastically acclaimed. The ceremony had lasted just an hour. The crowd outside was immense. Order was kept by Italian troops. The weather was rainy in the early morning, but was brilliant by midday.

This formal act of the Pontiff, as Father Thurston, S.J., points out in his work on the jubilee, has a mystic significance. The three bricks placed in position by the Pope represent the stones spoken of by the Prophet Isaiah when he said, 'Jerusalem shall be built of square stones.' The bricks are also held to signify either faith, hope, and charity, or contrition, confession, and satisfaction. So, too, the soul when purified and embellished by grace and by the indulgence of the jubilee is as a stone set in the mystical building of the heavenly Jerusalem. When the Holy door is closed, the Cross of Christ, the standard of our salvation, is put on it in token of the victory won by the faithful over the evil one; and likewise to accomplish the precept of Daniel the Prophet, 'Close the door and seal it with thy ring,' that is, with the Holy Cross, the seal of the King of Kings, the High Priest Christ.

The gold and ivory trowel used in the ceremony was designed by Professor Tartarini, of Bologna. It is triangular in form, the blade being in gold, and the handle in ivory set with jewels. Like the mallet used in opening the Holy Door, the trowel symbolises various attributes of Christianity. A wreath of carved roses running from the handle to the blade is meant to show that from the thorns of sorrow and sacrifice proceed the flowers of pardon and gladness.

His Holiness rested on Christmas Day after the fatigue of Monday's ceremonies, for which he was none the worse. He received innumerable telegrams from all over the world, congratulating him on the successful closing of the Holy Door, notable among them being those from the aged Emperor Francis Joseph, and the Queen-Mother and King of Spain.

HOW MARBLES ARE MADE.

MOST of the stone marbles used by the boys are made in Germany. The refuse only of the marble and agate quarries is employed, and this is treated in such a way that there is practically no waste. Men and boys are employed to break the stone into small cubes, and with their hammers they acquire a marvellous dexterity. The little cubes are then thrown into a mill, consisting of a grooved bedstone and a revolving runner. Water is fed to the mill and the runner is rapidly revolved, while the friction does the rest. In half an hour the mill is stopped, and a bushel or so of the perfectly round marbles taken out. The whole process costs the merest trifle.

At the Church of the Holy Rood, Swindon, on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Miss Sarah Hinder and Mrs Eliza Miles had the happiness to be received into the Church by the Very Rev. Dean Lonergan, Rector of Swindon.

CATHOLIC PROGRESS IN LIVERPOOL.

IN his advent pastoral the Bishop of Liverpool deals with the progress of Catholicism in the diocese during the past 50 years. His Lordship says:—

At the time the hierarchy was re-established, if we may judge by the baptismal returns, the total number of Catholics in the diocese must have been about 200,000. If to-day we reckon over 330,000 souls in the diocese, it is mainly through the sacrifices which have been made to provide these important agencies for the salvation of souls. The need of priests was felt more keenly than anything else. Yet for the work of ministering to 200,000 souls, there were only 120 priests. To-day, to minister to half as many again, we have more than three times as many priests, altogether over 400 priests. Furthermore, the chief effort made in the diocese has ever been to keep up a constant, and, as far as possible, an adequate supply of priests. And so, in 50 years, not only has the generosity of the clergy and laity built the existing College of St. Joseph, Upholland, but the number of aspirants to the priesthood in our various colleges has been raised from about 50 to 180.

The number of our churches and chapels is the next great landmark of our progress. It is true that most of these buildings are simple and devoid of ornaments, though there are many and even noteworthy exceptions. But this was rendered necessary by the poverty of most of our people, and by the numerous calls made upon them. In 1850 there were some 86 churches and chapels erected in the diocese. To-day that number has reached 171. But it is chiefly in some of our larger centres of population that the increase in the number of priests and of churches is most striking. This was naturally to be expected, owing not only to the natural increase in the population, but also to the large expansion of so many of our towns. Thus, in Liverpool city, the number of churches has increased from 13 in 1850 to 34 in 1900, and the number of priests from 37 in 1850 to 130 in 1900. In Bootle, instead of one church and one priest, we have now three churches and 12 priests. In Preston the number of churches has increased from four to seven, the number of priests from nine to 30. In St. Helens, where in 1850 there were two churches, there are now eight; where there were three priests there are now 26. In Wigan there were 50 years ago three churches where now there are four, and five priests where now there are 13. Warrington had one church, and now it has three; it had two priests, and now it has six. Whilst in 1850 Widnes had one church, it now has three, and where there was one priest there are now seven.

