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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 Falling Birth Rate.

Our vital statistics still continue to tell the melancholy, and we may add shameful tale of a declining birth-rate in this young and otherwise prosperous Colony. For the year 1901 the number of births registered in the Colony was 20,491, or 26.34 per thousand of the population. For the year 1902 the official figures show that the number registered was 20,653, or 25.88 in every 1000 persons living, a distinct decrease on the average rate for the previous year. The seriousness and real significance of this state of things will be more fully realised when it is noted that although the birth-rate has decreased the marriages solemnised in 1902 show a substantial increase on the number and rate for 1901, the total for 1902 being 6388, or 293 more than in the previous year. This brings the rate up to 8.01 per thousand of the population, the highest recorded since 1878, the next highest being 7.83 for the year 1901. Moreover, putting the same facts in a different way, the statistics show that the number of births per 1000 married women of child-bearing ages is steadily declining, and this although the number of such women is as steadily increasing. The figures for each census year are given in the following table, which appears in the Official Year Book for 1902.

Birth Rates (Legitimate) per 1000 married women at child-bearing ages for each Census Year, 1878 to 1901.

Year (Census).	Number of Married women between 15 and 45 years of age.	Number of Legitimate Births (Confinements).	Birth rate per 1000 Married women of from 15 to 45 years of age.
1878	50,995	17,196	337.2
1881	57,458	18,003	313.3
1886	62,704	18,532	295.5
1891	63,165	17,455	276.3
1896	69,807	17,596	252.1
1901	79,406	19,355	243.8

It will thus be seen that although the number of married women at child-bearing ages is rapidly increasing the birth-rate has fallen in 25 years from 337.2 to 243.8 per 1000 of such women. In the year 1881, says the Year Book, there were in New Zealand 5.72 births to every marriage in the previous year, and in 1901 the proportion had fallen to 3.50 births to each marriage.

Our Registrar-General, quoting an American statistician, has assigned as the causes for the decline of the birth-rate observable here and in other countries: (1) The great diffusion of physiological information; (2) lessening of restraint from religious and social opinion; (3) the greater cost of family life, which leads to the desire to have fewer children in order that they may each be better provided for; and with this as their text certain of the press, and an occasional politician, have raised their voices in warning and in appeal for a better state of things. They have been assisted also from time to time by leading members of the medical profession, who have spoken in terms of unmeasured

condemnation of the baneful no-family policy of modern times. Dr. William Brown, of Dunedin, for example, as a medical man and in his capacity as chairman of the Otago Education Board, brought the subject very prominently before the public only a year or two ago; while Dr. Chapple, of Wellington, who has recently returned from a trip to New South Wales, has just published the following vigorous piece of denunciation, which applies just as fully to a certain section of New Zealand women as to the misguided Sydney matrons whom he so unmercifully pillories.

'A sentiment against maternity,' he says, 'has flourished like a weed in Sydney society, and a lady of good birth and education, good physique and heredity, with a diamond ring on her finger that would keep a child for the first five years of its life, will tell you that "children are an expense." While she steeps her brain from dawn to dark in slushy novels, she declares that "children are a tie." In New South Wales in 1884 there were 30 births per hundred married women; in 1888 the number fell to 28, and to 20 in 1898, or a decline of one-third in 15 years. Thus the best capable of producing the best stock, largely from selfishness, resulting in that old Roman craving for a wedded but childless life, have ceased to maintain the birth-rate, while the degenerates still breed on, and the defectives, born for society and the State to support, are an increasing ratio.

Once get on a wrong track and everything conspires to hurl you to the devil. Lunacy increases, hospitals and prisons and reformatories must be increased and enlarged, and the added burden the fit have to bear strengthens their motive for enforced sterility.'

But the preaching of the Press and the denunciation of the doctors have effected little result because they have not attacked the root-cause of the evil, which is primarily not economic and not social, but moral. As the N. Z. TABLET has more than once pointed out, of the three causes enumerated above the lessening of religious restraints is the great originating cause of the diminishing birth-rate, the others named being merely subsidiary. It has shown, too, that the chief forces which operate amongst us to weaken the beneficent influence of religion are our secular education system, the loose teachings of the non-Catholic denominations regarding the nature and obligations of the marriage tie, and the baneful divorce legislation of recent years. So far as the Catholic Church is concerned, she has clean hands in this matter; she has neither part nor lot in the responsibility for this foul blot on our social system. And if the existing downward tendency is to be arrested, if a remedy is to be found at all for the present alarming state of affairs it will only be found in a return to the old Catholic principles and religious restraints which are inculcated in the Catholic school, developed by the Catholic faith, and observed in all their fulness in the Catholic home.

The Venezuelan Mess.

A mess it undoubtedly is, the only point which seems open to question being as to which of the three Powers—England, Germany, or America—has got most deeply 'in the soup.' The main facts of the situation are now sufficiently well known. England and Germany have declared war on Venezuela, ostensibly for the purpose of compelling her to pay certain debts and

make compensation for various wrongs inflicted on certain subjects of the two Powers. Although the reasons alleged have no doubt been the immediate occasion of the present imbroglio, yet it is well enough known that the true explanation of the eagerness and persistence with which the Powers have pursued this matter is that Germany for certain, and England most probably, have aggrandising designs on the territory of the little Republic. In order to carry out these designs the two Powers have entered into an alliance, the union being generally supposed to be the result of the overtures made on the occasion of the Kaiser's recent visit to the King of England. The Kaiser's cordiality and overflowing friendliness on that occasion were very marked, and were the subject of much comment in the English press. They are still the subject of English newspaper comment, but comment of a very different kind now that the Kaiser's little game is clearly seen through and it is found that England is pledged not to withdraw from the alliance in regard to Venezuela without Germany's consent and has tied herself in this way without so much as knowing even the nature and extent of the claims Germany makes against the Republic. This would not matter so much if the allies had only Venezuela to reckon with, but whenever they wish to take practical steps to enforce their claims they find that America 'blocks the way.' The Monroe doctrine—now looked upon in America as the great safeguard of the national interests—lays it down distinctly as an abiding principle of American policy that, while existing rights are to be observed, no foreign Power is to be allowed to acquire fresh territory or establish a fresh-footing in any part of the great continent, and the United States Government have clearly and plainly declared that they will not allow this great doctrine to be infringed. Meanwhile President Castro is playing his cards with great skill and coolness. He knows, of course, that he cannot possibly fight two such powers as England and Germany. But he is shrewd enough to see that if he keeps up a real attempt at opposition to the attack on him by his two enemies they will inevitably be forced to land on his territory and take at least temporary possession of it, and the moment they do that the Monroe doctrine will appear on the scene and the American people will want to know what two European Powers mean by landing their troops on American soil. So all three Powers now find themselves in an awkward fix. America's difficulty is, how to maintain her rights and yet avoid war with two such Powers as England and Germany; Germany's problem is, how to obtain what she wants and get round the Monroe doctrine; while England's trouble is, how on earth she is to get out of it all and get rid of an ally that she now finds is so unpopular with, and even hateful to, the great mass of her people.

The net result of the proceedings, so far, is that all the parties to them are now thoroughly 'riled'—excepting, possibly, President Castro. The Americans are annoyed at what the cables call the 'bluff' and 'threatening attitude' of Germany; the Germans are on edge at the 'impudence' of the Americans. England has most reason of all to be out of humor over the business, because the very thing she most feared is coming to pass. Ever since the fact of the alliance with Germany has been made public the English people have been afraid that the United States would regard it as something in the nature of an unfriendly act, that any trouble that might arise in the settlement of the question would be put down to English influence, and that the affair might ultimately lead to a rupture between the two great English-speaking Powers. That is exactly the course which events are now taking. The announcement in America that England had fallen into the Kaiser's trap evoked a strong anti-English sentiment; and when, the other day, the first hitch in the Venezuelan negotiations took place it was hardly matter for surprise to find the cables telling us that 'The New York correspondents agree in attributing the hitch in some way to British influence.' A number of the points in dispute, it has been already arranged, shall be submitted to the Hague Arbitration Tribunal, and in due time the whole matter will be settled in a peaceful way, the petty interests immediately in dispute bearing no sort of proportion to the grave all-round risks that would be incurred by a resort to arms. For the present the outstanding features of the situation are that England has been very badly outmanœuvred by Germany; that all the parties concerned are rapidly and fiercely 'getting their backs up,' and that though the matter will certainly be settled without loss of blood, it will leave bitter memories of suspicion and dislike between the Powers that will not be effaced for many a long day.

Ireland and the King

Mr. M. McD. Bodkin contributes to the 'Fortnightly Review' for December a clear and forceful article entitled 'Why Ireland is Disloyal.' The points which Mr. Bodkin makes both as to the fact of Ireland's disloyalty and the reasons for it, though well and tellingly put, are sufficiently familiar to our readers and need not be repeated here. The answer to the question he has asked is given briefly in the following

words: 'The question, "Why is Ireland disloyal?" may be supplemented by another, "Why is England loyal?" The answer is practically the same to both. England is loyal to the Constitution, and to the King as its head, because she is happy, prosperous, and free. Ireland is disloyal because she is miserable, poverty-stricken, and oppressed.' And the writer proceeds to elaborate and prove every count in this indictment.

In the course of his article Mr Bodkin mentions some facts as to the personal feeling of the Irish people towards King Edward VII. which are not generally known outside of Irish circles, and it is principally for the purpose of drawing attention to these that we refer to his contribution. The following passages are, we think, well worth repetition:—

'Assuredly it (*i.e.*, Irish disloyalty) does not spring from any personal feeling against the present Sovereign of the realm. The touching spectacle of the King stricken down by disease on the eve of his coronation has deeply moved the warm-hearted Irish people. There was unbounded admiration for the Spartan endurance with which he held out to the last, mingled with indignation at the Government which, with knowledge of the facts, accepted the Royal sacrifice and suffering. Nowhere were good wishes for his Majesty's speedy and complete recovery more fervent than amongst Irish Nationalists.' 'For the first time in the history of the country,' wrote the 'Freeman's Journal,' the chief popular organ in Ireland, 'not in the arrogant and insulting spirit in which the words are customarily used, but in the spirit of reverent piety, Ireland breathes the prayer, "God save the King."'

'The King is personally popular in Ireland; far more popular than was ever Queen Victoria, whose coldness and neglect to the last year of her reign awakened bitter and natural resentment. The Queen made no secret of her hostility to the great Home Rule statesman, Mr Gladstone. The King, as Prince of Wales, displayed his friendliness and admiration never more openly than when he was engaged in the historic struggle for Home Rule. The story goes that his Majesty, when he last visited this country, was sorely troubled to find that here alone, within this vast circuit of the Empire, was there active disaffection and disloyalty, and it is believed that he was sympathetic and statesmanlike enough to seek the remedy in justice and conciliation. Rightly or wrongly, the belief is general amongst Irish Nationalists that his Majesty personally favors the great conciliation scheme of Mr Gladstone for the reconciliation of the two nations.'

De Wet and the End of the War.

Everyone now is reading De Wet's great work on the late war—a work so thrillingly interesting that when once one has dipped into it it is almost impossible to lay it aside till the last page is turned. His account of the general course of the struggle, the story of his own achievements and hair-breadth escapes, his views of the block-house system and of the various British generals, will all be read with eagerness and will well repay the reading; but the chief interest after all will centre round two great questions, To what precisely do the Boers attribute the failure of their enterprise, and what was the main motive which influenced them at the Vereeniging Conference in deciding to lay down their arms. To both of these questions De Wet's book gives a clear reply. As to the first, De Wet is emphatically of opinion that the Boers, in spite of the heavy odds against them, would have been victorious in the struggle had it not been for treachery in their own ranks. 'Had not so many of our burghers,' he says, 'proved false to their colors, England—as the great Bismarck foretold—would have found her grave in South Africa.' And throughout the work he gives numerous instances of the way in which these 'unfaithful burghers,' as he mildly calls them, gave assistance to the British and did all in their power to nullify the plans and efforts of the fighting Boers. Of course the Boer feeling towards these men was very bitter, and even for the colonists of the Cape—though these were neither Free Staters nor Transvaalers—who joined the British forces the Boers had nothing but a feeling of the most utter contempt. Speaking of the Cape Mounted Rifles and Brabant's Horse, both of which bodies belonged to this latter class, De Wet says: 'They were Africanders, and as Africanders, they ought in our opinion to be ashamed to fight against us. The English, we admitted, had a perfect right to hire such sweepings, and to use them against us, but we utterly despised them for allowing themselves to be hired. We felt that their motive was not to obtain the franchise of the Uitlanders, but—five shillings a day! And if it should by any chance happen that anyone of them should find his grave there—well, the generation to come would not be very proud of that grave. No, it would be regarded with horror as the grave of an Africander who had helped to bring his brother Africanders to their downfall. Although I never took it amiss if a colonist of Natal or of Cape Colony was unwilling to fight with us against England yet I admit that it vexed me greatly to think that some of these colonists, for the sake of a paltry five shillings a day,

should be ready to shoot down their fellow-countrymen. Such men, alas, there have always been, since, in the first days of the human race, Cain killed his brother Abel. But, he adds suggestively, 'Cain had not long to wait for his reward.'

As to the reason which finally induced the Boers to abandon the struggle, it was, according to De Wet's showing, not weariness of the war nor lack of patriotic spirit, nor even discouragement at the apparent failure of their efforts, but rather the plight of the women and the dread prospect of the complete extermination of their race if the women were allowed to die at the rate they were doing in the concentration camps, that eventually turned the scale. In the course of the Conference, De Wet himself spoke strongly in favor of continuing the war, but the one problem which baffled him and baffled every member of the gathering was: How were their women and children to be saved? As De Wet expresses it in his book, 'What were we to do? To continue the struggle meant extermination. Already our women and children were dying by the thousand, and starvation was knocking at the door—and knocking loudly!' It was accordingly decided to agree to the terms on which Britain was prepared to conclude peace. No one could help being touched at the General's pathetic description of the feeling with which the brave burghers said farewell to their long-cherished hope of independence. 'I will not attempt,' he says, 'to describe the struggle it cost us to accept these proposals. Suffice it to say that when it was over, it had left its mark on every face. . . . On the 5th June the first commando laid down their weapons near Vrededorp. To every man there, as to myself, this surrender was no more and no less than the sacrifice of our independence. I have often been present at the death-bed and at the burial of those who have been nearest to my heart—father, mother, brother, and friend—but the grief which I felt on those occasions was not to be compared with what I now underwent at the burial of my Nation!

The whole miserable business (he continues) came to an end on the 16th of June, when the burghers who had fought under Generals Niemvomodt and Brand laid down their arms—the Nation had submitted to its fate! There was nothing left for us now but to hope that the Power which had conquered us, the Power to which we were compelled to submit, though it cut us to the heart to do so, and which, by the surrender of our arms, we had accepted as our Ruler, would draw us nearer and ever nearer by the strong cords of love.'

A hope which every friend of humanity and lover of freedom will cordially endorse.

The Greatest Failure of the Century.

We have been quoting lately the testimony of a number of high authorities, both in America and in France, as to the utter failure of secular education to achieve the two most important ends of all true education, viz., the development of character and the production of good and honest citizens. Another important testimony is now available in the shape of a weighty utterance by a leading representative of the Jewish community in America. Rabbi Hirsch, a prominent leader of the Jewish body, delivered a lecture in Chicago recently, as we learn from the 'Ave Maria,' on the failures and achievements of the last century. He included amongst the failures the growth of divorce which, happily, is as strongly condemned by Jewish teaching as by the Catholic Church herself. 'What a contrast,' he said, 'to the wrecked homes shown in the records of the divorce courts is the family life of the Catholics and the Jews! To Catholic and Jewish women marriage is a sacrament to be lived, to endure, to exist perpetually.'

But even more pointed and forcible are the learned Rabbi's statements as to the failure of our much-vaunted education systems.

The greatest failure of the nineteenth century has been the failure of education. The eighteenth century closed with a belief in the efficiency of education, and the best minds of the day seem to have had dreams of universal education and called it a panacea for the social ills. We have largely realised those dreams, and have also discovered that an education of the head alone has not kept the promises which the philosophers of the eighteenth century believed it would keep. Education has not decreased the criminal classes, but has made them more dangerous. Our public schools may give an idiot mind, but they do not give him character. They give him the power to do harm without the moral force and will to restrain him from using that power. In educating the head and not the heart and soul the public schools are failing at a crucial point.

A remark the application of which, we are sorry to think, extends to schools much nearer home than those of America.

In cases of attacks of Colic, Cramp, or Spasms, EVANS'S WITCH'S OIL will be found invaluable.—***

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

Ireland During the Past Year.

Mr T. W. Russell, M.P., has contributed another article to the 'Manchester Guardian' on the Irish outlook, from which we take the following extracts:—

The death of Mr William Johnston, of Ballykilbeg—one of the most pathetic figures in modern Irish life—may be said to have closed one era in the history of the Orange Institution. Whilst Mr Johnston lived the Orangemen were in leading strings—the institution was a mere Protestant organisation for the defence of Irish landlordism. But since the death of the grand old man of the Orange party—or rather since his smashing defeat in East Down—the scales have been falling from the eyes of the brethren. The defeat of Lord Londonderry's candidate in East Down was followed by the rejection of his nominee in South Belfast, and the Democratic Orangemen, feeling the ground underneath them for the first time in their lives, have struck out on their own account. Colonel Sanderson cannot now speak in Belfast. In North Armagh he speaks to his own constituents amid constant interruption. The new Orange leaders tell him plainly and truthfully that he and his class 'joined the Orange organisation after the passing of the Land Act in 1881 in order that they might use the Order as a means of defence.' That they 'supported the Local Government Act only after the Government had undertaken to pay their poor rate.' This plain language shows at least an intelligent reading of the actual history of the thing. And, the foundation laid, the superstructure is rapidly being built.

But there, as things stand, is the position. These toiling thousands, drunk with party spirit, fierce with the views of the sixteenth century, are beginning to see things political darkly as through a glass. They see men as trees walking. They are coming into the light, staggering somewhat as they emerge from the darkness. But they begin to feel the breath of freedom. The old gang will doubtless die hard. The Protestant religion plus rakents is, and will be for many a day, a potent cry. The Pope—even although, as John Mitchell once said, he serves no ejection notices—is still a potent personage in Ulster. But the great fact stands out clear and distinct that a breach has been made in the walls of the landlord Jericho. At church soirees and district lodges the landlords and the agents may still sing patriotic songs and toast the immortal memory of Macaulay's great Whig king, but they cannot save the situation. The agricultural Orangeman is gradually finding out that the frightful bogey of 'Russellism' does not mean repeal of the Union—means, in fact, a new Land Bill under which he is to become a freeholder instead of a slave; and, like a horse trained to pass a traction engine, he begins to make light of the landlords' sham fears about the Union—begins to doubt even his heroics about Protestantism. And thus very slowly but equally surely, this great wall of partition between classes in Ireland is being broken down. Men hardly realise it. There is no beating of drums, no waving of flags to herald the change. It is the still, small voice of common sense and reason triumphing over ignorance and folly. There will be a good many heads broken before the Ulster Orangeman stands out emancipated, disenthralled, and free.

Another, and perhaps the most promising, feature in the Ireland of to-day is the triumph of Mr Horace Plunkett over his enemies of every kind and degree. What may be called the agricultural revival is now, happily a great fact. Agricultural instructors and agricultural teaching are now spread all over the land. And the old difficulty—that any improvement means an increase of rent—is as potent to-day as it was in the fifties. Still, and in spite of all these obstacles, progress is being made. Almost for the first time science is being applied to Irish agriculture. The old plan of butter-making, for example, has all but disappeared. Co-operative creameries are now universal. The small farmer now gets a better price for the milk of his cows than he got in the old days for the butter he produced. And Irish creamery butter, like the Irish soldier, can go anywhere and do anything. Again, it has been reserved for a Scottish agriculturist to discover that the Irish farmer, by scientific culture, can put early potatoes on the London market so as to compete with those of the Channel Islands. 'Bee farming,' as it is called, is now becoming a great industry, and thousands of tons of honey are produced where the produce in past years could be counted by the pound. Poultry rearing is being seen to—not in the old haphazard way, when the eggs were the perquisite of the farmer's wife. It is now becoming a part of the working of the farm. Old things are, in fact, passing away. Technical and scientific education is transforming the face of the country; men of every creed and of every class are co-operating for a common end. There is no room for party spirit where such work is going on. Of course the prophet of all this work has been stoned. This goes almost without saying. To-day in respectable Dublin society Mr. Horace Plunkett's name is anathema. 'A convert on the way,' was the title applied to the right hon. gentleman not so long ago. Cursed by ill-health, broken in spirit by neglect, and tempted often to give up in despair, Mr Plunkett toiled manfully on. Daily his Department grows in influence and in usefulness. Daily men gather round him to bear up his hands. He is even now reaping the fruit of his labors, and those who snarled at his heels are being everywhere assessed at their true value. Apart altogether from the actual work done by the Agricultural Department in the improvement of Agriculture, Mr Plunkett has helped on the great reconciliation between classes in Ireland—has helped on this essential work by isolating the bigots who imagine that Ireland stands where she stood when O'Connell died.

