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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

The Man that Spoils the Music.

Two or three weeks ago the Melbourne cables in our daily papers made reference to the fact that something of a 'breeze' had occurred to ruffle the serenity of the Melbourne Methodist Conference during the discussion on the education question, and it was intimated that one of the members had even been openly accused of 'Popery,' but the account of the incident was otherwise very meagre, the information supplied being only sufficient to raise curiosity and whet the appetite for more. Our contemporary the Tasmanian *Monitor*, just to hand, contains further particulars of the episode, and they certainly make very interesting reading. It appears that the Conference had set up a committee to report on the Scripture lessons proposal, and the committee asked the Conference to adopt a resolution expressing deep regret that 'the excellent selection of Scripture lessons prepared by Royal Commission had not yet been brought into use in the State schools of Victoria,' and intimating that the delay was 'owing mainly to the political influence of what is known as the Catholic vote,' and requesting the Conference to 'instruct the Scripture Education League Committee to take into consideration the steps necessary to be adopted to counteract that vote, so as to secure the object in view.' Then the fun began. The recommendation of the committee gave every promise of a thumping 'No-Popery' debate, and the brethren were laying themselves out for no end of a good time when a misguided man from Ballarat arose and spoiled everything by flinging aside humbug and hypocrisy, and throwing at the heads of his astonished brethren chunk after chunk of the plain and brutal truth. Mr. Kirton, M.L.A., the delegate referred to, began by strongly objecting to the recommendation, and in place of denouncing the 'sinister designs of Rome,' denounced instead the chuckle-headedness of the committee who had been guilty of such 'an egregious blunder.' Warming up to his subject he declared that 'the Bible had been kept out of the State schools of Victoria not by the Roman Catholics, but by the week-kneed Protestants, and primarily by that secret society known as the Loyal Orange Institution ('no, no'). Speaking advisedly, he repeated that the Bible had been kept out of the State schools of Victoria primarily by the Loyal Orange Institution ('no, no'). It was so. He was speaking his honest sentiments, and, having looked all round the question, he was satisfied that there was not so much to fear from the Roman Catholic Church. He had yet to learn that the Roman Catholic Church was an organised political force.' Mr. Kirton continued his remarks in the teeth of persistent interruption, and made a really courageous and manly speech. He gave his testimony as a public man that he 'had never yet been able to ascertain that the Roman Catholic Church was an organised political force in their midst.' He knew the opposite to be the fact. He had 'found that not seldom it was a divided vote, that he had found in different electorates.' He opposed the resolution because it would, in his opinion, only tend 'to widen the gulf between Protestants and Catholics.' A bigoted brother ejaculated a pious 'Thank God' at this statement, whereupon Mr. Kirton turned suddenly on him and flattened him com-

pletely out: 'He had expected more charity from a church-goer than was contained in that interjection. They should be Christians before being Orangemen or Protestants.'

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Altogether it was a very remarkable deliverance and the sensation it created can be more easily imagined than described. As soon as the brethren had recovered from the shock they proceeded of course to pour out their wrath on the outspoken Kirton, and one rev. gentleman, a Mr. Porteous, did not hesitate to describe him straight out as 'the avowed champion of Popery.' How he escaped being called 'a Jesuit' under the circumstances is the only thing that puzzles us. The Rev. Porteous was ultimately compelled to withdraw the violent expression he had used and he substituted therefor a plaintive statement as to 'the difficulty he had in trying to reconcile Mr. Kirton's confession of his position as a Methodist, Protestant and Orangeman with his attitude towards the committee's recommendation.' In that respect we can all sympathise with the injured Porteous. It is a big contract to try and reconcile Mr. Kirton's honest frankness with the customary crookedness of the loyal Orangeman. For ourselves we don't intend to make any such attempt but are content to remain quietly thankful that at least one honest Orangeman can be found and that the Methodist Conference and the Melbourne public got a little more light on the Orange Society and the 'Catholic vote' than they had probably ever had before.

The Bogey of an 'Organised' Catholic Vote.

To us the most noteworthy feature of Mr. Kirton's remarks was that they are so entirely sensible and so entirely true with regard to the state of things in this Colony as well as in his own. This bug-bear of an 'organised' Catholic vote is being continually resurrected, especially when a Parliamentary election is pending, by interested individuals to promote their own personal or party ends. Even as we write, a contemptible attempt is being made in Dunedin by a would-be politician to raise the same old bogey and secure his own political advancement by rousing the demon of bigotry and sectarianism in the next Parliamentary contest. In a sort of hysterical hotch-potch addressed to the *Otago Daily Times* this political 'reject' has the following:—'The Romish priesthood is the only religious organisation in the Colony which intrudes religion into politics, and they determine and have organised their religious block vote, and order the Catholic secular vote to be given to this or that person solely for the distinct furtherance of their religious objects.' So far as our readers are concerned it is quite unnecessary that we should contradict this utterly groundless and unwarranted assertion. There may be some, even many, outsiders who imagine that the Catholic Church is one gigantic political organisation, that at every election the candidates are, somehow and somewhere, all sorted, classified, and duly labelled; that somebody in some mysterious way conveys instructions to the rank and file of the Catholic body; and that thereupon the Catholic voters to a man vote according to the directions received. There may be, we say, outsiders who imagine that this is the case, but Catholics themselves know well that it is not so, and that no political organisation of any kind exists within the Church. There is a certain amount of cohesion, it is true—sometimes more sometimes less—about the Catholic vote, but that is due not to the iron hand of the priest

or bishop, but to the binding power which a common injustice and a common grievance inevitably exert. In any community if a law presses unfairly and unjustly upon any one class the natural effect is at once to make that class relatively solid and united, and to incline them, without organisation of any kind, to vote for the man who undertakes to get them redress. Thus, if a law were enacted for example—as is sometimes threatened—imposing a tax on bachelors, the immediate effect would be to weld the bachelors into one body and induce them, without any organisation of any kind, to vote for those candidates, and for those only, who were in favor of abolishing the objectionable tax. That is precisely the position in which Catholics are placed. They labor under a common disability, and have a common grievance, and their own self-interest and sense of justice and fair play are enough—without any priestly pressure or official organisation—to make them ready to vote for the man who promises them relief.

The Two Lord Roseberys.

Brief reference was made in our leading columns a week or two ago to the remarkable right-about-face made by Lord Rosebery on the Home Rule question and to his discreditable suggestion to the Liberal party that they also should become traitors to the promises and pledges made by the party in years gone by. In order to realise how completely Lord Rosebery has turned his political coat and gone back on his most cherished principles, it is only necessary to glance back at some of his former utterances in the days when he was truly Liberal. In June of 1886, for example, he delivered an election speech at Glasgow dealing almost exclusively with the Irish question, and in it he riddles through and through the very arguments which he now advances as his grounds for refusing Ireland Home Rule. The policy which he now advocates—viz., a combination of coercion and local government—he then derided as the 'brimstone-and-treacle' system. He reminded his audience of the passage in Dickens's *Nicholas Nickleby* in which Mrs. Squeers makes acknowledgment of the principles on which she administered brimstone and treacle to the young gentlemen of Dotheboys Hall—the cheap boarding-school over which she and Mr. Squeers presided. Mr. Squeers had weakly defended the treatment on the ground that it purified their blood. But Mrs. Squeers would not condescend to take refuge in any such excuse. 'Purify fiddlesticks,' she said; 'they have the brimstone and treacle partly because, if they had not something or other in the way of medicine they would always be ailing, and giving a world of trouble, and because it spoils their appetites, and comes cheaper than breakfast and dinner.' 'Gentlemen,' added Lord Rosebery, 'Lord Hartington's plan (of coercion and local government), I am sorry to say, resolves itself into the old system of brimstone and treacle.' In the same way he lashes with ridicule the 'Ulster' bogey, and humorously describes the Ulster Presbyterian opponents of Home Rule as holding the Shorter Catechism in one hand and a revolver in the other, and saying, 'By heavens, if you leave us alone with these miscreants, we will fire off the revolver in the name of the Shorter Catechism.' Finally, in reply to the argument that it would not be safe to trust the Irish with Home Rule, Lord Rosebery had the following: 'Though I hardly like to allude to it, there is always behind us the enormous Imperial power of the Empire to maintain the supremacy of the Imperial Parliament, and which, when it is necessary, no minister would ever shrink from exercising, I draw a very broad distinction between exercising the material power of the British Parliament to repress the just discontent of the Irish people, and, on the other hand, exercising the Imperial power to maintain the just supremacy of the authority of the British Crown.' That shows that Lord Rosebery had looked fairly in the face the alleged difficulty of trusting the Irish with Home Rule and fully answered it in his own mind; yet now he turns completely round on that very point and belies his own words. Very different from Lord Rosebery's turnings and twistings is the honest manly ring in the utterance of another eminent Scotch Liberal, Mr. Bryce, M.P., who in addressing his constituents recently in Aberdeen thus gave expression to the true Liberal sentiment: 'We are not done with the Irish question, and we shall not get rid of it by trying to forget or ignore it. It dogs us like a shadow. Sooner or later we must solve it if we are to remove one of the nearest dangers that threatens the Empire. People say that the Home Rule schemes of 1886 and 1893 are gone. So they are. But the main principles by which we sought to make Ireland a loyal and contented member of the United Kingdom remain, and I trust no Liberal will repudiate them. There is, indeed, no alliance between the Irish party and English Liberals, but we must guard and preserve that surviving fruit of Mr. Gladstone's policy, a sense in the minds of English Liberals that they are bound to strive to secure justice to the Irish people, for the old hostility of the two peoples was finally ended when one of the great British parties offered to Ireland a message of friendliness and peace.'

Wanted, A Presbyterian Liturgy.

So completely has mere preaching overshadowed every-

thing else in interest and importance in Protestant Church services that large numbers of the people have practically lost the real idea of 'worship,' and their attendance on and whole attitude towards the Sunday services are regulated by their like or dislike of the individual preacher concerned. Whereas Catholics go to church to assist at a distinct and definite act of worship, and rarely trouble their heads as to who is to be the preacher. Protestants are constantly flitting from church to church to hear this speaker or that, and the 'good' they get is measured by their appreciation or otherwise of the sermons they hear. There are signs, however, especially in Presbyterian circles, of a decided reaction against this essentially false idea of worship, and for some years past there has been evidence of a steady under-current of feeling in favor of a return to the use of a liturgy or forms, which shall bring home to the minds of the people the fact that true worship is something very different from merely listening to a sermon. The proposal for a liturgy has now been made plainly and in set terms in a series of articles on 'Presbyterian Worship' appearing in the *New York Evangelist* from the pen of Dr. Allen Macy Dulles. We quote a few interesting passages from a portion of one of the articles, which is reproduced in the last number of the *Presbyterian Outlook*. Dr. Dulles writes:— 'We are a preaching Church.' So be it! Let that continue to be our glory. But need we preach less if we worship more? And is there no danger of a voice saying: 'Thou hast made thy appeal unto preaching, and to preaching thou shalt go.' And if genius lag, if inspiration falter, if the ability to enchant and enchain audiences fail, if the pulpit lights create pulpit shadows, if the great preachers cause the lesser to be despised, what then? Then the great cause of Presbyterianism grows weak, prelacy thrives, and the work of the Reformation in securing deliverance for the Church from Papal domination is imperilled. And is there no danger of the decline of preaching? The candidates for our ministry, it is said, have fallen in number from 1600 to 900. And some think the decline is in quality as well as in quantity. How can it be otherwise when the Church sees fit to limit the use of mind within extremely narrow lines of orthodoxy? But whatever the cause of ministerial decline, shall not the Church seek the aid of forms, such as the Presbyterian Church has itself used in the past, in order to invite and encourage worship? Shall we be content to invite people to church merely to hear a preacher? 'Have you heard Dr. Blank?' 'Let us go to Dr. A's church to-day,' or shall we induce our people to say: 'O, come let us worship God,' expecting the response, 'I was glad when they said unto me, let us go up to the House of the Lord.' The idea of the sons of the Covenanters returning to a worship of forms is at first rather startling, but the above passage is both thoughtful and suggestive, and may be taken at least to some extent as a sign of the times. Our Presbyterian friends are still very far short of the true idea of sacrificial worship, but, if appearances are to be trusted, they are moving in the right direction.

MORE PUBLIC SERVICE STATISTICS.

CHRISTCHURCH.

Prisons Department (Lyttelton Gaol).—The following are the particulars regarding salary and religious belief of the officers of the Lyttelton Gaol: Governor £400 per year, chief warden £180 head warden £155, 3 warders £150 each, 2 do at £145 each, 5 do £135 each, 3 do £125 each, 1 do £120, matron £110, sub-matron £70. The total staff consists of 19, of whom 5 are Catholics, or about 1 in 4. In referring to the list we find with one exception that the Catholic officers have a length of service ranging from 12 to 30 years and that of the 10 officers appointed within the past 12 years only 1 is a Catholic. This is a branch of the public service which was not much sought after in the past when times were much more prosperous than they are now, consequently Catholics had no difficulty in obtaining employment.

Defence Department—Volunteer Force: Officer commanding district £300 per annum, officer commanding sub-district £100, adjutant £275, assistant do £200, drill instructor £200, 5 do 7s per day each, 2 clerks 10s per day each. All of these are non-Catholics. Permanent Militia (Lyttelton station): Sergeant-major 11s 6d per day, do 8s 6d, sergeant 8s, corporal 7s 6d, acting bombardier 8s 6d, 2 artificers 8s 6d per day each. All of these are non-Catholics. There are 7 gunners at 6s 6d per day each, of whom 4 are Catholics, 10 do at 6s, two of whom are Catholics, and 4 at 5s 6d, 3 of whom are Catholics. It will be noticed that in the lower grades where the pay is not sufficient to create competition Catholics are in excess of their proportion in the population. In the Torpedo Corps there are 8 men, of whom 4 are Catholics—viz., sergeant-major at 8s 6d per day, 2 sappers at 7s per day each, and a storeman at 10s per day.

If you intend to do a mean thing, wait till to-morrow; if you intend to do a noble thing, do it now.

Hancock's "BISMARCK" LAGER BEER.

NEW ZEALAND'S
NEW INDUSTRY.

Propaganda College.

THE Very Rev. Dr. Casartelli, writing some time ago on 'The Missionary Organisation of the Catholic Church,' gave the following interesting particulars regarding Propaganda College:—

Although there are many colleges for the foreign missions in Rome and elsewhere, their end is considerably different to that of the Urban College. Most of the former—such as the Seminary of Foreign Missions in the Rue du Bac, Paris, or that of Schent, near Brussels, or Mill Hill College, London—are for the training of European ecclesiastics to go out and work at the evangelisation of the heathen in distant lands. But the object of Propaganda is chiefly to educate young men who are themselves natives of pagan or heretical countries, and to train them thoroughly in the Catholic atmosphere of Rome, so that they may later on go back to their own native lands to become zealous and thoroughly well-trained apostles of their fellow-countrymen. True, there are several other colleges of a like nature in Rome, but they are destined for the natives of particular countries—Armenia, Syria, Greece, Illyria, etc.—whereas Propaganda College is absolutely international in a sense and to a degree that is probably unequalled in any part of the globe. To give an idea of this, it may be mentioned that a short time ago the following list was published of the nationality of the students in residence: 3 Danes, 6 Syrians, 2 Germans, 2 Maronites, 14 Greeks, 2 Englishmen, 3 Swiss, 3 Belgians, 2 Melchites (Greek), 3 Africans, 2 Bulgarians, 4 Illyrians, 3 Albanians, 8 Americans, 2 Dutchmen, 3 Scots, 7 Chaldeans, 1 Australian, 3 Nova Scotians, 3 Newfoundlanders.

On another occasion the prize-list contained the names of 2 Slavs, 7 Americans, 10 Irish, 2 East Indians, 1 Dutchman, 1 Swiss, 1 Chinaman, 3 Egyptians, 1 Spaniard, 1 Greek and 1 Illyrian. Another year it was stated that the College contained 130 students, speaking among them 32 different languages—a veritable Tower of Babel. One can well understand how that most wonderful of linguists, Cardinal Mezzofanti, must have enjoyed, as his biographers tell us he did, spending his leisure hours with the Propaganda students at their recreation, and conversing fluently with each of them in turn in his native language to the manifest amazement of all, 'who heard every man his own tongue wherein he was born—Parthians and Medes and Elamites, inhabitants of Mesopotamia, Judea, and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia, and Pamphilia, Egypt and the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Cretes and Arabians, besides many other strange tongues utterly unheard of in the days of St. Luke. Once a year the Pentecostal marvel seems renewed, when there is held—not on Whit Sunday, as one would naturally expect, but on the Epiphany—the 'Polyglot Academy,' at which the students of the manifold nationalities recite, each in his own language, special compositions in prose or verse, representing sometimes as many as 50 or 60 various tongues. In the same spirit the College Chapel is dedicated to the Magi, the first of the Gentiles to come to the Faith.

The direction and teaching of the College have passed through many vicissitudes. At its inception it was placed in the charge of three canons of the patriarchal basilicas of St. John Lateran, St. Peter's, and St. Mary Major's. Later on it passed into the hands of the Theatine Order, who in turn were succeeded by secular priests. In 1798 the College was closed by the French Republicans, and was not reopened till 1816, when it was once more confided to secular priests. From 1836 to 1848 it was conducted by the Jesuit Fathers, but the Revolution of the latter year drove the Society out of Rome, and from that date until the present it has again been in the hands of the secular clergy. It is governed by a rector, a vice-rector, spiritual director, procurator, and prefect of studies. The staff is divided into the faculties of Theology, with nine chairs; Philosophy (including mathematics and natural science), with six chairs; and Arts, embracing, besides the ordinary classical chairs, others of the Hebrew, Chaldean, Syriac, Arabic, Armenian, and Chinese languages, with 11 professors in all. The students of several other colleges, such as the Irish, Greek, North American, Ruthenian, Slavonic, Maronite, and Armenian, likewise attend the lectures of the Urban College. A very great educational work is, therefore, being done by this Propaganda College, not merely in teaching and forming excellent and learned ecclesiastics of every nationality and rite, but also in consolidating and binding together by the ties of comradeship a large body of the clergy in every part of the world and of both the Latin and the Eastern rites.

Irish Family Names.

IN a recent issue we gave a list of the counties of Ireland with the leading family names numerically in each county. The following further particulars regarding the same subject will be of interest:—The list gives an idea of the most common names in each county, but does not necessarily hold good for all Ireland. It contains the four commonest names in Ireland, which are Murphy, Smith, Kelly, and Walsh. Some of the families mentioned are restricted largely to the county in which they preponderate, such as Sullivan, Power, Doherty, Gallagher, and Quinn. Other names, such as O'Brien and O'Connor, which are of frequent recurrence in different parts of the county, are not first in any one county. Thus O'Brien takes a high position throughout all what was once Eoghanaocht, being second in Limerick, third in Tipperary and Waterford, fourth in Clare, sixth in Dublin, seventh in Wexford, in Wicklow, and in Cork. So, though Kelly is ahead in most counties, the returns show a slight plurality of persons bearing the name of Murphy for the whole of Ireland. Besides being first in three counties, the Murphys rank second in Kildare and in Cork, third in Kilkenny, in Wicklow and in Louth, fourth in Kerry, in Waterford, and in Dublin, sixth in

Monaghan and in Longford, eighth in Clare, ninth in Limerick, tenth in Galway, and take a high place in Mayo, in Fermanagh, and in Queen's County.

The Kellys are no less widely spread. Their principal habitation is in Connaught, but they rank high in South Leinster also. They lead in six counties and are second in Dublin and in Louth, third in Derry, in Tyrone, and in Mayo, fourth in Longford, in Wicklow, and in Sligo, sixth in Clare, seventh in Carlow, in Meath, and from ninth to fourteenth place in Wexford, in Waterford, in West Meath, in Monaghan, Kilkenny, Tipperary, Armagh, and in Queen's—25 out of the 32 counties in Ireland.

Smith is a name which ranks high in England and Scotland as well as in Ireland. But it must not be concluded that all, or even most of the Irish bearers of the name are descended from English and Scottish ancestors, though the preponderance of the name in Ulster might indicate that many of them are. However, most of them have a right (which they may assert when more knowledge of the Irish language gets abroad), to the ancient Irish name which is variously rendered McGowan, McGugh, etc. At any rate, they are a numerous race, being first in Antrim, second in Cavan, in Down, in Meath, fourth in Louth, fifth in Dublin, sixth in Armagh, seventh in Kildare, ninth in Fermanagh, in Monaghan, and in Longford, tenth in Westmeath.

The Irish-Norman family of Walsh is widely diffused throughout the south and west, being first in Mayo, second in Kilkenny and in Waterford, third in Wexford, sixth in Cork and in Limerick, seventh in Galway and in Sligo, eighth in King's and in Westmeath, tenth in Tipperary.

The other names on the list are more localised. Thus the Sullivans, whose large numbers in Cork and in Kerry make them one of the most numerous families in Ireland, rank fourth in Limerick, and drop to twelfth in Waterford. Lynches, who are first in Westmeath and third in Meath, are twelfth in Limerick and in Clare; the Ryans, or O'Mulryans, are first in their ancient territory in Limerick and in Tipperary, and are quite numerous in the neighboring counties, being fourth in Kilkenny, fifth in Waterford, seventh in Queen's County, and tenth in Kildare, in Carlow and in Clare; but the Powers, who are first in Waterford, are thirteenth the neighboring county of Kilkenny; the Doughertys, who are the most numerous family in Derry and second in Donegal, have comparatively few representatives elsewhere; and their allied clan, the Gallaghers, are first in Donegal, third in Sligo, and fifth in Tyrone; the Quinns, though first in Tyrone, fall to eighth in Longford and tenth in Monaghan and Armagh.