There are at the present time nearly 70,000 Catholic children receiving a careful instruction in their religion in about 170 schools. Besides the increase in the number of clergy, of churches, and of schools, other unmistakable signs of progress are not wanting. Fifty years ago there were in the diocese only two convents, where religious women devoted themselves to their own sanctification and to the service of the poor. At the present day there are no less than 47 convents, in which some 700 Sisters spend their lives in the spiritual and corporal works of mercy. Fifty years ago there were in the diocese only two institutions engaged in what may be called rescue work—one an orphanage for girls, the other an asylum for the blind. At the present time there are no less than 30 institutions for this work— orphanages, industrial schools, poor-law schools, reformatories, asylum for the blind, refuges for penitents, homes for waifs and strays, homes for boys and girls, and homes for the aged poor. These institutions altogether shelter some 3,500 inmates.

RETURNING TO THE FOLD.

Father de Restiaux Tuckwell received two English converts into the Church a few weeks ago at Pau. He also prepared for first Communion an army captain who has joined the Catholic Church after returning from the Trausvaal.

The list of Anglican clergymen who have 'gone over' since the issue of the Papal Bull in denial of their Orders is slowly lengthening (says the *Daily Chronicle*). A new name to be added to the list is that of Mr Bird, whose secession becomes more noteworthy when it is added that he has been acting as chaplain to Lord Halifax, the president of the English Church Union, and the man through whose overtures at Rome the Commission on Anglican Orders was called into being.

One of the English Catholics who took part in what is now generally spoken of as the Duke of Norfolk's pilgrimage to Rome at the end of December was Mr Charles Brookfield, the actor-playwright, who, unfortunately for playgoers, has for some time refused all managers' offers of engagements. After a long illness, from which he has happily recovered, he joined the Catholic Church a few months ago.

Miss Emily Stather, daughter of the late Colonel Stather (says the *Catholic Times*), has been received into the Church by the Prior of Woodchester, Father Vincent MacNabb, O.P. Miss Stather's conversion has caused a great sensation in Woodchester and Stroud, where she has for many years been associated with charitable works of various kinds as a member of the Church of England.

On the feast of St. Teresa (says the *Catholic Transcript*), of Hartford, Conn., Miss Mary Teresa Hunter, of Terryville, was received into the Church by the Rev. John Neale. Miss Hunter belongs to one of the oldest and most respected families of the town of Plymouth. Previous to her conversion she was an active member of the Congregational Church, with whose religious work she was for many years closely identified. She was a Sunday school teacher and a prominent official of the Christian Endeavor and other church societies.

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Mason's Extract of Herbs for making delicious non-intoxicating beer. A 4. bot. makes 4 gals. Sample bot. stamps or a sample of both Wine Essence and Extract of Herbs, post free, for 15 stamps. Agents wanted.

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Medicinal Port Wine a specialty.

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- The Second Sale " " Friday, 11th January, 1901.
- The Third Sale " " Thursday, 31st January, 1901.
- The Fourth Sale " " Friday, 22nd February, 1901.

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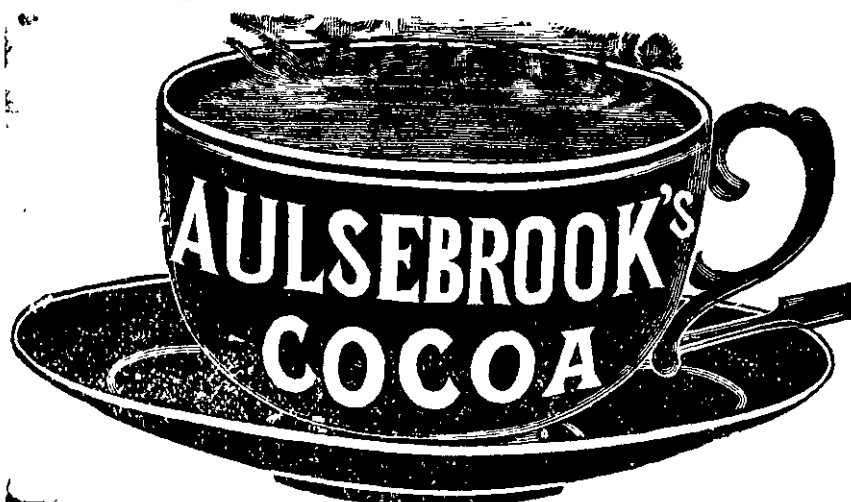
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Returning our best thanks for the liberal support we have hitherto received, and assuring you that no effort will be wanting to merit a continuance of your confidence, We remain, yours faithfully,

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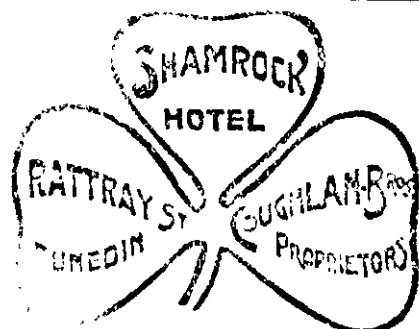
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