You can protect yourself from any serious after effects arising from a bad cold by taking TUSSICURA.—*

Hancock's "BISMARCK" LAGER BEER.

NEW ZEALAND'S NEW INDUSTRY.

RETURNING TO THE FOLD.

The Rev. James Fraser, late incumbent of the Episcopalian Church, Banochry, N.B., has been received into the Catholic Church at St. Benedict's Abbey, Fort Augustus.

Rev. Joseph T. Gaugle, who, in December 1901, joined the Austrian Old Catholic sect, has returned to the Catholic Church, and made public a letter of humble recantation.

Mr Thomas Addis Emmet, nephew of General Louis Botha, who served in the South African war under General De Wet, was taken prisoner in 1901, and conveyed to the camp at Upper Topa, close to Muree, a station served by the Foreign Missionary Fathers of Mill-hill College. While there Mr Emmet was received into the Catholic Church.

Dr William Thornton Parker, from whose earnest pen a number of articles—notably his chivalrous defence of the Jesuits—have appeared in the 'Sacred Heart Review,' was received into the Catholic Church on December 2 by the Rev. Thomas P. Lucey, pastor of the Church of the Blessed Sacrament, Northampton, Mass.

On December 20 in the chapel of the Ursuline Convent, Toledo Miss Mary Waite was baptised by the Rev. J. T. O'Connell, pastor of St. Francis de Sales' Church. Miss Waite was formerly a member of the Episcopalian Church, but had, for a number of years, been contemplating the step which she took. The ceremony was witnessed by a number of the friends of the young lady, who is a member of one of Toledo's oldest and most prominent families. She is a daughter of the late Edward T. Waite and granddaughter of the late Chief Justice Waite.

The Hon. G. L. Marble, of Van Wert, Ohio, who died the other day, was a recent convert to the Catholic faith. Deceased was a graduate of the Ohio Wesleyan College and of Princeton University. At the age of 18 he became an agnostic and was a close friend of the late Robert Ingersoll. Yet he refused to attend any of the lectures of the great infidel, believing them wrong in undermining the religious faith of others. Some years ago he began to consider the claims of Catholicism, and when he had satisfied himself of its truth, accepted it with a beautiful and edifying faith. He willingly made every sacrifice that the Church could demand of him, even the forfeiture of his standing amongst the Masons, of which he was an influential member. He was a Hebrew scholar, and a keen student of Latin and Greek. His enormous library included books on all subject of philosophical and scientific research. Mr Marble was one of the legal lights of the State of Ohio, and stood high as a counsellor in Republican State politics. He was a personal friend of the late lamented President McKinley, and several times was called to Washington to deliberate on questions of national importance.

A Glimpse of the Pope.

Writing in the Boston 'Transcript' of recent date, Benjamin F. Brooks, a non-Catholic, describes what he saw in St. Peter's in Rome, on the occasion of a public Papal audience. That part of his paper which refers more particularly to the Pope is appended:—

'The cheering stopped. A few moments' silence followed, and then a voice, deep, full, and mellow, rising and falling in slow cadence, began to come from—where? Not possibly from the frail, shrunken body in white and gold; but yes, it was the Pope who was speaking, with animated face and queer, feeble gestures. That was a wonderful voice; how thin and querulous ours will sound in comparison at the age of 92.

'I could not understand what he said, but his voice alone was fascinating, and the picture he made sitting in his Gothic throne with priests standing on each side in long robes of darker colors—red, purple, and black, so as to make him by contrast almost radiant, with Michael Angelo's solemn story of the judgment-day freed on the wall behind him, and Michael Angelo's still more beautiful tale of the world's creation on the vaulted ceiling over him—in the midst of these he became the centre of a picture more glorious than any coronation procession or any Roman triumph. . . . There were no tawdry temporary decorations set up on striped poles, no triumphal arches built of 2 x 6 scantling. All the decorations were centuries old, mellowed and darkened by time.

'When he had finished speaking, the cheers burst out again louder than ever. Then a long line of the people who had come in evening suits and the lace head-dresses knelt before him to receive a special word of benediction; and when they had passed on, he rose once more, bowed before the altar in its shining candle-light, and began chanting in a husky quaver. A thousand voices joined in a stirring response. Again the lone voice from the altar, and again the thousand people joining in the ancient hymn they all knew.

'And now they were helping him to his chair again and the twelve bearers were raising it gently to their shoulders and starting down the aisle. His kindly smile was upon us, his trembling, aged hand above our heads. There was more cheering and waving of handkerchiefs, and as he passed, people reached for a touch of his finger or the hem of his flowing robe to kiss. . . . Maybe it was in this way that Napoleon's soldiers loved their general; but such unreasonable, unchecked enthusiasm is not to be seen every day in our times. So, with the cheers still following him, the Pope passed out of the chapel, the oak door swung behind him, and he was gone.'

Peculiarities of Pronunciation.

The strange vocabulary of the Scotch Lowlanders (says the London 'Academy') has long been a valuable literary asset; in Scott's footsteps petty men have trodden their way to fame and fortune. It had been remarked that Great Britain is being divided amongst the novelists, who carve out kingdoms for themselves, like the Saxons of the Heptarchy, and, acquiring power with time, need fear no trespasser. The Lord of Wessex, as in Saxon days, is the strongest ruler; the Yorkshire Moors were held by a woman, whose fame grows, like a tree, in unmarked lapse of time; London is now mourning a kind master.

Writers must illustrate the universal by the particular, and local color, remote dialects, appeal also to the desire for novelty which is often the only strong passion of novel readers. Certain novels, written largely in broad Scotch, were received some years ago with so much enthusiasm that one could imagine the reading public to believe, like Mr. George Moore, that English was worn out as a means of literary expression. Like nine-tenths of the Gaelic League, he has no Gaelic, and he scorns the English which his Irish fellow-countrymen speak.

It is indeed strange that the gutturals of a Scotch farmer are held worthy of many phonographs, while the gentle Irish brogue always calls forth an English smile. Nobody seems to have studied the genesis and development of the English which Irishmen speak, the speech of the potato-patch is ignoble compared with that of the kail-yard. Yet a study of the English spoken in Ireland is interesting and profitable to a student of English literature. The Irish accent is the result of arrested development.

Everybody knows how Cromwell planted Munster with English colonists, and how they threw therein until, after the Restoration, the bishops harried them as Nonconformists, and the English Government closed all markets against them, and how they faded out of the joyless land which they had made smiling and fertile. The native Irish learn readily, and never forget. The English garrison, Cromwell's veterans, when they were established and dominant, taught the Gaelic English. Since that time the Irish have learned no new fashions in English speaking. They pronounce it to-day as Cromwell and his troopers, as Milton, Dryden, and even Pope pronounced it. Slight changes were made, as must be when a people learns an alien tongue. Still we may say on the whole that the brogue at which the English smile is the accent which Ireland learned from the Puritan settlers. Mr. Flavin and his fellows abuse the House of Commons in much the same tone as that which Cromwell once used to a more famous Parliament.

It is no new suggestion that Irishmen talk better English than the English. Dean Swift wrote to Pope expressing his regret at some slighting remark of the latter's concerning the Irish: 'The English colonies who are three parts in four, are much more civilised than many counties in England, and speak better English, and are much better bred.'

It is possible here to give only a few illustrations of the survival of old words and pronunciations in Ireland. The multitude who are 'agin the government' use the old preposition which they learned before it was modernised into 'against.' The word survives, of course, in many rural districts of England, where there is little reading of books.

The peculiarity of pronunciation which most strikes the tourist is the broad sound given to such words as 'please, sea, beast, complete.' Waller, Dryden and Pope habitually pronounced them as 'plaze, say, baste, complete,' as all students of seventeenth and eighteenth century poetry have noticed. Dryden, for example, wrote:

Neptune, yet doubtful whom he should obey,
Held to them both the trident of the sea.

Pope pronounced 'tea' in the same manner as a Tipperary peasant does. One example, referring to 'great Anna,' is well-known; here is another:

Soft yielding minds to water glide away,
And sip, with nymphs, the elemental tea.

So in Munster the county folk talk of the 'lay,' meaning 'lea,' that pretty word which Englishmen have abandoned to the poets. It was the influence of French that made our ancestors pronounce 'complete' and 'theme,' and the influence still holds good over here. Listen to Pope again:

Here swells the shelf with Ogilby the great
There, stamped with arms, Newcastle shines complete.

English, with characteristic inconsistency, has kept the broad sound in 'great.' 'Key,' in Dryden, rhymes with 'play,' and why do modern English pronounce 'quay' in the same way as 'key'? Pope, who stood at the parting of the ways, was already inconsistent, and rhymes 'appar' with 'bier.' In Milton editors have replaced, for 'height,' the proper spelling 'highth,' a noun formed regularly from the adjective, as 'depth' from 'deep.' People find it ridiculous that the Irishman, faithful to his teachers, speaks of 'the hoith of good company.' So we have forgotten Shakespeare's pronunciation of 'character,' but the Irish servant still talks of getting a good 'character.'

It seems as if Englishmen have quite lately rid themselves of the aspirate in words that begin with 'wh,' such as 'which,' 'what.' Dickens drew attention to its absence in the Cockney speech of his day by means of the spelling 'wot,' 'vich,' and it may have been strange

in the cars of men of his time. The Scotch, as well as the Irish, have been true in this matter. Innovations make their way, even now, more slowly in Ireland. During the last century the Scotch diminutive 'donkey' has won its way all over England, but here the ass generally keeps his ancient name. Schoolboys 'cog,' as they did in Shakespeare's time, when they have not learned their work, but English boys 'crib.' By the same token, as Dean Swift used to say, all classes speak of a pack of cards as a 'deck,' just as Pope and he used to speak of them.

The peasantry believe as strongly as ever in a personal devil, and he lends his name to many landscapes; appeals to him are on every tongue, but they call him 'the Devil.' That is the unvarying spelling of the word in the Elizabethan dramas, and it is hard to see why the spelling and pronunciation were changed.

The Church and The Printing Press

There are many people (says a writer in the San Francisco 'Monitor') who are either not aware, or will not admit, that the connection between Catholic Truth and the printing press is one of ancient date and closest intimacy. It has become part and parcel of what may be styled the 'Reformation myth' and the 'Protestant legend' that, somehow or another, the printing press was intimately connected with the so-called Reformation, and an English historian is supposed to have neatly summed up this view by styling the printing press 'the great hammer of the Reformers, by which they broke to pieces the power of the Papacy.'

Printing a Catholic Art.

We may begin by asserting unhesitatingly that whatever be the subsequent history and character of the art of printing, in its origin and early history it was an essentially Catholic art—Catholic in invention, Catholic in its use, and especially for long exclusively consecrated to the propagation of Catholic truth. The invention of the art of printing with movable types dates from the year 1441, or forty-two years before the birth of Martin Luther. Its inventor was almost certainly John Gutenberg, of Mainz.

It will be interesting to know with what sentiments the new invention was received by the Church and her ministers at the time. The Carthusian monk, Werner Rolewinck, greets it in these terms in 1474: 'The art of printing invented at Mainz is the art of arts, the science of sciences, through whose rapid spread the world has been enriched and enlightened by a splendid treasure, hitherto hidden, of knowledge and wisdom. An endless number of books which hitherto were known to only a few students in Athens or Paris or other universities, are now disseminated by this art through all races, peoples, and nations, and in every language.' The Benedictine historian of Westphalia, Bernhard Witte, monk of Liesborn, speaks of the art of printing as one 'than which there hath never been in the world any art more worthy, more laudable, more useful, more holy or divine.'

Old Chroniclers' Testimony.

The new art was disseminated throughout Europe with astonishing rapidity and inexpressible religious enthusiasm; not, be it observed, as a commercial speculation or for the sake of material advantages, as the telephone or the typewriter in our own days, but rather as a religious work and a means of propagating Catholic truth. From 1462 to 1500 the names of 1000 printers, mostly of German origin, have been preserved. In Mainz itself, during the very infancy of the art, five printing-presses were established, in Ulm six, in Basel 16, in Augsburg 20, in Cologne, 21; in Nuremberg up to 1500 five and twenty printers had been admitted to the rights of citizenship. Before the end of the 15th century over 100 German printing-presses had been established in Italy. By the same date Spain reckoned 30 printers, whom the Spanish poet, Lope de Vega, elegantly entitled 'the armorers of civilisation.' The art reached Buda-Pest in 1473, London in 1477, Oxford, 1478, Denmark in 1482, Stockholm in 1483, Constantinople in 1490.

The View of the Church.

What, it may be asked, was the view of the Church, and what part did she practically take in the art of printing? The materials for an answer to this question are abundant indeed. Berthold, Archbishop of Mainz, speaks of the 'divine art of printing.' The following letter from Andrea de Bossi, Bishop of Alaria, in Corsica, was written in 1468, to Pope Paul II.:

'In your time, by the grace of God, has this gift been bestowed upon the Christian world, that even the poorest, for a few coins, can obtain for themselves a number of books. Is it not a great glory for your Holiness that volumes, which formerly could scarcely be bought for 100 ducats, at present may be had for 20 gold pieces, or less, and are no longer full of errors, as they used to be? . . . For so masterly is the art of our printers and type engravers, that not only among human inventions of modern times, but also amongst those of antiquity, it would be difficult to find anything more excellent. . . . This is the reason why the laudable and pious wish of Nicholas Cuzanus, Cardinal of St. Peter's ad Vincula, always was that this holy art, which then first saw the light in Germany, should be introduced into Rome.'

The introduction into Italy of the art of printing was the work of two German printers, Conrad Sweyn-

heim and Arnold Pannartz, who, be it noted, set up their first printing-press in the great Benedictine Abbey of Subiaco, whence, later on, they proceeded to Rome under the special patronage of the Holy See. Von der Linde, the historian of printing, has recorded that from 1466 to 1472 they published 28 works in 47 different editions, so that he calculates that this one press, during a space of seven years, must have issued more than 124 millions of printed pages, and truly remarks, 'How many scribes would have been necessary to write out in manuscript all these pages!'

The Religious Orders as Printers.

It was not only, however, by their praise and their blessing that the clergy encouraged the art of printing; they themselves, and especially the religious Orders, took an active part in the work of the printing press. The Brothers of the Common Life, well known as the Congregation to which Thomas a Kempis belonged, set up a printing press in their house at Rostock and issued their first printed book as early as 1476, in which they speak of the art of printing as: 'The mistress of all arts for the benefit of the Church,' and style themselves: 'Preachers not by word, but by writing.' One is reminded irresistibly by these words of the maxim of Cardinal Vaughan—'This is the age of the Apostolate of the Press.'

It was not only in Rostock that the Brothers of the Common Life practised the art of printing in their convents. Very early they set up a well-appointed printing press in their convent of Nazareth at Brussels, where we find them busily at work between 1476 and 1484. Seventeen works published at their press are known. In their convent at Hem, near Schoonhoven, they announced, in 1495 that they print books in both Latin and German. In addition to the monasteries where the monks themselves worked at the press, quite a long list could be given of other convents, both men and women, wherein printing-presses were set up and worked by professional printers—some, masters of their art, whose names are still famous, others itinerant printers, who went about from town to town to earn their bread.

Secular 'Priest-Printers.'

So far we have spoken only of the regular clergy as taking an active part in the work of printing; what is perhaps more remarkable is the large share taken in this practical cultivation of the art of printing by the secular clergy. Falk has compiled a list of priests, in different parts of Europe, who occupied themselves in the management of printing presses. From this it appears that the names of 31 priest-printers in 27 different towns have been preserved. First of all, printers in Venice—according to some the first in all Italy—was the priest Clement of Padua, 1471, and he was a self-taught adept of the art. At Milan a number of ecclesiastics encouraged, at their own expense, the introduction of printing, and one of them, at least, Giam Pietro Casarto, was himself a printer in 1398. In Florence three priests printed several books between 1492 and 1500, whilst the Provost of the Duomo, Vespucci, corrected the proofs. It was a German priest from Strasburg, Sixtus Kissinger, who first introduced printing into Naples, and who refused many honors, including a bishopric, in favor of his art. He, and also another German priest, Schenkbecker, afterwards a Canon of the Chapter of St. Thomas, both practised the art later in Rome. At Vincenza and at Trent we find parish priests printing books. Other priest-printers are enumerated at Barcelona, Basel, Breslau, Brixen, Brun, Copenhagen, Leipsic, Lerida, in Catalonia, Metz, Mainz, Lubeck, and even in Iceland, where the first press was erected before 1534, by Bishop John Arson. Cardinal Turcremata in 1466, and Cardinal Caraffa in 1469, invited distinguished German printers to Rome, and by 1475 the Eternal City already possessed 20 printing presses, and by the close of the century 925 printed works had been issued from these presses. It was the clergy also who were the chief purchasers of printed books, and to their generous support the success of the art must be largely attributed.

Of all the works printed by the one thousand printers, whose names are still preserved, before the year 1500, no book was so often printed, especially in Germany, as the Bible. By the year 1500, no less than 100 editions of the Vulgate, or Latin Bible, had appeared, and Janssen has shown that at this time the ordinary number of copies per edition of a printed book was about 1000. More than this: in 1483—the year of Luther's birth—the first edition of the Bible in the German language appeared in Koburger's press, and was illustrated with 100 wood engravings of Wolgemuth: and between that date and the outbreak of the great religious schism, no less than 14 different editions of the entire Bible in high German, and five in low German, had already been published, to say nothing of numerous editions of separate parts of the Holy Scripture, such as the Psalms and Gospels.

How warmly the people of Germany were urged to read these editions in the vernacular, may be seen from some of the quaint passages from contemporary Catholic writers quoted by Janssen. 'All that Holy Church teaches,' says a writer in 1513, 'all that thou hearest in sermons and other instructions, what thou readest written in spiritual books, what thou singest to God's honor and glory, what thou prayest for thy soul's welfare, and what thou sufferest in trial and trouble, should encourage thee to read with piety and humility in the Holy Scriptures and Bibles, as they are now-a-days set forth in the German tongue, and scattered far and wide in great numbers, wholly or in part, and as thou mayest now purchase them for but little money.'

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON.

(From our own correspondent.)

February 7.

The Hon. Dr. Grace's condition is reported to be improving.

The Convent high schools opened on Monday last after the annual vacation.

Mr C. Redwood, of Queensland, brother of his Grace the Archbishop, is at present on a visit to Wellington.

Mrs Cramer, mother of Mrs Martin Eller, died on Thursday fortified by all the rites of the Church.—R.I.P.

The City Council has refused the Hibernian Society's request for the use of Newtown Park for the annual picnic of the Society, which is to be held on St. Patrick's Day.

His Grace the Archbishop left for Nelson early this week. Before returning to Wellington it is his intention to visit the West Coast and then journey overland to Christchurch, to be present at the sitting of the University Senate.

The bazaar organised by the parishioners of the Hutt will be opened at Petone next Monday by the Right Hon. the Premier. The proceeds will be devoted towards parish affairs.

Mass was celebrated and Vespers were sung at St. Patrick's Church, Masterton, on Sunday last by Rev. Father Molloy, who preached on both occasions. Mr Pascoe, a member of the Southland Band at present on a visit to the town, sang 'O Salutaris Hostia' as an offertory piece at Mass, and in the evening Mr Murphy's 'Ave Maria.' Both items were given with great expression.

At the Brass Band contest, which has just concluded in Masterton, Mr Harold Oakes was successful in carrying off the gold medal in the B flat trombone solo competition. His success is the more gratifying on account of the many services rendered the orchestra of St. Mary of the Angels' choir.

Sister Mary Josephine, one of the community of St. Mary's Convent, died at that institution on Friday last after a short illness. The deceased lady was born in Galway, and she was known in the world as Miss Verdon. A Solemn Requiem Mass was celebrated by the Very Rev. Father Lewis, V.G., at the Church of the Sacred Heart this morning. The funeral takes place to-morrow afternoon.

At the half-past ten o'clock Mass at St. Joseph's Church on Sunday last the mission, previously announced, was opened by Rev. Father O'Farrell, Superior of the Redeemists. The opening ceremony began with a procession round the church and the chanting of the 'Benedictus' by the clergy and choir alternately. His Grace the Archbishop was present in the sanctuary and spoke a few words introducing the missionaries. At the earlier Masses a printed leaflet was distributed announcing the hours of the different services. They are as follows: Week days—Masses at 6.30, 7.30 and 9 o'clock, followed by instructions. Evening services at 7.30 and a mission sermon. The Rev. Father O'Farrell, addressing the congregation, announced that the first fortnight of the mission would be devoted to the women, and the last fortnight to the men and children of the parish. He exhorted everyone to attend at least one of the Masses and instructions daily as a help in every possible way the work engaged in. He spoke of a most successful mission his confreres, Rev. Fathers O'Donnell and Leo were that day concluding in Palmerston North. The Rev. Father preached from the text, 'Blessed be the Lord God of Israel Who has visited an' wrought the redemption of His people.' At the evening service the church was crowded, when Father O'Farrell again preached. The hymns and Benediction are sung nightly by the congregation. Most satisfactory attendances have been the rule during the week, and large numbers received Holy Communion on the first Friday. A solemn act of reparation to the Sacred Heart was read during Benediction on Friday evening.

