

INTERCOLONIAL.

Master Patrick John Wallace, who passed the Senior University examinations in Sydney with such credit to himself and his school—the Christian Brothers' College, Nudgee, Queensland—has secured first place amongst Queensland boys for the year, and has been awarded the scholarship of £100 a year, tenable for three years, given by the Queensland Government.

Through the efforts of Mr J. W. R. Clarke, of Newtown, a very fine monument, surmounted by a cross, has been erected over the grave of Madame Sara Elizabeth Flower in the Catholic portion of the La Perouse cemetery. Madame Flower who died in 1865, at the age of 43 years, was the greatest singer of her time in Australia, and was in every sense a distinguished woman. To all those in need of assistance she gave a helping hand. She was a convert to the Catholic Church.

By the retirement of First-class Sub-Inspector Byrne from the police on pension, after 40 years' active service, the New South Wales force loses one of its ablest and most intrepid officers. The exceptional deeds of real bravery which this officer performed in the series of years during which the notorious bushrangers known as Clarke's gang reigned in the Jingera Mountains and adjacent districts would fill a volume of interesting and sensational reading.

At the Catholic Ladies' College (says the 'Argus') Archbishop Carr took the opportunity to say a few words on the education question in the prevailing spirit of peace and goodwill. After a humorous reference to his reverend opponent at another ladies' college, he said, where there was no question of faith of Catholic children involved, he desired children of every other denomination to receive just as good, true, practical help in religious matters as he desired for Catholic children. Nothing would please him better than if every child in the Commonwealth were brought to a knowledge of fear and love of God. To this his help would be willingly given, only, in imparting such instruction, he did not wish any risk of danger to Catholic children.

It may not be generally known that Sir Charles Gavan Duffy was the father of Australian Federation. In an able article, entitled, 'The Empire and the Colonies,' appearing in the current issue of the 'Edinburgh Review,' page 481, the writer pays this tribute to the foresight and wisdom of the veteran statesman:—'Up to 1862 Federation was only the dream of an Irish idealist. Charles Gavan Duffy, who had been accounted a noted separatist in his own country—one of the most romantic figures in the history of the British Empire in the nineteenth century, and happily still surviving into the twentieth.'

Chevalier Wiegand, who was too much an artist for the City Council (says the Sydney 'Catholic Press') is doing well in America, where the great organist is evidently appreciated. Writing recently to a friend, he announces his appointment as organist and choirmaster at St. Paul's Catholic Church, Oswego, New York. The Belgian organist is to receive a salary of £600 a year, with three months' holiday in the year, and liberty to give recitals outside Oswego on certain days of the week and to take pupils. In order to accept this post Mr. Wiegand declined an offer of £700 as organ-professor at the Bush Temple Conservatorium, Chicago.

His Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne, in the course of a speech at the distribution of prizes at the Christian Brothers' College, Victoria parade, said:—'It was sometimes imputed to the Irish people that they were wanting in culture, and that they had not that fervent loyalty to the throne that other parts of the Empire had. It was also stated in regard to them that they were wanting in thrift. If that was said to anyone who was acquainted with all that led to the condition of Ireland in 1802, plain reasons would be found for whatever foundation there was for those allegations, which were now brought forward by those whose ancestors were themselves the cause of the sad condition of Ireland for many centuries, the result of which had extended even to their own day. Why, it was a crime in Ireland for some hundred years to teach or to try to secure for the children of Irish Catholic parents that education which alone could be safely imparted to them! It was said that the Irish were thriftless. If they were they were made so, for several centuries, when all sources of profit and emolument which might have been open to them were closed against them by their rulers and by their oppressors. It was said that the Irish were wanting in fervent loyalty. Well, as far as fervor was concerned, that might be conceded, though he believed that so far as the real solidity of it was concerned, it should not; but if there was any want of loyalty to the throne, or respect for the law on the part of Irishmen, who was it that should make the accusation? Was it those whose ancestors by dire persecution compelled Irishmen to look on the law not as a source of protection, but with feelings of reverence, but with feelings of fear and anger on account of the injury that was inflicted on them in the name of the law. When, therefore, they heard those charges levelled against Irishmen they ought to have an answer ready.'

