

INTERCOLONIAL.

The death is reported of Mr Thomas Joseph Freehill, elder brother of Major Freehill, who died at Lewisham Hospital on August 12, aged 50 years. General sympathy will be evoked by this latest addition to the already numerous bereavements sustained during the past few years by Major and Mrs Freehill.

The Rev. E. J. Flanagan, of Kelso, a short time ago was presented by his parishioners with a complete driving turn-out. It consisted of a well-built hooded buggy, horse and harness, which cost 62 guineas. Father Flanagan is exceedingly popular with his flock, and his friends of other denominations are legion. The presentation took place at the presbytery in Kelso. Father Flanagan expressed his gratitude to his people very feelingly.

At the Trinity College (London) Musical Examinations, held in Broomhampton recently, the Sisters of Mercy achieved a phenomenal success. Out of 30 pupils presented by the nuns, no less than 28 secured passes, six of whom were awarded honors. Considering the notoriously stiff and searching nature of the Trinity College tests, this result is another of the numberless testimonies to the capabilities of the Sisters as teachers.

Amongst those present at the public meeting held in the Sydney Town Hall to inaugurate a relief fund in connection with the Mount Kembla mining disaster was his Grace the Coadjutor-Archbishop Dr. Kelly, Very Rev. Father T. A. Fitzgerald, O.F.M., and the Rev. Father M. A. Fleming. A subscription list was opened, his Grace giving £5 5s, and the Franciscan Fathers £3 3s. Senator R. E. O'Connor was one of the speakers at the meeting.

Two disastrous strikes are impending in the Commonwealth. The first is the employees of the Victorian Railway Department who threaten to strike against the proposal of the Irvine Government to reduce their wages as part of a scheme of retrenchment. The second is the dispute between the shearers and the squatters, the former demanding an increase of the shearing rates to 22s 6d per 100, the latter declining to advance beyond the rates now ruling. It seems little short of madness (says the *Freeman's Journal*) to engage in industrial conflicts at the moment when these States are suffering from an unparalleled depression consequent upon the drought. We hope that both calamities will be avoided.

In the course of an interesting speech, at the opening of the La Perouse tramway, Sydney, the Premier, Sir John See, gave some reminiscences of the shores of Botany Bay, particularly in reference to the death of a famous Franciscan. 'While in Botany Bay,' said Sir John, 'the French lost a very distinguished member, Father Le Receveur, chaplain of the expedition, and a man of distinguished scientific attainments. Father Le Receveur was a member of the Franciscan Order, a community which has a branch settled amongst us at Waverley. The French buried their chaplain close by where they were standing, and later on when the Government of King Charles X. despatched an expedition to search for the missing navigator that expedition visited Sydney and made a pilgrimage to this spot, and with the consent of the New South Wales Government erected the monument which commemorates the death of the chaplain and the visit of their distinguished countrymen to these shores. The fate of La Perouse and his companions long remained a mystery. Like the ill-fated Leichhardt, most contradictory stories were in circulation as to his ultimate end, and tales of his having visited various islands and ports separated by long stretches of ocean were current among mariners. It was not until 1826 that there was authentic information. In that year Captain Peter Dillon, who was visiting the island of Vanikoro in the New Hebrides, brought away with him relics which, after 38 years of uncertainty, for ever set at rest any doubts that existed of the gallant explorer's fate. It is fitting that near this historic spot should be placed the terminus of the cable which connects New Zealand with the rest of the world.'

The death of Mr J. J. O'Reilly, at Liverpool, New South Wales removes (says the *Freeman's Journal*) a well-known resident of the South Coast and other districts from a large circle of friends to whom an honorable career, coupled with a most amiable Irish disposition, had endeared him. Deep regret has been felt far and wide at his demise. The late Mr O'Reilly had been for about 20 years a resident in the South Coast districts, where he had carried on business as a chemist and druggist, and was, at Cobargo, the proprietor of a newspaper called the 'Watch,' since changed to the name of the 'Cobargo Chronicle.' Latterly Mr O'Reilly had resided in Liverpool, where he was held in the same affectionate esteem which he had always won from his townsmen elsewhere. About 26 years ago he came to New South Wales from Rosscarbery, County Cork, Ireland, of which place he was a native. He leaves behind him a wife, three sons, and three daughters, all grown to maturity. During his illness the late Mr O'Reilly had been carefully attended by the Rev. Father Walsh, of Liverpool, and at the graveside were two of his former parish priests, the Rev. Father Bernard Sheridan and the Rev. Father Flavanan. The last absolutions were given at the church by Rev. Father Walsh, who also officiated at the graveside. Among those present, besides those already mentioned, were Messrs Peter O'Reilly, Eugene O'Reilly, E. W. O'Reilly, Bert Griffiths, J. and H. Griffiths, P. McNamee, H. Murphy, Chapman (mayor), W. Clarke, W. Armstrong, T. W. Ford, and others. The cause of death was bronchial pneumonia. The deceased was a cousin of the Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly, of Thames, New Zealand.