DIocese OF AUCKLAND.

(From our own correspondent.)

February 5.

Very Rev. Father Fitzgerald, O.F.M., said the early Masses last Sunday morning at St. Patrick's, and in the evening preached a very fine sermon at St. Benedict's.

Our schools opened on Monday of this week. The attendances were fair, but an improvement will be shown next week.

Rev. Father Tormey is on a fair way to recovery, and was expected to be able to leave his bed for a while this week. Rev. Father Croke is about the same; and with the advent of finer weather an improvement is expected.

The prizes of St. Patrick's Day art union are to be exhibited in the window of Messrs. F. Moore and Co., Queen street. The principal prizes are a mineral specimen valued at £20, and several large oil paintings of New Zealand scenery, the work of Mr. Garlick, of Eltham, Taranaki.

A meeting of the newly-formed Boys' Club and Literary Society in connection with St. Benedict's parish was held last Tuesday evening. The Rev. Father Furlong presided. The Society promises to be a great success, and is to be congratulated upon securing the services of Father Furlong.

The Auckland Gas Co. has had a most successful financial year. The total income on current account was £84,746 18/10; expenditure, £55,275 0/4; net pro-

fit, £29,471 18/6, which leaves, after paying the usual dividend, a balance of £6376 18/6. The pity of it all is that the concern, with its immense possibilities, is not municipal property, after the fashion of Glasgow and Birmingham.

Inquiries have been made of the District Executive of the H.A.C.B. Society from Ranfurly, Otago, concerning the inauguration there of a new branch of the Society. Wanganui is the only town of importance in the Colony which does not contain a branch of this excellent and commendable Society. It is the intention of the Executive to approach the Very Rev. Dean Grogan, S.M., and to seek his aid in bringing Wanganui into line.

Last Monday evening in the Sacred Heart school-room, Ponsonby, a highly successful entertainment was given by Mr. Val Voudsen, well known as an actor, mimic, and ventriloquist. The attendance was excellent. The programme was wide and varied, and showed the artist's versatility. It comprised humorous and dramatic recitals, scenes and sketches, and several ventriloquial items. The proceeds go to the local presbytery building fund as a compliment to the popular parish priest, the Very Rev. Dr. Egan, O.S.B.

The Children of Mary's annual picnic was held at Northcote yesterday. There were present the Rev. Father Patterson, Adm., and Rev. Fathers Buckley (spiritual director) and Holbrook. The usual games were indulged in—swings, boating, rounders, etc. Luncheon and tea were served in the hall, and at nightfall a musical programme was gone through. The party returned to town before 9 p.m., having enjoyed the outing splendidly. The officers and committee deserve a word of praise for the excellent manner in which every detail was carried out.

His Lordship the Bishop left last Saturday afternoon for Pukekohe, where on Sunday he opened a new portion of the convent of the Sisters of the Mission. The old structure was quite inadequate, and it was imperative that more accommodation should be provided. This has been done, and the building is now three times as large as formerly. The plans for the new portion provide a school-room and dining-room in the basement, and on the upper story for a dormitory, bathrooms, etc. The lower walls of the building are built of brick, and the upper portion of wood. The total cost of the building is estimated at £1000. The plans and specifications were prepared by Messrs. E. Mahoney and Son, and the contractors were Messrs. J. Jones and Don. His Lordship was assisted in the ceremony by the Very Rev. Father Benedict, O.P., and Rev. Father Hickson, S.M., of Reefton.

The following letter is from a legal practitioner (Mr. W. Cooper), who for years held a high position in Samoa and who knows the country, its inhabitants and customs thoroughly well. It appeared in yesterday's 'Herald,' and will prove of interest at the present juncture:—'If the letter of your correspondent, "Observer," published in the "Herald" of Wednesday is to be taken seriously, as having been written in earnest, I think he should have been a little more careful of his utterances, and a little more sure of his facts, before he sent you his epistle. It is not necessary to discuss at length his opinion of the value of Cardinal Moran's statements. I have no doubt that the Cardinal's assertions are based upon what he believes to be reliable information. It may be that if a Royal Commission should be appointed, its findings would not constitute a full endorsement of all the Cardinal's charges. I feel confident, however, that the results of the labors of such a Commission would be startling enough to make those who are now agitating for its appointment regret that the demand for investigation was ever made. "Observer" stigmatises Mataafa as an "upstart." Surely your correspondent is joking. Mataafa has been a prominent man in Samoa for 30 years. He is by birth a chief of the highest rank. He was vice-king of Samoa upwards of 20 years ago, and has been twice elected king before his final appointment to that office, on the death of Malletoa Laupepa, whose demise resulted in the late troubles. "We all think a great deal of Mataafa," one of the missionaries of the London Missionary Society remarked to me on my visit to Samoa shortly after the late trouble. He is a man singularly upright in character, and his many high and amiable qualities have long caused him to be regarded by the Samoans with warm affection and great veneration. "Observer" is equally at fault when he describes Mataafa's followers as "ruffians." These so-called "ruffians" could, had they so chosen, have annihilated several of the landing parties sent against them, but they refrained from doing so, partly because they had no feelings of animosity against the British and Americans, and partly because they believed that the hostilities carried on by the Anglo-Americans were unauthorised by the Powers. Amongst the natives the real ruffians were the Tutuila contingent, brought by the warships to Upolu, to swell the forces against Mataafa. As to "Observer's" imputation against King Oscar, of corruption in the recent award, I may say that I have endeavored to examine the whole matter, not only carefully but impartially, and it seems to me that the award could not rightly have been given in any other direction. I feel convinced that had the matter been taken before the Hague Tribunal the findings would have been on similar lines, but the amount awarded would probably have been far heavier. Moreover, if King Oscar were animated by corrupt motives, he would be more likely to wish to placate two of the Powers than to please only one of the three.'

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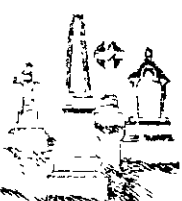
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A trial of Hand Cream Separators, lasting nearly a year, and conducted under the auspices of the Swedish Government Institute at Alnarp, has been recently concluded, 85 Separators having taken part, with results as undernoted.

At the 19th General Meeting of the Swedish Agricultural Association held at Gefle 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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Irish News.

ANTRIM.—Breaking Away.

Alderman Lawther, D.L., the High Sheriff of Belfast, has apparently emancipated himself from some curious Belfast notions about Irish affairs. He is old enough to remember the famine and the terrible exodus. 'When I look back,' he says, 'over the heartrending scenes, of the sailing of ships with emigrants from Belfast and other Irish ports, my heart burns with shame, sadness, and regret to see the old timber brigs, or ships, turned into passenger vessels, without ventilation, light, or any suitable sanitary arrangements; the emigrants having most of their own food packed in barrels, their own bedclothes, bundled into a dungeon—to face an Atlantic voyage—of 70 days' duration.' Mr. Lawther does not hesitate to place his finger on the cause of all this Irish distress, which has gone on to the present day—English government. 'Irish officials appointed by one Prime Minister after another, since the Act of Union in 1801 to the present time, I estimate,' he says, 'to have cost millions upon millions. No qualification or fitness for office; solely political influence to begin with, winding up with the usual pension. Fancy,' Mr. Lawther adds, 'such an army to provide for, to enumerate them to compel a return of the money so spent under one head or another, this Board, that Board, and so on, from one sop to meet a cry, so-and-so gets this grant, with the usual political officials attached, and their pensions following, and then another cry is raised, with the like results, leaving the great Land question as far off a final settlement as ever. The past history as shown has been a system of patchwork. Is it any wonder, with such a history, we have the present position of Irish affairs?'

CORK.—Mr. Davitt's Return.

A hearty and well-deserved welcome (says the Freeman's Journal) awaited Mr. Davitt when he again touched Irish soil on his return from participation in the arduous and successful mission in America. The Cork branch of the United Irish League expressed the views and feelings of every Nationalist in Ireland in the eloquent tribute to Mr. Davitt's life-long service in the Irish cause. His description, in his reply, of his experiences on the other side of the Atlantic was eminently encouraging. While the fight is maintained in Ireland, America supports it with cordial sympathy and substantial aid. It is only by apathy or disunion that sympathy can be alienated. Mr. Davitt paid a special tribute to the services on the mission of Mr. Dillon, whose health broke down under the strain of his exertions. In an interview with our reporter, he expressed his view that, apart from the general contributions of the organisation in America, from the fifteen meetings which Mr. Dillon and himself had addressed as much as £10,000 might be expected. Mr. Davitt brings good news to Ireland, and finds good news before him. The organisation grows in strength from day to day. If American support be dependent on the energy of the home movement, then American sympathy is secure. It only needed the tonic of coercion to conclude and complete the work of reunion and organisation in Ireland.

DUBLIN.—The 'Irish People' Prosecution.

The appeal of Messrs. McCarthy, O'Dwyer, and Holland, editor, manager, and publisher, of the 'Irish People,' against sentences under the Coercion Act was heard in the King's Bench Division, Dublin, on December 20. The sentence of two months' imprisonment in the case of the editor was confirmed. In the other two cases the judgment of the magistrate was set aside.

Proselytising

His Grace the Archbishop of Dublin presided on Sunday, December 21, at a largely-attended meeting at the Sacred Heart Home, Drumcondra, and delivered an important address on the working of the Protestant proselytising system, which aims at the kidnapping of the children of the poor. It was, he said, a traffic which its conductors must feel to be debasing, and it was all but inconceivable that they could be so ignorant of the first principles of Christian morality as not to know it was sinful. It was surprising that no authoritative protest had come from the responsible pastors of the religious body in the supposed interests of which it was carried on.

A Successful Teacher.

The unexpected has happened this year in connection with the award of the cup presented by Mr. William O'Brien, M.P., for presentation to the National teacher whose pupils secure the largest number of passes in Irish in the examinations of the National Board. The cup has been awarded to St. Andrew's National School, Great Brunswick street, Dublin, and the teacher who has succeeded in winning the trophy is Mr. Patrick J. Byrne, a member of the Keating Branch of the Gaelic League, who a year and a half ago knew only a word or two of Irish. He presented 85 pupils, all of whom passed. Mr. Hickson, Ardara, Lispolo, County Kerry, came next with 84, and Mr. T. O'Scannell, Ballingearry, County Cork, third, with 83 successful pupils. Mr. Scannell has been the holder of the cup for some years, having wrested it from Mr. Hickson in '99, and retained it since. He and Mr. Hickson have practically kept the trophy between them since it was first presented by Mr. O'Brien, and it is rather significant to find a metropolitan school winning it from them now.

The Palestrina Choir.

The Palestrina Choir, due to the munificence of Mr. Edward Martyn, are about to take over the musical services in the Pro-Cathedral, Dublin. Mr. Vincent O'Brien, who has trained the choir for the past four years, will be the musical director, and Mr. Brendan Rogers will retain his position as organist, a position which he has so capably filled for the past fourteen years. As the appointment of Mr. O'Brien will necessitate his transfer from St. Saviour's Church, Dominick street, the Dominican Fathers have secured the services of a most accomplished English musician, Mr. S. Myerscough, as organist and choirmaster.

Death of a Canon.

The Very Rev. Canon Keon, parish priest of Fairview, Dublin, died on December 22, after a prolonged illness. Canon Keon was ordained priest in 1856, and entered on his duties in the diocese of Dublin immediately. He was curate at different periods in Clontarf, Arranquay, and Westland row, and was appointed parish priest of Fairview in 1879, and in 1885 was made a canon of the archdiocese of Dublin. The deceased was an able and zealous priest, who, throughout the long years of his missionary labors, devoted his whole life to the service of God and to the improvement and elevation of his fellow creatures. He was warm-hearted and kindly in disposition, and imbued with a true spirit of Christian charity. Canon Keon was loved and esteemed by his parishioners, and was very popular with all classes of the community in Fairview and its neighborhood, irrespective of creed or class.

A Good Record.

Since its foundation, some 16 years ago, the Sacred Heart Home, Drumcondra, has been the means of rescuing more than a thousand children from the grasp of proselytisers, who, under the guise of charity, induce poverty stricken Catholic parents to part with their helpless offsprings.

Parliamentary Vacancy.

Mr. Lecky, M.P. for Dublin University, has placed his resignation in the hands of the Provost with the announcement that he will not be seen again at Westminster. Several candidates are in the field. Mr. Seymour Bushe, K.C., pledges himself not to take office of any kind if elected. Mr. Campbell, K.C., formerly member for St. Stephen's Green Division, and present Solicitor-General, will also stand. Other candidates are Mr. Arthur Samuels, K.C., and Mr. Ormsby Hamilton, barrister.

GALWAY.—Archdiocese of Tuam.

The parish priests of the archdiocese of Tuam met in the Cathedral on December 23 for the purpose of recommending a successor to the late Most Rev. Dr. MacEvilly. The Most. Rev. Dr. MacCormack presided at the election.

KERRY.—The Tide of Emigration.

The baneful tide of emigration (says the 'Irish Weekly') has left its lamentable marks in an especial manner in many a district throughout Ireland, but scarcely anywhere more than in Kerry have its evil influences been experienced and deprecated. The number of emigrants who have left those districts each year is, to say the least of it, simply appalling. Many as are the touching exhortations from responsible persons in America, as well as from both pulpit and platform at home in Ireland, concerning the perils of emigration, yet, sad to relate, those exhortations seemingly have no appreciable effect. Onward they go regardless of the adversities, both physical and financial, which many of them must inevitably encounter in the land of the stranger, not speaking of the moral side of the question at all. Those circumstances have naturally produced a dearth of laborers in those districts, with the result that were it not for the introduction and utilisation of machinery, farmers would find it practically impossible to prosecute agricultural operations under existing circumstances. Unfortunately the dearth of laborers occasioned by the exodus of emigrants has not enhanced to any appreciable extent the financial or material circumstances of those who remain at home, as machinery has to a considerable extent dispensed with many features of manual labor. Lack of industrial development is another potent factor instrumental in the promotion of emigration from those districts.

TIPPERARY.—Death of a Clonmel Man.

Mr. Felix O'Neill, a veteran of '48 and '67, died recently at his residence, Lisronagh, Clonmel, aged 82 years. The interment took place on December 16 in the family burial ground, Ballyneale.

Destructive Fire in Thurles.

A few days before Christmas a destructive fire took place in Thurles, resulting in damage to the extent of about £6000. The outbreak occurred in the shop of Mr. P. Rahill, of the Square, and from there spread to the premises of Mr. Maher. The shops of Messrs. Deacon and Ryan were also injured. As the fire occurred during the night, and had taken a strong hold before it was seen, nothing was saved from Messrs. Rahill's and Maher's premises. Great sympathy was felt for the sufferers, and on the following day a subscription list was opened, when the Archbishop of Cashel gave £20 and Messrs. Kirwan a like amount.

GENERAL.

An Ambitious Undertaking.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians of New York already own a 100,000dol. site in Fifth Avenue, upon which they propose to put a 250,000dol. building, to be known as the Hibernian Institute.

A Railway Company Climbs Down.

The Great Southern and Western Railway Company, in deference to public opinion, have thrown open to public competition all future appointments to their service. This victory—for it is nothing less—is the result of the exposure to which the management has been subjected by the Catholic Shareholders' committee, but especially by two of its members—Father O'Donnell, P.P., and Mr. Sweetman, ex-M.P. When the Catholic body adopt a similar attitude all over Ireland, the Midland and Great Northern Companies, the banks, insurance companies, drapery establishments, and public bodies generally will be compelled to do similar justice to Catholics. Apathy on the part of the Catholic body is largely responsible for the deplorable state of things which prevails, by which those who profess the ancient Faith are boycotted in Catholic Ireland.

Poultry for the English Market.

From an instructive article recently published in the Manchester 'Evening News' we learn that Ireland heads the list of countries laid under contribution for the Christmas poultry markets of England with turkeys, geese, and chickens, then following in the order named—Scotland, Canada, France, Russia, Austria-Hungary, Italy, Germany, and Servia. The English farmer's absence from the Christmas markets is attributed to his 'surprising sluggishness,' and in paying a compliment to Irish activity in this respect the paper says: 'The turkey has helped to pay the Irish farmer's rent for many years past, and even now, notwithstanding the competition of the Continent and the colonies, the Irish turkey holds pride of place both as regards quantity and quality.' Not less than 2000 tons of poultry are distributed at the Manchester Christmas markets, which, at 6½d per lb, represents £120,000.

The League in England.

Several London members of the United Irish League of Great Britain have projected a monthly magazine which will devote itself entirely to the interests of the League in London. The editor will be Mr. John Scurr, of the Executive Council, and the idea is to make the paper reflect the work and movements of the Irish Leaguers in London.

The Right Moment.

Writing of the victory recently scored by the Irish Party on the Education Bill, the 'Observer' says:—'The Irish leader called his forces back at the psychological moment, and did his work from beginning to end. He and his Party kept their own counsel, and refused to change the policy they had marked out for themselves in October at their meeting in the Dublin City Hall. The result has been a vindication of their wisdom and a new proof of their unity and discipline and a great increase of their popularity and influence in Ireland, and, above all, it has proved once again that in Mr John Redmond the Nationalists of Ireland have got the fit successor to Charles Stewart Parnell if there is such an Irishman now living.'

University Education.

The Royal Commission on University Education in Ireland reject the proposed Catholic Denominational University, but recommend an increased endowment for the Jesuits' University, St. Stephen's Green, or that the Archbishops and bishops be granted a new college with a Catholic atmosphere. The Commission also suggest an increased grant to Belfast Queen's College, with a view to its development.

The Coercion Act.

The summary jurisdiction conferred under the Coercion Act has been revoked in the boroughs of Dublin, Limerick, Waterford, and 10 rural districts.

Promised Land Bill.

In the course of a speech at the Vice-Regal levee recently, the Earl of Dudley (Lord Lieutenant of Ireland) announced that Mr. Wyndham's Irish Land Bill had been drafted. It would exceed all former bills in its generosity towards genuine tenants. All the notable landlords had been consulted during the drafting of the measure.

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People We Hear About

Colonel Harrington, the young Catholic diplomatist, is receiving high tributes for his services in connection with the new treaty with Abyssinia.

Mr. John L. Beare has been appointed Professor of Greek in the University of Dublin, in succession to Mr. J. B. Bury, lately appointed to a similar Chair at Oxford. Mr. Beare is a Fellow of Trinity College.

The Rev. Peter C. Yorke, assistant at St. Peter's Church, San Francisco, has been appointed by Governor Gage, of California, a member of the Board of Regents of the State University, in place of the late General Barnes.

Signor Marconi is reported to have made during his late residence at Bologna an important scientific discovery based on the nature of electric fluids, which enables him to decompose air at hardly any expense and produce pure oxygen. The discovery is stated to be almost accidental.

The death, announced from New York, of Mrs. Ulysses Grant, reminds a correspondent that the famous President was, by his marriage as well as by often expressed sympathy, in some sort of personal touch with Ireland. Mrs. Grant was the daughter of Frederick and Helen Bray, of a good County Wicklow family, hailing, indeed, from close to the town of Bray, near to which there are still resident some members and connections of the clan. Mrs. Grant herself was born in St. Louis; she married the future President in 1848, when he was a lieutenant in a State regiment. She has long survived her distinguished husband, so long that to the younger generation in New York she seemed like a curious page of almost antediluvian history, something utterly remote from the wonderful post-bellum America that we know. Her death, in her 76th year, removes a picturesque personality from New York society, and will seem almost like the definite closing of an historic epoch.

Mr. Henry Norman, M.P., in the current number of 'The World's Work,' pays a remarkable tribute to the abilities of Mr. John Redmond. Mr. Redmond's appearance is, Mr. Norman says, curiously unknown to the people of England. Moreover, the ordinary English reader hardly realises how great a Parliamentarian he is. He does not speak like an Irishman, except for his accent—with the outpouring eloquence and picturesque vocabulary of the typical Celt, but with slow, weighty, and, if need be, passionate speech, which never fails on great occasions to produce a deep impression. At his best, indeed, Mr. Redmond is an orator in the old-fashioned sense of the term, and as a Parliamentarian he is unsurpassed by anybody in the House. It is a matter of common comment that nobody gets a more respectful hearing or can win more marked concessions from the Government than the Leader of the Nationalist Party. In other words, he is the ablest leader which any party in the House possesses.