The very worst cough or cold succumbs to Tussicura. Obtainable from all chemists and storekeepers.—***

Friends at Court

CLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

- January 11, Sunday.—Sunday within the Octave.
- " 12, Monday.—Seventh day in Octave of Epiphany.
- " 13, Tuesday.—Octave of the Epiphany.
- " 14, Wednesday.—St. Hilary, Bishop, Confessor; and Doctor.
- " 15, Thursday.—St. Ita, Virgin.
- " 16, Friday.—St. Fursey, Abbot.
- " 17, Saturday.—St. Anthony, Abbot.

St. Hilary, Bishop, Confessor, and Doctor.

St. Hilary, the scion of a noble family of Poitiers, was born between 320 and 325. He received his scientific education in his native town and in Bordeaux, where he more especially applied himself to the study of rhetoric. The more he saw of the profligate life of his fellow-citizens, the more his noble soul was filled with disgust and longed after the knowledge of truth. The perusal of Holy Scripture freed him from all the doubts which heathen philosophy had raised in his mind, and together with his wife and daughter he embraced Christianity in 350. On account of his holy life, both the clergy and people demanded his elevation to the bishopric of Poitiers, and he was consecrated shortly before 355. Thenceforth he led a life of continency, devoting himself entirely to his episcopal duties. His uncompromising opposition to Arianism, favored by the Emperor Constantius, caused him to be banished by that prince to Phrygia. But as his influence here seemed to be still more dreaded by the Arians, he was allowed, in 359, to return to his bishopric, where he continued, by word and writing, and especially by means of synods, to combat Arianism with such success that he caused the Gallican bishops completely to renounce it. True, he was not able to gain over Auxentius, Bishop of Milan, which city was the stronghold of Arianism, but he forced him to be more cautious. The latter years of his life were spent in quietude, occupied with exegetical labors. He died at Poitiers on the 13th January, 366.

St. Ita, Virgin.

St. Ita was born in the South of Ireland. She has always been held in great veneration in the district in which she lived, but, unfortunately, few details of her life have come down to us. She died in 570, and is styled, by Colgan, the second St. Brigid of Ireland.

St. Fursey, Abbot.

St. Fursey was born in the West of Ireland, and, like St. Ita, was of noble parentage. He spent a portion of his life in England, and founded a monastery in the county of Suffolk. Passing into France, he continued to labor for the advancement of religion until his death in 650. The remains of St. Fursey are still preserved at Peronne, in the neighborhood of Amiens.

St. Anthony, Abbot.

St. Anthony, who was the founder of monasticism, was born in Egypt of rich and virtuous parents. After dividing all his possessions among the poor, he retired into the desert, where he lived for twenty years the life of a hermit. The fame of his miracles, and still more the power of his words and example, drew about him many followers, who, under his guidance, desired to devote themselves to this new life. He became the director of a number of anchorites who dwelt in detached cells, forming a community called a 'Laura.' This venerable patriarch of the Cenobites died in 356 at the age of 105 years. There are extant several authentic letters and an 'Exhortation to the Monks' by St. Anthony.

The returns of the population of the Australian Commonwealth on March 31 show that by far the largest proportion of the Commonwealth population is now homegrown. Of the total number of inhabitants amounting to 3,771,715, rather more than 77 per cent. were born within the Commonwealth, less than one per cent. claim New Zealand as their birth-place, rather more than 18 per cent. were born in the United Kingdom or other British possessions than Australia or New Zealand, and those of foreign extraction, including, of course, all who were born in countries not under the British flag, are rather less than four per cent. The return shows that New South Wales has drawn to her territory many more of the native-born of Victoria, South Australia, and Tasmania, than those States have attracted of Australians born in New Zealand. It is perhaps contrary to what might have been expected that, while there are only 6492 of those resident in New Zealand who claim New South Wales as their birthplace, there are 10,589 persons living in New South Wales who were born in New Zealand.

Morrow, Bassett and Co. have been appointed sole agents in New Zealand for the Cochshutt Plough Company's famous 'Excelsior' arm implements. Champions all over the globe. Send for catalogue.—***