The Brennans are first in two widely separated counties—Kilkenny and Sligo—they are sixth in Carlow; the MacMahons are first in Clare and third in Monaghan, but these are two different clans of the same name. The old ecclesiastical family of the Duffys is found on the borders of Ulster and in the West, being first in Monaghan, sixth in Louth, in Westmeath, and in Mayo, eleventh in Meath, and twelfth in Donegal.

The modern Irish family of Thomson are evidently of Scottish ancestry. Besides ranking first in Down, they are fifth in Antrim and ninth in Fermanagh.

The Dunns are a mid-Leinster tribe. They are first in Queen's, second in King's, second in Kildare, eighth in Dublin, ninth in Kilkenny, eleventh in Meath and in Wicklow. The eastern portion of Leinster is still largely inhabited by the ancient sept of O'Byrne, who are first in Wicklow, second in Carlow, fourth in Kildare and in Wexford, and sixth in Kilkenny; while to the north the O'Reillys occupy even a wider territory than their ancestors owned, being first in Cavan, in Meath, and in Longford, third in Westmeath, eighth in Louth, and numerous in Leitrim and in Dublin.

The Chair of St. Peter.

TWICE a year (writes the Rome correspondent of the *New York Freeman's Journal*), in January and February, the people of Rome observe the Feast of the Chair of St. Peter, and this year additional interest is attached to the occasion owing to a discovery recently made by Professor Marucchi. He has shown that the first 'Seat of Peter'—that is, the place where he exercised his apostolic ministry in Rome—was in the ancient Church of St. Priscilla, and not at the catacombs of St. Agnes, as hitherto believed. The question is a very interesting one for those who have studied Christian archaeology, and the traditions concerning St. Peter's life and work in Rome; but for the general reader it can hardly be as interesting as an account of the chair in which St. Peter taught and which has for ages symbolised the infallible teaching of the Roman Church and Pontiff. A tradition dating back to the earliest times tells us that

St. Peter Used the Chair

which is contained in the great bronze frame, supported by the four most illustrious doctors of the Eastern and Western Churches, which rises in the apex at the extremity of St. Peter's. Ancient documents prove that the Chair of Peter used to be exposed for the veneration of the faithful in the century in which liberty was granted to the Christians of the Roman Empire. Everything goes to show that previous to that time it was kept concealed in the tomb of the Prince of the Apostles. In the succeeding centuries it was moved from one part to another of the great Basilica which Constantine erected to St. Peter on the very site of his crucifixion, until, in the seventeenth century, it found a permanent resting place in its present prominent position at the end of the majestic temple, lighted from above by the aureole of the Dove, who seems to brood upon it, crowned by a host of joyous bronze angels, lightly supported by St. Ambrose, St. Augustine, St. Athanasius, and St. Chrysostom, and raised above an altar dedicated to the Blessed Virgin and all the sainted Pontiffs.

For several centuries the Popes have ceased to use it on solemn feasts, principally, no doubt, because use would wear out or damage a relic too precious to be lost. But anybody who likes may still see a copy of it in the Vatican Sacristy. It is made of wood and richly decorated with ornaments in gold and ivory, executed with a perfection which enables us to date its origin to the best days of Roman art—that is, to the age of Augustus or Claudius.

The little ivory sculpture, which adorn it represent the labors of Hercules, and prove that it is of pagan origin. A glance serves to show that this chair was originally used for carrying a distinguished personage from one place to another.

St. Peter came to Rome in the reign of Claudius, and received hospitality from the Senator Pudens, whom he converted to Christianity. In the house of this Roman noble were held the first meetings of the faithful, and here doubtless

The Prince of the Apostles

was presented with the chair from which he taught them. The chair in those days was an emblem of authority, the chair of state being eminently so and reserved for the emperor and the great functionaries of the empire. Hence the pagan ornaments which decorate the chair now held in veneration throughout the whole world.

From the purely archaeological point of view it is interesting to find a chair made of wood which has been preserved practically intact for over 18 centuries. Even the veneration due to precious relics can hardly be regarded as an adequate explanation of the phenomenon in the case of the Chair of St. Peter. All the chairs of other apostles have perished either by the hands or by the negligence of men, while that of the Roman Pontiff has been preserved in a providential way. During the four centuries between Alaric and Totila

The Eternal City was Sacked Four Times.

An unworthy heir of the Great Constantine put himself at the head of barbarian kings to destroy the Imperial City, and then bade adieu forever to the Eternal City, carrying with him an immense quantity of booty, ranging from precious Greek statues to the bronze titles of the Pantheon. In the eleventh century the Emperor, Henry IV., had just ravaged the part of the city known as the Leonine Borough, which contained the Basilica of St. Peter, when the army of Robert Guiscard, which came to expel him, wrought even greater havoc. The sack of Rome by the Lutheran hosts under the Constable of Bourbon destroyed an immense number of religious treasures which had escaped preceding invaders. During these disastrous epochs Rome saw her sacred treasures pillaged, her sacred relics scattered to the winds, her columns of granite lying broken in the dust—and yet the fragile seat in which St. Peter taught the infallible truths of the Catholic Church has come down to us through all the ages to represent Catholic truth.

Before the time of Alexander VII., who transported the chair to its present position, it was venerated in the chapel which is now used as the baptistry of St. Peter's. Previous to this it had been in the Chapel of Relics in the old sacristy; and there are documents to show that Pope Adrian I., in the eighth century, had it placed in the chapel dedicated to his patron St. Adrian. In early centuries

The Pope Always Sat in the Chair of Peter

during the solemn services celebrated on the Feast of the Chair in January and February. Peter Manuilis, in the thirteenth century, relates having read in an earlier author how the Chair of Peter had been respected during a fire in the Basilica. From chronicles belonging to the eighth and ninth centuries we learn that a newly-elected Pope was first conducted to the Lateran Basilica, where he occupied the Pontifical throne, and that on the following Sunday he proceeded to the Vatican Basilica robed in the Papal mantle and accompanied by sacred chants, and that there he took his place on 'the Apostolic and Most Holy Chair of Peter.' In still earlier times the neophytes, robed in their white baptismal robes used to assemble before the chair to venerate it and the Prince of the Apostles. In short, we have authentic documents referring to the chair, dating from the fourth century down to our own time.

It would be a mistake to suppose that the custom of attaching importance to a chair as an emblem of authority is confined to the Chair of St. Peter. From the very beginning of Christianity the bishops occupied special seats as a mark of honor and a token of authority. At their death their chairs were sometimes placed in their tombs. The early Christians entertained the highest respect for the chairs of the Apostles, which were carefully preserved by them. In the second century Tertullian wrote: 'Go through the Apostolic churches in which the very chairs of the Apostles preside in their place, and where their authentic epistles are read aloud.' Eusebius tells us that in his time the Chair of St. James the Less was still to be seen in Jerusalem, and had been preserved by the Christians through all the disasters which overwhelmed the Holy City. We know also that the Church of Alexandria preserved for long ages the chair of its first bishop, St. Mark. The Church of Rome naturally was very anxious to retain intact the Chair of the Prince of the Apostles, and in the catacombs they had a safe hiding place during the ages of persecution for this and other precious relics.

Faith is the key that unlocks the cabinet of God's treasures; the King's messenger from the celestial world, to bring all the supplies we need out of the fulness that there is in Christ.

Purity and simplicity are the two wings with which man soars above the earth and all temporary nature. Simplicity is in the intention, purity in the affection; simplicity turns to God: purity unites with and enjoys Him. If thou hast simplicity and purity thou wouldst be able to comprehend all things without error, and behold them without danger. The pure heart safely pervades not only Heaven but hell.

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON.

(From our own correspondent.)

March 29.

Rev. Father Ainsworth returned to town on Monday night His collecting tour up to the present time has been most successful.

The doll-dressing and cushion competitions in connection with the ex-pupils stall at the coming bazaar were decided at St. Mary's Convent on Wednesday afternoon. Quite a large number of entries were received, and the competitions were very keenly contested. In the cushion competition Miss Stafford was awarded first prize and Miss McDonald second. In the doll-dressing competition Miss Reston carried off the first prize and Miss Rose the second. A separate prize was given for the neatest-dressed doll from the convent pupils, and was won by Miss Eileen Ward.

The Sisters of Mercy and the staff of St. Joseph's Orphanage presented Mr L. W. Loveday, late secretary of the Charitable Aid Board, with a dressing-case on Tuesday last. His many acts of kindness during his term of office, which extended over a period of seven years, have been greatly appreciated by the Sisters.

Feeling reference to the death of Trooper A. Devine in South Africa was made at the meeting of the City Council here on Monday evening. While moving a motion that a vote of condolence be placed on the minutes of the Council and a copy sent to Councillor and Mrs. Devine, his Worship the Mayor said 'He went out to fight the battles of the Empire, that is, your battles and mine, and the least we can do is to pass some slight token of respect to his memory, and of our recognition of the loss his parents have sustained.'

The interior of the Skating Rink has undergone a change during the last week, and everything is in a forward state for the opening of the Empire Bazaar on Easter Monday night. The stage has been enlarged for the production of the operas 'Les Cloches de Corneville' and the 'Pirates of Penzance.' The first-named will be given at the opening and the three following nights, and the latter will be produced on the following Monday. Three nights are set apart as national nights. The appearance of such well-known artists as Misses Sheen, Birch, White, Hyde, and others is looked forward to with interest, and crowded houses are confidently anticipated. Sir Joseph Ward will perform the opening ceremony at 7 p.m. on Monday next.

At the Church of the Sacred Heart on Palm Sunday a Missa Cantata was sung by Rev. Father Holley. The Passion was sung by Rev. Fathers Holley, Hills, and Moloney. On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday evenings the Office of Tenebrae was sung by the priests, assisted by the Marist Brothers and Mr. Loughnan. On Thursday morning High Mass was celebrated at 10 o'clock by his Grace the Archbishop, Father Hills being deacon, and Father Moloney sub-deacon. A sermon on the Blessed Eucharist was preached in the evening by the Ven. Archdeacon Devoy. On Good Friday morning his Grace the Archbishop was the celebrant of the Mass, and delivered an eloquent discourse on the ceremony of the Adoration of the Cross. In the afternoon the Stations of the Cross were said by the Very Rev. Father Lewis, and in the evening Tenebrae was repeated, the sermon being preached on the Passion by Rev. Father Maples, of the Hutt. Mass was celebrated on Saturday morning by the Very Rev. Father Lewis. Father Herbert acted as master of ceremonies throughout the services.

The Office of Tenebrae was sung at St. Joseph's Church on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings. Father Mahoney preached on Wednesday evening. On Thursday morning Solemn High Mass was sung by Rev. Father Keogh, Father Hills being deacon and Father Taylor sub-deacon. After Mass a procession took place to the Altar of Repose. In the evening the Rev. Father Keogh preached on the Blessed Eucharist. On Good Friday morning the Mass of the Presanctified was celebrated at nine o'clock. Father Keogh was celebrant, Father O'Reilly deacon, and Father Taylor sub-deacon. The Passion was sung by Fathers Ainsworth, Mooney, and Hills. In the evening the sermon was preached by Father Ainsworth.

The decorations on the Altar of Repose at the Church of the Sacred Heart and St. Joseph's reflected great credit on the ladies who did the work. Miss M. Manaway was responsible for the former, and the Te Aro Altar Society for the latter.

PALMERSTON NORTH.

(From an occasional correspondent.)

March 22.

St. Patrick's Day was ushered in here with high winds and clouds of dust. This somewhat marred the pleasure of spectators and contestants at the first meeting of the Manawatu Amateur Athletic and Cycling Club's sports held in the afternoon, but they nevertheless proved a decided success. The meeting was well attended, and all were unanimous in voting the sports provided as most excellent.

In the evening a social was given in the Theatre Royal, and was a great success. The Rev. Father Tynous, who was most assiduous in promoting the enjoyment of all, and the energetic committee, are to be congratulated on the success attending their efforts. The Rev. Father Ainsworth, of Wellington, was also present, and favoured the audience with two vocal items, which were much appreciated and deservedly encored. The following were the items of the concert:—Overture, Mr. P. Tomb; 'Dear little shamrock,' Mr. V. Dallow; 'May morning,' Miss Scanlon;

The Irish emigrant, Rev. Father Ainsworth; 'Killarney,' Miss Barr; 'Off to Philadelphia,' Mr. P. Lomax; 'Minstrel boy,' Mr. V. Allow; violin solo. Mr. T. Ki'chen (encored); 'Simon the collarer,' Rev. Father Ainsworth; Irish hornpipe, Mr. John Marley; Miss M. Scanlon and Mr. P. Tomb played the accompaniments.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

March 31.

At the early Mass on Easter Sunday very large numbers approached the Holy Table. Pontifical High Mass was celebrated by his Lordship the Bishop at 11 o'clock. The Very Rev. Father Le Menant des Chesnais was assistant-priest, Rev. Fathers Galerne and McDonnell deacon and sub-deacon respectively of the Mass, and Very Rev. Dean Foley assistant in the sanctuary. The sermon was preached by the Bishop on the day's Gospel. The music was Beethoven's 'Mass in C.' Mr. H. H. Loughnan conducted and Miss Funston presided at the organ. In the evening his Lordship preached on the Resurrection. After the sermon Mr. E. McNamara sang the sacred solo 'Calvary.' There were crowded congregations during the day and evening. The church was very effectively decorated with ferns, palms, bannerettes, shields, etc. The adornment of the church and sanctuary was the work of Miss Rose White, who designed and provided most of the material. She was ably assisted by Miss Kearney and ladies of the Altar Society, Mr. F. Geohegan supervising.

The ceremonies of Holy Week were commenced on Wednesday evening in the Pro-Cathedral with the Office of Tenebræ. A number of priests from North and South Canterbury assisted. On Holy Thursday morning after Mass, which was celebrated by his Lordship the Bishop, there was the usual procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the Altar of Repose. After Tenebræ in the evening an eloquent sermon on the Holy Eucharist was preached by Rev. Dr. Kennedy, of Ashburton. On Good Friday the Bishop officiated at the services, being assisted at the altar by the Very Rev. Dean O'Donnell and Rev. Father Richards. The Passion was chanted by Dean O'Donnell and Rev. Father Galerne. Adoration of the Cross was followed by the Mass of the Presanctified. There were Stations of the Cross in the afternoon, and after Tenebræ in the evening a sermon on the Passion of Our Lord was preached by the Rev. Father Price, of Hawarden. Pontifical High Mass was celebrated on Holy Saturday by his Lordship the Bishop. The Very Rev. Dean Foley and Rev. Father Price were deacons at the throne, Rev. Fathers Galerne and Cooney deacon and sub-deacon respectively of the Mass. The choir rendered excellent service in the solemn exercises of Holy Week. On the eve of Good Friday watchers before the tabernacle were provided during the night by the Hibernian Society, the Catholic Club, and sanctuary boys.

A conference of delegates representing the various Catholic Clubs and Literary Associations of the Colony is now being held in Christchurch.

It has been noticed that the local press association agent telegraphed throughout the Colony that the recent St. Patrick's Day celebrations were promoted and carried out by the Hibernian Society. This is incorrect, as, although the local branch of the H.A.C.B. Society rendered valuable assistance the celebrations were promoted by the St. Vincent de Paul Society, and carried out by a representative committee of citizens.

Holy Week services were conducted at St. Mary's, Manchester street, and well attended. Solemn High Mass was celebrated on Easter Sunday by the Rev. Father Marnane who also preached on the Gospel of the day. The music was Gounod's 'Messe Solennelle,' the choir being assisted by an efficient orchestra. Mr. W. H. Corrigan conducted and Miss Katie Young presided at the organ. At Vespers the Rev. Father Gallais preached on the Resurrection.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND.

(From our own correspondent.)

March 27.

The latest accounts from Father Kehoe, of Parnell, from Sydney, are that his health is improving.

The pupils of St. Leo's Academy, Devonport, are actively engaged in rehearsing a concert and drama, which will be given shortly.

Rev. Father Benedict, O.P., is back in town again. He has put in a very busy 12 months giving missions throughout the province.

The tariff for the hire of St. Benedict's Hall has been reduced by Rev. Father Gillan and his committee. It is a fine building, and it is to be hoped that the reductions will be the means of increased revenue.

It is somewhat remarkable that his Lordship the Bishop said first Mass in St. Patrick's for the first time last Sunday since he was curate there over 15 years ago.

Rev. Father Costello has written to me from St. Vincent's Hospital, Melbourne, where he expects to remain for treatment during the next month. He expresses his gratitude to the good Sisters of the institution for the great care and attention bestowed upon him.

On Palm Sunday his Lordship the Bishop attended the whole day at St. Patrick's, where he celebrated first Mass and blessed the palms. The last Mass was celebrated by Rev. Father Patterson, and the Bishop, from the pulpit, explained the Passion, while the celebrant was reading it at the altar. After Vespers his Lordship referred to the St. Patrick's Day celebration, and said how pleased he was with the manner in which the proceedings were carried out, and he heartily thanked the members of the Hiber-

nian Society and all those who worked so well to make it the great success it undoubtedly was. His Lordship then detailed the ceremonies of Holy Week, and explained their meaning.

GISBORNE.

(From a correspondent.)

March 19.

On the 6th, 7th, 8th, and 10th February a fancy fair was held in the Theatre Royal, Gisborne, in aid of the funds of St. Mary's Church. A strong committee of the ladies of the parish had charge of the fair, and its success was due to the enthusiasm and harmony with which they worked. The theatre was crowded each evening (sometimes inconveniently so), and the ladies were kept very busy in their work of relieving the audience of their surplus cash. The committee handed over to the church fund, as the result of the fair, the sum of £405.

On March 15 the annual sports in honor of St. Patrick were held in the Gisborne Park, and passed off most successfully. The weather was exceptionally fine, and large crowds attended. The sports were carried out by a committee composed of all classes in the community, with the Rev. Father Mulvihill as president, Messrs. J. H. Martin and Williams joint secretaries, and Mr. W. O'Connor vice-president. One of the most popular events during the day was the hospital fund race, for which there were 206 entries. The finish was very exciting, Mr. Elliot, manager of Dalgety and Co., being the winner. The sum of £75 was distributed in prizes. The theatre in the evening was crowded for the social. The committee, with Mrs. Hayward as president and Miss McCabe as secretary, provided an excellent supper and made things comfortable for all.

On St. Patrick's night a branch of the H.A.C.B.S. was opened in Gisborne. Mr. William Kane, district secretary, attended as delegate to open the branch. Over 25 were initiated, and many more would have joined but the time for preparation being short proper notice could not be given. There is every prospect of a strong branch being established here. The following officers were elected: Bro. H. Mulvihill, president; Bro. Thos. Walls, vice-president; Bro. E. Williams, secretary; Bro. Thos. Hassinan, treasurer; Bros. Martin, McCorville, and O'Meara, trustees; Bro. T. Hackett, warden; Bro. J. Devitt, guardian; Bros. T. Walls and G. Reid, sick visitors.

A 'Dug-out' Canoe.

ANOTHER evidence of the habits of the early colonists of Ireland was afforded by the discovery of a large 'dug-out' canoe in a bog about eight miles from Tuam, in County Galway recently. This interesting find (says the *Freeman's Journal*) was purchased by the Royal Irish Academy, and has reached the Dublin Museum. It is an unusually fine specimen, measuring 52ft long by 4ft wide at the prow end. It has been hollowed out of a single oak tree. This gives some idea of the size of the oaks which grew in Ireland in former times. The condition of this canoe is very good, and the construction is ingenious. A strengthening piece left in the solid runs from bow to stern on the inside. There are five small holes on each side to attach the paddles to. The moving of this interesting antiquity has been one of great difficulty on account of its great weight and length. It had to be conveyed across the fields to the road, and thence some six miles to Milltown Station, where it was placed on four railway trucks for carriage to Dublin. It is impossible to place a date on this boat, but judging from its construction and the size of the tree from which it was hollowed, it must be of very great antiquity. It will be necessary to keep this canoe for some months in a dry place before it can be placed in the museum and shown to visitors.

There has been a canoe of this description in the museum for a long time, and, until the discovery of the present one, it was the largest that had ever been found. It was 43 feet long, and it may be interesting to note the expedient to which its finders resorted to have it conveyed to Dublin. The people who found it were put into communication with the Royal Irish Academy, and, this body being anxious to have the specimen exhibited in the museum as soon as possible, telegraphed to have it sent on by rail at once. The people down the country had it cut transversely, packed carefully, and sent on by train to Dublin. It was one of the old war canoes used by the inhabitants of the 'crannoga' or lake dwellings, and that it was a formidable piece of naval equipment for the remote time may be gathered from the fact that it was capable of accommodating 35 fighting men and 20 rowers. Provision was made for paddles at both ends of the boat, and the fighting body occupied the centre, while there was a look-out man at each end. The existing of the receptacles for paddles at the ends of the boat point to the fact that the canoe must have been used as a war vessel; but it is probable that it was also used as a means of communication with the surrounding country. The 'crannoga,' or lake dwellings, were erected on stockades in the lakes, and, although they were sometimes approached by causeways, access to them was generally secured by the aid of boats of the description of those now in the Dublin Museum.

One of the hardest weeds to uproot is selfishness. Nothing can do this but 'the expulsive power of a new affliction.'

A man without some sort of religion is at best a poor reprobate, the football of destiny, with no tie linking him to infinity and the wondrous eternity that is begun with him; but a woman without it is even worse—a flame without heat, a rainbow without color, a flower without perfume.

Archbishop Kelly on Irish Affairs.

