

Hearty cheers were given for his Lordship, and for Fathers Regnault and O'Connell.

While in Waimate Bishop Grimes received numerous subscriptions towards the building of the Christchurch Cathedral.

## NEW ZEALAND: GENERAL

THE Caversham election resulted in the return of Mr. Sidey by a substantial majority.

The Wellington City Council has passed a by-law making it an offence, punishable by a fine not exceeding £5, to expectorate upon the footpaths.

The Christchurch *Press* states that under the new police regulations, Inspectors Pardy (Dunedin) and Pender (Wellington), both of whom are over 60 years of age, will be compulsorily retired at an early date.

In consequence of New Year's Day falling on our usual publishing day we will be obliged to go to press a day earlier than usual. Correspondents are, therefore, requested to forward contributions so as to reach this office on the morning of Monday the 30th.

THE Westinghouse brake is being fitted to all new cars turned out from Addington Workshops, and the old cars are also being fitted with the brakes as rapidly as possible. The Christchurch-Dunedin express will be the first complete train on this section to have the brake on engine and all carriages.

THE banquet tendered to Sir Joseph Ward by the townspeople of Gore on Tuesday night was very successful. About 70 persons were present, the number including a sprinkling of ladies. Besides the guest of the evening, Lady Ward, the Hon. H. Fieldwick, M.L.C., and Messrs. Gilfedder, Hanan, and McNab, M's.H.R., were present.

A LARGE number of Maoris (says a northern paper) have asked the Native Minister that they be allowed to go to South Africa with the Eighth Contingent. 'The British,' they virtually say, 'have made a mess of it; let us go and put things right.' The policy of the Imperial authorities, however, is against the Maoris taking part in the war, and the offers cannot be accepted.

THE volumes of statutes passed during the session of 1901 has just been issued by the Government Printing Office. The volume contains 74 general, 26 local and personal, and three private Acts. On the back, instead of the familiar 'Vic.,' is the inscription 'I. Edward VII.'

MESSRS. MILLS, DICK AND Co. have gained a reputation for their Otago, Southland, and South Canterbury Almanac and Directory which only accuracy and comprehensiveness could achieve. Like wine, this publication improves with age, and each year some new feature or special item of information is added which makes it still more welcome to the business man, to whom it is indispensable.

Among the contributors to the December number of the *Austral Light* are the Right Rev. Dr. Delaney who brings to a conclusion his articles on 'The Communion of Saints'; Rev. John Murphy, who writes entertainingly on 'The Orators of Ireland,' Rev. H. W. Cleary, whose article on 'Angels' will be read with interest, and Mr E. S. Wardell, who takes the public into his confidence with reference to the manufacture of coins. The remainder of the contents is up to the usual standard of our esteemed Catholic monthly.

THE Hon. T. Y. Duncan, Minister of Lands, was banqueted at Oamaru on Thursday night. Sir Joseph Ward, responding to the toast of 'The Ministry,' said, they had been told that the Government were against the farmers, but, as a matter of fact, the Government had given the farmers £238,000 annually by way of railway concessions alone. Then storage had been provided for farmers' produce at a cost of £10,000 a year; free grading of produce had been conceded, and £50,000 had been placed on the estimates for providing cold storage in South Africa. It was the duty of every man to check any attempt to set town against country; they must all unite in doing what was for the good of the Colony in a spirit of moderation. Speaking of the Federal tariff, he said the time would come when the Commonwealth would find it to their advantage to reciprocate with New Zealand in order to gain a share of our trade. Notwithstanding remissions the revenue was now £103,000 more than at the same period of last year, and the million and half loan had been a success. He had no fear as to the future. New Zealand might have troublous times before her, but there was no present sign of their coming.

## Held Over.

Just as we were about to go to press several reports came to hand which we were obliged to hold over until next week.

A list of subscriptions to the building fund of the new Dominican Convent, Oamaru, appears elsewhere in this issue...

A list of the winning numbers in the art union in aid of the Vincentian Fathers' Church, Malvern, Victoria, appears in this issue....

The Railway authorities notify that several alterations in, and additions to the ordinary time table will be made in connection with the New Year Holidays. Full particulars will be found in our advertising columns....