Some correspondents have asked us (says the 'Glasgow Observer') how many of the Irish Party are Protestants? In point of numbers the Catholic members of the Irish Party preponderate, but in proportion to the religious views of their constituents the Protestant members of the party have a very generous representation. Captain Donelan, Mr. Abraham, Mr. Jordan, Mr. Hugh Law, Mr. Swift MacNeill, Major Jameson, Dr. Thompson, Mr. Blake, Mr. Arthur Lynch, Sergeant Hemphill, and Mr. Haviland Burke are all Protestants, and almost every one of them represents an overwhelmingly Catholic constituency. Donegal, for instance, which returns Mr. Law and Mr. Swift MacNeill, is an emphatically Catholic county; and Clare, which has tolerated Major Jameson so long, is perhaps the most Catholic county in Ireland. No Protestant, whether in Butt's time, Parnell's time, or the present time, who was a sound Nationalist, ever sought vainly the favor of any Catholic constituency in Ireland.

The newly-appointed Maestro of the Sistine Chapel, Dom Perosi, has not relaxed his powers as a composer. His amazing fecundity in the output of church music has long elicited praise even from those critics who regard his many works as merely mediocre, but it is clear that the clever priest-composer has made enormous strides within the past two years in the art of musical construction. He is now preparing a splendid oratorio, to be entitled 'St. Cecilia,' and surely no more appropriate subject could be chosen for the display of the maturing powers of Father Perosi. Santa Cecilia has ever been an inspiring theme for artists, but it is strange that the great patroness of music has not been made the groundwork of a sublime oratorio long ere this. A well-known musician who has been privileged to hear some concerted items from the forthcoming oratorio is loud in praise of the motifs and the treatment by Maestro Perosi. Probably before Lent the new oratorio will be heard in Turin. In this connection it is as well to observe that Dom Perosi has gradually effected many desirable changes in the personnel and repertoire of the Pope's Choir, and he makes no secret of his preference for a judicious blending of the works of 16th and 19th century composers—discarding the old traditional usage of only employing in the service of the Church the compositions of the Palestrina school.

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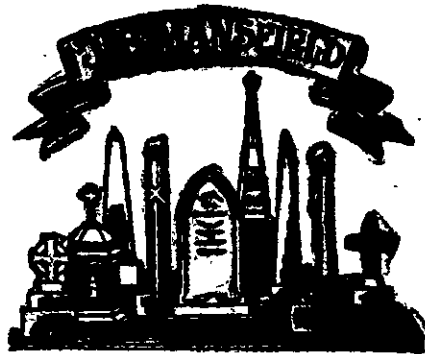
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—CHRISTCHURCH

Commercial

(For week ending February 11.)

PRODUCE.

London, February 5.—The wheat markets have declined 6d on the strength of the official statement that the Argentine crop is 14½ million quarters, with an export surplus of 10,000,000 quarters. The markets have since recovered slightly. Cargoes are quiet. A Californian shipment sold at 31/9.

Butter is dull. Colonial realises 100/- to 102/-, but Australian is very difficult to sell. Prices for Danish are unchanged.

Napier, February 6.—The Colonial Consignment and Distributing Company (Limited), London, cabled to-day: 'North Island mutton has fallen another ½d. The mutton market is depressed and declining, there being no demand. Quotations: Canterbury, 5d; Napier, Wellington, and North Island, 4½d. Lamb: First quality, 7d; second, 6½d.'

London, February 8.—Frozen Meat.—Sheep: Canterbury, light, 4½d; medium, 4½d; heavy, 4½d; Dunedin and Southland, none offering; North Island, 4½d. Lambs: Canterbury, none offering; Dunedin and Southland, none offering; North Island, 6½d. New Zealand beef, 180 to 220lb, fair average quality: Ox fores, 3½d; hinds, 3½d. River Plate: Sheep, 3½d; lambs, 5 3-16d; beef—fores, 3 3-16d; hinds, 3½d.

Hemp, quiet. Fair Wellington January and March shipments, £28.

Wellington, February 9.—The following cable has been received from the Agent-General, dated London, 7th inst.:—'Frozen Meat—Mutton: The market has been unfavorably affected by the continuance of United States shipments. The average price to-day is: Canterbury mutton, 4½d; Dunedin and Southland mutton, 4½d; North Island mutton, 4½d; River Plate mutton, 4d; Australian mutton, 4d; United States mutton, 3½d. Lamb: The market is steady; new season's, 6½d. Beef: Market very dull. New Zealand hinds, 4½d; fores, 3½d. There has been no alteration in the butter market since last week. The cheese market is steady; New Zealand, 63/- per cwt. The price of good, fair Wellington grade hemp on the spot to-day is £32; January and March shipments, £28 10/-. The cocksfoot seed market is dull; New Zealand (17lb standard), 63/- per cwt. American cocksfoot is regarded with favor.'

Mr. F. Meenan, King street, reports:—Wholesale prices only.—Oats: Milling, 2/5 to 2/6; feeding, 1/9 to 2/5. Wheat: Milling, 4/6 to 5/6; fowls', 3/6 to 4/-. Potatoes: Prime, £4 10/-. Chaff: Inferior to medium, £3 to £4; prime, £4 17/6. Straw: Pressed wheat, 35/-; oaten, £2; loose, £2. Flour: 200lb, sacks, £12; 50lb, £12 15/-; 25lb, £13. Oatmeal: 25lb, £13 15/-; Bran, £6. Pollard, £7. Butter: Dairy, 8d to 10d, factory, 11d. Cheese: Old, 6½d; new, 6½d. Eggs, 1/3. Onions: Melbourne, £8 per ton.

SOUTHLAND PRODUCE MARKET.

Invercargill prices current—Wholesale—Butter (farm), 5d to 6d; butter (factory) bulk, 11d; pats 1/- cash, 1/0½ booked. Eggs, 1/- per dozen. Cheese (factory), 6½d. Hams, 9d. Barley, 2/- to 2/6. Chaff, £5. Flour, £13 to £14. Oatmeal, £13 10/- to £14. Bran, £6. Pollard, £6 10/-. Retail—Fresh butter, 7d to 8d; butter (factory), pats, 1/2; bulk, 1/1. Eggs, 1/2 per dozen. Cheese, 8d. Bacon, 11d. Hams, 10d. Flour, 200lb, 28/-; 50lb, 7/6. Oatmeal: 50lb, 3/-; 25lb, 4/- Pollard, 10/9 per bag. Bran, 7/-. Chaff, 3/-.

Messrs. Donald Reid and Co. (Limited) report as follows:—

We held our weekly auction sale of grain and produce at our stores on Monday, when we submitted a full catalogue to a good attendance of buyers. With the exception of oats, for which there was only moderate competition, nearly all the lines on offer were quitted at fairly satisfactory values. Prices ruled as follows:—

Oats.—The demand for milling and good export lines has been extremely quiet during the past week. Owing to the new crop being now offered at northern ports, buyers are not disposed to operate except for actual orders, and in consequence of several large lines being put on the market here at reduced values, it has been impossible to effect sales on the basis of late quotations. We quote: Prime milling, 2/5 to 2/6; good to best feed, 2/3 to 2/4½; medium, 2/- to 2/2; inferior, 1/6 to 1/10 per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat.—Millers' requirements are at present extremely small, and are, in most cases, readily filled with small lots of northern velvet. Other kinds are for the most part neglected, while medium qualities can only be quitted as fowl wheat, for which there is fair inquiry at current prices. Quotations: Prime milling velvet, 5/- to 5/6; medium to good, 4/3 to 4/10; whole fowl wheat, 4/- to 4/1; broken and damaged, 3/3 to 3/9 per bushel (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—We submitted several lines at auction, and sold best sorts, freshly picked, at £4 10/- to £4 15/-; good, £4 to £4 5/-; medium, £3 10/- to £3 15/- per ton (bags in).

Chaff.—Although consignments have not been so heavy during the past week, there is still a fair stock offering locally at prices barely equal to late quotations. Quotations: Best oaten sheaf, £4 5/- to £4 15/-; medium to good, £3 10/- to £4; inferior and straw chaff, £2 5/- to £3 5/- per ton (bags extra).

WOOL.

London, February 3.—During the sales 65,000 bales were sold for home consumption, 58,000 for the Continent and 4000 for America, while 14,000 were held over.

Compared with closing rates in the December series merinos were lower, crossbreds at par, and fine crossbreds showed an advance in some instances of 5 per cent. The Waihora clip sold at 6½d; Gear, 7½d.

Wellington, February 3.—The following cablegram has been received by the Department of Industries and Commerce, Wellington, from the Agent-General, London:—'The wool sales are closed. During the last few days the crossbred market has declined. Fine crossbreds for all grades are now about par; medium crossbreds of all grades and coarse crossbreds of all grades are ½d dearer than December. For sound merinos the market closed strong, prices being sustained at the close. All lambs show ½d advance.'

London February 4.—Tallow: At the sales 609 casks were offered and 119 sold. Fine mutton, 35/9; the rest unchanged.

London, February 5.—More business is doing in the Bradford wool market. Forties, 10d; forty-sixes, 13½d; common sixties, 23½d; supers, 24½d.

SALE OF HIDES.

Messrs. Stronach Bros. and Morris report as follows: We held our fortnightly sale of hides at our stores, Crawford street, to-day, when there was an average attendance of buyers present. Prices were quite up to last report—in fact, for heavy prime ox hides there was an upward tendency, and a rise may be quoted for these. The demand for all classes continues keen, and we can confidently recommend owners to forward consignments for sale by auction. Our best price to-day for ox hides was 7½d, at which figure we sold a line averaging 70lb. For cows we obtained 4½d. Our catalogue comprised 114 ox and cow hides and five calfskins, a total of 149. We quote as follows: Prime ox hides, 5½d to 6½d; extra, to 7½d; medium do, 4½d to 5½d; light and inferior do, 3½d to 4½d; prime cow hides, 4½d to 4¾d; medium do, 3½d to 4½d; light and inferior do, 2½d to 3½d; calfskins, 1/- to 3/2 each.

LIVE STOCK.

SYDNEY STOCK SALES.

Sydney, February 9.—At the Homebush sales competition for sheep was good, but prices were weaker. Best wethers realised 14/9; good, 12/- to 13/-; ewes: Best, 14/-; good, 11/6 to 12/-. Cattle: New Zealand bullocks averaged £13.

ADDINGTON STOCK-MARKET.

Fat Cattle.—175 head of average range of quality were yarded. The demand was irregular, but prices on the average was unchanged except for cow beef, which was slightly easier. Steers brought £6 17/6 to £11 12/6; heifers, £5 17/6 to £8 5/-; cows, £5 10/- to £9 2/6. Good beef, 23/- to 26/- per 100lb; cow beef, 22/-.

Fat Sheep.—The entry was good in number and quality, but there was very slow sale, several exporters being merely onlookers. All sheep of good quality, however, brought the previous week's values, but old ewes were decidedly lower. Freezing wethers realised 16/- to 19/7; maiden ewes, 15/- to 17/9; prime heavy ewes, 16/- to 19/-; ordinary to good, 12/6 to 15/-; aged, from 10/3.

Fat Lambs.—The entry of 2450 met with very sluggish demand, but prices were not notably lower, except for secondary and graziers' lots. Freezers sold at 12/6 to 14/8; butchers' and graziers' descriptions, 10/- to 12/-.

Pigs.—A small entry and good demand prices advancing on the previous week's rates. Baconers brought 45/- to 55/-; porkers, 30/- to 42/6; stores, 22/6 to 35/-; small stores, 17/- to 21/-; suckers and weaners, 14/- to 16/-. Per lb, porkers realised from 5d to 6d, and good baconers averaged 5d.

DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS.

Messrs. Wright, Stephenson and Co. report as follows:—

For Saturday's sale between 20 and 30 horses were entered, this number being composed mainly of light harness horses, most of which were aged and more or less screwed up with hard work. With two exceptions no draught horses were offered, these being a six-year old horse of medium size, which was disposed of for £34 10/- and an aged heavy gelding at £45. There were numerous buyers present for good young horses, both draughts and light harness classes, but, unfortunately, very few have come forward of late to our sales. We can, however, strongly advise owners having suitable horses to send them to us, as this market is very bare, and buyers are prepared to give big prices for horses of the right stamp, if sound and young. At this week's sale one upstanding light harness horse realised £25, and we have

MUTUAL CO-OPERATIVE STORES,

MAOLAGGAN STREET (next Arcade),
DUNEDIN.

The above Stores are NOW OPEN FOR BUSINESS with a full Assortment of Groceries, Crockery, General Ironmongery, and Sundries. Every Customer participates in the Profits.

For particulars see circulars and price lists, which can be had on application at the Stores, or will be forwarded to any address by post.

Just landed, a consignment of Galvanised Iron Fencing Wire, Barbed Wire, Rabbit Netting, Sheep Netting, etc., etc.

JOHN BEATTY, Manager.

A NOTED HOUSE.

THE SHADES

DOWLING STREET, DUNEDIN.

This old-established and Popular Hotel is most carefully managed by the proprietor,

O. TILBURN,

Everything of the Best and all Drawn from the Wood.

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ORION

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.

CASTINGS OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS.

Catalogues from all Ironmongers, or the

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PRINCES STREET, DUNEDIN.

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Monuments and Tombstones erected of New Zealand Granite, Scotch Granite, and Italian and American Marble.

Tomb Railing in great variety.

THE TRADE SUPPLIED.

Town and Country Orders Promptly attended to.

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MESSRS. POWLEY & KEAST
HOPE STREET,
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Bottlers, Wine & Spirit Merchants

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"Liqueur" Whisky.

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Corks, Tinfoil, Wire, Sypons, and all Bottlers Requisites in Stock.

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JOHNSTONE & HASLETT,
CHEMISTS AND OPTICIANS,
(Licentiates of the Pharmaceutical Society
of Ireland),

MANSE STREET, DUNEDIN.

JOHNSTONE'S HEADACHE AND NEURALGIA POWDERS are a safe, instant, and reliable remedy. Sold in boxes of 12 powders, 1s each box. A free sample will be mailed to any part of New Zealand on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope.

HASLETT'S IRISH MOSS Cough Cure is quick to cure any ordinary cough or cold, and can be safely given to children. It is made from the Genuine Irish Moss *Cetraria Hybernica*, which is noted for its soothing and nourishing properties. 1s and 1s 6d per bottle. Goods sent POST FREE when order is accompanied by remittance. Send for Pamphlet of Household Remedies.

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DUNEDIN.

.. GOOD ACCOMMODATION FOR ..

COUNTRY VISITORS.

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NATIONAL HOTEL,

LAMBTON QUAY, WELLINGTON.

MRS. BUTLER

(formerly of Greymouth, and recently licensee of the Prince of Wales Hotel, Wellington)

Notifies her friends and the public that she has taken over the above-named Hotel.

Only the Best Liquors stocked.

First-class accommodation for visitors.

Telephone No. 1212.

MOUNTAINEER HOTEL,

QUEENSTOWN, LAKE WAKATIPU

P. MCCARTHY - Proprietor.

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.

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.

PETER DICK

Invites inspection of a very choice assortment of ELECTRO PLATE and WARE of the Best Quality, suitable for Wedding, Birthday, Christmas and New Year Presents. Also, Gold and Silver Jewellery, Watches, Clocks, Spectacles to suit all sights, Smoked Protector for Cyclists at moderate prices. Watches thoroughly cleaned, 5s; Mainspring, 4s 6d.

First-class Workmanship Guaranteed.

Note Address: PETER DICK,

The most reliable Watchmaker & Jeweller

(Opposite Coffee Palace),

MORAY PLACE, DUNEDIN.

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 Procurable Brands.

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

TELEPHONE 1306.

SANITARY PIPE

AND STONEWARE FACTORY,
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The undersigned, having purchased the above Works, is prepared to sell at Lowest Current Rates.

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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)—
Warrimoo Wed., Feb. 11 3 p.m. D'din
Talane Fri., Feb. 13 3 p.m. D'din
Mararoa Tues., Feb. 17 2.30 p.m. tr'n
NAPIER, GISBORNE and AUCKLAND—
Talane Fri., Feb. 13 3 p.m. D'din
Mararoa Tues., Feb. 17, 2.30 p.m. tr'n

SYDNEY, via WELLINGTON and COOK STRAIT—
Warrimoo Wed., Feb. 11 3 p.m. D'din
*Moeraki Wed., Feb. 18 2.30 p.m. tr'n
*Twin screw.

SYDNEY via AUCKLAND—
Mararoa Tues., Feb. 17. 2.30 p.m. tr'n
Waikare Tues., March 3 2.30 p.m. tr'n
MELBOURNE via BLUFF and HOBART—
Mokoia Feb. 15 2.30 p.m. tr'n
*Monowai Feb. 22 2.30 p.m. tr'n
*Calls Milford Sound.

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

Upolu Mon., Feb. 23 2 p.m. D'din
WESTPORT and GREYMOUTH via OAMARU, TIMARU, LYTTELTON, and WELLINGTON (cargo only)—
Koonya Thurs., Feb. 5 2 p.m. D'din
SUVA and LEVUKA.

Taviuni leaves Auckland, Wednesday, Feb 25 (connects at Suva with Moana for America and Europe).

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

Rotokino Wednesday, Feb 11
BARATONGA and TAHITI.

Ovalau leaves Auckland, Tues., Feb. 24

BEATH AND CO.,

DRAPERS, CHRISTCHURCH, respectfully request your support and kind recommendation.

American Sheeting.



WE have just received a Large Shipment of this excellent **SHEETING**, made of Best American Cotton, and absolutely free from dress 80in. wide, 1/3 yard; well worth 1/9.

BROWN, EWING & CO., Ltd., Dunedin

buyers prepared to take a large number of good average horses suitable for rabbit waggons, trams, drags, waggongettes, etc., at full market rates. We quote: Superior young draught geldings, £50 to £55; extra good, prize horses, £56 to £60; medium draught mares and geldings, £35 to £48; aged do, £26 to £33; upstanding carriage horses, £30 to £35; well-matched carriage pairs, £70 to £90 milk cart and butchers' order-cart horses, £22 to £28; tram horses, £14 to £21; light hacks, £10 to £16; extra good hacks, £18 to £25; weedy and aged hacks and harness horses, £4 to £8.

The 'Tribune' publishes the following old-time Melbourne church memories:—In 1841 the Catholic residents in the town of Melbourne and county of Bourke were reckoned at 2073. The first advertised charity sermon preached in Melbourne was by Father Geoghegan, at 2 p.m. on Sunday, December 22, 1839. The first bell rang at the original St. Francis Church was a sheep bell, on which old Bodecin rang the changes in an astounding manner at the church door. High Mass was celebrated for the first time at Port Phillip on St. Patrick's Day, 1843, the celebrant being the Rev. Daniel McEvoy, Rev. Fathers Geoghegan and Stevens deacon and sub-deacon respectively. The Rev. P. B. Geoghegan, the first priest who landed in Victoria, arrived per the Paul Pry on the 15th May, 1839. Mass was celebrated for the first time on Pentecost Sunday, four days afterwards, in an unroofed store at the corner of Little Collins and Elizabeth streets, now the site of the Colonial Bank. Previous to this time Catholics gathered together in the house of a zealous French Catholic, Mr. Peter Bodecin, a carpenter by trade, and there recited the Rosary and other prayers.

Death of the Rev. Father Mackintosh, Parnell.

(From our Auckland correspondent.)

The Rev. Father Mackintosh, assistant priest at Parnell, died suddenly on Saturday, January 31. He had been ailing for some time, and the jury at the inquest returned a verdict, in accordance with the medical evidence, of death from syncope. The deceased priest had been two years in this diocese. For years he was administrator of the Glasgow Cathedral, which, owing to ill-health he was obliged to relinquish, and came on a long sea voyage to the Colony. On his arrival here he succeeded the Rev. Father Patterson in the charge of Otahuhu and Howick, whence he was sent to Parnell. The announcement of his death in the churches on Sunday morning caused a profound sensation. The funeral took place on Monday morning from the Church of St. John the Baptist, Parnell, where a Solemn Requiem Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Father Patterson, assisted by the Rev. Father Purton, O.S.B. In the choir the following priests were present and sang the appropriate music: Very Rev. Dr. Egan, O.S.B., Very Rev. Father Fitzgerald, O.F.M., Rev. Fathers Kehoe, Buckley, Furlong, and Holbrook. After Mass the absolutions were given by the Rev. Father Kehoe. The funeral procession was most imposing, and proceeded to the Otahuhu cemetery, where his Lordship the Bishop met the cortege. Here also the Very Rev. Monsignor Paul, V.G., and Father McGuinness met it. Father Kehoe conducted the service at the grave, where the Bishop delivered a panegyric on the departed priest. A large number of mourners assembled to pay their tribute of respect to the deceased.—R.I.P.

MYERS and CO., Dentists, Octagon, corner of George street. They guarantee highest class work at moderate fees. Their artificial teeth give general satisfaction, and the fact of their supplying a temporary denture while the gums are healing does away with the inconvenience of being months without teeth. They manufacture a single artificial tooth for Ten Shillings, and sets equally moderate. The administration of nitrous-oxide gas is also a great boon to those needing the extraction of a tooth. Read advertisement.—***

WANGANUI.