SPEAKING at the St. Patrick's Day banquet in Sydney, his Grace Archbishop Kelly said he would like to renew his pledge to labor for the prosperity of Australia—directly as an ecclesiastic, and indirectly in every other lawful way. He did not, nor could not, nor should he, forget Ireland. If Ireland were great and glorious and free, one might hail her with nobler and loftier brow; but could they love her more tenderly and dearly than now? If those who had in their hands the destinies of Ireland would take advice from their friends in Australia, there would be an Irish Administration in Dublin Castle and Irish members in the Cabinet at Westminster. People said they were unruly. He knew they were not. For six years he had travelled through Ireland as a missionary priest, and no one could know the people so well as the Catholic priests, because their ministerial duties, inspired by charity, brought them into the very secrets of the hearts of the people, and the people confided to them not only their temporal but their spiritual interests. There was no distinction between the Irish priesthood and the Irish people. The priests were of the people, they were for the people, and they had no existence but for the people.

SIR REDVERS BULLER IN IRELAND.

He would confirm this testimony by the evidence of a gallant compeer of General Finn—he alluded to Sir Redvers Buller. This General was brought to Ireland on the plea that the police were not sufficient, and he went there to rule by martial law. But he came to know the people, and before long he refused to send the soldiers to carry out the decisions of magistrates who themselves were landlords. He (the Archbishop) was not quite free from suspicion that he might be doing an imprudent thing, but he wished to give the authority for his statement. He knew Sir Andrew Read—knew him to be an honorable man and one who had raised the Irish police force to a state of proficiency—and he might be excused for repeating what Sir Andrew had said to him in Rome—that he never took part in any eviction in which right was not on the side of the tenant. He had stated these things on the steps of a throne second to none in the world—on the steps of the Papal throne—and when the Home Rule Bill was thrown out and the Local Government Bill emasculated, the Holy Father had said that, no matter what Salisbury might say, justice should go before policy.

IF IRELAND WERE FREE.

Let them trust that the influence of Australia would be felt at home—that there would be an Ireland for Irishmen, just as an Australia for Australians, and then there would be not only one Wolseley and one Roberts, but hundreds of them; not only one Russell, but hundreds; and instead of wasting their good qualities in working at something worse than nothing, they would conspire to render human life as happy and blessed as it could be in this vale of tears. Ireland thirsted for liberty. Let England give her copious draughts. Up to the present Ireland had been on next to no allowance. Why should she be governed by a system which recognised the subjection and humiliation of the Irish? These things would come to an end. England had maintained block-houses all over Ireland, and because one-tenth of Ireland was quiet, England said: 'See the effect of our admirable rule.' They were told that 'no Irish need apply'; in other words, England said: 'We need men of University training,' and then barred the doors of the Universities to Ireland, or, rather, would not allow Irishmen in except on a ticket which no Irishman would ever accept. Catholics must never forget their religion. They should consider that loyalty to God was the highest form of loyalty. Never would that flag go down. England compelled Ireland to go to her Parliaments. Could they, then, complain that the Irish were angry there? He was once asked what he thought of the conduct of the Irish members. His answer was that he wished they would respect themselves, but he thought their conduct was good enough for those who provoke them to it. Justice, he proceeded, was justice, and if they had a press in Ireland that would show the cause of Ireland to the world—if they were not misrepresented by a press already retained on the other side—the English methods of ruling would very soon come to an end. Let them ask for a simple primary measure of justice, and English statesmen would say in private that their claim was unanswerable, but they would say in the next breath that they would not get it. Please God, this would not last for ever.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

They might hope that they might have an Irish administration, sitting in Dublin Castle, and that they would have Irish members in the British Cabinet—and, to put it more practically, they might have John Dillon and John Redmond, and men of that kind invited by his Majesty King Edward VII. to bring peace and prosperity to ill-governed, martyred Ireland. Let them not keep Ireland in that second-rate position as a footstool to Great Britain, and they would find that the clouds of misunderstanding would disappear, and the sunshine of truth and justice would be experienced all over the realms of the United Kingdom and Ireland would willingly forget the past.

Catholics and the Bible.

'The Catholic Church is made up of two simple elements—the priest and the people,' so said the Rev. John E. Gunn, S.M., at Atlanta, Ga., recently. 'Now the priest is bound under pain of mortal sin to read his breviary once every day. It takes him at least an hour; often an hour and a half to do this. The breviary is taken almost exclusively from the Scriptures, and so arranged

that every day a portion of the Old and a portion of the New Testament must be read, and the whole Bible is read at least once a year by every priest in the Catholic Church. The other element in the Catholic Church is the layman. Now every Catholic who has attained the use of reason is bound to hear Mass on Sunday. At that Mass portions of the Epistles and Gospels are read in such a way that at least the New Testament is read once a year by every Catholic who fulfils his duty of coming to Mass on Sunday. The Catholic priest is bound under pain of mortal sin to read portions of the Old and New Testament every day. The Catholic layman is bound under the same penalty to read or hear read the Bible on Sunday—the two make up the Catholic Church. The Catholic Church does not forbid, but commands, her children to use the Bible. I do not speak of private readings—frequent meditations of the Bible. I give you the law of the Church, which ought to be sufficient to show you how mistaken are those who say we do not use the Bible.'

What is a Miracle.

IN regard to the discussion of miracles which frequently runs its course in a way that is not always clear, the words of the Rev. Father Gerard, S.J., on this subject, may serve to keep all in the right path if they be remembered.

A miracle, he says, is an occurrence due to a power beyond the forces of nature and for which the laws of nature cannot account.

Thus the laws of nature cannot account for the restoration of a dead man to life. Supposing this to occur, it must be a miracle.

The possibility of miracles is vehemently denied by infidel philosophers, on the ground that there is no such preternatural power as is required to work them.

But the study of nature itself demonstrates the existence of a power beyond nature and its exercise. As we have seen, the first impulse given to the forces of nature must have been a miracle, being nowise in accordance with the laws of nature and beyond the power of her forces. So, too, the first beginning of life. If nature can get life only from a living parent; the first appearance of life was miraculous.

There must, therefore, exist a power capable of doing what nature cannot do, and as it has certainly once acted, there is no impossibility that it should act again.

The question of miracles resolves itself, therefore, into one of the evidence on which they rest. If we have sufficient evidence that one has been worked, we cannot refuse to admit it on the priori ground that it is impossible.

Reasons for Conversion.

SEVERAL particulars have been printed of late as to the means by which various converts have been induced to join the true fold. Personal examples have induced some, historical study others. But one of the most curious reasons assigned is a persistent desire to keep out of the Church.

A graduate of Oxford, England, was, some 15 years ago, most eager to prevent his wife from going in that direction. To that end he purchased her a copy of Littledale's *Plain Reasons Against Joining the Church of Rome*. He studied the little work with the intention of being able to elucidate more clearly to his wife the errors of Rome. But the natural result occurred and the weakness of Littledale's arguments, or rather the inaccuracy of his statements, soon convinced the Oxonian of the errors contained in the side which he was trying to bolster up. A few days after his good lady's reception, he was received himself into the Catholic Church. But the lady was received by a prelate of the Church and the Oxford honor-man by the chaplain of a London poorhouse. A gentleman hearing of this remarked that he had often heard of the Church bringing people to the poorhouse, but never before of the poorhouse bringing people to the Church.

Famous Churches.

THE six largest churches in the world are reputed to be St. Peter's, at Rome; St. Paul's, London; the Cathedral, Antwerp; Santa Sofia, Constantinople; Notre Dame, Paris; Cathedral, Buenos Ayres.

The Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem, in the Holy Land, is the citadel of the Catholic faith in those parts. It contains many precious relics, and is built upon the spot where our Lord was buried.

The Cathedral of Buenos Ayres, Argentina, was founded in 1580 and rebuilt in 1852. Dimensions 370 x 250 feet, area 4500 square yards, seating capacity 18,000 persons. It is one of the six largest churches in the world.

The Cathedral of Chihuahua, Mexico, an edifice of great architectural beauty, is reputed to have cost £200,000, which was raised by a special tax levied upon the product of the famous Santa Eulalia silver mines located 15 miles south of the city.

St. Vibiana's Cathedral at Los Angeles is probably the only church in the United States to have enshrined above its sanctuary the remains of its patron, St. Vibiana, which were brought from Europe many years ago and encoined above the high altar.

The Cathedral in the City of Mexico is 426 feet long and 203 feet wide; has two naves, three aisles, 20 side chapels, and a huge marble altar. The bare walls alone cost £400,000, and when we consider the value of the interior adornments, the statues, and paintings, the total cost becomes almost fabulous.

INTERCOLONIAL.

Mr. Donald Mackintosh, who has just been re-elected M.L.A. for Jambooya (Q.), has received many congratulations on his victory. As we have had occasion to remark before, the hon. member is of the Highland clan of Mackintoshes which clung to the old Faith during all the persecutions of the 'Reformation' and post-'Reformation' times, and he is one of the sturdiest adherents of the Church in Australia. Mr. Mackintosh had hardly returned thanks for his election when he left the Darling Downs for Sydney, to attend the entrance of his seventh son, Francis Aloysius, into the Lewisham novitiate of the Christian Brothers.

In reply to a speech made by the Archbishop of Melbourne at the national concert in the Melbourne Town Hall on St Patrick's night, his Excellency the Governor-General made a felicitous speech reminding his Grace that on his first arrival here the Archbishop had been one of the earliest to welcome himself and Lady Hopetoun. As to the union between Ireland and Scotland his Excellency remarked that his own idea of that was shown by the fact that he had married an Irishwoman. When he first went to Ireland as a young man, an Irishman he met there—he thought his name was Murphy—suggested that among the daughters of the Isle he might see one who would take his fancy. He did. In conclusion, he would say in strict confidence to any present who might still be free to choose that they could not do better than follow his example and marry an Irish girl. He could not wish them to thank Providence for any greater happiness than he and Lady Hopetoun had had during their 16 years of married life.

Referring to the discussion on the Catholic vote at the Methodist Conference, the Melbourne *Leader* of March 15, says:—If a little more consideration had been given to the matter it might have dawned upon the conference that the real obstacle to the adoption of the league's proposals is to be found in the hostility of public opinion, and that neither Catholic nor Orange feeling in the matter is the determining factor. The country has had experience in the past of denominational education, and does not wish to return to the system. It realises that if the State departs from the principle that its duty lies only with secular education, and that parents and the churches must accept the responsibility of religious teaching, the floodgates of sectarian animosity will be opened again. The acceptance of the league's scheme would embitter the existing grievance of the Roman Catholics, and if in alleviation of the injustice a separate grant were given to the Catholics as demanded, the foundations of the national system would soon be swept away.

In Melbourne, as in Sydney, the St. Patrick's Day celebration was uniquely successful. In the Southern City they had the customary procession—one of the oldest Melbourne's pageants, for to quote the *Argus*—In the early days of "The Settlement," when every second resident in the little community hailed from the Emerald Isle, once a year, on 'the seventeenth,' they carried their hearts back to Tipperary and Connemara as they followed the few primitive banners along the half-formed streets.' This year thousands turned out to see it parade the streets, and it was universally admitted one of the best that the Catholics of Victoria have organised to date. The luncheon, of course, was the great feature, more especially as a true Irish national note was sounded, as was the case in Sydney. Mr. M. Sheahan presided, and amongst others present were Senator O'Connor, Sir Malcolm M'Eacharn, M.H.R., the Premier (Mr. Peacock), the Premier of New South Wales (Mr. See), the Mayor of Melbourne (Sir Samuel Gillott), Mr. Fitzgerald, M.L.C., Mr. Murray, M.L.A., Mr. Beazley, M.L.A., Mr. P. J. O'Connor, M.L.A., Dean Phelan, the Rev. Dr. Rentoul, and Sir Bryan O'Loughlin. Apologies were received from a number of prominent gentlemen, including the Prime Minister (Mr. Barton), the Speaker of the House of Representatives (Mr. Holder), the Speaker of the Victorian Assembly (Mr. Mason), and the Victorian Minister for Lands (Mr. Duggan). At the concert given in the Town Hall in the evening Lord and Lady Hopetoun were present.

The celebration of St. Patrick's Day in Sydney was marked by greater enthusiasm, if possible, than on any former occasion. It was thought for a time that in consequence of the day not having been proclaimed a public holiday it would militate against the success of the celebration, but the fact that upwards of 10,000 persons were present at the sports in the Agricultural Show Grounds was evidence sufficient to show that under any circumstances the Irish men and Irish women of Sydney had determined to celebrate the national festival in becoming manner. The banquet which was held during the afternoon in the building on the grounds was remarkable for the number of public men present. His Grace the Coadjutor-Archbishop presided, having on his immediate right and left respectively the Federal Prime Minister (the Right Hon. E. Barton, P.G., K.C.) and the Federal Home Secretary (Sir Wm. Lyne). The State Ministry was represented by the Hon. E. W. O'Sullivan, Minister of Works; the Hon. W. P. Crick, Minister for Lands; and the Hon. T. Waddell, Treasurer. The Legislature and Municipal Government were also well in evidence in the persons of the Hon. Captain Charles, M.L.C.; the Hon. John Toohy, M.L.C.; the Hon. John Meagher, M.L.C.; the Hon. T. M. Slattery, M.L.C.; Mr Austin Chapman, M.L.A.; Mr Thomas Fitzpatrick, M.L.A.; Mr J. G. Carroll, M.L.A.; Mr P. E. Quinn, M.L.A.; Alderman R. D. Meagher, M.L.A.; Alderman A. J. Kelly, M.L.A.; Mr Eden George, M.L.A.; Mr Brinsley Hall, M.L.A.; the Mayor of Sydney (Alderman Thomas Hughes), the Town Clerk (Mr T. H. Nesbitt). Nearly all the Catholic clergy in and around the city attended. Stirring speeches were delivered by Archbishop Kelly, Alderman Meagher, Hon. E. Barton, Major Freehill, Hon. T. Waddell, Hon. E. W. O'Sullivan, Hon. W. P. Crick, Sir William Manning, and Brigadier-General Finn. In the evening there was a national concert given in the Town Hall, which was packed, hundreds being unable to gain admittance.

Friends at Court

GLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

- April 6, Sunday.—Low Sunday.
- " 7, Monday.—The Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (transferred from March 25).
- " 8, Tuesday.—St. Rupert, Bishop and Confessor.
- " 9, Wednesday.—St. Peter Damian, Bishop, Confessor, and Doctor.
- " 10, Thursday.—St. Thomas Aquinas, Confessor and Doctor.
- " 11, Friday.—St. Leo the Great, Pope, Confessor, and Doctor.
- " 12, Saturday.—St. Julius I., Pope and Confessor.

LOW SUNDAY.

The first Sunday after Easter is called Low Sunday because it emphasises the contrast between the great Easter solemnity and the Sunday which ends the octave. The name given to it in the Missal is 'Dominica in Albis,' because then the newly-baptised wore their white robes for the last time.

THE ANNUNCIATION.

In consequence of March 25 falling this year within Holy Week the feast of the Annunciation was transferred to April 7. The institution of this feast dates back to the first centuries of Christianity. St. Athanasius mentions it in one of his sermons. For a long time they commenced the civil year with the feast of the Annunciation. The custom of commencing the year on the first day of January was introduced in France in 1564, in Scotland in 1579, and in England in 1752.

ST. RUPERT, BISHOP AND CONFESSOR.

St. Rupert, a Frenchman illustrious for his noble birth, but still more so for his many virtues, was Bishop of Salzburg in Bavaria, the inhabitants of which country he had converted to the True Faith. He died about the beginning of the seventh century.

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS, BISHOP AND CONFESSOR.

St. Thomas Aquinas, the angel of the school, was born at Aquino, a town near Naples. His family was connected by marriage with the Hohenstaufen. His early education was entrusted to the care of the Benedictines of Monte Cassino. After completing his studies at the University of Naples, he entered the Dominican Order, and became the scholar of Albertus Magnus. He taught with universal admiration at Cologne, Paris, Bologna, Naples, and other places; he was equally famous as a preacher. He persistently refused any ecclesiastical dignity. Called by Gregory X. to assist at the Ecumenical Council of Lyons in 1274, he fell sick on the journey in the Cistercian monastery of Fossanova, before he had completed his fiftieth year. He was solemnly canonised by John XXII. in 1323, and ranked among the great Doctors of the Church by Pius V. in 1567. His most renowned work is the 'Summa Theologiae.' He composed many touching prayers, such as the Office of Corpus Christi, and hymns: 'Pange Lingua,' 'Sacris Solemnis,' 'Verbum Supernum,' 'Adoro Te Devote,' 'Lauda Sion Salvatorem.'

ST. LEO THE GREAT.

St. Leo I. was Pope from 440 to 461. On account of his eminent learning, sanctity, and great achievements is called the 'Great.' It was this great Pontiff who, by his confidence in God and noble and courageous conduct, in 452 saved Rome from being pillaged by the Huns under Attila, 'the Scourge of God,' and again, in 455, he saved the city from destruction by the awe which he inspired in the fierce Genseric, King of the Vandals. Rejecting the false Council of Ephesus, Leo, in 451, summoned the General Council of Chalcedon, over which he presided by his legates and in which his dogmatic Epistle was accepted as the expression of true Catholic faith. He strongly maintained Papal supremacy against arrogant and aspiring bishops, and was zealous everywhere for the interests of the faith and Church discipline.

ST. JULIUS I., POPE AND CONFESSOR.

Julius I. was Pope from 337 to 352, being the successor of Marcus. During the violent struggle with Arianism, Julius was the strenuous champion of the Nicene faith and the constant defender of St. Athanasius and other orthodox bishops oppressed by the heretics. The bishops, whom the Eusebians had unjustly deposed, were reinstated by Julius, by virtue of the prerogative of the Roman See. With the concurrence of the two emperors, Constantius and Constantius, he, in 343, summoned the great Council of Sardica.

We have to thank Messrs. Guy and Co, of Cork, for the October—December number of the *Journal* of the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society. This is one of the most interesting publications of the kind we receive, as its pages are always filled with reading matter of great interest, from a historical point of view, not alone to Corkmen but to Irishmen generally. Its articles are written in an impartial spirit, and men of all creeds contribute to its pages.

The man who has not learned to say 'No' will be a weak, if not a wretched, man as long as he lives.

The patient heart is a willow, the impatient heart a dry reed; when the storm of sorrow comes the reed breaks, but the willow yields and recovers.

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Alpha-Laval Cream Separators

A trial of Hand Cream Separators, lasting nearly a year, and conducted under the auspices of the Swedish Government Institute at Alnarp, has been recently concluded, 35 Separators having taken part, with results as undernoted.

At the 19th General Meeting of the Swedish Agricultural Association held at G-refle this year, the Prizes awarded for Separators were based on the trials conducted at the Government Agricultural Institute at Alnarp, as above mentioned, when the

HIGHEST PRIZE OF HONOR (GOLD MEDAL)

Was awarded to **ALPHA-LAVALS** only.

Silver and Bronze Medals were awarded to inferior Machines.

At the Hand Separator Trials held at Christiana (Norway), Buda-Pesth (Hungary), Warsaw (Russian Poland), and Alnarp (Sweden), during the present year, the **Alpha-Laval Separators** were alone awarded **Highest Score.**

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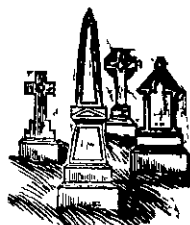
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Irish News.

ARMAGH.

The Dublin 'Freeman's Journal' has the following news item—The sudden bark of a dog has led to a somewhat serious farm fire at Cavanacaw, a remote district of County Armagh. The bark caused a cat to jump on to a table where it overturned a lamp. The burning oil set fire to several articles in the room and saturated the cat's fur. Maddened by pain the cat ran round the room, spreading the fire, and then it rushed to a stack-yard, where it set fire to several haystacks. The flames were not got under until considerable damage had been done. The farmer's son has been seriously burnt about the head and arms.

GORK.—Queenstown Cathedral.

The Most Rev. Dr. Browne, Bishop of Cloyne, addressing the congregation at the Cathedral, Queenstown, recently, made an important statement respecting the cost of the works that have been carried on in the Cathedral since his Lordship's accession to the See, and added that it was his intention to hold a great bazaar in Queenstown a year and a half hence, in the autumn of 1903, for the purpose of lessening the heavy debt on the building. Although £27,000 has been expended in beautifying the Cathedral and its surroundings during Dr. Browne's occupancy of the ancient See, yet the debt on the Cathedral has not been increased. That the Bishop made the completion of the Cathedral a favorite object during the past seven years is a well known fact, and scarcely a day passes that his Lordship does not receive congratulations from Catholics outside the Cloyne diocese on the completion of the work. Well-nigh everything that is best in architecture has been introduced into the church, and in its internally completed state it excites the admiration of visitors who come from long distances to see it.

DERRY.—Death of a Priest.

The death is reported of the Rev. Thomas J. Larkin, of Moneymore, County Derry, one of the oldest and most estimable priests in Ulster. For close on half a century Father Larkin earnestly discharged the duties of his high office, and in the course of that lengthy period his actions ever aimed at the accomplishment of that which was good and holy. Father Larkin was born in Ballinderry in 1829, and at an early age went to Armagh Seminary, where he distinguished himself by close and brilliant study. He subsequently attended Maynooth College, and in the year 1856 was ordained priest. Soon afterwards he was appointed dean and general manager of the Seminary at Armagh. During his stay there he was beloved by the students and citizens alike, and it was with feelings of regret that they learned of his departure from amongst them to take up his first curacy in Carrickmore. Father Larkin's next appointment was to Keady, and thence to Donaghmote, and later on to Moneymore. Here he remained until his death.