## Dominican Convent, Oamaru.

THE Right Rev. Dr. Grimes, Bishop of Christchurch, preached at Vespers in St. Patrick's Basilica, Oamaru, in connection with the dedication of the new Dominican Convent. His Lordship based his discourse on the text, 'Great shall be the glory of this last house more than of the first, saith the Lord of Hosts: and in this place I will give peace, saith the Lord of Hosts.'—(Aggeus II., 10). The house, said his Lordship, referred to in the text was the Temple which was afterwards so much glorified by the presence of the long-promised Christ. Referring to the convent, he said the nuns who had labored so lovingly and earnestly in the past would henceforth be able to labor ever so much more successfully. The Archbishop, in the morning, had spoken on the life of the white-robed Sisters of St. Dominic, and the Bishop addressed the large congregation on their work. Every parent knew that there was given in their children a supernatural life. It had been given to them the right and the duty to educate their children. The State also had something to do towards education. The State had, however, no right to wrest from the parents the duty they owed to God, and to force upon them a Godless education. By the work which the faithful Catholics were doing in this district they were showing that they were keeping the Divine ordinance. There was no word more frequently used to-day than education. It was often said that the imparting of intellectual and physical education was the whole of it. But they should listen to this definition—the unfolding and opening of the moral as well as the intellectual and physical attributes of men. Why were the mightiest thrones of Europe tottering and crumbling to the dust? It was because the world was becoming pagan. After several striking quotations from the speeches of eminent statesmen on the influence of irreligious education, his Lordship pictured the contrast of a religious and an irreligious training, and closed with a glowing description of the education that would in the future be inculcated by the Sisters of St. Dominic.

## Obituary.

MR. DAVID DEE, DUBLIN.

WE regret to record the death of Mr. David Dee, a well-known and highly esteemed merchant of Dublin, who passed away at his residence, Upper Erne street, on October 14, at the age of 64 years. The deceased had been in business in Dublin for over thirty years, during which time he made a large number of friends. Mr. Dee was a native of Thurles, and nephew of the late Rev. David Dee, Loughmore, and for a time Administrator of Moycarkey, in the Archdiocese of Cashel. The interment took place in the Glanevin Cemetery, and the very large funeral cortege which accompanied the remains to their last resting place, showed the esteem in which the deceased had been held by all classes and creeds. The late Mr. Dee was a brother of Mrs. E. Carroll, Mornington, and of the late Mrs. Purton, St. Bathans.—R.I.P.

MRS MULDOWNEY, SYDNEY.

The many friends of Mr. John Colehan, Waitati, will hear with deep regret of the death of his eldest daughter, Mrs. Walter Muldowney, who passed away at Sydney on December 19. To her sorrowing husband and parents we tender our sincerest sympathy in their bereavement. R.I.P.

## Angora Goats.

It is stated that the Angora goats which the Agriculture Department recently imported are doing well on Somes Island, Wellington Harbour, where they are undergoing quarantine. There is a considerable demand in New Zealand for the animals, but great difficulty is found in supplying it. The Turks have prohibited their export, and the Government of Cape Colony has placed a heavy export duty upon them. In addition to their value in keeping down blackberry, briars, and other similar pests, the goats give a plentiful supply of rich milk; and from each one between 4lb and 6lb of mohair, worth from 1s 4d to 2s per lb. can be out every year. At the present time there are about 4,000,000 Angora goats in Cape Colony.

Respecting these animals the South African correspondent of the *Dublin Freeman's Journal* writes:—

The Angoras are, perhaps, the most interesting stock, after the ostriches, on a South African farm. They are also very profitable, for they produce the beautiful silky mohair which is gradually finding its way more and more into home manufactures. Angora goats are not natives of South Africa; they were first introduced into the Cape from India, and mohair began to figure in the exports only in 1862. They have proved a great success. They multiply rapidly, live on the poorest pasturage, and require very little care. The Indian importations, however, were not the pure-bred goats, which are only to be found in Asia Minor; and a Mr. Evans visited Angora in 1856 and procured from the mountain districts of Teherkeas and Geredeh lots of the pure-bred, which, with others imported by private individuals and mercantile firms, were introduced into the Colony. So that the breed is now pure Angora, or nearly so. They are picturesque little animals, with their long, twisted horns and coats of flowing, silky mohair. The fleeces are considered just as valuable as the Turkey produce, which makes the rich material known as mohair plush, and many other materials. These Angoras are very hardy, and can live where sheep cannot. Their flesh also is fairly good eating. They have as many as four or five kids at a birth, and seldom less than two, and their skin is unequalled for the manufacture of leather.