(From our own correspondent.)

February 7.

Owing to the prolonged and serious illness of the Very Rev. Dean Kirk, his Grace the Archbishop has appointed Very Rev. Dean Grogan, of Napier, to take charge temporarily of the parish of Wanganui, and he will have the assistance of Rev. Father O'Sullivan, who, for the past three years or more, has been assistant priest to Dean Kirk. This change will afford our beloved pastor a much-needed respite from the worry and anxiety of administering the affairs of the parish in his delicate state of health, and it is the earnest wish, not alone of his parishioners, but of the people of Wanganui, that at no distant date he will have so far recovered as to take his accustomed place amongst the people with whom he has been so closely connected during the past 27 years.

Ven. Archdeacon Devoy arrived here last week, and remained till Wednesday morning, when he left for Meane. On Sunday, February 1, he preached instructive sermons both in the morning and evening.

The Sacred Heart Convent School re-opened on Monday last after a vacation of five weeks. The Marist Brothers' and St. Joseph's Schools settled down for the new year a week earlier. Brother Henrick takes the place of Brother Damien on the teaching staff of the Marist Brothers' school.

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.—***

S. T. PATRICK'S COLLEGE WELLINGTON.

CONDUCTED BY THE MARIST FATHERS.
Under the Distinguished Patronage of His Grace the Archbishop of Wellington.

The object of the Marist Fathers in this country, as in their colleges in Europe and America, is to impart to their pupils a thoroughly Religious and a sound Literary education, which will enable them in after-life to discharge their duties with honour to Religion and Society, and with credit and advantage to themselves.

Students are prepared for the N.Z. University Junior and Senior Civil Service, Medical Entrance, Solicitors' General Knowledge, Bank and all other Public Examinations.

Students not preparing for the learned Professions have the advantage of a Special Commercial Course, under efficient management, where they are taught all that will be of use in mercantile pursuits.

Special attention is also paid to the teaching of Physical Science, for which purpose the College possesses a large Laboratory and Demonstration Hall. Vocal Music, Elocution, Drawing, and all other branches of a Liberal Education receive due attention.

Physical culture is attended to by a competent Drill Instructor, who trains the students three times a week in Drill, Rifle Practice, and Gymnastics. A large and well-equipped Gymnasium is attached to the College.

The religious and moral training of the pupils is an object of special care, and particular attention is bestowed on the teaching of Christian Doctrine.

A well-appointed Infirmary attached to the College is under the charge of the Sisters of Compassion, from whom in case of illness all students receive the most tender and devoted care, and who at all times pay particular attention to the younger and more delicate pupils, who without such care would find the absence of home comforts very trying.

For TERMS, etc., apply to

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RIDE "ANGLO SPECIAL" CYCLES.

THE PROVINCIAL ECCLESIASTICAL SEMINARY OF NEW ZEALAND.

HOLY CROSS COLLEGE, MOSGIEL.

In conformity with arrangements made at the First Provincial Synod, held in Wellington in 1892, 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.

The Pension is £35 a year, payable half-yearly in advance. It provides for Board and Lodging, Tuition, School Books, Furniture, Bedding and House Linen.

The Extra Charges are: Washing, \$1 10s a year, and Medicine and Medical Attendance if required.

Students will provide their own wearing apparel, including the Soutane, as well as Surplice for assistance in Choir.

The Annual Vacation ends on Saturday, February 14th.

The Seminary is under the Patronage and Direction of the Archbishop and Bishops of New Zealand, and under the immediate personal supervision of the Right Rev. Bishop of Dunedin.

For further Particulars apply to the Rector, Holy Cross College, Mosgiel.

MRS. HUTTON'S

SERVANTS' REGISTRY OFFICE OCTAGON, DUNEDIN.

Boarding House Keepers, Hotel Proprietors, and all requiring servants of every descriptions should apply to Mrs Hutton.

NOTICE.

SUBSCRIBERS Removing from one District to another and wishing Address changed should give Previous Address to prevent confusion.

THE CATHOLIC BOOK DEPOT

35 BARBADOES STREET SOUTH, CHRISTCHURCH.

(Opposite New Cathedral).

ESTABLISHED 1860.

I have a few Copies of the following STANDARD WORKS still in stock:—

Smith's Elements of Ecclesiastical Law, 3 vols., 35s; The Catholic Dictionary—New, Revised, and Enlarged Edition—17s 6d; Spirago's Method of Christian Doctrine (Messmer), 6s 6d; Roads to Rome, 7s 6d.

Lectures for Boys, 3 vols.; The Sundays of the Year; Our Lady's Festivals; The Passion of Our Lord; The Sacred Heart, by the Very Rev. F. C. Doyle, O.S.B., 25s.

Explanation and Application of Bible History, by Nash, 6s.

The Beauty of Christian Dogma, 5s.

Goffin's Instructions on the Epistles and Gospels, 5s.

The Catechism Simply Explained, by the Rev. H. T. Cafferata, 1s 3d. Other Books and Sundries as usual.

Orders punctually attended to.

E. O'CONNOR, Proprietor.

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.

URGENT.

WANTED copies of "TABLET" dated JANUARY 9, 1902. Subscribers having same will greatly oblige by sending to our Office.

FRIDAY, 27th FEBRUARY, 1903,

At 2.30 p.m.

At the Board Room, Agricultural Buildings.

DONALD REID AND CO. (LIMITED) have received instructions from the Trustees in the Estate of the late Francis Meenan to sell by auction, on the above date,

VALUABLE LEASEHOLD PROPERTIES, with BUILDINGS thereon, viz.:

LOT 1.—Lease of Section 31, Block V., Walker street, Dunedin, containing 1 rood; term, 60 years from 1st January, 1876; present ground rent, £20 per annum; 8 Brick and Wooden Buildings on property bringing in a weekly rental of \$4 6s.

LOT 2.—Corporation Lease of Allotments 8 and 9, Baths Reserve, Leith street, Dunedin, containing 2 roods and 2 poles; term, 21 years from 11th April, 1895; ground rent, \$16 16s per annum; 8 Brick and Wooden Buildings on the property, bringing in a weekly rental of \$4 3s 6d.

For conditions of sale and full particulars apply to

Messrs CALLAN & GALLAWAY,

Solicitors, Dunedin;

THE AUCTIONEERS.

Or to

DEATHS

McCAUGHAN.—On January 28, John James McCaughan youngest son of Alex. and Mary McCaughan, of Garston; aged 18 months. Deeply mourned.—R.I.P.

HUETT.—On February 3, at Wellington South, Mary, the beloved wife of Mr. Jesse Huett, and mother of Mrs. J. A. Dudson and Mrs. W. Dudson; aged 64 years.—R.I.P.



'To promote the cause of Religion and Justice by the ways of Truth and Peace.'

LEO XIII. to the N.Z. TABLET.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1903.

THE ENGLISH EDUCATION BILL.



THE English Education Bill passed its final stages and received the Royal assent in December last, but we have deferred referring to the measure because the cabled accounts of the numerous amendments and alterations it underwent prior to its ultimately passing into law were necessarily meagre and imperfect, and any comments made at the time could only have been speculative and conditional. When it is remembered that the Bill was under discussion in the country for a period of nine months, that it occupied no less than 55 sittings of the House of Commons, and that scores of amendments were proposed and scores of speeches made on it in both Houses of Parliament, it will be apparent that only by careful attention to the latest and fullest information is it possible to arrive at a correct and adequate idea of the nature and scope of the measure as it now stands upon the Statute Book. Home papers now to hand give the full text of the new Act in its final form, and we propose to explain briefly the nature of its provisions, the more important of the alterations it has undergone since its first introduction, its value and importance for English Catholics, and its practical significance for ourselves. The Act is designed to effect a complete revolution and reform of the whole educational system of England, but our interest is naturally focussed on the provisions dealing with the assistance to be given to the voluntary or denominational schools under the scheme, and it is to this aspect of the proposals that our remarks will be confined.

The new Act establishes one local authority—the county or borough council—for all public elementary schools in the country. It is through this authority that all payments are to be made to the various schools within the area of its jurisdiction, and, so far as the secular education is concerned, all schools, whether elementary, secondary, or technical, and whether denominational or otherwise, are to be under its control. In order to simplify the work of administration each local authority is required to appoint an education committee, a majority of whose members shall also be members of the local body; and it is on these education committees that all the management and control of the schools, so far as secular instruction is concerned, will really fall. The syllabus, the text-books, the apparatus of the schools; the number, qualifications, and wages of the teachers; the hours for religious instruction, the repair or enlargement of existing schools, and the erection of new schools, will all form part of the province of the local education committee. Provision is indeed made for the appointment of six managers to do the actual work; but, except for their control over the religious instruction in the denominational schools, the managers are little more than agents to carry out the wishes of the committee, and two of them are actually appointed by the Committee.

For the purposes of the Act schools are practically divided into two classes—viz., provided schools, i.e., State schools established by the local authority, and non-provided schools, i.e., voluntary or denominational schools; and in the matter of payment both provided and denominational schools are placed on the same financial basis, and, so far as ordinary maintenance and working expenses are concerned, are treated with absolute equality. Each receive their fair share of help both from the Imperial Exchequer and from the rates and the capitation grant, and other aids are meted out equally to both classes of schools. There is still one inequality, inasmuch as the first cost of erecting denominational schools has to be paid by the denomination concerned, whereas the cost of building provided schools is defrayed from the rates; but, with this exception, the two classes of schools are placed on precisely the same financial footing.

For Catholics the crux of the measure lies in the provisions it makes for safeguarding religious instruction, and, as we have already said, it is around these that our keenest interest will naturally centre. The Act provides that all religious instruction given in the denominational schools shall be under the control of the managers, who have the exclusive power (subject to a right of veto on purely educational grounds by the local authority) of appointing and dismissing teachers. There are six managers, four of whom—called 'foundation' managers—are appointed by the trustees of the school—i.e., by the religious authorities—and the other two by the local education committee. Under the Bill as originally introduced it was understood that the control of the religious instruction would be left solely in the hands of the foundation managers, and the clause giving the whole of the managers a say in the matter was afterwards moved in Committee by Colonel KENYON-SLANEY, and constitutes the first part of the famous KENYON-SLANEY amendment. In its application to Catholic schools this amendment is most objectionable and altogether indefensible. Its operation may be harmless enough in the case of Anglican schools, where it would merely mean that the managers would consist of four Anglican clergymen and two of their own laity. In the case of Catholic schools, however, it means that the body of managers will be composed of four Catholics and two Protestants, and the two Protestants will thus be called upon to control the course of instruction in a religion which they conscientiously believe to be false. As the foundation managers still form a large majority of the body, it is possible that the proposal may pan out all right in actual practice, but the principle is a bad one, and it is greatly to be regretted that, owing to the matter having been looked at from an almost exclusively Anglican stand-point, this thoroughly vicious amendment should have been allowed to remain part of the Bill.

As some sort of set-off to this disadvantage, it is gratifying to note that in two directions the Bill, as finally amended by the House of Lords, has substantially improved the Catholic position. In the form in which the measure

left the House of Commons no definite provision was made for the appointment by the local authority of any Catholic members to the education committees, which, as we have pointed out, are to play such an important part in the administration of the scheme. It is obviously essential that there should be someone on those bodies to give voice to the needs and wishes of the minority, and the Lords did an act of simple justice when they amended the Bill so as to make provision for appointing to the committee, where it appears desirable, persons nominated by representatives of the denominational schools. A further concession was made to the denominational schools when the Lords accepted an amendment relieving denominational managers of the responsibility—which had been thrown upon them by the House of Commons—of making good all damage done to the buildings by ordinary wear and tear, the only repairs for which they are now liable being actual alteration or enlargement of the schools

It will be seen, then, that so far as the detailed changes which the Bill has undergone are concerned they have brought to Catholics some advantages and also some disadvantages. The advantages are that Catholic schools are put on practically the same financial footing as the State Schools, that Catholics have a majority of the managers who control the religious instruction in their schools, and that provision is also made for Catholic representation on the Education Committees. The most serious disadvantage is the KENYON-SLANEY absurdity which gives the nominees of the civil authority a share in the control of Catholic religious teaching in the schools. But putting aside details and looking at the main principles of the Bill, it must be admitted to be a really great measure; how great we can best appreciate by picturing to ourselves what our feelings would be if we had anything like such a scheme in operation in this country. This Bill, as the London 'Spectator' remarks, has committed the nation beyond recall to the principles that the State has duties to perform that represent every aspect of education, that the 'general co-ordination of all forms of education' (that is, amongst others, of the State schools and the denominational schools) is a national affair, and that denominationalism in schools is at least as consistent with State aid as undenominationalism. As we pointed out on the first introduction of the measure, it is a plain and candid recognition of the great principle that all the schools of the nation which are doing the necessary work of teaching the children of the people stand on an equal footing, have an equal claim upon the public funds, and have an absolute right to an equal wage for equal service. That, as we then said, is the very thing which the Catholics of this country have for so many years been striving for—the very principle which our bishops so plainly and pointedly insisted on in their last Pastoral. When once that is conceded—as it is conceded in this new Education Act—on anything like fair and reasonable terms, the way is immediately opened up to an equitable, effective, and final settlement of this great question.

As to the special significance for New Zealand Catholics of the passing of this great Act we have little to add to what we said many months ago when the measure was under discussion in the Commons. As we then wrote:—

There can be no doubt that the success of this Bill will greatly strengthen our hands in the great battle which we have been fighting, and have yet to fight, in this country. The adoption of such a scheme by the greatest deliberative assembly in the world is a fact the moral influence of which it is almost impossible to over-estimate. It will surely at last stop the mouths of the political pigmies who prate about our claims being impracticable and impossible, and will put an end to the foolish idea that the grant of justice to Catholics will undermine and split up our great (so-called) national system. Moreover, the English proposals constitute a splendid vindication not only of the desirability but of the absolute necessity of denominational schools in the interests of religious freedom. 'Whatever may be the origin of the present state of things,' said Mr. BALFOUR in introducing the measure, 'we have as a community repudiated responsibility for teaching a particular form of religion; we equally assume responsibility for teaching secular learning. As we have thus left to the

RIDE "ANGLO SPECIAL" CYCLES.

parent the responsibility in this matter surely we ought, in so far as we can consistently with the inevitable limitations which the practical necessities of the case put upon us, make our system as elastic as we can in order to meet the wishes of the parent. I do not stand here to plead for any particular form of denominational religion. I do stand here to say that we ought as much as we can to see that every parent gets for his child the kind of religious education he desires.' These are noble words, and the victory of the great principles which they express should come as an inspiration and as an incentive to us to 'keep the flag flying' and to throw ourselves into the old struggle with untiring energy and with new-kindled courage and hope.

Notes

The Colonial Yield of Gold.

The commercial reports just to hand from Australia show that the yield of gold for the year 1902 constituted a record, having reached 4,257,778oz. As the return for the year from New Zealand was also unprecedentedly large (503,100oz) there is some compensation for the appalling losses by the drought. Some interesting comparisons may be made from the return. Western Australia, long derided as merely a temporary source of gold production, now produces about one-half of the total for Australia, and after Victoria and Queensland New Zealand comes next. Moreover, Western Australia is the only one of the Australian States showing a large and regular increase since 1899. The largest relative increase since that year is shown in New Zealand, where it has almost doubled. For this no doubt the dredging industry has been responsible, and this, though it realises nothing like the dreams indulged in, is another proof of the stability of New Zealand resources. It should be noted, also that, notwithstanding the occasionally sensational yields from dredges on the far-famed Molyneux, it is the smaller dredges that produce the largest aggregate. The claim that can be relied upon to return for an extended term 20 to 25 ounces per week is a far more lucrative field of investment than a 'jeweller's shop,' where occasional dazzling yields disturb prices of shares and often induce buyers to give more than they are worth. It used to be a common fiction that every ounce of gold won from the earth cost more than four pounds to find. In Western Australia, at all events, this does not seem true. Since the discovery of the fields in 1886 the value of the gold produced has been upwards of 37 millions sterling, and the dividends paid amount to almost eight millions. Against this must, of course, be placed the abortive investments, and beyond these the baffled hopes and ruined health for which this particular state is so largely responsible.

A Trans-Continental Railway.

In the last number of the 'Review of Reviews' is a paper by Hon. J. H. Gordon, who is Attorney-General to South Australia. The paper is a description of a gigantic scheme to build a railway right across the Australian Continent to Port Darwin. It is intended partly to checkmate Russia's project of a Siberian line to Port Arthur, and partly to enable South Australia to utilise to some extent its vast northern territory. The line presents no engineering difficulties. 'A nursemaid could wheel a baby in a perambulator from end to end of it,' and its estimated cost is five millions sterling. It is proposed to pay the contractors in land, the maximum to be 75,000 acres per mile of railway. The successful tenderer may select his own land, but he must choose the blocks alternately on each side of the railway and abutting upon it. The land will be granted with all metals, minerals, etc., it may contain, and will be free of land tax for ten years, and the Government reserve the right to purchase the railway at any time on arbitration. It is calculated that after giving 79 million acres of land to the contractors, there will be made available 256 million acres at present not only unproductive but a source of constant expense. The northern territory is not the Sahara many imagine. The rainfall at Port Darwin is 62 inches annually, and this decreases by regular gradations to Oodnadatta, where it is only about five. Mr. Gordon points out the commercial and international importance of the line. Port Darwin is three days nearer Singapore than Port Arthur, and this would place Australia within fourteen days of the Imperial centre, and establish connection with the line soon to be built through India and Burmah to Europe. The great-

est objection to the proposal is the grant of so much land, but the objection is minimised where the territory is so vast, and when the example of the United States is so attractive.

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN.

Holy Cross College, Mosgiel, will re-open after vacation on Saturday, 14th February.

A meeting was held in St. Joseph's Hall on Sunday evening after Vespers for the purpose of making arrangements for the celebration of St. Patrick's Day by the holding of an Irish National Concert. The Rev. Father Murphy, Adm., presided, and there was a representative attendance. It was decided to hold the concert on the evening of March 17, all present forming themselves into a general committee to make the necessary arrangements. Mr. W. H. Haydon, jun., was appointed secretary. The following, with the secretary, were elected a programme committee: Messrs. P. Hally, T. Hussey, C. Foley, and J. Halley.

The Athenaeum Hall, Roxburgh, was on the evening of Monday, the 2nd inst (writes a correspondent) the scene of a very pleasant function, when the members of St. Mary's Catholic Church assembled to make Miss Mullen a presentation in recognition of the very valuable services she has rendered to the Church and Sunday School for the past 20 years. Mr E. Hart presided. Rev. Father Geary, in making the presentation, which consisted of a dressing case, purse, and Catholic Dictionary, referred in glowing terms to the excellent services given by Miss Mullen as teacher of the Sunday school, and on behalf of the parents and children asked her acceptance of the gifts as a token of their appreciation and esteem. Mr H. Waigh, jun., responded on behalf of Miss Mullen. During the evening a first-class musical programme was carried out, the following contributing: Songs—Mrs. Hart, Misses Cormack, Woodhouse, Pitchers, and McMullen, Messrs. F. Laloh, H. McMullen, and H. Waigh; pianoforte solos—Miss Kebe Roy and Miss M. Morrin. Refreshments, kindly provided by the ladies, were partaken of, and after a few pleasant hours a very enjoyable evening was brought to a close.

A valedictory gathering was held recently at the residence of Mr and Mrs. Owen Kelly, Gore, for the purpose of saying good-bye to Miss N. Roche, who has occupied the position of housekeeper at the Catholic presbytery and been a member of the Catholic choir, during her residence of seven years. Miss Roche, says the 'Standard,' is leaving for her home in Dunedin on account of ill-health, and contemplates taking a trip to Melbourne shortly. The numerous guests were hospitably entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Kelly. During an interval, Mr. Kelly made a presentation of a gold bangle and a gold brooch set with pearls and rubies to Miss Roche. He said he had been entrusted with the duty on behalf of the choir and members of the Catholic congregation. Miss Roche, as housekeeper at the presbytery, had been brought into close contact with members of the congregation, and, by her kindly and courteous manner, had won the affection and esteem of them all. As a member of the choir she had rendered valuable service. She would be much missed from among them, and her approaching departure was generally regretted. The Rev. Father O'Donnell replied on Miss Roche's behalf, expressing her thanks to the choir and congregation for the handsome tokens of their goodwill towards her. Personally, he was pleased that the congregation had manifested their appreciation of Miss Roche's services, as she had done much for them outside the ordinary routine of her duties.

Gisborne has collected, or has in view, £500 for its Captain Cook Memorial Fund. The fund, with the Government subsidy of £500, therefore now stands at £1000.

Owing to pressure on our space we have been compelled to hold over several news items.

Mr Thomas G. Patrick, family butcher, Maclaggan street Dunedin, stocks and supplies only the best class of goods at reasonable prices...