DONEGAL.—Longevity.

The air of the Innishowen seaboard must be of a first-class vitalizing quality. In the Irish papers the death is announced of Cornelius Doherty, Ballymacarter, Lower Mo-ville, at the extraordinary age of almost six score years—115. It is a remarkable age to attain to, but instances of persons living to very advanced years in Innishowen are not wholly uncommon.

DOWN.—Result of a Boycott.

It is said (writes a Belfast correspondent) that the Press boycott inflicted on Mr. T. W. Russell in the Down election is likely to have a

significant result. The Harmsworth family are contemplating a descent on Belfast, and the Presbyterian Assembly is going to consider the establishment of a paper giving Presbyterians the voice in the Press which the present organs deny them, since the said organs all turned Orange and pro-landlord in their tone. The Harmsworths are newspaper producers irrespective of politics. In London they own two Tory papers, and at least two professedly Liberal papers in the British provinces. A nondescript paper in Ireland would complete the circuit of possibilities for the exercise of their enterprise and comprehensive sympathies.

DUBLIN.

The Archbishop of Dublin, in his Lenten pastoral, writes:—For some years past attention has had to be called to the steadily-growing disregard of all moral restraint amongst those who are responsible for the management of places of relaxation and amusement in our city. The evil, though perhaps somewhat abated, gives little sign of coming to an end. It is not easy to suggest an effective remedy. Whether from cowardice or from demoralisation, the public opinion that could easily make an end of the mischief continues to be all but dumb. But the pastors of our Catholic people should never allow them to forget that it is the encouragement given to debasing performances, by those who flock to them as gratified spectators, that makes it possible to maintain such doings in our midst. Another evil, of comparatively recent development amongst us, is the telling of fortunes by means of palmistry and other foolish devices. Practised at first in a spirit of mere pleasantry, palmistry has come to be regarded in all seriousness, not of course, by the impostors whose trade it is, but by their dupes amongst both rich and poor, whose superstitious folly makes that trade a profitable one.

Sudden Death.

By the startling and painfully sudden death of the Very Rev. Philip Canon Carberry (says the 'Irish Catholic' of January 25), which occurred last night, in his residence at Dolphin's Barn, the archdiocese of Dublin has lost one of its most devoted and hard-working clergymen.

KERRY.—No Work for the Judge

There is no county in Ireland where the Irish League has a firmer footing than in Kerry, yet there seems to be an almost total absence of crime there. At the Tralee Quarter Sessions Judge Shaw was presented with a pair of white gloves as there was no criminal business for disposal. The following interesting conversation took place on the occasion. His Honor—It is extremely satisfactory that I have no Crown business in this county at all during these sessions—either at Killarney or Listowel or here. I don't know whether it is equally satisfactory to the members of the legal profession. Crown Solicitor—It is, sir, to me, anyhow, very satisfactory. As your honor has got gloves at Killarney, Listowel, and Tralee, I was suggesting to the Sheriff that he should give you a pair for the county-at-large.

LIMERICK.—Voluntary Sale.

The Mount Plummer estate, which has been in the Court for some years, has, it is announced, been offered to the occupying tenants for sale, with a view to the ultimate purchase thereof, under the provisions of the Land Purchase Act, at the rate of 18 years' purchase, of the small and hill tenants, and at the rate of 20 years to the holders of approved farms. The property is situated between Broadford and Ashford West, Limerick.

A Bequest.

By the will of the late Miss Cecelia Tully, of Boston, United States, St.

Mungret's College, Limerick, will benefit to the extent of £1000.

Ejectment Decrees.

At Rathkeale Quarter Sessions recently close on 40 ejectment decrees were obtained against tenants on the Ellis estate. His Honor Judge Adams, after hearing the evidence, in giving a decree for a half-year's rent, delivered the following judgment:—I wish to say that this is the most painful case I was ever called upon to dispose of. Here is a number of tenants coming into Court, apparently respectable men. What may happen in this case God only knows. It may be the first act in another drama. I would earnestly ask both parties to try to come to terms. On one side is the agent, a descendent of a princely line, the noble and honored Fitzgeralds; and on the other is the patriotic pastor of Abbeyleale, Father Casey. I hope a spirit of goodwill will prevail. This day's proceedings alone will cost from £250 to £300. I again appeal to both parties to come to fair terms, and I must say that the manner in which the tenants' cause was put forward by Mr. Leahy, as well as Mr. Blood-Smith for the landlord deserves credit.

MONAGHAN.—A Diocesan Work

The new episcopal residence which is being built in Monaghan for the Most Rev. Dr. Owens is now approaching completion, and will cost about £4000. Half of this sum is to be provided by the priests of the diocese, and the balance, it is expected, will be contributed by the laity.

TIPPERARY.—Objected to Serve

While the Grand Jury were being sworn at Clonmel Quarter Sessions, the name of Thomas E. Byrne was called. Mr. Byrne, a venerable-looking old gentleman, addressing the Judge, said he was not a British subject, he was an American citizen and did not wish to be sworn. He asked to be excused. His honor replied—Very well; we will excuse you. You can leave the box.

WATERFORD.

In accordance with the suggestion made at a meeting of the Waterford Corporation by Mr. Michael J. Wyse, two splendid trees were recently planted opposite the house on the Mall in Waterford in which the illustrious General Meagher was born. The Mayor said that it was a great pleasure to him to see General Meagher's memory perpetuated and to preside on an occasion like this, when they were assembled to pay even a small tribute to his priceless services.

WICKLOW.—Mining Industry.

A syndicate has commenced prospecting for copper ore in the East Cronbane mine, Ovoca, County Wicklow. This mine was worked many years ago, but under circumstances of little profit, owing to the expense of the undertaking, but new processes of extraction have since been devised, and it is thought that sufficient ore might now be extracted to remunerate the cost of working. Of course, much thus depends on the extent of the ore to be worked, and the prospecting operations now in progress in Cronbane are with a view to obtaining this information, which, if found satisfactory, may lead to the formation of a company. It is computed that if 2½ per cent. of copper is yielded the operations would be encouraged, but, of course, a large vein would be needed to justify operations on such a result. It is anticipated that about 2,200,000 tons of ore might be available for working, which would yield about 44,000 tons of metallic copper. A number of men are engaged working new shafts and repairing others, which would enable some knowledge to be acquired of the extent of the vein.

GENERAL

Lenten Pastorals.

The Lenten pastorals of the Archbishops and Bishops of Ireland (writes a Dublin correspondent) contain this year, as usual, words of grave counsel to priests and people, the result, we may be certain, of long and thoughtful meditation on the part of their Lordships who, always solicitous for the welfare of their flocks, are more so than ever, if possible, at this holy season of the year. His Eminence Cardinal Logue, after expressing his grateful thanks to Divine Providence for being able to testify that the evil of intemperance has very much decreased owing to the influence of temperance societies, energetically worked by some zealous priests, goes on to say that while we are no worse or even as bad as our neighbors, still the evil is sufficiently widespread to awaken the anxiety and fire the zeal of all who are interested in the welfare of the people. He draws a vivid picture of all that could be done to promote our national prosperity if the Catholics of Ireland would only bind themselves together, dispense with drink, and pay into a common fund the millions that are annually expended upon it. His Grace the Archbishop of Dublin, referring to the degrading vice, says it is the cause not only of many and most grievous temporal calamities, sickness, and sudden deaths, disgrace and beggary, but also of the ruin and everlasting damnation of souls. The other members of the Irish hierarchy all deal with the subject in an equally trenchant manner. The Most Rev. Dr. Browne, Bishop of Ferns, deals at length with this, undoubtedly the most prolific source of intemperance in Ireland. He says a number of zealous priests, struck by the prevalence of intemperance, and attributing it in great measure to our foolish social habits, have determined to make an effort to lessen this great evil. They intend during this Lent to ask their people to make a promise to give up the custom of giving or accepting treats in public houses.

Parliamentary Fune.

A substantial subscription to the Irish Parliamentary Fund is announced from Mr. W. J. Evelyn, Dorking, who has subscribed £100. Mr. Evelyn, it will be remembered, was formerly a Conservative member for Deptford, whose leanings to Ireland and the Irish Party caused him to lose his seat. In British politics Mr. Evelyn is still a Conservative, but he has abated none of his love for Ireland, notwithstanding what that attachment has cost him.

Recent Deaths.

Among the deaths reported in our latest Irish exchanges are the following—Dr. Robert Barty, Limerick; Mr. Henry McCloskey, Monaghan, at the age of 107 years; Alderman L. A. Ryan, Waterford.

Domestic Servants.

Strange as it may seem, the domestic servant question is becoming a serious one even in Ireland. An Irish exchange of February 8 says: At Abbeyfeale, County Limerick, on Tuesday, the season for hiring domestic and agricultural servants opened. Owing to emigration farmers were obliged to advance from £14 to £18 for ten months to retain the services of those whom they formerly employed for half those sums. Many farmers have been obliged to change their mode of farming from dairying to dry-stock keeping.

Should you be afflicted with chilblains, WITCH'S OIL will give you immediate relief. A certain cure.***

The efficacy of FUSSICURA in all Lung and Throat Complaints is undeniable. It 'touches the spot' every time.***

People

The 'N. Y. World Almanac' for 1902 gives the list of the 3546 millionaires in the United States. Of this number nearly 150 are Catholics.

Another Spanish Irishman (says 'Church Progress') has set foot in the New World. Senor Ignacio Yueno O'Donnell took charge of the Spanish consulate at New Orleans, La. The new consul is a Catholic.

Mr. T. P. O'Connor will publish shortly a new penny weekly under the title of 'T. P.'s Weekly.' Unlike 'M. A. P.', which is chiefly concerned with social news, the new journal will be a literary miscellany on popular lines. The critical article, entitled 'A book of the week,' which Mr. O'Connor contributed for many years to another journal, and which had a large circle of readers, will form a prominent feature of the new weekly.

The 'Catholic Citizen' printed a list recently of more than 100 millionaires of Irish blood in America, and commented thereon as follows: 'We print this list merely as evidence of the sociological fact that the Irish-American element in the United States is coming up in the financial world—that it is not to be thought of exclusively as a factor in the domain of labor, but it is also a factor in the domain of capital. We may further observe—not with any ostentation, however (for we think our wealthy Irish-Americans are not above the average in public spirit)—that this list may be submitted in the British House of Commons as an exhibit illustrating that under proper industrial conditions, equal laws, and good government, the Irish race would hold its own with any other element, in ability to get on in the world. The above-listed Irish-American millionaires could easily buy up all the arable land in Ireland at even twice its present value.'

Mr. Clement Scott, the celebrated Catholic dramatic critic, edits a newspaper called the 'Free Lance.' It has recently been added to the list of publications prohibited for sale in South Africa by order of the military authorities. Clement Scott served 20 years in the War Office. His eldest son, Captain Philip Scott, was through the siege of Ladysmith, and his youngest son, Eric Scott, was for two years in the Imperial Yeomanry. Mr. Scott communicated his grievances to the War Office, and received a reply that the matter has been referred to Lord Kitchener. Mr. Scott protests that he is a 'loyal subject'; but it is probable that the title of the publication had more to do with its censorship than a perusal of its contents, as Lord Roberts, has expressed his interest in a poem in the 'Free Lance' written by the veteran journalist himself.

Hon. Chas. Fitzpatrick, Minister of Justice for the Dominion of Canada, was born in Quebec on the 19th December, 1853. He was educated at St. Ann's College, and graduated as B.A. and B.C.L. at Laval University, where he carried off the Governor-General's medal in 1876. During the same year he was admitted to the Bar of the province. His career as an advocate has been brilliant in all the courts, civil and criminal. In 1887 he was president of the Quebec branch of the Irish National League. From 1890 to 1896 he represented the County of Quebec in the local Legislature, when he resigned and was returned to the House of Commons for the same constituency. He was appointed Solicitor-General in the Government of Sir Wilfrid Laurier at its formation, and has ever since been an active and prominent member of

the administration. Mrs. Fitzpatrick is a daughter of the late Hon. R. E. Caron, a distinguished judge, who also filled the office of Lieutenant-Governor of the province. The new Minister of Justice is a man of eminent ability. He is of fine presence and courteous manners. That he will reflect credit on his race and creed and discharge the important duties of his high office with ability goes without saying (says the Montreal 'True Witness'). It is particularly gratifying to see that Mr. Fitzpatrick has, at length, succeeded in wiping out the policy of ostracism against Irish Catholics in the province of Quebec that has been followed since 1867, the date of Canadian Confederation. At that time Hon. Thomas D'Arcy McGee, the most eloquent man in Canada, was crowded out. From that day till the present accession of Mr. Fitzpatrick, the Irish Catholics of this province, who had sent such men as Bernard Devlin, the present Mr. Justice Curran, Mr. M. J. F. Quinn, and others to the Dominion Parliament, have never been able to secure a position in the Federal Cabinet. To-day the barrier has been removed. We heartily congratulate the new Minister of Justice, and feel grateful to Sir Wilfrid Laurier for having had courage to put the right man in the right place.

Singular Antipathies.

The antipathies of the human mind are very extraordinary, and their effects are involuntary, irresistible, and unaccountable. Out of the almost innumerable cases of this affection of the nerves on record, we here subjoin a few of the most remarkable. Uladislau, King of Poland, used to become almost frantic if apples were put in his sight. Henry III of France could not stay in a room where there was a cat; yet this king was at the time so absurdly fond of dogs that he would often walk about his palace with a basket of young puppies dangling by a piece of ribbon from his neck. Scalliger could not look at velvet without a violent shaking of his whole body. Boyle used to fall into convulsions at hearing water running from a tap. M. la Motte de Vayer though he could not bear music, yet was delighted to listen to the roar of thunder. James I. could not bear the sight of a drawn sword, and Sir Knowles Digby relates that his Majesty shook so violently in knighting him that he would have run the point of the sword into the eye of the knight-elect had not the Duke of Buckingham guided it across his shoulder.

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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 somebody'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, we want you to examine the latest Sterling chain, chainless, and free wheels. Built like a watch. New shipment just landed. Tomorrow, Bassett, and Co.—***

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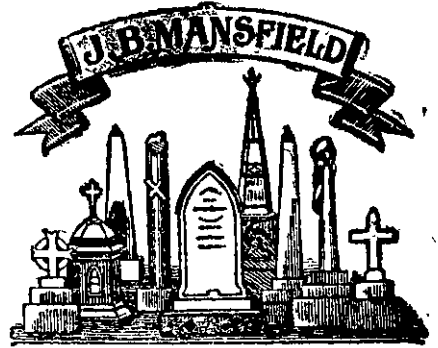
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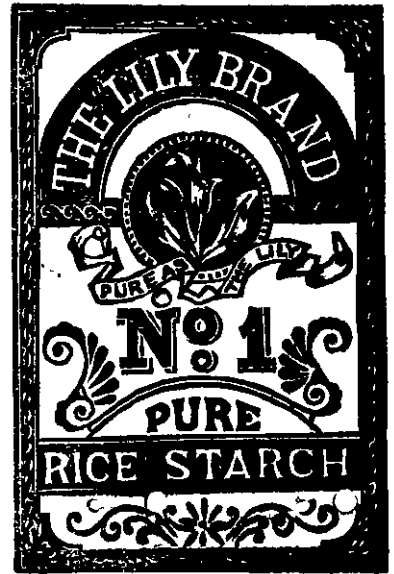
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 P. KELLY wishes to inform his friends and the public generally that he has purchased the Globe Hotel, and will be happy to meet them there. Country Visitors and the Travelling Public will find every convenience. The Hotel, which is being renovated 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.

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"Mac" will only keep the same brands of Liquors and the same table he did at the Bendigo, which is a guarantee that the wants of his patrons will be well attended to. Accommodation for 60 guests. Night porter kept. Telegrams and letters receive immediate attention.

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Bedsteads and Bedding, all kinds fresh
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NOTICE.

Copies of "THE ORANGE SOCIETY, by the REV FATHER
 CLEARY, can be had from the TABLET Office. Price, 1s 3d ;
 post, 1s 8d.

Commercial

For week ending March 12.

PRODUCE.

Mr. F. Meenan, King street, reports:—Wholesale prices only—Oats: Feed, fair to good, 2s 3d to 2s 4d; milling, 2s 4d to 2s 5d. Wheat: scarce. Milling, 3s 3d to 3s 4d; fowls', 3s 1d. Potatoes: New Oamaru and Taiari, £2 15s to £3; Chaff: Inferior to medium, £2 10s to £3; good to best, £3 15s to £4 10s. Straw: Loose, 32s 6d; pressed, 30s. Flour: 200lb sacks, £8 15s; 50lb, £9 10s, 25lb, £9 15s; Oatmeal: 25lb, £12 10s. Butter: Dairy, 6d to 8d; factory, 10d to 11d. Cheese: Dairy, 4d; factory, 5d. Eggs, 1s 3d. Onions: Melbourne, new, £6.

SOUTHLAND PRODUCE MARKET.

Invercargill prices current—Wholesale—Butter (fresh), 8d; butter (factory), bulk, 10½d, pats, 10½d, eggs, 1s 3d per doz, cheese, 4d, bacon, farm, 7d, do, rolled, farm, 6d, hams, 9d, potatoes, £3 to £3 10s per ton; fowl wheat, 3s 3d; barley, 2s to 2s 6d; chaff, £4 10s, flour, £8 15s to £9 15s, oatmeal, £12 5s to £12 15s, bran, £4; pollard, £4 15s. Retail—Fresh butter, 10d; butter (factory), pats, 1s; bulk, 1s, eggs, 1s 6d per doz; cheese, 6d to 7d, bacon, rolled, 9d, hams, 10d; potatoes, 4s per cwt; flour: 200lb 19s 6d, 50lb, 5s 3d; oatmeal, 50lb, 7s 3d, 25lb, 3s 9d; pollard, 8s per bag; bran, 5s, chaff, 2s, fowls' feed, 3s 9d per bushel.

WOOL.

London, March 25.—At the wool sales the Wathora clip realised 4½d, the Matapuro, 5d, and Mount Vernon, 8d.

London, March 27.—The wool sales closed firm at top prices. The Tekampa clip sold at 6½d.

During the series 156,000 bales were catalogued, of which 73,000 were sold for home consumption, 75,000 for the Continent, 4000 for America, and 11,000 being held over.

Compared with the February sales, merinos advanced 7½ per cent, fine crossbreds, 10 per cent, and other qualities 5 to 7½ per cent. Merino lambs advanced 5 per cent, crossbreds 10 per cent.

The prospects for the May sales are good. The amount of wool available will probably not exceed 280,000 bales.

THE ADDINGTON MARKETS.

Fat Cattle.—The total yarded was 200, chiefly light-weights, and only a score of steers. Prices fell 1s per 100lb, or 16s to 21s 6d. Steers brought £7 15s to £9 17s 6d, heifers, £5 10s to £8 10s, cows, £4 12s 6d to £8 10s.

Fat Sheep.—About 3000 yarded, mostly secondary ewes. Wethers were scarce, and freezing buyers were not operating strongly. Good wethers brought 15s to 17s; lighter, 13s to 14s. There were too many ewes in for the butchers, and the market dragged. A decided drop in values took place, the best only making 12s to 15s 6d, others, 7s 6d to 11s; a few merino wethers, 7s to 10s.

Fat Lambs.—The total brought forward was 1460. Few were of good quality, and export buyers holding, caused prices to ease. Seven hundred and thirty were taken for freezing at 10s 6d to 13s 4d, averaging 11s 9d; 159 went to the butchers at 8s 7d to 13s 5d; 528 were passed at 10s to 11s 7d; and the rest went to the graziers.

Store Sheep.—The penning totalled 9800, mostly inferior wethers, with only a few good lines of ewes and

very few lambs. Considering the quality of the sheep, fair sales were made. Forward wethers made 11s to 12s 2d; others, 7s 7d to 10s; good, sound ewes, 10s to 13s; others, 5s to 8s 6d, lambs, 4s 10d to 7s 3d.

Western Influence and Japan.

In view of the treaty recently made between Great Britain and Japan the following observations about modern western influence on the people of Japan will be of special interest. They have been contributed by the Rev. Father Ligucl, a French missionary in the Island Empire to the 'Mission Catholiques'—

No foreign influence (he writes) predominates to the exclusion of all the rest. Each has in turn been ahead of the rest, but none has been definitely eliminated. The Japanese people in their movement towards civilisation starting from the standpoint of taking from other countries and assimilating as well as they could whatever they found good in it. Up to 1871 France was in the front rank. After that era of her disasters, her credit has diminished year by year in proportion as her defeat in every sense has become more accentuated. Nevertheless striking cases of French influence still remain in the Japanese army and legislature, and the French language and literature have regained ground slightly of late.

England is mistress of the country by means of her gold and her commerce. The English language, whose use is universal outside Europe, is necessary to the Japanese for all their foreign relations, hence it is obligatory in all secondary schools. Together with the language English literature is naturally popularised, and, without any other kind of propaganda, the idea contained in that literature make their way insensibly into the public mind by means of education and the press.

By means of education and religion the American influence on the Japanese people has been the most profound and the most sensible. Hence when we say that Japan has been 'Europeanised,' though the statement is correct, it would be more accurate to say she has been 'Americanised.'

For the past ten years Germany has predominated in legislation. The political system, the formation and organisation of army and navy, are modelled on Germany. The German language is much studied, science in general, and especially medicine, is German. Germany by her philosophy dominates over the intellectual leaders of the country, the teachers in the University, and consequently the whole educational staff. Japanese teaching, half American as regards education, is on the way to become German as regards instruction.

