

## THE CORONATION OATH.

### CARDINAL MORAN'S OPINION.

On the 18th ult. his Eminence Cardinal Moran visited a bazaar which was being held in the Newtown Town Hall, in aid of the funds of St. Kieran's parish, Darlington, when he delivered an interesting address. The following report is taken from the Sydney *Morning Herald*.—'Fairs (said his Eminence) brought together the people, and assisted to promote that love and concord so desirable. Those who were not Catholics were present that day in numbers. This he was pleased to see. In Australia they had a broad and enlightened people, who were ever ready to assist in every movement for the good of the nation, no matter by whom inaugurated. Of course, they met with some who were narrow-minded enough to have strange ideas of the doings of the Catholic Church, but even these people, when they came to rub shoulders with their Roman Catholic brethren, soon began to find they were wrong in their ideas, and the absurdities which pervaded their minds soon disappeared. There were a few others, however, who were very bitter towards their Catholic citizens, and were so without cause or reason. For such they would pray, and would earnestly hope that some day even these people would become friends of the Catholic Church. Disraeli, one of the great leaders of England, in his young days had a bitter hatred towards the Catholic Church. Even so strong was he that the great O'Connell termed him a descendant of the Impenitent Thief. But in the course of years a change took place, and Disraeli altered his opinions in this respect; and in the same way those so-called leaders of the Orangemen in this State when they posed as teachers and leaders to the Catholic party were only smiled at, and they (the Catholics) prayed that the time would speedily come when those foolish people would see things in their true light. It was recognised by all broad-minded and enlightened people that the Catholic Church was the

#### Guardian of all the Great Social Problems

which were common to all. If they looked at the United States they would see that great nation plunged into mourning through the work of an assassin. They in Australia owed much to the United States, and the wave of sympathy which had gone out showed clearly that they were bound to the American people in a bond of true sympathy. The Australians to-day were in every sense of the word a genuine republic. He did not speak thus as a rebel. Far from it. He spoke from a common-sense point of view. He repeated they were in every true sense a republic. Their only difference to America was that they had a permanent head, while in the United States the head was elected and came into power every four years. On the other hand, political parties succeeded each other according to the numerical strength of the party, while the sovereign head remained the same. Thus in Australia they had all the liberties and freedom that a republic could enjoy. In the young days, or beginning, instead of that liberty and freedom, they were controlled by the most despotic authority; but now there was every freedom of a republic. How did that change come to pass? It was through the common-sense of the political leaders of England. They saw that with the growth of these colonies separation would ensue unless they changed that policy, a policy which the leaders of England recognised had forced the United States to sever her connection with the Home Government. If the same treatment were extended to Australia for one month which guided the Home Government with regard to the United States of America, then Australia would be an independent nation within one month, and in severing herself under such conditions she would have his (the Cardinal's) fullest blessing. People in England did not understand the requirements of the people of Australia, or even understand what they in the Commonwealth did. He was lately highly amused at the address of some letters from England which came under his notice. One was addressed to the Prime Minister of Australia or Cardinal Moran. The writer thought if it did not reach one official it would surely reach the other. Continuing the Cardinal said they owed much to the example of the United States. They owed also a great debt to themselves in Australia. They had shown themselves bent upon asserting their rights in not allowing

#### Imperial Jingoism to force its laws upon Australia.

They knew best what the Australians wanted, and they in Australia would not allow themselves to be trampled upon by those at home who knew so little of Australian life. Regarding the proposed change in the Coronation Oath, the Catholics of Australia had sent a strong memorial, for the despatch of which document they were greatly indebted to Mr. Barton and the members of the Commonwealth Government, because these gentlemen adopted in the fullest way and in the promptest manner that manifesto sent Home to the Home Government by the great body of Roman Catholics in Australia. However, they now saw Mr. Chamberlain, as representing the Home Government, had dealt with the question. He (Mr. Chamberlain) evidently did not recognise the protest sent by the Catholics of the Commonwealth of Australia, but he had stated that he saw something in the newspapers in which reference was made to the action of the Australian Catholics. Mr. Chamberlain seemed to be very ignorant about the action of the Catholics being endorsed by the Commonwealth, but he (the Cardinal) would tell Mr. Chamberlain that Australians had too much sense to be gulled and deceived by such effrontery as that. The people of the Commonwealth knew their rights, and were determined to fight for them. One of those rights was that when that oath insulted a body of Catholics comprising more than a fourth of the population it should be removed. When a Sovereign came and offered insult to a fourth of the citizens, and the Government were asked to remove the insult but refused to take any action, then they in Australia