Mr T. L. Ralfe, undertaker and monumental mason, Stafford street, Hokitika, has a business notice in this issue. Mr Ralfe makes a speciality of lead lettering...

Our readers in Canterbury are reminded that the Manchester department at Messrs Ballantyne and Company's is fully stocked with the season's shipments of calicoes, longcloths, and lawns, all of first-class quality. They are also showing a splendid stock of new shirtings, flannels, and flannelettes. Patterns will be forwarded post free on application, and letter orders will receive that prompt attention for which this well-known firm has been noted...

When an article by its intrinsic worth gains a high place in public estimation there are brought forward numbers of imitations which are got up so closely resembling the genuine article that they are apt to deceive the unwary. In this age of push it is only natural to expect that the reputation achieved by Hondai-Lanka tea should cause a good deal of jealousy, and that many dealers would attempt to palm off on their customers other brands. The purchaser should be careful to see that he is not imposed upon in this way, and if he firmly impresses on his grocer that he will have Hondai-Lanka tea and no other, he is not likely to be importuned to buy an inferior article at another time...

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent).

February 9.

Tenders are being invited for the erection of a new convent, in brick, at Darfield, for the Sisters of Mercy. The Rev. Father Ainsworth, S.M., Newtown, Wellington, is at present at the Hammer Springs.

Miss Katie Young, organist of St. Mary's, Manchester street, has been appointed pianiste of the Christchurch Musical Union.

There are, it is said, a considerable number of Catholics amongst the ships' companies of the Australasian squadron, and it is suggested that an effort should be made to entertain them on their visit to some of our chief centres.

The attendance at the first Friday of the month meetings of the Sacred Heart Society in the Pro-Cathedral is noticeably increasing and the congregation singing introduced on these occasions heartily and devotionally taken part in.

The Very Rev. Father Le Menant des Chesnais, S.M., V.G., returned during the week from his visit to the south, and at Vespers on Sunday evening preached in the Pro-Cathedral an impressive discourse on the parable of the laborers in the vineyard from the day's Gospel.

At a special meeting at the presbytery on Sunday afternoon of the ladies St. Patrick's Day celebration committee and others desirous of assisting, the attendance was very satisfactory, and much enthusiasm manifested. Mrs. Stratz was elected president, and Miss Murray secretary, and all present expressed their willingness to assist in making the event a success.

Addressing the Pro-Cathedral congregation on Sunday the Very Rev. Dean Foley reminded his hearers that the day was the second anniversary of the laying of the foundation stone of the new cathedral by his Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne. Under favorable circumstances, continued the Dean, by the time the next anniversary arrived the great edifice would be roofed in.

Following on the Millers' Trust, another important combine is just reported to have been brought about, and embraces the engineering and agricultural implement industry in this city and various branches established elsewhere. The primary object of the latest combine is to fight the American importations of farming implements, and, if possible, seek a measure of protection from Parliament. The five largest firms of the city are comprised in the new trust.

At a poll taken last week the borough of Sydenham decided by a majority of two to one in favor of the principle of a Greater Christchurch, and to sink its own identity by amalgamating with the city. Thus the inauguration of a municipality will soon be witnessed embracing the wide area covered by the city within the belts, St. Albans, Linwood, and Sydenham, and controlled by a central council. This probably is the greatest municipal achievement ever accomplished in the Colony; or even attempted.

The St. Patrick's Day celebration committee met on last Friday evening. Mr. W. Hoban presided. The Very Rev. Dean Foley attended and gave particulars of the work outlined by the ladies committee at their recent meeting. The Rev. Father Richards (Lincoln) was added to the concert committee. Besides his Lordship the Bishop (president) and Sir George Clifford (vice-president) of the celebration, several prominent gentlemen wrote extending their patronage. The names of all patrons will be given publicity to when the list is complete. It was decided to invite the ladies' committee to attend a general meeting a fortnight hence.

Appropriate to the recent commencement of another scholastic year preaching at the High Mass on Sunday last in the Pro-Cathedral the Rev. Father O'Connell selected as the theme of his discourse the 'Training of the young.' He attributed, and rightly so, much of the want of success in matters educational to parental neglect. The lack of home influence was clearly discernible among many young people after leaving school, which inevitably led up to that irreverence and disregard for authority so abundantly manifest. In vigorous terms he defended the system of education imparted in Catholic schools, the results clearly proving everywhere that where instances of individual failure occurred at examinations the fault lay with the parents in not insisting on the regular attendance of the children, and aiding by precept and example and the influences of a truly Christian home the teachers in their arduous duties. It was a lamentable fact, he said, that much of the good done during school hours was undone after hours by the freedom allowed and half-hearted control exercised over the children by their parents. Any person of average intelligence could prove by reference to the inspectors' examination reports (always available) that the education imparted was up to requirements and the teachers competent, but many persons were wont to blame everyone but themselves in the matters dwelt upon.

On page 20 of this issue will be found a list of Catholic publications which are offered at very low prices by Mr. W. P. Linehan, wholesale and retail bookseller, Melbourne, and agent for the Catholic Truth Society of Ireland. These books deal with subjects of immediate interest to all Catholics. The list consists of religious, historical, liturgical, and biographical series, tales, etc., and covers a very large field, providing reading of a healthy character suited to all tastes and ages.

Copies of the TABLET for January 9, 1902, are wanted at this office...

Catholic Schools' Picnic.

The Dunedin Catholic schools' fourth annual picnic took place at Outram on Wednesday, February 4. As the weather was on its best behaviour a large number availed themselves of the outing—some 1200 altogether. The bulk of the visitors assembled at the Caledonian grounds, where the picnic sports took place. The long programme was got through in good time, owing to the efficiency of the officials. The Christian Brothers' Old Boys' Cup and the ladies' bicycle race were the events that excited most interest. Some thirteen entries were received for the cup. Mr. J. D. Curran proved the winner, having scored 13 points out of a possible 20. The other competitors who gained points were—A. Knox, 12; T. McBride, 8; P. Dwver, 5; W. P. Miller, 2. Although the running and jumping were not of a high order, all the events were keenly contested, no competitor gaining two first places. The ladies' bicycle race brought out 11 starters. Miss Gladys Mason, quite a small girl, won rather easily from scratch. Miss A. Heffernan was second, and Miss May Dormer third. The feature of the race was the dash with which little Gladys Mason got through her field and maintained a big lead nearly all the way. A Heffernan stuck to her for a while, but the pace was too hot and Miss Mason gained an easy victory. His Lordship Bishop Verdon, accompanied by the clergy of the Cathedral, South Dunedin, and Mosgiel parishes, was an interested spectator of the sports from start to finish. Mr. T. Sontag proved a good starter. Amongst others responsible for the success of the picnic were Messrs. James Collins, J. Marlow, J. Hungerford, W. Fulton, J. J. Dunne, T. P. Conway, J. Laffey, L. Clancy, Chas. Foley (secretary), W. Haydon, Jun., G. East, Rev. Father Coffey, Rev. Brother Fogarty, and the Ladies' Committee. Appended are the results of the sports:

- 75 yards race, boys under 8 years. A. Hawk 1; E. Warren, 2; E. Haggett, 3.
- 60 yards race, girls under 8 years: B. Laffey, 1; A. Attwell, 2; J. Silver, 3.
- 100 yards race, boys 11 years and under: R. Fogarty, 1; C. Hill, 2; W. Attwell, 3.
- Christian Brothers' Old Boys' Cup, 1st event, 100 yards: P. Dwyer, 1; A. Knox, 2; J. D. Curran, 3.
- 80 yards race, girls 11 years and under: K. Collins, 1; B. Laffey, 2; N. O'Connor, 3.
- 120 yards race, boys under 13 years: John Smith, 1; W. Keyes, 2; W. Tansey, 3.
- 100 yards race, girls under 13 years: F. Turnbull, 1; Jean Murray, 2; N. Plunkett, 3.
- 220 yards race, boys over 13 years: B. Connor, 1; W. Higgins and Jno. Collins, 2.
- Christian Brothers' Old Boys' Cup, 2nd event, 220 yards: A. Knox, 1; J. D. Curran, 2; W. P. Miller, 3.
- 120 yards race, girls over 13: K. Ford, 1; M. Smith, 2; M. Newman, 3.
- 100 yards three-legged race, boys, each: Mahon and Dumford.
- 50 yards sack race, boys: W. Keyes, 1; J. Keyes, 2; W. Warren, 3.
- Running high jump, boys, hand: James Collins, 1; M. Rossbotham, 2.
- Christian Brothers' Old Boys' Cup, 3rd event, high jump: J. D. Curran, 1; T. McBride, 2; A. Knox, 3.
- Kicking football (place kick), boys: M. Rossbotham.
- Ladies' bicycle handicap, 6 furlongs: Miss G. Mason, 1; Miss A. Heffernan, 2; Miss M. Dormer, 3.
- Half-mile race, boys: John Collins, 1; John Smith, 2; James Collins, 3.
- School girls' skipping race handicap: K. Ford, 1; K. Collins, 2; A. Chapman, 3.
- Christian Brothers' Old Boys' Cup, final event, long jump: T. McBride, 1; J. D. Curran, 2; A. Knox, 3.

OBITUARY.

MRS HUETT, WELLINGTON.

It is with deep regret (writes a correspondent) that I have to record the death of Mrs Huett at Wellington on February 3. The deceased was born in Edinburgh, and came to New Zealand with her widowed mother (Mrs Graham) and family in 1841. Mrs Graham took up land in the Auckland district, and suffered great hardships during the Maori war, her home having been burned. A feeling of compassion for the widow and orphans no doubt prevented the natives from taking their lives. Mrs Graham died soon after from the shock. Mrs Huett some time after became a ward of the late Bishop Viard, and was educated at the Auckland convent, her sister Margaret being one of the first nuns professed in New Zealand. The deceased married Mr Jesse Huett in 1859, and removed to Wellington in 1869. Mr Huett was for many years assistant officer in charge of the Government Buildings, Wellington. Mrs Huett always took an active part in Church affairs. She was attacked in her last illness by the Rev. Father O'Reilly, and passed peacefully away fortified by the rites of the Church. The Rev. Father Moloney officiated at the church and graveside. The deceased leaves a son and three daughters (Miss Huett, Mrs J. A. Dudson, Carterton, and Mrs W. Dudson, Rangitikei) to mourn their loss.—R.I.P.

Messrs Donald Reid and Co, acting under advice from the trustees of the late Mr Francis Meenan, will sell on February 27 at the Agricultural Buildings, Dunedin, valuable leasehold properties, with buildings thereon, in Walker and Leith streets. Further particulars will be found in our advertising columns...

W. P. LINEHAN, Wholesale and . . . Retail Bookseller, AGENT FOR CATHOLIC TRUTH SOCIETY OF IRELAND.

Any of the following post free for 1s. 3d. per doz.

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Thoughts on the Stations of the Cross. By Alice Esmonde.
Devotion to the Sacred Heart. By Rev. R. Carbery, S.J.
Visits to the Blessed Sacrament for each Day of the Month. By St. Alphonsus Liguori.
Thoughts on Mary Immaculate. By Rev. P. A. Sheehan, P.P.
The Month of Mary, from the Italian of Father Muzzarelli.
Duties to our Dead, and How we Discharge Them. By Right Rev. Monsignor Hallinan, D.D., P.P., V.G.
Mater Dolorosa. By the Rev. P. A. Sheehan, P.P.
Reasons for Holding the Catholic Faith. Edited by Rev. Matthew Russell, S.J.
The Holy Hour. By Rev. R. O'Kennedy, P.P.
Thoughts on St. Joseph and Thoughts on St. Patrick. By Rev. P. A. Sheehan, P.P.
The Stations of the Cross (with illustrations).
Prayer. By Mgr. De Segar.
Confession. By Same.
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The Prayer Book of the Catholic Truth Society of Ireland. In boards, 1d.; cloth, 6d.
The Agnus Dei. By Canon Frank.
Thirty Simple Hints on Meditation
Thirty Simple Meditations on the Passion.
Thirty Simple Meditations on Purgatory.
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LITURGICAL SERIES.

1. The Ceremonies of Candlemas and Ash Wednesday.
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HISTORICAL SERIES.

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Lough Derg, Ireland's National Pilgrimage (illustrated). By Rev. J. E. McKenna, M.R.I.A.
Some Irish Graves in Rome. By Most Rev. Dr. Healy, Bishop of Clonfert.
The Catholic Church in Ireland in the Nineteenth Century. By Most Rev. Dr. Higgins, Bishop of Rockhampton, Australia.
An Abbeytown of Ireland. By Right Rev. Monsignor Kelly, D.D., P.P., V.G.
The Shannon and its Shrines (with illustrations). By John B. Cullen.
The Growth of the Parish System in the Church. By the Most Rev. Dr. Donnelly.
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Tara, Pagan and Christian. By Most Rev. Dr. Healy, Bishop of Clonfert.
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Ireland and the Isle of Man. By Rev. E. Walsh, Rector of Douglas. Revised and enlarged by the Most Rev. Dr. Donnelly, Bishop of Canea.
The Convention of Drom Ceat. Part I, II. By Most Rev. Dr. O'Doherty, Bishop of Derry.
Muckross Abbey and Innisfallen Island (with illustrations). By John B. Cullen.

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St. Winefride and Her Holy Well: A Study of Faith. By M. E. Francis.
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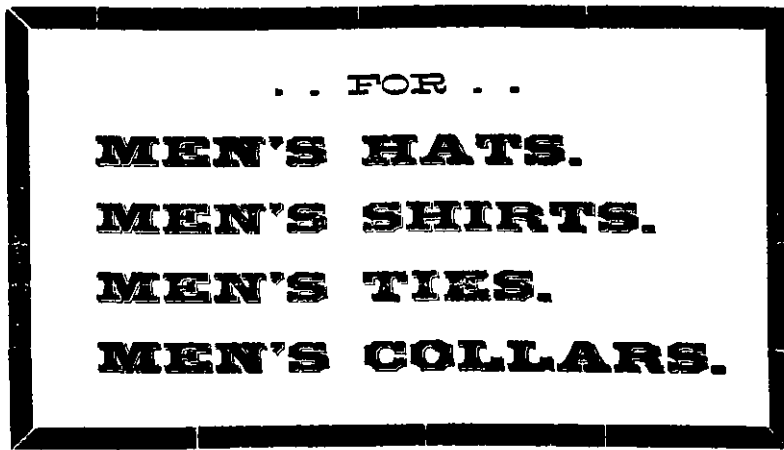
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The Storyteller

WOLF OF BENFORD.

Benford was an old grey house, whose thick walls and small paned windows had weathered the storms of many years. My great-grandfather had come northward from the Pale after the overthrow of O'Neill, and purchased this place from an English planter, for although of English blood ourselves, long settlement in the country had rendered us as Irish as any Mac or O' of them all.

The confiscations of Cromwell and of William our little property had fortunately escaped, but the new century saw nought but new persecutions and new oppressions for those of the old faith. Small wonder, then, that the 'wild geese' took flight in flocks to swell the armies of France and Spain. I, too, longed to be away to a land where a career was open to every man of birth and bravery, and where so many of my gallant countrymen had found a home.

Resolving to carry my desire into effect, I determined to speak to my uncle that evening in the quiet hour when we sat over our wine after dinner. He had filled to me the place of the father I had never known, and intended that I should be his heir; therefore, in proportion to his affection for me so I feared his opposition. However, having taken the matter in hand, I resolved to go through with it.

'Why not settle here, my boy,' said my uncle, when I had unfolded my wishes to him. 'I am getting to be an old man now, and a better time will surely come. The Government cannot forever ban our race and faith.'

'I see no signs of it, they have too much at stake, and will never let us have any position whereby we could make them disgorge their ill-gotten gains.'

'Youth is hot-blooded; yet I was by Sarsfield's side when Aughrim field was lost and won, and stood on the walls of Limerick.'

This was just the mood that I wished my uncle to fall into, as when he recalled the stirring times of his own youth, he would be more likely to assent to my wish, so I made answer, 'those were stirring times, uncle, but the days were braver still when the Red Hand floated over Ulster in triumph, as we all hope to see it again, and as you remember your own youth can you wonder at us younger men longing for—'

'The morning's dawn to wing us
Across the sea and bring us
To take our stand and wield a brand
Among the sons of France.'

'Truly I do not wonder at the "wild geese" taking flight, when I see France honoring them with the same and fortune that is denied to them in their own country.'

'You will permit me, then, to mention to Captain Magennis that I think of joining the brigade. You know that he is in these parts seeking for recruits.'

'I suppose if your mind is settled upon it I must give way,' said my uncle, 'but I would have liked to have had you to close my eyes and succeed to what heritage is left to us.'

'You are a hale man yet, uncle, and I may be spared to come back and do all you wish.'

So it was settled that I should see Captain Magennis of the Regiment of Clare, and get enrolled, if possible, in that famous corps, or I might see service in another regiment, such as Burke's, or Dillon's, and exchange in to it when a vacancy occurred. Indeed it was the presence of Captain Magennis in the neighborhood for recruiting purposes, although ostensibly visiting his relations, that had set my pulses beating faster and inflamed my military ardor.

Sometime previous to this an Irish officer retired from the French service had returned to his native land, there to spend his remaining years. He belonged to the princely house of O'Neill, and had settled at Rathowen, about two miles distant from Benford. My uncle had known him slightly in earlier years, but since his return we had come very little in contact with him. We had learned that he had been a captain in Nugent's Horse, and that while in France he had married a Mdlle. de Melancourt, who had died early in their married life, leaving him an only daughter who at that time had reached womanhood.

Thinking that it would be well to have the advice of an experienced soldier like Captain O'Neill, I resolved to call upon him without delay. Accordingly, a few days later I rode over one afternoon to Rathowen, and introduced myself to the returned warrior, stating my reason for wishing to make a closer acquaintance than the distant terms upon which we had stood since his arrival in the country. When riding along the highway skirting the grounds surrounding the captain's residence, my eye caught a glimpse of female garments glancing through the shrubbery, but in my present preoccupied state of mind I paid little heed. A manservant, evidently an old campaigner like his master, took charge of my horse, while the captain received me with all the courtesy of the polished nation in whose armies he had served.

'So you would wear the green cockade under the Fleur-de-lis, my lad?' he said.

'That is my wish, sir.'

'His Most Christian Majesty seldom lacks work for good swords, but Captain Magennis is to be here this evening, and if you will honor us with your company to dinner he can tell you how it goes with the brigade.'

'Your invitation is too kind to be refused, and the circumstances must be my excuse for trespassing on your hospitality.'

'Say no more, my dear sir, a soldier is always ready to share with a comrade, but here comes my daughter. Marie, my love, allow me to introduce to you our neighbor, Mr. Wolf.'

So this was the young lady I saw in the shrubbery, thought I, as I made my acknowledgments to Mdlle. O'Neill. She had inherited her French mother's dark hair and pale face, but her eyes were those of her father, clear, unmistakable Irish blue. The young lady remained but a short time in the apartment and then retired to look after domestic affairs, while her father described to me battles, marches and sieges.

'Yes,' he said, 'it sounds very fine, but there is another side to war as well, and a soldier must be prepared to endure hardships, and still worse, perhaps, see his inferiors promoted over his head, for everything goes by interest, and unless favored by fortune an officer may die an ensign as he started, but I must not damp your ardor, and I think I hear a horse's footsteps.'

'Yes, here comes the captain,' said I, as from where I sat I could see a soldierly figure ride up to the hall door.

'Welcome, captain, we have just been speaking of you, allow me to introduce my neighbor, Mr. Wolf, to you.'

'Captain O'Neill's friends are mine, replied the young officer, with a slightly foreign accent, which same accent my host and his daughter also had.

The dinner being dressed in the French style of cookery was a new experience to me, and when Mdlle. O'Neill rose from the table I could see Captain Magennis's eyes follow her as she retired. We remained chatting over our wine, and our host mentioned the object of my visit.

'Our friend, Mr. Wolf here,' said he, 'has a longing to see some service in some of our Irish regiments, and I asked him to remain to meet you, captain, as the most fitting person to put him in the way of smelling gunpowder.'

'Yes, if Mr. Wolf wishes to serve under the banners of France, he is not likely to be disappointed in that matter; it is seldom that fighting is not going on.'

'It is my wish to see some military service in one or other of the gallant Irish regiments in the service of France, before I finally settle down.'

'Yes,' said Captain O'Neill, 'the Irish regiments are favorites with his Most Christian Majesty, and they well deserve to be, for they have proved faithful on many a hard-fought field, but this is not a very good time for joining. What say you, captain?'

'No, the troops will shortly be going into winter quarters. However, we had heavy losses before Barcelona, and I make no doubt that the spring will find work for every sword we can muster. Indeed, if things go on according to our hopes, we may be striking a blow for the old land once more.'

'Fill up your glasses, gentlemen,' cried our host, 'To the King over the water.'

'To the King,' we cried, 'and work for our swords at home.'