Of the arts, the music is German, but the other arts have come from Italy.

To these most interesting and novel observations Father Ligucl adds a profoundly true and striking remark:

The Japanese is an artist by nature, a born imitator he handles the pencil with skill. Poetry, drawing, music, excite in him the deepest sensations, even where a European would feel nothing. If realism taught by system invades Japanese art, it will kill what was best and most attractive in this people—its cult of ideal beauty.

How Potatoes Became Popular.

There is a strange impulse in human nature which makes people desire that which is forbidden. It exists sometimes in dumb animals

also, if the Irishman told the truth when he said that his pig never would go to Cork unless it thought its master wished to drive it toward Dublin. This perversity (says the 'Ave Maria') was once taken advantage of for a very worthy purpose. A strange prejudice against the use of potatoes as a food used to exist in France. The wise ones declared that they produced leprosy, and the people would neither eat them nor feed them to their cattle. At last those high in authority thought of a plan. 'If we tell people not to eat them they will want them at once,' they said; 'and if it is made an offence to steal potatoes, there will be many to seek them.' So gardens all over France were set with the unpopular tubers, and word given out that some rare vegetables were growing for the king's express use; furthermore, that anyone who molested them would be prosecuted. This was a serious threat—to trespass against the king. But just as soon as the people were warned not to touch those potatoes they began to have a fierce appetite for them, and the fields, left unguarded purposely, were pillaged from one end to the other. Some began to eat the despised vegetables and found them palatable; others saved them for seed, and the result was that the potato was permanently introduced into France.

Messrs. Dwan Bros., the well-known hotel brokers, of Willis street, Wellington, report the sale of the lease and furniture of the Nag's Head Hotel, Wellington, to Mr. Jerome Bacovich, late of the Central Hotel, Masterton; the lease and furniture of the Terminus Hotel, Picton, to Mr. Samuel Perry, late of Hokitika; the lease and furniture of the Levin Hotel to Mr. Charles Harrison, late of the Imperial Hotel, New Plymouth; the lease and furniture of the Mahikapawa Hotel, Marlborough, to Mr. Joseph Cody, late of the Criterion Hotel, Wanganui; the lease and furniture of the Whakataki Hotel to Mr. Malcolm Walker, late of Wellington; the freehold of the Club Hotel, Woodville, to Mr. Philip M. Poole; the lease and furniture of the Post Office Hotel, Picton, to Mrs. Darville, late of the Post Office Hotel, Foxton; the lease and furniture of the Masonic Hotel, Havelock, to Mr. Charles F. Duckitt, late of Hamua; the lease and furniture of the Clarendon Hotel, Palmerston North, to Mrs. J. Tait, late of Manaia; the lease and furniture of the Occidental Hotel, Palmerston North, to Mr. G. B. Howard, late of the Thames; the Avatere Hotel, Blenheim, to Mr. Alfred Bishop, of Christchurch; the lease and furniture of the Club Hotel, Martinborough, to Mr. J. Kavanagh, late of Ashhurst; the Albert Hotel, Wellington, to Mr. Thomson, of New Plymouth; the Taueru Hotel, Masterton, to Mr. Eagar, late of Carterton; the freehold of the Empire Hotel, Timaru, to Mr. Burns, of Timaru; the lease and furniture of the Empire Hotel, Masterton, to Mr. James Cress, late of Tauherenikau.—***

For absolute strength, extreme simplicity, freedom from weak or undesirable points, and abundance of excellent working features throughout, Excelsior Ploughs are unrivalled. They will do perfectly the work that can be detected of any plough, and are guaranteed to give satisfaction in any soils where a plough can work at all, no matter how tough and difficult the work. They have extra length of land beam, specially made mould boards, and steering gear of the most complete and approved kind. Revolving swivel steel circular coulters. Double furrow £11 10s; three furrows, £16 10s.—Morrow, Bassett, and Co., sole agents in New Zealand for Cockshutt farm implements.—***

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BEST MANURE DRILLS ARE :

'EUREKA' GRAIN, TURNIP AND MANURE DRILLS, and "MAST" AMERICAN GRAIN AND MANURE DRILLS, with Turnip Feed.
DISC HARROWS and CAMBRIDGE ROLLERS, with Wooden or Steel Frames; any sizes.
CULTIVATORS, WINDMILLS, HARROWS, SEEDSOWERS, and all kinds FARM IMPLEMENTS.
SOLE AGENTS BURRELL'S TRACTION ENGINES and CLAYTON AND SHUTTLEWORTH'S THRESHING MACHINERY.
HORNSBY ACKROYD OIL ENGINES.
RUDGE WHITWORTH and YELLOW FELLOW BICYCLES on easy terms to suit purchasers.

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THE SHADES DOWLING STREET, DUNEDIN.

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Everything of the Best and all Drawn from the Wood.

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COOKING RANGES are the Most Popular, the Most Economical, the Cleanest, the Easiest to Work, the Cheapest.
Single or Double Ovens, High or Low Pressure Boilers.

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SOUTH END MONUMENTAL WORKS Established - 1865.

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Monuments and Tombstones erected of New Zealand Granite, Scotch Granite, and Italian and American Marble.
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THE NATURAL EXCELLENCE of the REAL and ORIGINAL KAITANGATA COAL for every purpose is so universally recognised by all HOUSEHOLDERS and MANUFACTURERS throughout the Middle Island now, that it would be superfluous for the Company to detail the special features of its superiority over all other coals in every notice like this. The present, therefore, is only to assure the Public generally that the Coal maintains its excellence, and is sold by all Merchants in the trade.

The KAITANGATA ALMANAC will be delivered to Customers as usual.

W. P. WATSON,
General Manager

Offices Crawford street, Dunedin,
12th November, 1896.

MOUNTAINEER HOTEL,

QUEENSTOWN,
LAKE WAKATIPU.

Proprietor - - **P. MCCARTHY.**

This New and Commodious Hotel has been well furnished throughout and is now one of the most comfortable Houses in Otago. Suites of Rooms have been set apart for Families, and every attention has been paid to the arrangements for carrying on a first-class trade. Hot, Cold, and Shower Bath.

TERMS MODERATE.

Best Brands of Wines, Spirits, and Beers.
FIRST-CLASS SAMPLE ROOM.

A Porter will attend Passengers on the Arrival and Departure of Steamers.
First-class Stabling.

Horses and Buggies for Hire.

GEORGE DENNIS,

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.

THE BEST CEMENT EXHIBITED—MAORI BRAND.

Vide Jurors' Report N.Z. Exhibition.

The above was given, with TWO FIRST-CLASS AWARDS, after most thorough tests by experts, proving our Cement to be equal to the best the world can produce.

Having recently erected extensive works, supplied with the most modern plant obtainable, which is supervised by a Skilled Cement Maker from England, with confidence we request Engineers, Architects, and others to test our Cement side by side with the best English obtainable.

Milburn Lime at Lowest Rates.

MILBURN LIME AND CEMENT COMPANY (LIMITED), DUNEDIN.

FRANK OAKDEN, Manager.

DOUGLAS HOTEL Corner Octagon and George streets, Dunedin.

JOHN CRANE, Proprietor.

Mr. Crane wishes to inform his friends and the public that he has taken the above hotel. The building has undergone a thorough renovating from floor to ceiling, and now offers unrivalled accommodation to visitors and travellers. The bedrooms are well and comfortably furnished, and the fittings are all that could be desired.

Travellers called in time for early trains The wines and spirits are of the Best Probable Brands.

One of Alcock's prize medal Billiard Tables. Hot, Cold, and Shower Baths.

TELEPHONE 1306.

SANITARY PIPE AND STONWARE 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.

UNION STEAMSHIP COMPANY OF NEW ZEALAND LIMITED

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

LYTTELTON and WELLINGTON—
(Booking Passengers West Coast Ports)—
Talune Thurs., April 3 2 30 p.m. tr'n
Moura Fri., April 4 4 p.m. D'din
Warrimoo Thurs., April 10 4 p.m. D'din
Te Anau Fri., April 11 3 p.m. D'din

NAPIER, GISBORNE and AUCKLAND—
Moura Fri., April 1 3 p.m. D'din
Te Anau Fri., April 11 3 p.m. D'din
Mararoa Tues., April 15 2 30 p.m. tr'n

SYDNEY, via WELLINGTON and
COOK STRAIT—
Talune Wed., April 3 2 30 p.m. tr'n
Warrimoo Thurs., April 10 4 p.m. D'din

SYDNEY via AUCKLAND—
Mararoa Tues., April 15 2 30 p.m. tr'n
Waikare Tues., April 29 2 30 p.m. tr'n

MELBOURNE via BLUFF and HOBART—
Wahora April 6 2 p.m. D'din
Mokota Monday April 14 2 30 p.m. tr'n

NELSON and NEW PLYMOUTH, via
OAMARU, TIMARU, AKAROA, LYTTELTON and WELLINGTON—

Upolu Mon., April 7 3 p.m. D'din

WESTPORT and GREY MOUTH via
OAMARU, TIMARU, LYTTELTON, and
WELLINGTON (cargo only)—

Janet Nicoll Wed., April 2 3 p.m. D'din

SUVA and LEVUKA.

Taviuni leaves Auckland, Wednesday,
April 23.

TONGA, SAMOA, FIJI, and SYDNEY
(From Auckland.)

Huroto Wednesday, April 9

RARATONGA and FAHIFI.

Ovalau leaves Auckland, Tuesday, April 22.

Jesuits as Scientists.

In a recent issue of the New York *Evening Post* there appeared the following item of news from Cleveland, Ohio:—

A remarkable meteorological observation was made here yesterday by the Rev. Frederick Odenbach, S.J., professor of physics in St. Ignatius's College, who saw the great sun circle, or halo, of Hevelius, which, so far as known, has only been observed three times before. Preceding a period of low barometric pressure, halos are often noticed about the sun. The commonest of these is one that appears at a distance of 22 degrees from the sun. An outer halo, at a distance of 46 degrees, is also occasionally noted. But the great halo of Hevelius, at a distance of 90 degrees, as observed by Professor Odenbach, is a great rarity, and hundred of years may pass before it is observed again.

And here (says the *Sacred Heart Review*) is another example of the way those terrible Jesuits have of opposing all learning and all research. The Philippine Commission, composed of Messrs. Schurman, Dewey, Denby, and Worcester, in the introduction to their recently-issued report, say:—

While Mr. Worcester was engaged in gathering information as to the peoples of the Philippines and the physical characteristics and resources of the various islands, members of the Jesuit Order were repeatedly requested to testify before the Commission. It was suggested by them that such information as they were able to furnish would be of more permanent value if embodied in formal papers upon the various subjects under consideration. An arrangement to this end was accordingly entered into with them by Mr. Worcester, whereby it was agreed that they should furnish treatises on the following subjects:—Orography, hydrography, geognosy, phytography, zoography, climatology, cyclical variation of terrestrial magnetism, seismic foci, ethnography, chorography, state of culture, chronology. . . . The papers as finally received cover a wide field. In many instances the subject-matter and the method employed in treating it had been such that they could be freely translated and utilised as they stood. . . . While the papers on climatology, cyclical variation of terrestrial magnetism, and seismic foci are somewhat technical, the information contained in them is so extensive, detailed, and accurate, and much of it is of so much practical value, that it has been thought it should be published in full, and thus be made available for purposes of reference.

The Commission wishes to express its indebtedness to the Fathers of the Jesuit Order at Manila for the whole admirable series of treatises which have made available a large body of information, not a little of which is new, and much of which could not possibly have been gathered by us in the time at our disposal.

When Water Freezes.

A SCIENTIFIC writer points out a number of the most common and obvious facts of nature. Like the saltiness of the sea, and shows how they prove the wisdom and beneficence of the Creator. Of the fact that water is heaviest when its temperature is seven degrees above the freezing point he says:—

If some such difference did not exist, this would be a strange world. Generally, as a substance is cooled, it grows denser—that is, heavier. Nearly all substances, such as iron, lead, the various salts, etc., grow denser and denser as they become colder and colder. But water has the curious property of growing denser down to 39 degrees of temperature, and then beginning to expand. At 39 degrees it is heaviest, and when it has become ice it is considerably lighter. The consequence is, that when cold weather comes on, the surface water of a lake grows cold, dense, heavy, and sinks to the bottom, the warmer water rising to the top. But when the temperature is lowered below 39 degrees the coldest water remains on top, as it is then lighter than the warmer water. This layer soon becomes ice, and the ice, being the lightest part of the lake, floats. After the first thin layer is frozen any further manufacture of ice must be effected by conduction of cold through the ice already formed. And as this is a slow process the layer thickens very gradually.

Now think what would happen if water, like iron, continued to grow denser no matter how low its temperature sank. The ice, being the coldest part, would sink to the bottom. More ice would quickly be made on the surface and sink, too. After a single night's severe frost there would be several feet of ice at the bottom. At the end of some few weeks deep lakes would have become solid masses of ice. This would mean death to all the living creatures they contained. And when the summer came, only a fathom or two of the lakes would unfreeze for the warm water would float on top and the sun's rays couldn't penetrate very far down.

Some Young Rulers.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT is the youngest American President, and there is much talk of his being the embodiment of the young blood which is to put America above all other nations. But President Roosevelt is not the only young ruler in the world. In fact he is older than at least 19 rulers of the great nations of to-day. William of Germany is three months younger; Nicholas of Russia is only 30 years of age; and the Emperor of China is 10 years younger still; Victor Emmanuel of Italy is only 28 and Wilhelmina of Holland only 21. Alphonso of Spain is probably the youngest ruler of all, as he is not yet 16. Charles I, of Portugal is under 40, and Ferdinand of Bulgaria is not yet 31. Abbas II, Khedive of Egypt, is not more than 27; Alexandria of Servia, but 25; Thank-Tai, King of Siam, 22, and Prince George of Greece, Governor of

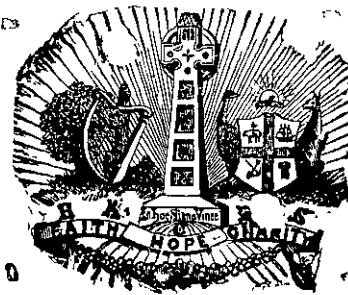
Crete, 32. Among the rulers of the little German States, Ernest Louis of Hesse is 33; Frederick of Waldeck 36, and Charles Edward of Saxe-Coburg but 17. Several rulers in India are under 30, and in the western hemisphere, R. Inglesais, President of Costa Rica, is less than 40. The young men of to-day must be older for their years than were their predecessors of years ago, or else the world is easier to rule than then.

The Calendar.

IN connection with the approach of the new year (says the New York *Freeman's Journal*, December 28) it may be of interest to recall the fact that it is not so long—only a century and a half—since the New Year in England began on March 25 instead of January 1. That was simply and solely through the bigotry of the English, who, through nearly two centuries, refused to adopt the Gregorian calendar because it was the work of a Pope. To correct the error of the Julian system, which in the sixteenth century had come to cause what may be called a shortage of ten days, Pope Gregory XIII., after careful examination of the whole subject and a thorough reform of the calendar, issued a brief in 1582 directing that the day following the feast of St. Francis in that year—that is, the 5th of October—should be reckoned as the 15th of that month. The new system was immediately adopted by all the Catholic countries, but in England hatred of 'Popery' prevented its adoption until 1752, when it was found that the shortage was eleven days instead of ten, and in that year an Act of Parliament was passed ordering that the 3rd of September should be reckoned the 14th. At the same time the commencement of the legal year was made January 1 instead of March 25. The change led to rioting in many parts of England.

Climbing Animals.

DOGS often have to be trained to climb stairs, instinctively distrusting the upper storeys. It has been conjectured that this is because the dog's forelegs break easily below the shoulder, and the beast seems to realise this. The fox has no such fear, and has been known to climb a tree with plenty of small limbs to the height of 17 feet. Swimming comes easier than climbing to most animals, as well as to many races of men. Rats and guinea pigs can swim well and do not climb at all. Bears can climb well if little, but the grizzly and other large species stay mainly on the ground. A bear always climbs down a tree backwards, as does the domestic cat until she has nearly reached the ground, when she turns and jumps; and most wild cats run down a tree head first, even the heavy leopard being a more skilful climber than the light house cat. The tiger and lion, however, do not climb, for no discoverable reason unless it be that they fear falling, on account of their weight.



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 at 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

EDITOR'S NOTICES.

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.

Subscribers desiring to have obituary notices inserted in this paper should either communicate with the editor or send copy of local paper containing particulars. Unless they do this they must not be disappointed if notices of recent deaths do not appear in our columns.

NOTICE.

NOW READY—Nos. 1 and 2, Catechisms of the Christian Doctrine.

Approved by His Grace the Archbishop of Wellington and the other Catholic Bishops of New Zealand.

To be had from—

His Grace Most Rev. Dr. REDWOOD, Wellington
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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.

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THE PROVINCIAL ECCLESIASTICAL SEMINARY OF NEW ZEALAND.

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In conformity with arrangements made at the First Provincial Synod, held in Wellington in 1899, this Seminary has been established for the education of Students from all parts of New Zealand who aspire to the Ecclesiastical State. The Holy Cross College is situated at Mosgiel (10 miles from Dunedin) in a fine building hitherto known as Mosgiel House, which, with 11 acres of rich park land surrounding it, was purchased for use as a Seminary for the Ecclesiastical Province of New Zealand.

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LEO XIII. to the N.Z. TABLET.

THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 1902.

THE LAND QUESTION IN IRELAND.



IRISH affairs occupy a considerable amount of attention in the British Empire at the present time. If we are to believe the cable agent, who evidently gets his Irish news from the most approved Conservative sources, and keeps us well posted on the utterances of minor judges, who use their official positions to deliver political harangues, many landlords and their agents are greatly agitated over the activity of the United Irish League, and are urgently pressing the Government to suppress the obnoxious organisation and proclaim meetings called in connection with it. It is rather significant, in the face of the statement of the organs of the landlord class that Ireland is more or less disturbed, to find that the police, who are always extremely active in ferreting out political crimes, and now and again in concocting them, as in the case of Sergeant SHERIDAN and his friends, have not been able to give any real testimony that lawlessness abounds. Kerry, which has a bad reputation in the opinion of the landlord class for being particularly susceptible to the charms of the League, presents us with the spectacle of the County Court Judge being given white gloves in Killarney, Listowel, and Tralee. The same has been the case in many of the other counties. We would like to know how many Recorders in England have had a similar experience. The Conservative Press would have us believe that it is almost impossible for landlords in many districts to collect their rents. Under such circumstances it would naturally be expected that they would hail with pleasure any scheme which would enable them to get rid of these troublesome tenants; they would facilitate in every way the sale of their properties at reasonable prices, and be only too willing to fall in with the proposal for compulsory sale as advocated by the Irish party in the House of Commons. Yet we find that the opposite is the case. There are few estates in Ireland on which the tenants are not prepared to buy their holdings at a rate equal to 18 years' purchase. This seems to be the limit which the Government authorities are prepared to sanction, as they consider that any higher amount would be unreasonable, and would handicap the tenant too heavily, and thereby endanger the security he has to give to the State which advances the purchase money. Even under the cumbersome and expensive legal machinery which now prevails a number of tenants have come to terms with their landlords within the past few years, the result being that peace, progress, and prosperity now reign in these districts which were remarkable ten years ago for being the scene of poverty, stagnation, hopelessness, and considerable social unrest. Under their arrangement with the State the tillers of soil are now paying from 25 to 40 per cent. less for their holdings than they were under the old regime, besides which they have the satisfaction of feeling that they are not at the caprice of either landlord or agent, and that in a certain number of years their holdings will be freehold. Since the purchase scheme came into operation the annual charges by way of interest on loan and reduction of capital have been paid with regularity, there have been no arrears, and the Government is quite satisfied with the measure of success which has attended the experiment. If the landlords are so badly treated by their tenants as their special organs contend, we

RIDE "ANGLO SPECIAL" CYCLES.

would naturally expect them to be only too anxious to sell their properties without being forced to do so by the Legislature. But the fact is they have put every obstacle in the way of such sales. They came out in their true colors at a convention held recently when they resolved not to sell at less than 27 years' purchase based on the judicial rents—an advance of 50 per cent. on what is considered a fair price. This is a move in the direction of preventing tenants from purchasing, for even if they were prepared to pay such an exorbitant price the Government would not lend the money, as the annual charges would be so heavy that it would be impossible for the borrower to meet his obligations.