Messrs Grierson and Davis, wine and spirit merchants, Hereford street, Christchurch, have several hotels for sale or to let. Persons requiring such properties should call on or communicate with this well known firm...

Friends at Court

CLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

- August 31, Sunday.—Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost. St. Raymund Nonnatus, Confessor.
- September 1, Monday.—St. Ludovicus, Confessor.
- " 2, Tuesday.—St. Stephen of Hungary, King.
- " 3, Wednesday.—St. Elizabeth of Portugal, Queen.
- " 4, Thursday.—St. Rose of Viterbo, Virgin.
- " 5, Friday.—St. Lawrence Justinian, Bishop.
- " 6, Saturday.—St. Ramoldus, Martyr.

ST. RAYMUND NONNATUS, CONFESSOR.

According to the rule laid down by Christ, that the Christian proves himself his most faithful disciple, and gives the surest proof of his love of God, who most perfectly loves his neighbor for God's sake. Judged by this test of true sanctity, St. Raymund should rank high among the saints. Born in Spain in 1204, he gave not only his property, but also his liberty, and even exposed himself to the most cruel torments and death, in order to promote the spiritual welfare, and accomplish the redemption of Christians held in captivity by the Moors. After a life wholly spent in the service of his neighbor, he died near Barcelona in 1240.

ST. STEPHEN OF HUNGARY.

One of the first acts of St. Stephen, King of Hungary, on ascending the throne was to unite himself to Latin Christendom. By his marriage with Gisela, the sister of Emperor Henry II., he became closely connected with Catholic Germany, whose civilisation he sought, by every means, to introduce among his subjects. Assisted by German and Bohemian priests, Stephen succeeded in extending the Christian religion over the whole kingdom; throughout the land churches and monasteries rose. He sent an embassy to Pope Sylvester II., and received from him the present of a royal crown and a papal edict empowering him to regulate the ecclesiastical affairs of his realm. His religious zeal gained him the title of 'Apostolic King' from Pope Sylvester II., with the right of having the cross borne before him.

ST. ELIZABETH, QUEEN OF PORTUGAL.

St. Elizabeth, Queen of Portugal, was a daughter of Pedro III. of Arragon, being named after her aunt, St. Elizabeth of Hungary. At 12 years of age she was given in marriage to Denis, King of Portugal, and from a holy child became a saintly wife. Her husband caused her much sorrow, both by his unfounded jealousy and by his infidelity to her. Her patience and the wonderful charity with which she even cherished the children of her rivals, completely won the king from his evil ways, and he became a devoted husband and a truly christian king. She built many charitable institutions and religious houses, among others a convent of Poor Clares. After her husband's death she wished to enter this Order; but being dissuaded by her people, she took the habit of the Third Order of St. Francis, and spent the rest of her life in redoubled austerities and almsgiving.

ST. LAWRENCE JUSTINIAN, BISHOP AND CONFESSOR.

St. Lawrence Justinian, who was the first Patriarch of Venice was born in that city about the year 1380. He was General of the Canons Regular of the Congregation of St. George, was appointed Bishop of Venice in 1433, and Patriarch in 1451. He built at Venice 10 churches and several monasteries.

In connection with the recent junior university examinations (says the *Sydney Freeman's Journal*), it is satisfactory to note that our Catholic schools occupy a responsible position in the list of passes. In this list, the place of honor has fallen to the lot of our oldest Catholic school—St. Mary's High school, conducted by the Mariet Brothers. The Director of the school—Brother Ephrem—sent up 18 boys, all of whom passed, and two of their number, Master Herbert Vaughan and Master Patrick Sarsfield McMahon, won the university medals for geometry and inorganic chemistry respectively. The next highest number of passes from any Catholic school was 10, and the next highest number from any of the great public schools, Forth street excepted, was nine, so that St. Mary's High school has secured a position of marked distinction which it has many friends and the friends of Catholic education generally may well be proud of. St. Mary's High school has an enrolment of only 140 boys, whose ages range from seven years upwards. A pass list of 13 per cent. of the enrolment taken in conjunction with the winning of two medals is a splendid achievement. This will be more readily seen by a further comparison with the results. A great school, say, like Forth street, where they have a special teacher for each subject, where the pupils are practically selected, and where the best efforts of the Public Instruction Department are put forward to secure junior passes: Forth street, with an enrolment of about 2000 in the primary departments passed 80 pupils or four per cent. of the enrolment. In the matter of junior passes St. Mary's High school is relatively doing more than three times the work of Forth street.

Messrs Louis Gille and Co., Liverpool street, Sydney, have a notice of interest to church choirs and others in our advertising columns. This firm has a very large stock of Church music, including Masses by the leading composers, which is offered at very reasonable prices....