Ere we separated it was arranged that I was to cross to France in the spring, and in the meantime I was to visit Captain O'Neill, who promised to prepare me for the career upon which I was soon to enter. I rode home that night my head filled with the battles and marches of which I had been hearing during the evening—Ramilles, Oudenarde, the Spanish Campaign, with the earlier experiences of Captain O'Neill. Then I thought of the Captain's daughter—I wonder if there is anything between her and Magennis—but my foolish imaginings were brought to a close by my dismounting at my uncle's door.

After this as a matter of course my visits became frequent to Rathowen, to avail myself of Captain O'Neill's military instruction—at least that is what I thought I went for, but ere long I found myself thinking more of the blue eyes of Marie O'Neill than of sword exercise or drill, and of a truth although I tried to be glad to meet Captain Magennis whenever our visits, yet I could not drive out a feeling of jealousy. What chance had a country youth like myself against such a rival, a soldier's daughter would surely prefer a soldier, and she would be the bride of another long ere I had won my epauletts. True, she was always kind and gracious, but that meant nothing, for she was so to everyone, and do what I would I could not muster up courage to tell her of my love. What chance had I then against the dashing officer who was no less her slave than myself.

One afternoon I had ridden over as usual, and the Captain being out, I was chatting with Mademoiselle in the morning room on the first floor, where I found her playing upon the spinet on my arrival. While thus engaged in conversation a stranger came into the room and seated himself on the other side of my companion, who, with the charming grace peculiar to her, said in her pretty foreign fashion—

'Monseigneur, permit me to introduce an admirer,' to which he assented in the urbane manner of the polished French court.

The newcomer was an old man with a strong face, ruddy and somewhat weather-beaten, with white hair, attired in a blue suit, and was rather short and stout in figure. We had not sat long when I saw a man dressed in a drab great-coat advancing up the avenue, whom upon his nearer approach I recognised as Captain Magennis.

The Captain greeted the ecclesiastic as an old friend, making inquiries after friends and affairs in France, then briefly announced that the authorities had received information of the priest being in the neighborhood, and, in

fact, that Squire Newton, of Newton Hall, a notorious 'priest hunter,' was at that moment on his way to arrest him.

'The house is strong, and we can defend it against any rabble they may choose to bring; a nice pass things have come to when a gentleman cannot give the shelter of his roof to a minister of his faith,' I exclaimed with some heat.

'My children,' said the good Father, 'there must be no fighting on my account, it would ill beseem that my old friend's house should be spoiled in his absence on my account. While there is yet time I will withdraw to a place of security.'

'But what of Mdlle O'Neill?' I enquired.

'You are both Irishmen, and she can have no better protectors; be sure that I would not leave my old friend's daughter in the hour of danger did I not feel that she was safe.'

The priest then threw around him a long horseman's cloak, and with the aid of an ordinary hat was not likely to be taken as one of the outlawed ministers of religion unless betrayed. In this disguise he departed after giving us his blessing.

After some little discussion it was arranged that Captain Magennis was to escort Mdlle O'Neill to the residence of a friend in the neighborhood, which we thought would be safe, while I, as being free from suspicion and known to Newton, was to remain and protect the house from injury as far as possible.

Barely were these arrangements made, and Captain Magennis and his charge set out, than I saw the advance party of a mob approach. They came up the avenue at a slouching run, reminding me of hounds on a scent, and fortunately were so intent on securing the priest that they passed Marie O'Neill and her escort without taking any notice. It was a painful moment for me as I stood on the hall-door steps watching them as they passed this ruffian party, not knowing the moment they might be subjected to violence and insult, and I drew a breath of relief now the worst was passed and she was safe.

'What authority have you for demanding admittance?' was my inquiry in reply to their demand for entrance.

'Batter in the dure!' shouted a red-headed savage.

'It will be as much as the life of any man among you is worth to lay finger on it. When Squire Newton, whom I see coming, produces his warrant the door will be opened to the proper authorities.'

My resolute behaviour convinced the mob that the place must be garrisoned, and, perhaps, provided with firearms; therefore they thought it more prudent to await for Squire Newton to arrive before beginning their work of plunder. I resolved at all hazards to keep my temper under control, and do what I could to protect the property of my friends. I would have risked ten times the danger, even death itself, for a kind glance from the blue eyes of Marie O'Neill.

'Open in the King's name!' came the command imperative.

I withdrew the bolts, but kept the door fastened with the chain, so that it could not be rushed.

'I give you a good-day, Squire,' said I to Newton, who had just dismounted, ignoring the fellow who had demanded admittance.

'Oho, my young wolf's cub, is this the den I find you in, a rippety-rip place,' said he, only the expression was much stronger and not fit for being put in print.

'Good or bad squire, I'm here now and shall have to make the best of it.'

'Open that door, then, or by—we will make short work of you and it both.'

'Captain O'Neill is not at home, sir, or he would feel honored by your visit, but I shall be pleased to admit so energetic a magistrate as Squire Newton.'

I then undid the chain, and the magistrate entered, followed by his men, but upon the rest of the mob who attempted to follow I closed the door. At this there was a howl raised by those outside, who promptly proceeded to assalt the door, upon which I appealed to the squire.

'As a magistrate, sir, I ask your protection for the property of Captain O'Neill from these men accompanying you, as they are evidently bent on mischief.'

'Zounds, sir, these fellows are the true breed, they can scent a priest a mile off, and have come to see the sport, although I did not tell them to follow me, but I'll warrant Black Duck gave them a hint of our errand.'

'If they have come to see a priest arrested they are likely to be disappointed, as we have no priest here, however I must ask you to use your influence with them before they drive in the hall door.'

Squire Newton's bark was worse than his bite, and going to the door he opened it, unexpectedly receiving as he did so a blow from a cudgel with which a near-dowell named Jemmy Simpson was belaboring it. This instantly roused the squire's ire, and he saluted those nearest to the door with sundry kicks of his jack boots, bestowing upon the crowd indiscriminately a volley of choice curses, threatening that if they did not at once go about their business he would order his men to give them a volley of lead. This energetic treatment by the man in authority caused them to slink off like beaten hounds, as the squire turned into the hall even redder and more apoplectic than usual from the excitement.

'Now, Mr Wolf,' said he, 'we have information that there is a priest in this house, and we are here to apprehend him.'

'As I said before, squire, there is no priest here to my knowledge, and Captain O'Neill is not even at home.'

'He is abroad for no good, I'm sure, and if I were the Government I would not allow one of these French-Irish gentry to return if they ever left the country. Men, do your duty and search the house—mind you leave no hiding-place unexplored.'

'As for Captain O'Neill, if he were here he would answer for himself, and it is hard to blame men for seeking distinction abroad when all avenues of advancement are closed against them at home.'

A thorough search having convinced the magistrate that there was no concealed priest on the premises, he bade me 'good-bye,' saying, 'Your friend has had a narrow escape, for we had certain information that he was here, but he had better look out or he will find that his next voyage will be at the King's expense.'

I could scarcely restrain my tongue from saying something indiscreet, but with an effort I managed to seem indifferent and thanked the squire for scattering the mob as well as for his warning.

It was with a feeling of relief that I welcomed Captain O'Neill that evening, and in reply to his very natural inquiry respecting his daughter, narrated the events of the day. He was inclined at first to be angry, but on hearing of the hearty blow of the cudgel received by the squire, and how it turned the tide somewhat in our favor, probably preventing his property from being destroyed, he laughed and treated the matter with the philosophic indifference of an old campaigner.

The Captain brought home his daughter the next day, and I rode over in the afternoon to inquire if Captain O'Neill had received any further molestation, so I told myself, but something would persistently whisper in my ear that this was only an excuse, my real reason being to see Marie O'Neill, a suggestion that I at once put aside. The Captain received me very graciously.

'I am afraid,' said he, 'that I but poorly expressed my thanks for the obligation which I feel under to you, Mr. Wolf, for the service you rendered me yesterday. But for your generous conduct it is probable that I would have nothing but a wrecked house in which to receive you.'

'No man could have done less, Captain, and after so much kindness at your hands, had I done less I would have felt the meanest and most unworthy of men.'

'My daughter must also thank you.'

'Really, captain, I need no thanks, the pleasure of being in some slight degree of service to you is enough reward.'

Miss O'Neill here entered the room, and never, as I thought, had she looked to such advantage. The unwonted excitement had given a tinge of color to her usually pale cheek, as she gave me greeting. Her father was one of the most interesting of men, with many a story of camp and quarters in Italy and the Low Countries, but had he been twice as entertaining on that afternoon, I could well have spared him. However, fortune favored me for once, as we had not sat long conversing when a servant brought a message to Captain O'Neill.

'Mr. Wolf, I pray you to excuse me for a short time—Marie, my love, will you entertain Mr. Wolf,' and the worthy captain hustled out.

After being left together, I seemed to have nothing to say. At length my companion broke the silence.

'You must think me very ungrateful, Mr. Wolf, in not thanking you for the great service you rendered us yesterday.'

'Pray, do not mention it,' I exclaimed, 'your father has already thanked me so much that I feel ashamed and wish that the service had really been of some importance.'

'But it was an important service you rendered us in these dangerous times, and when I saw these villainous-looking men running towards the house, I trembled for your safety.'

'It was nothing, I assure you. I was far more concerned lest you should meet with insult or injury. Once you were passed I thought little of the rest.'

'You are far too kind to us, Mr. Wolf.'

'Dearest Marie,' said I, feeling that it was now or never with me, 'you give me your gratitude for a trifling service, but I would willingly shed my blood to shield you from harm. Sometimes your eyes look kindly on me, but at other times you seem so happy and indifferent that I feel in despair.'

'Mr. Wolf, you must not talk thus, and I would be showing you no kindness by allowing you. It would be a poor return for your kindness to come between you and a soldier's fame.'

'There is nothing to prevent a soldier from loving, and he will fight no less valiantly for having another mistress besides Glory.'

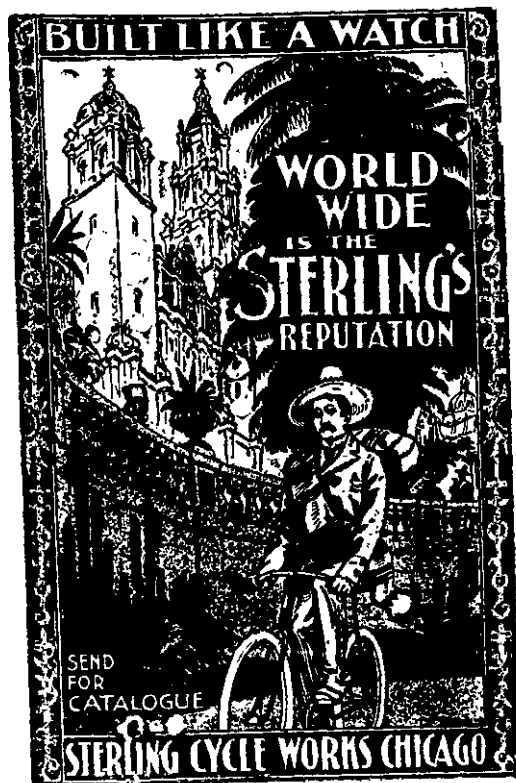
When the captain returned—he seemed only a few minutes absent, though I afterwards learned that he had been engaged for upwards of an hour—Marie had given a qualified admission that she was not altogether indifferent to me, and permission to mention the matter to her father the next time I visited them.

I write this ten years later for the satisfaction of whoever may read the before-written account of a part of my life. Instead of going to France as I intended, I crossed to Scotland to aid our rightful prince, but the attempt, as all the world knows, was unsuccessful. However, after some adventures which I may set down another day, I reached Benford in safety, and my uncle being then in a declining state of health, urged me to wed Marie O'Neill, to which indeed I needed little urging. A few months after this event he passed away, leaving to me whatever there was of honor and responsibility in being 'Wolf of Benford.'—Irish Weekly.

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The Catholic World

AUSTRIA.—The Emperor's Present.

Much interest is taken in the jubilee present which the Emperor of Austria is preparing to send to the Holy Father. It is a statue in gold representing the Good Shepherd. On a pedestal, the extended surface of which is made to resemble a field covered with pretty flowers, these being represented by so many precious stones, the Good Shepherd, with great dignity of expression, stands watching over his sheep. Some are quietly cropping the grass; others look up to the Good Shepherd with confidence; and others still press closely and affectionately around Him. Sculptured on marble are (in Latin) the words: 'To the great Pontiff, Leo XIII., glorious shepherd of the faithful, who has happily ruled the Church with singular wisdom for five lustra, and most generously thrown open its treasures, this image of the Good Shepherd is presented by Francis Joseph, Emperor of Austria and Apostolic King of Hungary.' The statue has been much admired by the Nuncio at Vienna, the burgo-master, Dr. Lueger, and other persons of distinction and artistic taste.

CHINA.—Aid for Catholic Missions.

In an audience which he recently had with the Holy Father Baron Mumm, the German Ambassador in China, informed his Holiness that it was the earnest desire of the German Imperial authorities to aid the Catholic missions in China as much as possible.

ENGLAND.—Mission in the London Slums.

In pursuance of his mission to the lapsed Catholic poor of the East-end, Father Bernard Vaughan has held very successful outdoor services in the alleys off the Commercial road. The Duke of Norfolk is taking a very active interest in this work, and has provided Father Vaughan with a harmonium on wheels for his services. He has also received the help and personal attendance of Lady Nugent, and before bringing his mission to a close he will hold services in the courts and alleys of the district where the Dowager Duchess of Newcastle and other ladies, working in settlements in the East-end, carry on their beneficent operations for the uplifting of the submerged.

Diocese of Southwark.

As part of a scheme for the extension of the Catholic Church in the diocese of Southwark, Bishop Bourne has built a chapel and elementary school in Tooting. Intimately associated with pre-Reformation days when the district was under the jurisdiction of the monks of Merton Abbey, Tooting has been for centuries without a Catholic church, or even an elementary school, although it is estimated there are now more than 1000 persons professing the Catholic religion and 300 Catholic children in the locality.

Count Campello's Letter.

Count Campello, the Canon of St. Peter's who joined the Old Catholics and the Protestants and went to London to lecture there as 'a converted priest,' has on his return to the fold, (says the Rome correspondent of the 'Catholic Times') addressed to Cardinal Vaughan a letter of which the following is a translation: 'Your Eminence.—With a heart full of holy joy I write to inform you what has taken place here in Rome this morning, the 8th December, Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, in the handsome chapel of the Collegio Pio-Latino Americano. After having gone through the holy spiritual exercises in this venerable college, I have had the supreme grace to solemnly abjure on this day at the hands of his Grace Archbishop Adami, Delegate of his Holiness Leo XIII., the Old Catholic sect to which since the year 1881 I had the misfortune to belong. The happiness I experience at this moment, in which I find myself again, as a prodigal son, in the true Church of Jesus Christ, would not be complete if I did not inform your Eminence of what has occurred, and through you all the English Catholics whom I have so much scandalised by my unhappy apostasy. Whilst I discharge this agreeable duty I cannot find words strong enough to condemn my past conduct and to express the depth of my sorrow for having given pain to all the faithful in England, and especially to your Eminence and your worthy predecessor, Cardinal Manning, when by my presence in London I, as it were, triumphed in my infamy, otherwise my apostasy. God be thanked that by a special act of His mercy He has touched my heart and led me back to the Church which I should not have abandoned. May He grant me grace to lead back by my example those souls who through my unhappy work have been induced to wander from the right path—a fact which now causes me inconsolable remorse. I am certain that your Eminence, following the example of Our Merciful Lord, will pardon me the serious annoyance I formerly gave you, and I hope that this my sincere return to the one true Church of the Saviour may move those distinguished Anglicans whom I have known to embrace the truth, and that my sad conduct may not confirm them in the error in which they were born and which but for me they would perhaps have abandoned owing to their virtuous lives, as did Newman, Faber, Manning, and others not a few. I shall be immensely grateful to your Eminence if you make public this expression of my most sincere feeling. Thus in my great sorrow for the erroneous course I have pursued I shall at least have the satisfaction of having done all in my

power to make reparation where great scandal was formerly given through my blindness. With a heart overflowing with joy at finding myself reconciled with God and His Church, I pay my homage to your Eminence's dignity and with profound reverence have the honor to remain your Eminence's devoted servant in Christ, Rev. D. C. Enrico di Campello.' The letter is dated Collegio, Pio-Latino Americano, 8th December, 1902.

A Chaplain's Welcome Home.

A welcome home in the form of a complimentary dinner was recently given to the Rev. William Le Grave, D.S.O., the senior Catholic chaplain to the forces in South Africa, by his former fellow-students of St. Edmund's College, Old Hall, Ware. In returning thanks for the toast of his health, Father Le Grave said that it was satisfactory to know that the Catholic soldiers had an excellent record throughout the war, and that he was specially congratulated upon the fact by Lord Kitchener's adjutant. From Lord Kitchener himself he had received nothing but kindness. Three railway carriages had been placed at his disposal, with standing orders that any of them could be attached to any train and detached at any siding at his direction, and in that way he and his fellow-Catholic chaplains could patrol the three great lines of railway pretty continuously. The chief precaution Lord Kitchener had mentioned was 'Don't write any letters.'

GERMANY.—The Jesuits.

Count von Bulow, in the Reichstag, said that whilst the Government did not approve of the proposal to allow Jesuit settlements, it was no longer necessary to subject individuals to exceptional laws simply because they were members of the Order.

SWITZERLAND.—The Episcopate and the Press

The following passage from a collective Letter on the Press by the Swiss hierarchy is worthy of the attention of all Catholics: 'Whoever supports a journal hostile to the Church joins in the evil work of that paper by doing so. The subscription is a war contribution for the Church's enemies. With what result? With the result that the paper will continue its work with increasing energy. In this way you help it indirectly to fight against our holy Mother the Church, whilst you neglect the Catholic Press, which sacrifices itself in defence of the Church, leave it to get on as best it may, and even decline to expend a small coin in buying a paper. Ah, do not act thus. Subscribe to your own Press and get others to read your Catholic paper. In this manner you will double the number of its supporters and also the assistance you give to the good cause. Your money will extend the power of the paper; it will do good not only in your house but in the house of your neighbor, and the blessings of heaven will descend copiously on your trifling sacrifice. Communicate to the Catholic press information and notices which may be usefully published and try to get your friends and acquaintances to become regular purchasers of your Catholic paper.'

UNITED STATES.—The See of Chicago.

It is reported that the Right Rev. Dr. Quigley, Bishop of Buffalo, has been appointed Archbishop of Chicago. Dr. Quigley was born of Irish parents in Ottawa, Canada, in 1854. Going to the States with his parents at an early age, he was educated primarily at the Christian Brothers' Schools of Buffalo. After a course at Niagara University he graduated at the University of Innsbruck, and then went to the Propaganda College, Rome. Bishop Quigley enjoys the distinction of having had his name presented to Rome both for the lately vacant Archbishopric of New York, now filled by the Most Rev. Dr. John F. Farley, and the Archbishopric of Chicago.

A Good Deed.

Some time ago we noted that Charles M. Schwab, the multi-millionaire president of the United States Steel Corporation, had bought a large tract of land at Richmond Beach, Staten Island, as a place to which the poor children of New York might go in the summer for recreation. Now we learn that he is having a steamboat built especially for the purpose of conveying these children to and from the beach. The boat is described as 211ft long and 29ft wide over guards. She is expected to make 19 miles an hour, and will cost 135,000 dollars. All the machinery will be encased in glass so as to be visible to the little ones. There will be a hospital for sick and crippled children and a nursery.

Catholics in Syracuse.

The Catholic population of the city of Syracuse is 37,330, or 36 per cent. of the entire population. There are in round numbers 8000 Catholic families in the city, carrying an average of five to the family. The number of Catholics in the diocese is 115,319, divided into about 30,000 families. This figure shows an apparent increase of 43,319 souls since the erection of the diocese fifteen years ago, an increase of over 60 per cent. The diocese has been reported in the Catholic Directory year after year as 'at a standstill.' To keep abreast with the rapidly increasing church membership 21 new parishes have been created and 26 new churches erected, together with parochial schools, mission chapels, parish houses, etc.

Church-going in New York.

The Church News Association of New York has discovered that nearly three-fourths (317,000 out of 451,000) of those who go to church on Sundays are Catholics.

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The *New Zealand Medical Journal* says, "In regard to the Water itself, as a table beverage it can be confidently recommended. Beautifully cool, clear and effervescing, the taste clean, with just sufficient chalybeate stringency to remind one that there are healing virtues as well as simple refreshment in the liquid, this Mineral Water ought soon to become popular amongst all who can afford the very slight cost entailed."

We supply the Dunedin and Wellington Hospitals, the Union Company's entire fleet, and Bellamy's with our Pure Mineral Water. Specially-made Soda Water for Invalids. For Permit to visit Springs apply Dunedin Office
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CATHOLIC PRAYER BOOKS,
A Good Variety in Price and Design.

Leather Goods.

Purses, Pocket Books, Letter Cases, Dressing Cases, Albums, Cigarette and Cigar Cases, etc.