*

Mr. WYNDHAM, speaking at Belfast the other day to a select gathering of landlords and their friends, said the Government would never consent to a Compulsory Sale Act. Now that word 'never' is one which Ministers should be very chary about using. It has been used on former occasions by members of a Government in regard to certain measures which, later on, acting on the mandate of the people, they caused to be placed on the Statute Book. We know that a king said he would 'never' sign a certain relief measure, but he had to reconsider his decision. A proposal that is considered too revolutionary to-day, becomes the law of the land on the morrow, and in a short time is amended so as to keep pace with the progress of the times. The acquisition of estates by the Government of New Zealand was considered a most revolutionary measure—as it undoubtedly was—when first introduced, but now we look on it as a matter of course. The Irish landlords designate compulsory sale of their properties to the tenants as confiscation and robbery, and it is evident the Chief Secretary for Ireland holds somewhat similar opinions. He and his party are apparently prepared to stand by the landlords, who are determined on getting their pound of flesh. They will see that property has its full rights, no matter what may happen to the human beings who drag out a miserable existence in their efforts to meet the demands of those who neither toil nor spin, and whose only interest in such lands seems to be rent receivers. When the measure for the compulsory acquirement of estates came into force in this Colony, there was an outcry on the part of large property owners, who designated it a most iniquitous law, and said it would be the ruin of the Colony. Now the land-owners of New Zealand had some measure of right on their side, and were much aggrieved individuals compared with the average Irish landlords, for they used their brains and capital in working their estates. The generality of Irish landlords use neither brains, energy, nor capital on their property. They graciously permit their tenants to supply these requisites, and then tax them for the privilege. Furthermore, many of them are absentees; they are perpetually engaged in drawing the life-blood out of the country; they take everything, and give nothing in return. No country could stand such treatment, as it would impoverish the most productive land on the face of the earth. Most people in New Zealand now admit that the Land for Settlements Act is a most beneficent measure, and that it has proved of immense benefit to great numbers of people who would never have had a chance of getting on to the land were it not for the facilities it affords. And if we in a new and thinly-populated country find it necessary to take land compulsorily for settlement, why should not the Imperial Government do the same thing in Ireland, where the necessity exists to a considerably greater extent? If the Government of New Zealand considers it just and equitable to compel an individual to part with his land for the benefit of the public at large, how much more equitable ought it be for the Imperial Government to force a land-owner to sell his property at a fair price to those who have been for years cultivating and reclaiming that land, and adding to the value of it by inexhausted improvements? There is nothing improper or inequitable in the proposal that land-owners should be forced to sell their lands to the tenants at a fair price. It is a principle of political economy that where the interests of the individual and the community clash, the individual should suffer. The farming community in Ireland have been the sufferers for many generations, and if there is to be any suffering in the future it is about time the land-owners should have some experience of it.

Already three provinces of Ireland through their representatives have declared themselves in favor of the compulsory sale of the estates to the tenants, and now Ulster, thanks to the energy and enthusiasm of Mr. T. W. RUSSELL, is coming into line with the rest of Ireland on this vital question. The first blow for the 'rooting of the tenant farmer in the soil' was struck in East Down the other day, when a strong advocate of the principle defeated a Government nominee. The Government attempted to minimize the defeat of their candidate by twitting the Presbyterian ministers and farmers with having entered into an unholy alliance with the Catholics. The reply of the sturdy Presbyterians was practically this, 'That whatever were the Pope's shortcomings he was not a collector of rack-rents in Ulster.' Mr. T. W. RUSSELL sacrificed his position as a member of the Government when he saw that his Party would not take up the question. They tried to shut his mouth by an offer of an appointment worth £1500 a year, but he declined to change his principles. He is a strong Unionist and a sturdy Presbyterian, but this does not prevent him from speaking his mind freely on England's treatment of Ireland, and saying things which, if uttered by a Nationalist member, might be the cause of bringing him under the notice of the Castle Authorities. In an article contributed to the February number of a London review he asks 'Why should there be peace and contentment in Ireland? Can things be on right lines in a country where the people rush from its shores as if it were plague-stricken? The life-blood of the country is being drained away. In another decade Ireland will be a country of old men and old women. With such a fact haunting us at every turn ought there to be peace? Can any real lover of his country remain silent?' He declares that two things must be done to ensure the peace of Ireland—the peasant must be rooted in the soil, and the Imperial Parliament must take a large and generous view of Irish affairs. 'I must say,' he concludes, 'to the class so dominant in the country that their day of domination is over; that they are citizens not rulers, and that they must take their chance and fight their way in a common country.'

Notes

The Abolition of the Kitchen

It is recorded of a penurious shipmaster that he fed his men on a pound of dried apples each, afterwards causing them to drink a quart of water. The result was to create that comfortable sense of repletion which follows a hearty meal. This shipmaster is usually quoted as the *ne plus ultra* of nautical meanness, but if the scientific journals are correct, he was merely anticipating by a few years discoveries that seem exact copies of his method. Travellers and others have long been familiar with tabloids containing nutriment in a highly concentrated form. Desiccated soups and other kinds of food put up in portable form are also well known. But the 'promon' seems likely to oust these from their position, and singularly enough, the method of employing it is an exact counterpart of that initiated by the penurious master mariner. 'Promon' is composed of a variety of ingredients. There are Irish stew, liver and bacon, boiled fowl, roast pork and apple sauce, sheep's head pie, and so on. These are compressed by some secret means. A 'promon' is chewed well and swallowed, and then a pint of liquid taken. It is very evident that if the 'promon' comes into general use, it will mean the extinction of the cook and the death of gastronomy. It will also mean the suppression of individual taste. The host who dispenses the meal will no longer be able to reserve slyly for himself the most succulent morsel, nor will he be able to help his valued guest to a slice a little 'rare.' The fare will be emphatically 'pot luck' for all concerned. But, to be serious, the discovery of new methods of concentrating nutriment, though calculated to be of inestimable value in emergencies, is likely to have a serious effect on the physical future of the race, and the tendency to use such foods should be discouraged. This is for the reason that mastication is intended by nature to be an indispensable preliminary to digestion. The pleasure of eating, quite apart from any of the grossness of the gourmand's appetite, would be quite unknown if we were to gulp down a 'promon,' and afterwards deluge it with a pint of liquid. The operation would be quite as prosaic as the stoking of a locomotive with coal, and filling of its tender with water.

More Signalling to Mars.

In a recent issue our contributor, 'Quip,' had some refer-

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ences to signalling Mars, and by a somewhat curious coincidence it now appears that Nikola Tesla is preparing a new surprise for the scientific world on the same lines, being aided by trusted workmen sworn to secrecy, and is putting the finishing touches on an untried instrument for flashing signals to Mars. An American visitor reported that he found his way unannounced to the laboratory, and this is what he saw: 'From a stout beam in the centre of the rough-hewn ceiling hung three dazzling, pulsating clots of purple violet light. The room glowed with the warmth of color. The hue was indescribably brilliant. The three centres of light sent out wave after wave of a strange, unearthly, rich color—a hue that is not listed in the spectrum. Above and below the beams twisted long glass spirals, closely coiled—snakes of beating, violet flame. There was no snapping spark now and then to indicate the touch of electric current. The centres of light seemed more like the illumination from a half-opaque gas mantle, but beating like a pulse. Those who know say this violet light is wizard Tesla's new flash signal to the Martians. He will reveal it to the world soon.'

*

The quasi-scientific American variety of story is well known, and sometimes the scientific illusion is well maintained. There is that story of the electrified cat, for example, which is excruciatingly funny. It will probably be found that Tesla is experimenting with a new illuminant from electricity, and that when his prying visitor concluded he was trying to communicate with the Martians he was simply experimenting with an improved Röntgen ray.

The Use of Firearms.

Easter fell unusually early this year, and probably because the opening of the shooting season did not take place until Tuesday last a good number were probably debarred from taking part in the slaughter which annually marks the day. Hence the number of accidents from firearms which have been reported is mercifully small. It would appear that familiarity with the handling of firearms is as dangerous as complete ignorance of their peculiarities. A young man named Raymond was killed in Southland last week by an accident most unaccountable in one who from his pursuits was probably acquainted with the use of firearms from his childhood. While getting through a wire fence he seems to have drawn the loaded rifle after him, muzzle first. The trigger must have caught on a loose piece of wire, and the consequent explosion resulted fatally. This method of handling guns is one that learners are specially warned against, and it is very likely that the victim himself must have been one of the loudest in condemnation of it. Yet a momentary inadvertence of the kind caused his own death. The perfection to which firearms are now brought greatly increases the danger. The old and now almost obsolete muzzle-loader was slow in its manipulation, but it was much safer, because greater deliberation was necessary. The condition of the weapon was also more easily discerned. There was the further consideration that the price was higher, and consequently firearms usually fell into skilled hands. But nowadays firearms are cheap, and consequently plentiful, and nearly all country youths, with many in the towns, own guns, and sometimes revolvers, and use them with all the confidence begotten of their inexperience.

*

How far a person is justified in carrying a weapon for the purpose of self-defence is an ethical as well as legal question that is far from definitely settled. Some dozen years ago an emigrant who had been laying in an outfit for use in foreign lands included a revolver among his purchases. Just prior to his departure from London he was assailed by two footpads, both of whom he promptly shot dead. For this, though clearly acting in defence of his property, he was sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment, which, however, was afterwards reduced to 18 months after a storm of public indignation and an appeal to the Home Secretary. In Victoria, only a few weeks ago, a volunteer, returning from shooting practice, encountered a burglar flying from pursuit. He raised his rifle and shot the fugitive dead. But it transpired that he had no homicidal intention, and that he merely fired the rifle from his hip in order to cause the runaway to stop. These are instances of undesirable promptness. There are others in which what might be considered culpable neglect of defensive measures has been shown. A certain class of robbery under arms has been frequent in Australia of late. It is that of robbing managers who are conveying from the bank large sums in wages. Notwithstanding several recent cases, which must have been fresh in public memory, the manager of a mine near Bendigo permitted himself and a companion to be 'bailed up' and robbed of a considerable sum of money by two armed men. If he had gone armed and allowed it to be made known that he was so, it is highly probable that the robbers would have been deterred. This was an example of over confidence that might be recommended to Mr. Dooley as the basis of a new chapter on the use of firearms in Kentucky.

Labor and Drink.

One of the healthiest signs of the Labor movement in a lands is the insistence with which the Labor organs and leaders discountenance drinking. One of the most prominent Labor men in Britain recently said: 'If you workmen will take as keen an interest in politics as in feeding the publican. . . then you will assuredly have a clearer apprehension of your political destinies.' In speaking thus the leader referred to was merely emphasising the fact that a man who wastes his time, health, and means in drinking is injuring his own value to himself, and consequently to the State. Liquor never yet made a more efficient workman nor a clearer thinker. On the contrary, it is alleged on good grounds that a man's efficiency as a machine is reduced by the use of liquor, and that the deterioration begins with the first glass. If we consider this question merely from the temporal point of view it might be urged that the habitual use of liquor is not only unnecessary but harmful, inasmuch as it lessens the amount and debases the quality of production. The result is injury to the producer, and when, as is frequently the case, the injury rebounds on the heads of the innocent, the evil effect is multiplied. The mental and moral injury also inflicted correspond in magnitude, but these are not insisted upon so strongly by labor leaders as the evil effects from a disciplinary point of view.

In Lighter Vein

(By 'QUIP'.)

* * * Correspondence, newspaper cuttings, etc. intended for this department should be addressed 'QUIP,' N.Z. TABLET Office, Dunedin, and should reach this office on or before Monday morning.

'THERE'S nothing like a little judicious levity.'

R. L. STEVENSON.

The Passing of the Flies.

The house flies are beginning to disappear. You may have noticed this yourself, but it is a pleasure to mention it. They have finished inspecting the bumps of the bald-headed men, and I am pleased to say that they find them up to the average. They go away happy in the thought that they have left their foot prints on every pat of butter and plate of jam they could see—where, perhaps, the foot of a fly had never trod before. They rejoice that they have had swimming tournaments in every vessel that contained enough milk to preclude the possibility of any 'fly' fly swimming with one leg on the bottom. They know that they have never found a hot and perspiring man that they didn't make hit himself ten times on the back of his neck with his open hand, and they are going away to that place where flies go to every year, with the small still voice of conscious rectitude simply singing comic songs inside their little vests. There, until next spring, each fly will rest in smug contentment, hugging himself around the neck with his two front legs or patting himself on the back with his two hind ones, just as he does when he lands on the collar of the man who kneels in front of you in church. It is some consolation to know the scientific fact that all these little creatures which are so 'aggravating' have their own little worries. A poet, writing of a first cousin by marriage of the fly, sawed this scientific fact into lengths and built this verse with the pieces.

'Big fleas have little fleas
Upon their backs to bite 'em;
And even these have smaller fleas
And so *ad infinitum*.'

'The Light Fantastic.'

When you see that the fly is passing away, you know that winter is nigh and you renovate your dancing-pumps. It has always seemed strange to me how it is that young men and women, who know for certain that they would drop dead in their tracks if they attempted to walk two miles to Mass on a Sunday, can worry through a whole evening's dances without even feeling tired. An expert tells us that an average waltz takes a dancer over something like three-quarters of a mile, and a square 'dawnce' makes him cover about half a mile. I don't know where the expert got his information. I fancy he tied a cyclometer or a theodolite to his leg and tried it himself. A girl, then, with a well-filled programme, travels thus in one evening: Twelve waltzes, nine miles; four polkas and two quadrilles at half a mile apiece, three miles; total, twelve miles. To this we should add, for the ladies, two miles, representing the intermission strolls and the trips to the dressing room to renovate the complexion and jab in some extra hair-pins. Grand total, fourteen miles. No wonder the Indian potentate in London asked why on earth the dancers didn't get their servants to do all that for them.

There are better things at a dance than gliding through 'the sky' as Richard Swiveller would say. I attended the White and Bachelors' Ball just before Lent began. At one time during the evening I saw five young ladies sitting together in one part of the hall, and strutting up to these was the White Island Beau Brummel, washing his hands with invisible soap in impalpable water, and wearing a smile that would make a plagued rat deliver himself up at the gas works without a pang. The five ladies spotted him, almost together. And the distant, dreamy, far away, unconcerned, don't-want-to-be-asked expression that spread itself over those five faces would lead one to believe that their five owners had no other pursuit in life than demonstrating the binocular parallax of the gas jet. Mr. Brummel bowed to one of them, and wanted to know 'could he have the pleasure of having a dance, etc.' She must have refused, because the bankrupt smile that quivered on the poor man's lips as he went outside to see if it was going to rain was so perplexing that, for the moment, I really couldn't tell by it whether he had bitten his tongue, or had just heard of the death of his only mother. You know how you feel when you are passing up the middle of a big drapery establishment and hear the ladies behind the counters coughing to one another. That is how he must have felt. And it was better than a dance to see him.

Immortality.

Those who have been endeavoring to find the abode of Rider Haggard's 'She,' or to discover the Fountain of Youth, vainly sought in Florida by Ponce de Leon, had better come home and return the portmanteaux they borrowed. The secret of immortality has been discovered. Those who have rich uncles or who have crotchety mothers-in-law living with them will try to bear the announcement with becoming fortitude. Perhaps, after all, it may not be true, you know. Anyway, an American scientist claims that he can distil from a sea-urchin's egg a magic fluid that will prolong life to any length, and make undertakers and cemeteries as superfluous as a mackintosh on the Darling Downs. If anybody has a private hearse I advise them to realise on it as soon as possible. And if anybody happens to have a job lot of coffins about the house that he bought at some sale, the best thing he can do is to utilise them as mignonette-boxes for the front windows. Either that or tie them up in fours and sell them to those Civil servants who are low down in the classification lists. Those poor fellows, considering that those above them will live for ever, might be induced to take a coffin or two. The liquid that effected the regeneration of Miss Semaphore is not in it with the distillation from the sea-urchin's egg. And it only needs to become as cheap as beer to turn each of us into a Wandering Jew or a Tannhauser or a Thomas of Erildonue. Which heaven forfend! The American discovery also means a cold day for the cremationists.

Suspended Animation.

Barnum, in his autobiography, tells a story of a district in Alaska, where the air is so pure that a person can never die. Sometimes an enfeebled old man gets blown out of the charmed circle, and dies like other people, but whilst he remains inside the worst he may expect is to become an interesting case of suspended animation. There is a museum there in which the envelopes of decayed trappers and hunters are duly numbered and hung up in bags in dry places. Should a relative happen along and inquire for some one who is missing, the polite attendant will look up the register and say: 'Oh, yes; that is number 1407. John, take down number 1407, and put him in the bath.' After 15 or 20 minutes in the tepid bath the resuscitated one is able to converse for half an hour or so, when he usually says: 'John, I feel a little tired now. I think I shall go back to my bag.'



DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN.

The Vincentian Fathers will open a week's mission in the Sacred Heart Church, North East Valley, on Sunday.

In future Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place at St. Joseph's Cathedral on the first Sunday of each month.

On Sunday afternoon his Lordship Bishop Verdon inaugurated a branch of the Confraternity of Perpetual Adoration in connection with the Cathedral parish, when a large number joined.

The name of Mrs. J. Hally was inadvertently omitted from the list of ladies who assisted at the Hibernian Society's breakfast on Sunday week.

On Easter Sunday there were crowded congregations at the 7.30 and 9 o'clock Masses at St. Joseph's Cathedral, when over 1000 persons received Holy Communion. It was most edifying to see such

large numbers approach the Holy Table, a result due in a great measure to the labors of the Vincentian Fathers during the previous four weeks.

On Monday the first reception in the new convent chapel of the Sisters of Mercy, South Dunedin, took place, when Miss Slowey, of Westport, (in religion Sister Mary Claude), was received by his Lordship Bishop Verdon assisted by the Rev. Father Coffey. Several relatives of the young lady were present at the ceremony.

Long before the usual hour for commencing Vespers on Sunday St. Joseph's Cathedral was crowded, when the mission, which had been so successfully conducted during the previous four weeks by the Very Rev. Father Boyle, C.M., and the Rev. Father McCarthy, C.M., was brought to a close with a renewal of baptismal vows. The closing discourse was preached by the Very Rev. Father Boyle, the subject being 'Perseverance.'

By private advices from Sydney we learn that Father Cleary left that city by the Moana for Vancouver on Monday, March 24. A large number of his clerical and lay friends assembled to wish him a pleasant voyage and a safe return. He is accompanied on the trip by an old college companion, Rev. Father Barlow, parish priest of Pearith, N.S.W. The Moana had close on 100 passengers in the first saloon and about 50 in the second.

On Tuesday two young ladies made their profession at St. Dominic's Priory—viz., Miss Morton (Invercargill), in religion Sister Mary Frances; Miss Elizabeth Sullivan (daughter of Mr. James Sullivan, of Gurtene Levels, Timaru), in religion Sister Mary Martina. Miss Bridget Boyle received the holy habit of the Order, her name in religion being Sister Mary Anastasia. His Lordship the Bishop performed the ceremony in the choir of the priory, and was assisted by the Rev. Father Murphy, Adm., and a number of clergy and friends of the Sisters were present.

The Rev. Father O'Reilly celebrated a Missa Cantata at eleven o'clock on Easter Sunday at St. Patrick's Basilica, South Dunedin. The music of the Mass was Weber's in G, which was rendered in a finished manner by the choir, under the conductorship of Mr. Bagar, Mr. F. Stokes presiding at the organ. The choir were assisted by a numerous and efficient orchestra, led by Herr Zimmerman, their playing being the most artistic ever heard in the church. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Father Henry, C.M. The mission which had been conducted by the Vincentian Fathers during the previous four weeks was brought to a conclusion in the evening, when the closing discourse was preached by the Rev. Father McEnroe, C.M.

On Easter Sunday Pontifical High Mass was celebrated at 11 o'clock by his Lordship Bishop Verdon. The Very Rev. Father Boyle, C.M., was assistant priest, Rev. Father Murphy deacon, and Rev. Father O'Malley sub-deacon. The choir, under the conductorship of Mr. W. T. Ward, rendered in a very efficient manner Mozart's First Mass. The soloists were Miss Rose Blaney (soprano), Miss M. Drumm (contralto), Mr. B. Stephens (tenor), Mr. T. Hussey (bass). Mr. Vallis presided at the organ. After the Mass the choir were entertained in St. Joseph's Hall by his Lordship the Bishop and the parochial clergy. His Lordship thanked the choir for their services, and congratulated them on the successful and devotional manner in which they had rendered the music of the services during the year. Mr. Carolin replied on behalf of the choir.

On Holy Thursday the ceremonies at St. Joseph's Cathedral began at 7 a.m. His Lordship Bishop Verdon was celebrant of the Mass, Right Rev. Mgr. Mackay assistant priest, Very Rev. Mgr. O'Leary and Rev. Father O'Donnell (Gore) deacons at the throne, Rev. Father Hunt deacon of the Mass, and Rev. Father O'Malley subdeacon. The deacons at the consecration of the holy oil were Rev. Father Howard and Rev. Father McMullan. Rev. Father Murphy was master of ceremonies. On Good Friday morning the Mass of the Precinctified was celebrated by his Lordship the Bishop, Rev. Father Lynch (Palmerston) being assistant priest, Rev. Father O'Donnell deacon, Rev. Father O'Malley subdeacon, and Rev. Father Murphy master of ceremonies. The Passion was sung by the Right Rev. Mgr. Mackay, the Very Rev. Mgr. O'Leary, and Rev. Father O'Reilly. On Holy Thursday the sermon on the Blessed Eucharist was preached by the Rev. Father McCarthy, C.M., and on Good Friday Very Rev. Father Boyle, C.M., preached on the Passion. On Holy Saturday morning the ceremonies began at seven o'clock. The Rev. Father Murphy was celebrant of the Mass, Rev. Father O'Reilly being deacon, Rev. Father O'Malley subdeacon, Rev. Father O'Neill (Holy Cross College, Mosgiel) master of ceremonies.

NEW ZEALAND: GENERAL.

BETWEEN 200 and 300 applications have been received for the 20 teacherships in the Boer concentration camps.

It is stated that Mr. J. O'Meara, who is well known in the Wakatipu district, and who has just lately relinquished business in Gore, has accepted a position in the Advances to Settlers Office, Invercargill.

OUR Christchurch correspondent writes to say that after Vespers on Easter Sunday at the Pro-Cathedral Miss Funston, the organist, played in a finished manner 'The Hallelujah Chorus,' from the 'Messiah.'

THE Railway authorities had their hands full in dealing with the traffic on Easter Monday, both north and south of Dunedin, and it is satisfactory to know that the arrangements were so excellent that not a hitch or accident of any kind occurred. The inward passengers from the south numbered 2340, and from the north 2200; and the departures were 1640 for the south and 1100 for the north. The bookings for the Taieri races amounted to about 500.