would tell the representative of that Government that they knew their rights, that they were an independent people, and would startle the Home Government some day sooner than such Government expected. It was the Home Government that was forcing such action on. He (the Cardinal) knew of no more liberal-minded man than King Edward VII. There was not one man who more abhorred the present form of the oath than did our Sovereign the King. Enlightened as he was and guided by the enlightenment of his illustrious mother, Queen Victoria, who preceded him on the throne for so many years, he knew and felt that it was wrong. But he was forced by law to make a profession of that which he did not believe himself, and by so doing to insult his people—a people that he would rather honor and respect. All that Australians required was that the Home Government would not impose such an unpleasant duty on the Sovereign. He (the Cardinal) was confident that the good sense of the Empire would endorse the manifesto of the people of Australia.'

## Diocesan News

### ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON.

(From our own correspondent.)

September 28.

His Grace Archbishop Redwood is this week giving a mission in Kaikoura.

Rev. Father Cahill, late of Danevirke parish, is at present in Wellington.

The Rev. Father Lewis, Adm., who is in Wanganui, is suffering from an attack of influenza. His return to Wellington has consequently been delayed.

His Lordship Bishop Grimes arrived in Wellington on Tuesday, and during his stay here was the guest of the Archbishop. He is in indifferent health and has been ordered to Rotorua. He left on Thursday for the north.

The annual football match between the Marist Old Boys and St. Patrick's College eventuated on Saturday, the 21st inst., and after a well contested game resulted in a win for the College by 10 points to nil.

Tuesday last, the Feast of Our Lady of Mercy, being the special festival of the convent, Mass was celebrated in the chapel at seven o'clock by the Ven. Archdeacon Devoy. At the Mass Miss Connell sang in a finished manner 'To the angels.' Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament was held during the day, and the devotion was concluded by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament given by Rev. Father Holley.

Efforts are being made by the Catholics in Newtown to secure the services of a resident priest. A meeting of residents was held in the schoolroom on Wednesday last, and it was decided to form a deputation to the Ven. Archdeacon Devoy on the following evening. I hear that the Ven. Archdeacon has promised to favorably consider the request, and accordingly our Newtown brethren will have supplied a long-felt want.

The first of the annual socials, which the Marist Brothers' Old Boys have decided to hold, took place in the Druids' Hall on Wednesday evening last, and proved one of the brilliant successes of the season. Among those present were the Ven. Archdeacon Devoy, Rev. Fathers O'Shea, Moloney, and Goggan. An apology for unavoidable absence was received from Sir Joseph Ward. The arrangements were in the hands of an energetic committee, of which Mr. R. A. Keenan proved a highly capable secretary. The Old Boys are much indebted to the St. Mary's Convent ex-pupils who kindly arranged for and looked after the refreshments.

Mr. John Kays, J.P., who has been closely connected with the Marist Brothers' Old Boys' Association ever since its foundation, is to leave for Melbourne at the end of the present month to enter business there. At the Old Boys' social he was presented with an address, illuminated by Mr. H. McCordell, and framed by Messrs M'Gregor, Wright, and Co. The Rev. Father O'Shea, president of the Association, in making the presentation, referred in a happy and appropriate speech to the energy Mr. Kays had always displayed in matters Catholic, and wished him every success in his new sphere. Mr. Kays feelingly responded.

On Monday last Mr. Kays was presented with an illuminated address, accompanied by a gold mounted walking stick and a case of pipes by his brother justices, thirty-three of whom signed the address. Mr. Haselden, the Stipendiary Magistrate, made the presentation, and in doing so mentioned the sterling qualities displayed by Mr. Kays in his official capacity as a Justice of the Peace. He trusted that the recipient would enjoy every prosperity in his new sphere of duty. Mr. Kays, in replying, spoke of the good feeling that had always existed between himself and his fellow justices, and heartily thanked them for their expressions of good will.

### WANGANUI.

(From our own correspondent.)

September 28.

The Jubilee devotions began here on Sunday morning, September 22. Just before 10.30, about 800 people had assembled in the school grounds to take part in the general procession, which passed out in front of the convent, and thence to the church, where all present joined in reciting the prayers appointed by our Holy Father, the Pope. Solemn High Mass was then sung by the Very Rev. Dean Kirk, the Very Rev. Father Lewis (Wellington) being deacon, and Rev. Father O'Sullivan subdeacon. The beautiful music of Mozart's Seventh Mass was rendered in a most creditable