A Special Offer for December and January. On all prayer books or leather goods of over 10s value I will stamp (in gold letters) the initials or name to order **FREE OF COST.**

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The Public Trustee has Trust Funds for investment on Mortgage of First-class Freehold Securities at lowest current rates of interest. Liberal terms for repayment.

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Opposite Knox Church).

Judge Slowly.

"Did you ever notice," recently inquired a visitor to an English University town of his companion, as they sat together on a verandah, "that queer-looking fellow with the idiotic face, turned-up coat collar, and boots seven sizes too large, who passes here every morning at eleven?" "Many a time," replied the other, "he is Professor of Comparative Grammar to the University of ———, and speaks fourteen modern languages, to say nothing of his mastery of Greek, Latin, and Hebrew." The incident will serve to show the futility of superficial judgment. Many judgments which pass unchallenged are none the less deplorably wrong, more especially in matters which require a practical test. Who can say positively whether a certain medicine has the power to cure some particular malady or not without giving it a trial?

When the friend of Mr. Michael Fitzpatrick, of 66, Forbes street, Woolloomooloo, Sydney, N.S.W., advised him to take Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup for the cure of indigestion, he backed his advice with some excellent reasons—excellent because his judgment of that remedy was based upon actual experience of its merit. Says Mr. Fitzpatrick in a letter on the 20th June, 1902:—"For many years I suffered terribly from indigestion and biliousness, and spent pounds and pounds on doctors' medicines and so-called cures; but without avail. In those days I had no appetite, and the little food I ate turned sour on my stomach, causing severe attacks of heartburn. I was also troubled with pains in the chest, violent headaches, and habitual constipation. In fact, at one time or other I suffered from most of the symptoms which characterise a sluggish liver and impaired digestion. My worst affliction, however, was a total inability to obtain sufficient sleep. I would go to bed feeling worn out and sleepy, but as soon as my head touched the pillow my brain would become unnaturally active, and I would think of every kind of subject, and roll and toss about between the sheets, listening to the Fish Market clock as it chimed hour after hour, until all my nerves were in a quiver. Then I would rise and walk the floor, backwards and forwards, the greater portion of the night. For years I had been in this wretched state when one day a friend fortunately called to see me. I was trying the hot water cure at the time, and was just in the act of drinking a cupful of steaming liquid. He asked me what I was taking it for. I described my troubles to him, and in reply to a further question informed him that I had not, so far, gained any relief from the hot water treatment. He advised me to abandon it and try Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup instead. He gave me such excellent reasons for doing so that I accepted his advice—advice which, I am thankful to say, has had the very best results. After taking only one small bottle I felt very much better. As I continued to take the Syrup, so did I continue to improve in health, and in less than two months my cure was accomplished. That was three years ago, and I have remained in good health ever since, which proves conclusively that it is not mere passing relief that Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup affords to sufferers from indigestion, but permanent cure. Now I am careful never to be without a bottle of the Syrup on hand, as I take a dose occasionally to counteract the ill effects of my sedentary occupation—for I am a bootmaker by trade—and for this purpose I find it acts like a charm."

GRAIN! GRAIN! GRAIN!

SEASON 1902.

OTAGO CORN AND WOOL EXCHANGE, VOGEL STREET, DUNEDIN.

To the Farmers of Otago and Southland.

A **NOTHER GRAIN SEASON** being at hand, we take the opportunity of thanking our many clients for their patronage in the past, and to again tender our services for the disposal of their Grain here, or for shipment of same to other markets, making liberal cash advances thereon if required.

SPECIAL FACILITIES FOR STORAGE, Etc.—We would remind producers that we provide special facilities for the satisfactory storage and disposal of all kinds of farm produce.

WEEKLY AUCTION SALES.—We continue to hold the regular Weekly Auction Sales of Produce as inaugurated by us many years ago, and which have proved so beneficial to vendors; and owing to our commanding position in the centre of the trade, and our large and extending connection, we are in constant touch with all the principal grain merchants, millers, and produce dealers, and are thus enabled to dispose of consignments to the very best advantage, and with the least possible delay.

PRODUCE SALES EVERY MONDAY.—Our sales are held every Monday morning, at which samples of all the produce forward are exhibited.

Account Sales are rendered within six days of sale.

CORN SACKS, CHAFF BAGS, Etc.—We have made advantageous arrangements to meet the requirements of our numerous clients.

ADVANTAGES.—We offer producers the advantage of large storage and unequalled show room accommodation.

Sample Bags, Way Bills, and Labels sent on application.

DONALD REID & CO., LTD.

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Also Exhibition Brand Coffee
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Diocese of Boston.

Statistics summarised in the new Catholic Directory show that the archdiocese of Boston now has 650,000 Catholics, 75 schools, with 44,536 pupils, 442 diocesan priests, 103 priests of orders, 162 churches with resident priests, 52 missions with buildings, five hospitals with 55,000 out-patients treated during the year and 4000 inmates. New York is a larger Catholic community than ours, says the 'Republic,' but not in proportion to the population. In this respect the Boston archdiocese leads the country.

French Exiles.

It is said that several Orders recently expelled from France will establish headquarters in the neighborhood of Baltimore and Washington. The Sulpicians, it is believed, may establish their mother house at St. Mary's Seminary, Baltimore. The Order has, however, recently purchased a tract in Washington, and its agents have been scouring the market there for a larger tract. The Marists are building in Washington a seminary for which Baltimoreans have supplied the building material. Very Rev. Gilbert Francois, Superior-General of the Holy Cross Order, has arranged to have his post graduates in the colleges of the Order in France resume their studies, if they must leave France, at the College of the Holy Cross at the Catholic University. Post graduates will go to Notre Dame University, Indiana.

The Divorce Evil.

Cardinal Gibbons, of Baltimore, delivered a remarkable sermon in New York last week, in the course of which he stated that the divorce mills of the United States were slowly but surely grinding the domestic altars of the nation. Divorce with them was a social scourge infinitely more blighting and destructive than Mormonism.

The French Government and the Congregations.

The Paris correspondents of the English newspapers have from time to time found excuses for the action of the Combes Ministry in its treatment of the French Congregations, or, at least, they accepted the reasons put forward by the Government for its action, but evidently the press representatives received a rude shock when they found that even the Passionist Fathers in the French capital, who, by the way, are British subjects, have been refused authorisation, and must leave the country. It is evident that it is not the Congregations the Government is bent on destroying, but religion. The correspondent of the London 'Times' wrote recently to the following effect:—

I have thus far refrained from taking any part in the discussion which has been going on here for more than a year between the defenders of the religious Orders and the Government. It seemed to me that the question was one that concerned France alone, and I did not wish to be accused of dealing with a matter that was none of my business. But the situation is no longer what it was. As I have already announced, the Passionist Fathers of the Avenue Hoche figure on the list of the Orders to be excluded. These are the priests whose chapel exists for the reception of all English and American Catholics who desire a religious service in their own language, and who seek there a sort of home when exiled from their country. The Passionists do not belong to the teaching Orders. They have never opened schools nor had aught to do with politics. They preach Christ's word, celebrate Mass, and hear confessions. They do not constitute in any conceivable way a danger to France, either from a political or social point of view. They visit the poor without distinction of sect. For English and American Catholics their church is a place of refuge and devotion. Cardinals Manning, Newman, Vaughan, Guibert and Richard, Archbishops Ireland, Spalding, and Passadere have delivered sermons from their modest pulpit, and their eloquent words have consoled and invigorated multitudes of hearers.

By what extraordinary anomaly anyone should want to lay hands on the Passionist Fathers it is impossible to imagine. Why is there a desire to incur the indignation of the civilised world by such a violation of the simple laws of hospitality as would prevent thousands of English-speaking people who bring into Paris their money and their intelligence from worshipping in their own way? If these persons, who spend here the money made in other countries, and who, while never mixing themselves in politics, form as a class one of the greatest resources of all those who have to do with the luxury, well-being, and distractions of Paris, were to resort to this ostracism of the English-speaking Catholic priests by boycotting the capital, it would provoke here a revolution and seriously cripple French trade and industry. Why this longing to indulge in an act of such bad taste an act resembling an attack upon foreigners who are sympathetic to France and who like to come and to sojourn here? It is impossible to discover an answer. All that can be discerned in this unjustifiably violent proceeding is a complete want of the true spirit of government and a passive obedience to the dictates of sectarian minds. I need not add that the Anglo-American colony, Catholic or non-Catholic, is indignant at the treatment with which those who represent a whole section of English-speaking Christians here are menaced, nor need I add that the attention of the English and American Ambassadors has been attracted by this act, which resembles

a barbarous aggression against the laws of hospitality.

Great regret, to use no stronger term, says the 'Daily Telegraph,' correspondent, is felt in the British and American colonies here at the fact that the French Government has rejected the application for authorisation made by the Passionist Fathers, who officiate at the church for English-speaking Catholics in this city. (It is impossible to allude in too high terms to the good work which they have done among their poorer fellow-countrymen. Even Protestants have not appealed to them in vain. Only last year a tax of £800 was claimed on the church, which was saved by the money being paid by Mrs Mackay, and now this fresh trouble has come upon it. On two occasions the Cardinal-Archbishops of Paris have assured the French Government that the services of the worthy Fathers were indispensable, and British and American Ambassadors have also intervened on their behalf. All this, however, has proved useless, in presence of the intolerance displayed by the Combes Cabinet. I learn that Sir Edmond Monson and General Horace Porter are still prepared to do all that they can in favor of the Passionist Fathers, whose departure from this city would in all probability be followed by the closing of the church. The Government cannot possibly rake up the slightest grievance against them and its conduct in this matter is but another illustration of the nature of the campaign which it is carrying on against the religious Orders, the Church, and, in point of fact, against the Christian religion generally.

Growth of the Church.

From the 'Literary Digest' we reprint the following translation of a remarkable statement of the growth and growing power of the Church contributed to the 'Neue Kirchliche Zeitschrift,' of Leipzig, Germany, by the famous Church historian, Rev. Dr. Kolde, of Erlangen, one of the leading Protestant scholars of that country:

Few people, and only those who study modern facts in the light of Church history, have any appreciation of the phenomenal advance made by the Catholic church during the last decades, especially as a power in the political world and in the conquests of new spheres of thought and life. It is by no means a pleasant thing for Protestants to contemplate; but it is an undeniable fact that not since the days of Innocent III. has the Papal system unfolded such splendor and power as in the present time. Not the Catholic princes, but rather the Protestant rulers are the ones who are trying to surpass each other in honoring the shrewd sage now occupying the throne in the Vatican, although it is this same sage who has repeatedly called the Reformation a 'pest.'

In other respects, the Church has grown phenomenally. Each year the number of those who swell the ranks of the religious Orders grows by the thousands, and in the German Empire alone there are now 40,000 of these. Not since the days of the Reformation have these Orders, especially the Jesuits, developed the strength they evince in our days. The Catholics control the Parliaments and they make our laws, and in countries like Germany where State and Church are united, they even pass the laws regulating the affairs of the Protestant Church. With every day the principle is gaining more and more ground that it is not ability and efficiency, but the attitude toward the Catholic Church, that opens the way for candidates to positions in the State service. The statesmen of Europe are largely and in many cases mostly influenced in their international politics by the views that may prevail in the Vatican and what is more remarkable, that which the ambitious Innocent III. failed to attain, and that against which even Catholic princes and bishops have constantly protested, namely, the assigning of the position of judge on international difficulties to the Pope—this has been first voluntarily yielded to the Vatican by the leading Protestant Powers of Europe, Prussia and Germany, the former of these also having been the first to recognise the Curia as a political power on equal footing with other Powers by sending an ambassador to the Vatican.

In conclusion the famous German remarks: 'Humanly speaking, the Catholic Church is destined to achieve still more notable conquests in the twentieth century.'

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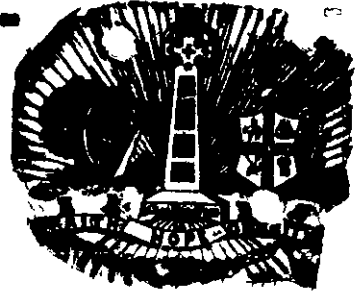
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In addition to the foregoing provision is made for the d. sion of Honorary Members, Reduced Benefit Members, and the establishment of Sisters' Branches and Juvenile Contingents. Full information may be obtained from Local Branch Officers or direct 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,
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NEW ZEALAND
NEW INDUSTRY

INTERCOLONIAL.

The Coadjutor Bishop (says the Tasmanian 'Monitor') is still the guest of Bishop Gibney at Perth. His Lordship is not, we regret to learn, progressing towards convalescence as quickly as his many friends would wish.

The Very Rev. Dean Slattery, parish priest of Newtown, Sydney, has left for Europe on a well-deserved holiday trip. He was not permitted to start on his journey without receiving a substantial token from his parishioners of the great esteem in which he is held.

The West Australian gold yield for January was 210,450ozs., which constitutes a record for one month. Last year's total yield was just over two million ounces, Kalgoorlie contributing about one-half of this. Out of this half dividends were paid representing £1,214,000.

The Rev. Joseph O'Malley, S.J., who has been for a number of years in the Jesuit mission in Victoria, is to be transferred to Norwood, South Australia. The Rev. J. Cleary, S.J., recently stationed in Norwood, will replace Father O'Malley at Richmond.

The death is reported from Noumea of the Rev. Father Ferraton, S.M., of the St. Louis Mission, in his 35th year. Pere Ferraton was a native of Ancecy, France, where he was born on July 2, 1868. He made his profession as Marist on July 20, 1889, and went to Noumea in '95. The cause of death was pleurisy.

From the prospectus of the Christian Brothers' College, Perth, a copy of which has just come to hand, we learn that of the total amount (£668) won last year in prizes at the University examinations by the West Australian students, £563 went to this college, leaving £105 to be divided between all the other secondary schools of the State.

The members of St. Patrick's (Parramatta) Catholic Young Men's Society made a presentation to the Rev. Father T. O'Reilly, P.P., prior to his departure on a holiday trip to New Zealand. Their gift was a handsome travelling bag, neatly mounted, and bearing a suitable inscription.

The Melbourne Hospital is drifting into debt at the rate of £5000 a year. At a recent meeting it was gravely proposed to close a number of the wards as the only apparent means to stem the financial drift. The Irvine Government were severely criticised for their cruel policy in reducing the grant-in-aid and thus crippling the operations of the institution from whose doors numbers of the sick and suffering have to be daily turned away.

The Right Rev. Dr. Reville, O.S.A., Bishop of Bendigo, who leaves for Europe shortly, has declined to receive a testimonial which the citizens had intended to give his Lordship prior to leaving on his visit ad limina. The Bishop said that whilst duly appreciating their kindness and generosity, he knew the many claims on their means during the past year. His Lordship recommended the congregation that the Dr. Backhaus' estate could not be applied otherwise than on church and charitable works—not a shilling going to the stipends of the Bishop and the clergy. Amongst the works already carried out with funds from the estate was the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, and a commencement was about to be made with an orphanage and a Magdalen asylum. The Bishop presided at an inaugural meeting of St. Patrick's Day celebration, at which £140 was subscribed.

The new central Catholic Hall, Brunswick street, Fitzroy (says the 'Advocate'), will be opened in March next. Considerable additions are being made to the building, including the offices and the front wall of what will be the main hall. The entire building is also being thoroughly renovated and painted. It is anticipated that the work will be completed in a month or five weeks' time. The building will be opened by his Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne, who will also lay the memorial stone of the new hall on the same occasion. The hall will supply a long-felt want, and prove a great convenience to the Catholic body. Doubtless the Catholic people, young and old, of the archdiocese of Melbourne will make a united effort to relieve his Grace of the heavy liability, £6660 incurred in connection with the purchase of this splendid property, which will also be a valuable asset of the archdiocese. His Grace has generously contributed £1000 to the building fund.

The splendid work by which the State of Western Australia supplies the great goldfields of its parched interior with water is one (says the Melbourne 'Argus') which must evoke the sincere admiration and the hearty congratulation of the sister states. Magnificent in its inception, spirited and energetic in its execution, it is unique amongst the engineering undertakings of the world in several respects. There is, we believe, no example of a work by which 5,000,000 gallons of water per day is taken from its low-level stream, forced from reservoir to reservoir, lifted from height to height, in no less than 65 stages, over 350 miles of country—mostly desert, until—the forces of nature having been successfully grappled with and vanquished at every step—the last height is scaled, from which a command of a vast desert region is won. It is a fine and, indeed, a marvellous achievement, and we all join with heartiness in the triumph which marked the formal opening. The pity of it is that the designer, Mr. C. Y. O'Connor, did not live to see the fulfilment of his plans. This and the Fremantle harbor works scheme are enduring monuments to the late engineer's great ability.

Friends at Court

CLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

- February 15, Sunday.—Sexagesima Sunday.
- " 16, Monday.—St. Gregory X., Pope and Confessor.
- " 17, Tuesday.—St. Fintan, Abbot.
- " 18, Wednesday.—St. Raymond of Pennaforte, Confessor.
- " 19, Thursday.—St. Titus, Bishop and Confessor.
- " 20, Friday.—St. Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop, Confessor, and Doctor.
- " 21, Saturday.—St. Paul, the first Hermit.

St. Fintan, Abbot.

The distinguished Abbot Fintan was one of the family of Niall, of the north of Ireland. He was placed at the school of Bangor, under St. Comgall, and afterwards he studied at the school of Kilmore-Deathrib which Columbkil is supposed to have governed for some time before his departure from Ireland. He also spent some time at a place now called Killinnan, in the county Limerick; thence he went to a place called Coonah, in the same county. Between these places Fintan passed his early years—a model of good conduct and piety.

The reputation and sanctity of the monks of Iona, under Columbkil, had made such an impression on him, that he resolved to join their community in order to lead a life of greater sanctity in the quiet retirement of their monastery.

In order to carry out his good intentions he set out for Iona. St. Columbkil had died a few days before his arrival, and was succeeded by Baithen. To him, therefore, Fintan applied to be received into his community. Baithen questioned him as to his family, studies, conduct, and the like. Fintan modestly answered him, and humbly requested to be admitted as a monk. Baithen having heard his story, replied: 'I thank God that you are come to this place; but this you must know that you cannot be a monk of ours.' Fintan, much afflicted at his refusal, asked 'Is it that I am unworthy of being one?' 'No,' answered Baithen, 'but, although I should be very glad to keep you with me, I must obey the orders of my predecessor, Columba, who, before he died, said to me, in the spirit of prophecy: 'Baithen, remember these words of mine, immediately after my departure from this life, a brother, who is now regulating his youth by good conduct and who is well versed in sacred studies, named Fintan, will come to you from Ireland, and will supplicate to be reckoned among the monks. But it is predetermined by God that he is to be an abbot, presiding over monks, and a guide of souls. Do not, therefore, let him stay in these islands of ours, but direct him to return in peace to Ireland, that he may there establish a monastery, in a part of Leinster not far from the sea, and labor for the good of souls.' The pious young man shed tears when he heard this, and returned thanks to God, and said that he would follow these directions. Colgan states that before he went to Leinster, in accordance with the injunction of Columbkil, he spent five years in a monastery he established at a place called Teachelle, in the district of Ili (Ely O'Carrol), in Munster, and that he subsequently founded a monastery at a place named after him, Teach-Munnu (the house of Munnu), now Thagmon, in the County of Wexford.

St. Fintan was far advanced in years when he died, at his own monastery, on the 21st of October, 635, leaving after him a distinguished reputation for sanctity and perfection in piety and godliness.

St. Raymond of Pennaforte, Confessor.

St. Raymond, of Pennaforte, assisted St. Peter Nolasco to found, in 1218, the Order of Mercy for the redemption of captives. Between the years 1492 and 1691 this Order alone rescued nearly 17,000 Christian captives.

St. Titus, Bishop and Confessor.

St. Titus was a Greek by birth and the son of a gentile father and a Jewish mother. He accompanied St. Paul to Jerusalem to the Council, and on his various extensive journeys, and was finally established by him Bishop of Crete about the year 62. He died about 105, at the advanced age of 94 years. St. Paul wrote an Epistle to him, which contained instructions for his disciple.

St. Cyril of Alexandria.

St. Cyril was a Father of the Greek Church, and Patriarch of Alexandria (412). He took an active part in his uncle's (Theophilus) opposition to St. John Chrysostom. He closed the churches of the Novatians. The Jews having murdered a certain number of Christians, he expelled them from the city, and embroiled himself with the Governor Orestes. He contributed, also, to the condemnation of Nestorius. St. Cyril has left a large number of writings, mostly of an apologetical, controversial, and doctrinal character.

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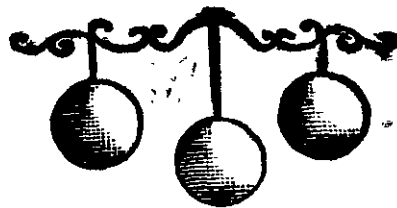
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