MRS. COLLINS, formerly mistress of St. Joseph's Catholic School, Port Chalmers, who left on Monday on a trip to Europe, was a few days ago entertained by a number of her former pupils at the residence of Mrs. Antonio Anderson. The Misses Borlase, M. Hart, S. Anderson, and M. Borlase, in the name of Mrs. Collins's ex-pupils, made very pretty addresses expressive of the great esteem in which she was held by one and all of them. They also presented Mrs. Collins with a valuable greenstone brooch, mounted in gold, in appreciation of the esteem in which she was held by her former pupils. Mrs. Collins returned thanks in appropriate terms.

SHORTLY after his arrival in Sydney the Rev. H. W. Cleary called at St. Vincent's Hospital, Darlinghurst, to visit the Rev. Father Kehoe, of Parnell. Father Kehoe's many friends will be glad to learn that the serious operations which were necessitated by the gravity of his case have been remarkably successful, and that at the date of Father Cleary's visit (March 23) the patient expected to be able to leave the hospital in a day or two. It will, however, be necessary for him to pay occasional visits to his medical advisers for a week or two before leaving on his return journey to Auckland. Father Kehoe speaks in terms of the highest admiration of the skill of the medical staff of the hospital and of the kindness of the Sisters of Charity. His unflinching good spirits have made him a great favourite both among the hospital staff and among the clerical friends who have from time to time called to see him during his illness.

THOUGH the weather was threatening (says the *Kaikoura Star*) there was a good attendance at the St. Patrick's Day sports. The number of children present appeared to exceed that at any similar reunion before in Kaikoura, and the Rev. Father Golden was untiring in his efforts to make the day enjoyable for the lads and lasses. He was eminently successful in this, receiving willing assistance from Messrs G. H. B. Smith, Boyens, Burland, Barton, M. Hartnett and P. McSwiggan and others. Messrs Wm. Smith, J. Kerr and W. Cooke were especially noticeable for their energy in carrying out the programme proper. Others seen to the fore were Messrs Jas. Garrett, P. Keenan, E. Hailes, J. Keehan, J. Maddock, H. Mackle, J. Peoples, M. Harnett, H. Montague, J. Mullane, J. Smith, and J. Harnett. The ladies excelled themselves in providing a well-stored table laden with tempting eatables. In this connection Mesdames O'Donnell, Keenan, Garrett, Maddock, Kerr, Kirby and H. Mackle, and the Misses Gallagher (3), Eaton (2), Peoples, Chapman and Sedgwick were prominent workers. The Misses Smith's 'Ludstone' stall was a very attractive one and obtained special attention.

Oamaru Hibernian Society.

THE eighth annual sports meeting of the Oamaru Hibernian Society was held on Monday under conditions pleasant to the public and satisfactory to the Club. The weather (says the *North Otago Times*), which promised uncertainty for several days, cleared a good deal early in the morning, and the trains reached town with very large freights, and these visitors, together with the increased attendance of townspeople, totalled up the best gate in the Society's history, over £95 being taken. The enterprise of the society in offering handsome prizes is, therefore, once more rewarded, and a substantial surplus will probably be the result. From the public point of view also the day was a good one. The large entry of outside athletes, as well as of local men, created much interest, and this was not misplaced, for some fine contests were witnessed. The officials all worked very hard to secure the success of the gathering; Mr. P. J. Duggan, the secretary, was most active, while Mr. A. Direen, superintendent of games, had all the events over by five o'clock. The Oamaru Garrison Band was present, and played a number of selections during the afternoon, and the North Otago Pipe Band made a very favorable impression in their initial appearance in public.

The annual concert attracted a large attendance at the Theatre Royal in the evening. The programme arranged is always good, but on this occasion it was of quite exceptional excellence. It was entirely contributed by visitors. Miss Nellie Black was at her best, and sang 'Irish Lullaby, and, in response to a recall, 'Down the long avenue,' improving the good impression which she made with this song some time ago. Miss Black also rendered 'Scene de ballet' very nicely as a violin solo, her instrumentation being very clever. Mr. Farquhar Young never fails to please an Oamaru audience, and his singing of 'The memory of the dead' created a demand for more, to which he responded with 'Father O'Flynn.' Miss Rose Blaney was encored for her item. Miss Blaney and Miss Black, sang 'The dusk of twilight,' a duet in which their voices blended nicely, and being recalled they repeated the last verse. Mr. R. Millen is not a stranger now to Oamaru, and his pieces were anticipated with pleasure, which was quite fulfilled. 'Evicted' and 'Geordie's weddin' day' were his numbers, and they drew in one case a triple encore. Miss Mary Toohill also had to make a dual appearance, singing 'Come back to Erin' and 'Barney O'Shea.' In the second part of the programme Miss Blaney sang 'Killarney,' which was emphatically encored. Miss N. Black sang 'At the concert' (encored), Miss Toohill 'Promise of life' (encored). Mr. F. Young sang 'King Davy' (encored). He also recited 'The last race of Rio Grande,' which was redemanded. Misses Blaney and Black, and Mr. Young also sang as a trio 'Merry Gipsies,' and had to repeat it. Miss M. Duggan played the accompaniments nicely. The concert was closed by the singing of the National Anthem.

Obituary.

MR DAVID FINLAY, SYDENHAM.

IT is with sincere regret we have to record the death of Mr David Finlay, of Sydenham, Christchurch. The deceased was born in Maryborough, Queen's County, and before coming to this Colony resided for a time in Dromore, County Down. Mr Finlay came with his wife and family to Christchurch in 1887. The deceased, who was 79 years of age, had been a sufferer for a number of years, bearing his infirmities with great fortitude. He died on March 17, having received all the consolations of holy religion. Having always entertained a great desire to return to the Old Country, as he used to say, 'in order to leave his bones in the Island of Saints,' which, unfortunately, was beyond possibility, it is nevertheless somewhat remarkable that he should be permitted to depart this life on the Feast of St. Patrick. The remains were removed to the Pro-Cathedral on Thursday, when the Rev. Father McDonnell celebrated a Requiem Mass, and also officiated at the grave. The deceased leaves a widow, four sons, and one daughter to mourn their loss.—*R.I.P.*

MR. D. HALLY, JUN., WAITOHI.

The death of Mr. D. Hally, jun., which took place at Waitohi recently, at the early age of 23 years, was deeply regretted by a large circle of relatives and friends. The immediate cause of death was a severe cold. The deceased was a most amiable young man, and consequently he was greatly esteemed by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance. He was a practical and fervent Catholic, and died fortified with the rites of the Church, and with a prayer on his lips. The respect in which the deceased and his family were held was shown on the occasion of the interment, when the funeral was attended by mourners from Timaru, Waimate, Geraldine, and the surrounding districts. At Waitohi the school flag was lowered to half-mast, and at St. Joseph's Church, Temuka, the Dead March in 'Saul' was played on the organ. The bereaved family have our sincere sympathy in their affliction.—*R.I.P.*

MR THOMAS JAMES, GREYMOUTH.

We regret to learn by special wire, received as we were going to press, that Mr Thomas James, an old and valued correspondent of and subscriber to the *TABLET*, passed away on Friday last at his residence, Greymouth.—*R.I.P.*

The Church in Batavia.

JAVA is a Dutch possession in the East Indies. Its capital is Batavia. The established religion is that of the Dutch Reformed sect, but the Catholic Church is in that far-away island as it is here (says the *Sacred Heart Review*). A Protestant writer describes as follows a Catholic religious service in Batavia, which shows what a hold the Church has upon the hearts of the natives:—

'As we approach the city we overtake throngs of country people dressed in the graceful native custom and carrying in their hands rosaries and prayer-books. At last we draw up before the cathedral, into which a steady stream of people is pouring. The west facade is severe and somewhat heavy in style, but its size and its noble rose-window give it an air of dignity. As I step within the dim, vast church, I am impressed with the beauty of its proportions. The broad nave is bounded on either side by pillars extending upwards into lofty, soaring arches which lose themselves in the dimness overhead. Beyond these there extend on either hand wide aisles, and beyond these again shine the long rows of stained-glass windows. Saints and martyrs gaze down upon us in a glory of coloring, while over the altar at the far east end, our Lord sits enthroned as King, His hand uplifted in blessing. The altar, beneath this window, is twinkling with many tapers. Already the vast church is crowded with worshippers, and still they pour in, men, women and children, old and young. Kneeling on the clean matting that covers the floor, they begin with bowed heads to recite the rosary.

'There is not a seat in the church, and except for a few sweet-faced European Sisters of Charity, the vast congregation consists entirely of natives. The Dutch are almost all Protestants and have their own places of worship in their eastern possessions, but they attempt little missionary work among the heathen, nor does it seem probable that their cold, severe form of belief will ever prove acceptable to the natives.

'But the organ rumbles and, from their gallery far overhead, the choir begins to chant the Asperges. Three European priests in red vestments, preceded by native acolytes in scarlet cassocks and cottas, descend the aisle, while the people bend and cross themselves as they pass. The Mass proceeds, sung simply but tunefully by native men and women.

'The Mass is a long one, and a great number of communicants go up to the altar. Though it is still early morning, the heat within the church gradually becomes more and more intense. The great punkahs that swing over us seem to fan us with burning air, and packed together as we are, it is as if we fairly exhaled heat. At last the service is over, and I find myself once more in the open air.'

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The Storyteller

MARGIE'S CHRISTMAS.

OLD General Flint, who was the landlord of our handsome Irish home in pretty Malahide, had been one of Wellington's officers. It has always seemed a fortunate thing, and one that associated me with most stirring history, that I actually knew, in my childhood, one of the men who had fought beside the Iron Duke, when he contested the famous field of Waterloo. I always looked with awe at the tall gaunt, stern old veteran.

My father had leased the general's house, all except a few rooms on the ground floor; which were occupied by the veteran himself, his sister, an ancient, nervous spinster, and his granddaughter, Margie Dunn, a girl of 14, who was as happy and girlish as she dared to be in the presence of these two relatives.

General Flint's home was a beautiful house, from the stately entrance hall, and the winding staircase that led to the large drawing room to the pleasant sleeping rooms. Here the Hintons, of whom I was the youngest member, found an agreeable abode, while exiled from America by the Civil War.

'Eily,' said Margie Dunn, as we sat together in our breakfast room one snowy December morning, 'I wish I could go home and see my mother at Christmas. I always miss her so much when Christmas comes.'

'Why don't you go, Margie?'

The young girl shook her head. 'Grandda won't let me even call her name.' The pretty rosy face grew very serious. 'You know, Eily, he never forgave her for marrying my father. Grandda is a general and was one of Wellington's officers. My mother was his only child and he wanted her to marry a high-up officer, or a rich man, or one of the nobility. But she ran away with my father, who was only a half-pay lieutenant. Grandda has never spoken to her since. When my father died Grandda wrote her a letter and said if she would send me to live with him, he would leave me this house and all his money when he died. Grandda is so awfully stern and Aunt Martha is so hard on me, and I do want to see my mother.'

Margie's voice broke into a sob and her pretty brown eyes were filled with tears. I did feel so sorry, both for being without her mother and for having such a grandfather and such a grandaunt.

Miss Martha Flint was certainly a fussy old lady. I think my small self was a severe trial to her. I made a most delightfully dangerous toboggan of the banisters of the winding stairway. Then my John Gilpin exercise on my high-spirited donkey! I think that Miss Martha believed that the fact of my being a wild little American was all that saved my life from hour to hour.

I tried to comfort Margie, for I liked her so much. 'Perhaps you might go and see your mother at Christmas.' She shook her head.

'I daren't ask it. Grandda would murder me if I mentioned her name.'

I shuddered, for I believed him quite capable of it.

'You know, Eily, Grandda always has a splendid dinner at Christmas, but the plum pudding doesn't taste right and the tarts aren't nice a bit when you are away from your mother.'

Margie choked down a sob. We were standing together at the window, looking out upon the snowy streets. We had raised the sash and scattered a few bread crumbs on the window ledge, thereby attracting quite a colony of hungry robins.

'Maybe your mother will have a nice dinner, too, Margie,' I said, trying in my childish way to com-

fort my companion.

Then she broke down utterly. The tears fell on the frosted panes as she leaned her brown curly head against the window.

'Oh, no! Eily, she won't have any nice dinner. She has only a little pension to live on, and she is all by herself. She is so sad and lonesome she will just buy a few penny buns and make a cup of tea and then sit down by a poor little fire, while we have a fine dinner, with Colonel Floyd and his wife and Major Burton and his wife!'

'Oh, yes!' I cried, 'I know, and you will have a new dress, a lovely red delaine, and your Aunt Martha will have a gray poplin. I saw them at the mantua-makers in Dublin when I went to try on my new dress.'

But even the recital of these glories did not cheer up Margie. The picture of the poor lonely little mother was too much for the loving heart. Before I could think of anything further to say by way of comfort a voice, strong, metallic, and hard rang through the corridor.

'Margie! Margie!'

'Coming, Grandda!' and the little girl flew to answer the summons.

I stood awhile watching the nimble robins picking up the crumbs and thinking of Margie. Now I did wish she could have her mother with her at Christmas. What a very dreadful old man the general was. Then Miss Martha, Margie's grandaunt! She was a penitential exercise all by herself. The general was reputed to be wealthy. He was also the possessor of quite a quantity of silver plate, which was always brought out when the general gave a dinner to his friends. For days before and after such a function, Miss Martha lived in terror of robbers breaking into the house.

At this time Fenianism was quite prevalent in Ireland. The old General was loud in his wrath against the Fenians, but they divided with the constantly-expected burglars a large share of Miss Martha's dread. When the early nightfall came in those short December days, Margie had a wearisome pilgrimage to make of every door and window and gate—to see if all were strongly secured.

One bleak, snowy night we sat beside the fire in Miss Martha's room. Margie was reading to me the Arabian Nights and I was lost to the world in following the fortunes of Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves. All at once the knocker of the street door fell with a heavy sound, one lonesome stroke, the regular 'beggar's knock.'

Margie stopped reading and looked inquiringly at her aunt. Miss Martha laid down her knitting and listened. Again the lonesome knock was sounded.

'It's a beggar,' whispered Margie. 'Maybe it's a Fenian,' suggested Miss Martha with a shiver.

Now if there was one thing in this world I did want to see it was a Fenian—a real live Fenian.

I jumped up and started towards the door.

'Stop, Eily,' called Miss Martha. 'O Margie, is the plate all locked up? O! I'm sure it's a Fenian and we will all be murdered. Stephens, the head Fenian, has got out of gaol and is at large.'

'Maybe it's Stephens himself,' I cried trembling with a delightful terror.

I was determined now to get at the door and open it. For the third time the humble, solitary knock resounded.

'Well, Aunt Martha,' said Margie, joining me at the door, 'if it is a

not let him stand there and freeze.' 'Well, well,' sighed Miss Martha resignedly, 'we will all go together; you girls go on ahead and I'll carry the light.'

She lifted the tall silver candlestick and placed it high over our heads; and in this order the little procession moved on to the hall and advanced towards the front door. The heavy bolts were drawn back. The great key of the huge lock turned laboriously. Then the ponderous oaken door swung open. A gust of keen air and a shower of snowflakes sharp as needles flew in upon us.

Without, the candle light fell upon the muffled figure of a man. His hat was drawn down and his face scarcely visible. My excited imagination was at work.

'He looks just like the picture of Stephens,' I whispered to Miss Martha. That good lady almost dropped the candle in her fright. Her trembling hands sent the hot wax on my face and neck. A gruff voice came from under the slouched hat.

'Please, Marm, does Miss Margie Dunn live here?'

'Yes, that is my name,' Margie answered faintly.

'Well, I've a letter for you, Miss. Your mother sent it from Kells. She is very sick and she said as how I was to give it into your own hands.'

The man drew out a letter from the pocket of his great coat. Margie took the letter and was so distressed that she could not answer.

'I'm a carman,' the man continued, 'and I was going to Dublin, so I passed this way. I will pass here again the day after to-morrow, so if you have any message, miss, I will fetch it back.'

Miss Martha here found her voice. 'Won't you come in and have a hot cup of tea, my good man?'

'No, thank ye, ma'am, but I will kindly bid ye good-night.'

With trembling hands, Margie barred the door and we returned to the room. Kneeling down beside the table, Margie placed her letter beside the spluttering candle to read. It seemed to be quite short, but she kept on reading it over and over softly. Suddenly the door was opened and in marched old General Flint. Margie sprang up and ran towards him. The tears were falling fast as she put out her hands.

'O Grandda! Grandda! my mother, my poor mother!'

'Hush!' thundered the General; and I thought that must have been the way the cannon sounded at Waterloo. 'How dare you speak of her?'

Silenced and cowed, poor little Margie crept back to the fireplace. Miss Martha was as pale as a ghost and the knitting needles clinked in her shaking fingers. For me, I waited until the old General turned towards the mantel and I flew towards the open door and breathlessly mounted the stairs.

Next morning I caught only a passing glimpse of Margie. Her eyes were red and swollen and her usually merry face quite dejected. I hung about the winding stairway, hoping to get a sight of my little companion and afraid to go too near the old General. Now upon this winding stairway there were two landings. At the first was a large portrait of General Wellington in full uniform. At the second landing and just above the entrance door of the drawing-room was a handsome portrait of Queen Victoria in her coronation robes. Whenever old General Flint mounted the stairway he always paused before the Iron Duke and gave him a most dignified military salute. 'My commander at Waterloo!' he would impressively announce to the irreverent young Americans, who would afterwards rehearse this salutation, when they were sure that the old General was out of sight. Then when he reached the drawing-room door, he would pause again and make a

most profound obeisance, a regular salaam, to the portrait of the Queen.

'My most gracious Sovereign!' he would impressively remark to the snickering tribe of American democrats, who gathered on the stairway to see this special performance.

Next morning I was sitting in the drawing-room and looking out on the white road. Over the frozen fields I could see the crests of the hills, the beautiful 'Hills of Malahide,' that I loved so dearly in their spring and summer glory. There they rose up, old and white, and I could imagine, for I could not see, how the hard clear waves dashed like broken crystals on the strand at the feet of the rocky hills.

The old General was mounting the stairway with the ponderous and precise tread of a war charger. I went to the door because I could not miss seeing him salute his commander at Waterloo and his most gracious Sovereign.

After he had given Queen Victoria his most gracious salaam, he surveyed my small self from his soldierly altitude. When our exchange of 'good morning' was over there was a painful pause. Whatever could a poor little girl say to a tall, stern, straight old man, who had helped the Iron Duke fight the battle of Waterloo.

I had so often been puzzled by the old General's reverence for the Queen that I now ventured to inquire:

'Do you think Queen Victoria is such a beautiful lady, General?'

'She is my most gracious Sovereign,' he answered with another profound salute, as if that fact removed all doubts as to her superlative beauty. But I was an American; and, besides, the Queen did not seem anything like as attractive to me as the Queen of the Fairies I had seen in the Christmas pantomime in Dublin, and I did not think that the most gracious Sovereign could dance near as long on one foot as the agile young performer.

Then I remembered a picture which Margie had shown me of her mother, just as she was going to the Castle Ball in Dublin.

'But, General, the Queen isn't near such a pretty lady as Margie's mother.' These last two words were almost whispered.

But he evidently heard me, for he wheeled about, facing me. 'How do you know that Margie's mother was so pretty?'

'Because I saw her picture. Margie showed it to me. Such a beautiful lady, all in a lovely dress going to the Castle Ball. Margie says you were going with her and she does look so lovely—lots more lovely than Queen Victoria.'

The old man was so silent that I grew frightened. But I kept on. 'She's sick now too. That's what the carman said when he brought Margie a letter. And she's poor and she won't have any Christmas dinner. Only some penny buns and a cup of tea. Margie says that the plum pudding don't taste right when you want to see your mother.'

Gen. Flint stood silently staring at me. Then he asked:—

'Do you think that Margie's mother, my daughter, is really prettier than the Queen?'

'O lots prettier!' I nodded decidedly.

'And Margie can't eat her plum pudding without her mother.'

'It doesn't taste right. Then how can she eat it when her mother is so sick?'

'That must be so. It must be so.'

The old man was ascending the steps. He stopped half way and looked up at me.

'Little girl, what was it the angels sang on Christmas? My poor old head cannot carry even a song.'

'Peace and goodwill to men.'

'Good will to men. Peace and goodwill.' He took a few steps downwards. He seemed to be talking to himself.

'Mother and child. They were together that Christmas night. How can a Christian man separate a mother and her child at such a time?' The old man was slowly descending the stairs. He forgot to salute the Duke of Wellington and he did not look like a veteran of Waterloo: only a sad and tired old man.

That evening Margie flew up to my room.

'O Eily! Eily!' she was half-crying and half laughing. 'Grandda says I am to go back to Kells with the carman; and when my mother is better I am to bring her back and we are to be together not only for Christmas but for all the time.'

Next morning I watched Margie as she mounted the jaunting car and rode away. On Christmas Eve she rode back in Col. Floyd's coach, which had been sent for her, and which was like a house on wheels. Her mother, pale and gentle, but very pretty, was with her.

General Flint did not give any Christmas dinner to his distinguished friends. All the handsome plate, however, was brought out, and Margie wore her new red delaine and Miss Martha wore her grey poplin. I think that the dinner was a great success, for everybody seemed so happy. Margie's mother sat beside her little girl, and her eyes were bright and shining as the goblets that held the wine. Nothing would do but I must come in for the dessert, and the old General asked me if the plum pudding tasted all right now.

Then he rose up and lifted his silver goblet of wine and drank a toast 'to the memory of my commander at Waterloo,' and then another toast to 'her most gracious Majesty the Queen.'—Exchange.

Catholic World

CHINA.—Converts.

It is estimated that there are 16,531 baptised Christians in South Shantung, China, and about 30,000 catechumens.

ENGLAND.—Leeds Cathedral.

The Leeds Corporation having acquired the site of the present Catholic Cathedral with the view of effecting city improvements, a fresh site has been secured and arrangements have been made for erecting a new cathedral of imposing aspect. The plans have been approved and the high altar alone is to cost £1800. A member of the congregation has offered to present the altar rails. July 26 is fixed for laying the foundation stone of the new cathedral.

Children's Crusade.

His Eminence Cardinal Vaughan, in a letter to the members of the Catholic Children's Crusade, says: 'I write because I am the Father of more than 50,000 children, counting infants in arms as well as those of school age. You, my dear children, are educating no less than 50 of these little people by the collection which you make every year for their maintenance. You have collected over 100,000 pence during the course of each Lent, and you have therefore brought me over £500 for our orphans and abandoned children on Good Shepherd Sunday. I hope you will be able to do the same thing this year.'

FRANCE.—Permitted to Remain

A pleasing illustration of the affection felt for the Nursing Sisters of St. Vincent de Paul was given some weeks ago at Treignac. The Municipal Council met on that day to decide, under the provisions of the Associations Law, whether the Sisterhood should be disbanded or retained. The Sisters, who are charged with the direction of the local hospital, have been engaged in their good work in Treignac for 40 years past, and in view of their ser-

vices, the Council unanimously voted for their retention. But the Council afraid probably of the authorities in Paris, decided to make a referendum to the whole population. At five o'clock the same evening all Treignac assembled to determine whether the Sisters were to be turned adrift or maintained at the hospital. A couple of workmen mounted the platform and spoke so fervently on behalf of the Sisters that the meeting unanimously decided to keep the good nuns. After the vote, the gentleman who presided asked if any person present was of an opinion contrary to that of the meeting. Not a hand was raised! So the good Sisters remain at Treignac. Yet Treignac is thoroughly Republican and has a Mayor, who is also a Deputy, who voted for the suppression of the Embassy to the Vatican, and for the separation of the Church and State. Treignac should now get a real Catholic Deputy to represent it in Parliament.

HOLLAND.

A discussion is going on among the Dutch Catholics as to the necessity or desirability of establishing a Catholic University in Holland. Opinion on the matter is not undivided, a number of authorities holding that such a university is not a necessity.

ROME.—Peter's Pence.

Among the nations which contribute to Peter's Pence Italy comes first with £12,440, Austria second with £10,800, the United States a good third with £9,960. Then follow Germany (£8520), Spain (£8,080), Great Britain (£7760), Belgium (£6520), and other countries for the total amount of £27,960.

An Audience.

Among those received by the Holy Father recently was the Rev. Donald Mackintosh, D.D., Vice-Rector of the Scots College. He had the honor of presenting to his Holiness the latest arrival at the College, Mr. John Charleson, lately minister of Thornliebank. The Holy Father was most gracious to this interesting convert. Mr. Charleson asked a special blessing for Canon Carmichael, then seriously ill, who had received him into the Church, and the blessing was most graciously granted.

Death of a Cardinal.

The weird Roman legend that Cardinals never die alone, but are invariably accompanied to the grave by two of their colleagues (says the Rome correspondent of the 'Catholic Times'), has again been partially confirmed by the unexpected death of Cardinal Gasca. His Eminence expired, surrounded by the Superiors of the Augustinian Order, to which he belonged. A solemn Requiem Mass was celebrated on Sunday morning in the Church of Sta. Maria del Popolo, several members of the Sacred College being present.

SCOTLAND.

According to the 'Western Catholic Calendar,' the estimated Catholic population of the archdiocese of Glasgow is 384,542. There are 227 priests (secular and regular), 81 missions, 112 churches, chapels and stations; institutions—education, 19; others, 13; mission schools, 138; number of baptisms in 1901, 13,459; confirmations, 5919; children presented at religious examinations, 44,544.

Death of a Priest.

The death is reported of the Rev. Thomas Macdonald, of St. Peter's Church, Aberdeen, which took place on February 3. A native of Strathglass, Inverness-shire, Father Macdonald determined in early life to become a priest, and for this purpose prosecuted his studies with great zeal at Blairs, Paris, and Rome. He was ordained in 1891, and served most successfully for some time in



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Occasional doses of these Pills will guard the system against those evils which so often beset the human race, viz.—coughs, colds, and all disorders of the liver and stomach—the frequent forerunners of fever, dysentery, diarrhoea, and cholera.

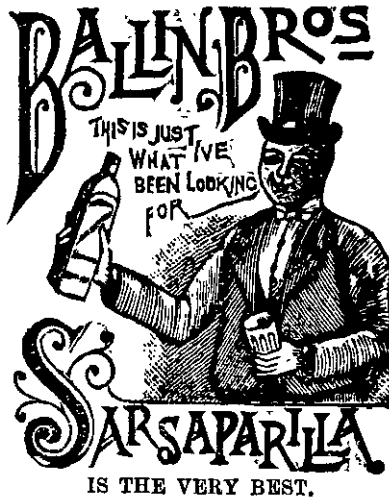
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as all are caused by an inefficient action of the kidneys and liver.

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restores the kidneys and liver to health, and enables those important organs to extract and expel all urinary and biliary poisons. It is the presence of these poisons in the system which produces all the diseases above specified. The pain suffered is but Nature's cry for help. Warner's Safe Cure affords this help, and thus effects a speedy, natural, and permanent cure in all cases.

Woodside, Banff, ere going to Aberdeen, where, up till his death, he was held in the highest esteem owing to his splendid priestly qualities. The deceased was only 35 years of age.

SOUTH AFRICA.

The Rev. Father Gaughran, Superior of the Oblates at Leith, Scotland, has been appointed by the Holy See to the Bishopric of Kimberley. His consecration was to take place in St. Mary's, Star of the Sea, Leith, on Passion Sunday. Father Gaughran, who was ordained in 1868, is a brother of the late Bishop of Kimberley, and there can be no doubt that his appointment will give the greatest possible satisfaction.

A New Cathedral.

The foundation stone of Bishop Jolivet's new Catholic Cathedral in Natal has been blessed, and the building is proceeding under the happiest auspices. The estimated cost of the new Cathedral is £25,000.

UNITED STATES.

From advance sheets of the new ecclesiastical directory it seems that Chicago is the second English-speaking diocese in the world. New York is still first, but Chicago ranks second with a Catholic population of about 800,000. During the past year nine new parishes were founded, making a total of 135 parishes in the city.

The Philippines.

The long-promised Bull to the clergy and people of the Philippines (says the San Francisco 'Monitor') has been completed and signed by the Pope. The cable tells us that it is the result of a full and free agreement between the Vatican and the American Government. The new Delegate Apostolic, Mgr. Sharetti, who is coming to this country on his way to Manila, will bring a copy of the Bull to the President and then it will be published to the world.

The Difference.

Many persons are now beginning to see (says an American Catholic exchange) the difference between the missions given to non-Catholics and the methods usually adopted by those who preach against the Catholic Church. The Catholic missionaries do not come out with bitter attacks on our separated brethren; they open no hostile controversy with Protestant denominations; they simply and plainly explain the dogmas of the Catholic Church, and invite comparison. Protestant evangelists rarely pursue such a manly course. Few of them would dare address an audience of well-informed Catholics, while the Catholic missionaries invite, preferably, the most enlightened and intelligent Protestants.

The Hierarchy.

Many races (says an American exchange) are represented among the bishops of this country. There are, for instance, the Anglo-Americans like Bishops Williams, Northrop and Curtis; the French, like Bishops Chapelle, Durier, Gloricux, and Rouxel; the Germans, like Archbishop Katzer, and Bishops Alerding,

Eis, Fink, Haid, Horstmann, Maes Schwebach, Moeller, Richter; the Dutch, like Bishops Janssen and Van de Vyver; the Irish, like Archbishops Corrigan, Ireland, Keane, Rioridan, Ryan, Feehan, Bishops Burke, Donalhue, O'Reilly, and Phelan; and the peoples represented by Bishops Gabriels, Matz, Messmer, Meerschaeert and Trobec. Strange to say, there are no Spaniards, though some of the sees were founded by Spanish missionaries, and there are many Spaniards in the United States. But Archbishops Chapelle and Bourgade and Bishop Granjon and other prelates speak Spanish.

The Church in Chicago.

In the archdiocese of Chicago, last year, 21,800 children were confirmed. This is an evidence of phenomenal growth. During the same time, 9 new parishes were established in the diocese. Twelve new churches were erected where there were no churches before. Eighteen fine new church edifices were erected to replace smaller and less valuable structures. In the matter of schools, 10 new schoolhouses were erected and opened to Catholic children, and 11 additions of several new rooms were built in connection with schools already running. Chicago is on the high road to becoming perhaps the very greatest see in the Catholic world.

A Splendid Gift.

Mr. E. J. Le Breton's splendid gift of \$100,000 for the site and buildings of an old peoples' home, under the direction of the Little Sisters of the Poor (says the 'Monitor'), is one of the most munificent individual endowments of charity recorded in San Francisco. No worthier or more deserving object could have been selected by the generous donor, than the special work of the Little Sisters among the aged neglected and destitute of both sexes. More practical good for humanity will be actually accomplished by the expenditure of this money, than can be reasonably expected to accrue from the investment of many times the amount in such philanthropies as public libraries and the like.

No Color Line.

Agitation of what is known as the 'Jim Crow' car, separating blacks and whites in transportation vehicles in Maryland, has one feature that is specially interesting. Protesting against such proposed legislation, a colored Methodist preacher in Baltimore said in part: 'It may seem strange, but it is nevertheless true, that the only Church in Maryland where colored people are welcome and in which white people worship in large numbers is the Catholic Church. This fact, together with the other fact that there is no color line known in Catholic countries, are causing not a few colored people to regard the Catholic Church as the power raised up by God to break the chains riveted on them by Protestants of the United States in Church and State,

and they are going to Rome, as they find it more difficult to swallow Protestantism's practical denial of the brotherhood of man than the dogmas of Rome.'

The Religious Future.

A special cablegram from Rome to the American Press announces the appointment of Very Rev. Dr. Philip J. Garrigan, vice-rector of the Catholic University of Washington, as Bishop of the new diocese of Sioux City, Iowa. Very Rev. William J. Kenny, Vicar-General of the diocese of St. Augustine, Florida, has, according to the same authority, been nominated Bishop of that diocese, to succeed Right Rev. John Moore, who died last July.

GENERAL.

Appointments.

The London 'Daily News' says in a recent issue that 'every impartial traveller has come away from Australia with the conviction that the religious future of that great continent is with the Catholic Church.'

THE HOLIDAYS ARE HERE!

What are you going to give your boys and girls for a Christmas present? If you use 'Book Gift' Tea you can have your choice from our catalogue of over 500 good and useful books, absolutely free. If you cannot procure catalogues of books from your grocer, send to W. Scouler and Co., wholesale agents, Dunedin, and a copy will be posted you by return mail. The following useful books are on our catalogue:—Mrs. Beeton's Book on Cookery and household management, given with 6lb of tea; The Doctor at Home, a book that should be in every house, given with 10lb of tea; The Amateur Carpenter, given with 10lb of tea; The Enquirer's Oracle, or Enquire within upon everything. The money spent by others in extensive advertising and showy labels and tins is given by us to the customer in the form of high class literature.—***

A WORD OF WARNING.—There cannot, unfortunately, be the slightest doubt that that dreadful scourge, Consumption, has obtained a strong hold in New Zealand, and anything which will tend to counteract its terrible ravages should be welcomed as a boon and a blessing to mankind. A slight cold, neglected in its earlier stages, is frequently the precursor of phthisis, and many a valuable life could have been saved had an effectual remedy been applied before the disease had established itself in the system. Such a remedy is to be found in TUSSICURA, and the innumerable testimonials received by the inventor of this preparation, which has earned a world-wide reputation, prove conclusively that it is a certain cure for all pulmonary complaints.***

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GENTLEMEN,—We have much pleasure in again tendering our services as Brokers for the sale of your clip in this market, or for shipment of same to our London Agents, making liberal cash advances thereon if required.

OUR WOOL EXCHANGE is conveniently situated in the centre of the trade, and being connected by private siding to rail and wharves, buyers have special facilities in getting their purchases rapidly cleared and shipped, while trucks with growers' consignments are delivered direct into store.

OUR SHOW ROOM is large and commodious, and specially lighted for the most effective display of the Wools; buyers are thus in a position to value to the best advantage, and to operate with such confidence as must ensure a satisfactory sale, to which end no pains will be spared on our part.

The Dunedin Wool Sales are now fully recognised as the best selling centre. They are attended regularly by a large number of local and provincial buyers, also by buyers from England, the Continent, and America.

DATES OF SALES { The First Sale will be held on THURSDAY, 9th January, 1902.
The Second Sale will be held on THURSDAY, 30th January, 1902.
The Third Sale will be held on THURSDAY, 27th February, 1902

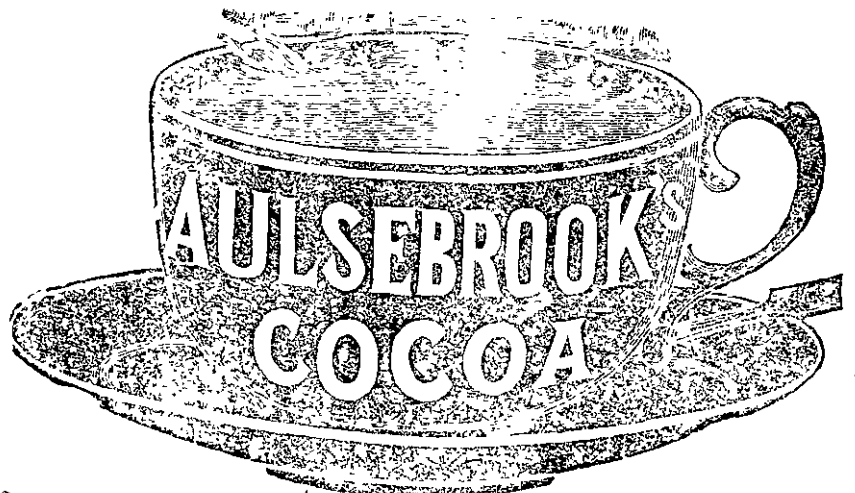
ACCOUNT SALES will be rendered, and proceeds paid over promptly within six days of sale, as heretofore.

CHARGES.—All charges throughout will be made on the very lowest scale.
INSURANCE, &c.—All Wool and other produce consigned to us is fully covered by insurance from the time it enters our Stores, and Wool can be covered from sheep's back if desired. Consignment Notes, Wool Packs, and all Station Requisites forwarded at once on application.

We remain, yours faithfully,

DONALD REID & CO., Ltd.

Build up your Constitution by taking



Full of **NOURISHING** and **SUSTAINING** QUALITIES.

Bees, Wasps and Hornets.

The common wasp as a rule keeps its sting for self-defence (says an English paper). It will bite a fly in two with its jaws if it gets in its way on a window-pane, but it does not use its sting even when trying to rob a bee-hive and 'tackled' by the bees. The latter will push a wasp away five or six times, hustling it off the footboard, without provoking it to sting. But if a bee endeavors to sting a wasp it then grapples with it and stings back, killing or numbing the insect almost at once. British wasps are fussy and excitable but not vicious, like many of the Indian wild bees. However crowded or uncomfortable they may be, they very rarely quarrel with or sting each other, as, for instance, when a number are on the same window-pane, fretting and anxious to get out. Only when the entrance to their nest is threatened do they become actively aggressive, and then as a rule the attack is not begun till the person who excites their fear interposes between them and the entrance to the nest. A setter dog was noticed to turn and bite itself, whimpering with pain, just as the party was sitting down to a shooting luncheon by the side of a wood in Yorkshire. The dog being tired, had lain down on the hole of a wasps' nest, and five or six of the yellow insects were stinging it at once but they did not touch the persons sitting close by.

Bees are far more free in the use of their stings than wasps, and often go out on an expedition of the most criminal kind, as fully intending to use their deadly weapon as was the late Mr. Charles Peace when he went a-burgling with a revolver. Every now and then a swarm makes up its mind to burgle another hive and steal the honey. Robbery and bee-slaughter, if not murder in the first degree, are their object. They sting the raided swarm, and the latter sting the raiders, and when this has been going on every bee near the place is ready to 'shoot at sight,' so to speak, and sting persons passing by. Besides this, bees have fads and fancies about people whom they like and dislike. They will sting the latter quite unprovoked.

Hornets, which are only large wasps, are very different from the latter in temperament, and far less active. This is matter for thankfulness, for the amount of poison emitted by a hornet is enough to cause most serious results. The pain is intense. The writer has seen a boy stung on the head faint at once from the shock. The results to some constitutions are so serious that the dread in which hornets are held is by no means unwarranted. But they are among the most sluggish of winged insects. They will sit for hours on a dying elm tree, apparently almost torpid, drinking the sweet sap, and if by chance one enters a house it will remain quietly on the window-pane, without any of the buzzing and fuss made by a bee or a wasp.

Although it is not at all unusual to hear people speak slightly of 'patent' medicines, the enormous demand for them throughout the whole of the civilised world is in itself proof that they are regarded generally as one of the necessities of life. The majority of housewives would consider themselves as wanting in their duty if they did not have at hand the remedies which experience has taught them to use in cases of emergency, and nobody will venture to question the wisdom of this. Among the remedies which no household should be without is **EVANS'S WITCH'S OIL**, an invaluable cure for rheumatic complaints of every description, which has proved itself to be unequalled both as an embrocation and an internal medicine.—***

German Catholic Press.

A correspondent writing to the 'Catholic Sentinel' of Portland, Oregon, says that the success of the Catholic Congress at Ulm, where 25,000 subjects of the King of Wurtemberg met to make public profession of faith and to take measures to oppose the Los-Von-Rome propaganda, was a significant demonstration of the vitality of the Catholic Church in that two-third Protestant country.

The great hit of the solemn Ulm assizes was made by Mr. Groeber, a fearless defender of Catholic interests in the Wurtemberg Centrum. His was the closing speech of the convention, its subject being the new 'Kulturkampf,' in which the Masonic fraternities of Austria, Germany, France, and Italy lately embarked.

Let us not forget, he said, that in this universal campaign of lies and calumnies the great means of resistance is the Catholic press—powerful and vigilant. We need a press which will signal attack, will denounce plots, will enlighten men of good faith and confound others. To you it belongs, dear friends, to make the role of this press easier and more efficacious. . . . Let us thank God for having renewed Catholic enthusiasm in us during these convention days and for having gathered us, 25,000 strong, at Ulm. And to thank him in a sincere and practical way, that is what I propose. Back in your homes, take up a pen and subscribe at once to a paper thoroughly Catholic.

Every year at the General German Catholic congress held in August, one of the principal speeches is devoted to the work of Catholic journalism, and it is always one of the most popular orators who pleads its cause—very often a Catholic priest. Indeed, the German clergy have ever been the first to discharge the three fold duty which they seek to inculcate on the people with regard to their press—subscribe, advertise, correspond. On every large and small daily, on almost every weekly, there is a priest whom the hostile press has nicknamed the 'Press Curat.'

To-day Catholic Germany is proud of its press. Four hundred and seventeen newspapers, with two million subscribers, form the vanguard of the faithful Catholic body that fights for truth, justice, and liberty.

Digestion of Plants.

It is well known that certain plants, of which the Sundew and the Venus's Fly-trap are examples, capture insects for food and digest them. Botanists have discovered that the leaf which captures the prey throws out a digestive fluid upon the insect, and that this fluid exhibits a composition analogous to that found in the gastric juice of our own stomach. Certain other plants capture insects by means of their pitcher-like leaves, the best-known species of these latter plants belonging to the group known under the name of Nepenthes. In the pitcher-like leaves the insects are drowned, and their bodies undergo a decomposition. Professor S. H. Vime, in a recent communication to the Lamsden Society, points out that in the Nepenthes the digestive ferment is not so much like that of the animal stomach as like that found in the pancreas or sweetbread. This latter organ furnishes a fluid which can digest all kinds of food, and one substance in its fluid, trypsin, to wit, acts specially on nitrogenous matter. It is this tryptic principle which is represented in the pitcher plants, and Professor Vime inclines to think that it is also represented in other insect-eating plants. If this be the case we shall have to regard the Sundews as also leaning rather to

the side of the sweetbread than to that of the stomach. Another likeness to the higher animal world might perhaps be found in the differences between the mode of feeding seen in the Sundews and in the pitcher plants. The former take their food in a fresh state; the latter, it is commonly believed, like their food rather 'high.'

At first signs of the approach of consumption, ward off all danger by taking **TUSSICURA**.***

If you are suffering from Bronchitis, send to your chemist for **TUSSICURA**. You will receive instant relief.***

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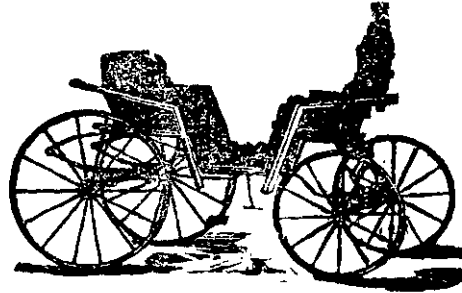
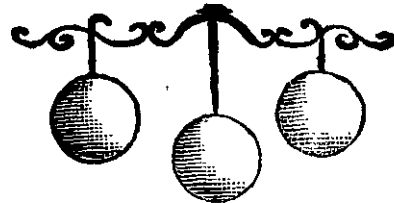
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