

INTERCOLONIAL

Mr. Joseph Winter (Melbourne 'Advocate') and his brother, Mr. S. V. Winter (Melbourne 'Herald'), who have been on a health trip to China and Japan, have returned to Melbourne.

The parishioners of North Fitzroy (Melbourne) recently presented the Rev. Father P. J. Fitzgerald, who has been transferred to St. Mary's, Geelong, with an illuminated address and a purse of 100 sovereigns.

The Rev. Father T. Kenny, S.J., of St. Ignatius' College, Riverview, has been transferred to St. Patrick's College, East Melbourne, in place of the Very Rev. Father T. Keogh, S.J., who goes to St. Ignatius' College, Richmond.

The Sydney papers announce that Miss Ada Crossley, who is coming to Australia, made it a condition of her engagement with Mr. Williamson that she should sing in St. Mary's Cathedral. She desires to redeem a promise she made Dean O'Hara before leaving Australia.

The Rev. Father M. Ryan, who has been transferred from Woodend, Victoria, to Dandenong, was presented with a purse of sovereigns by the parishioners of Woodend on Wednesday evening, August 14. On the following evening he was entertained at a banquet by the people of East Trentham, where he was the recipient of another purse of sovereigns. He was also entertained at a farewell concert by the children attending the Trentham Catholic schools.

The Very Rev. Father Fitzgerald, O.F.M., who sailed for Europe recently, after 19 years' work on the Australian mission, left amid the universal regret of the whole Catholic community (says the 'Catholic Press'). Previous to his departure he was entertained at dinner by the suburban and metropolitan clergy, and he received an enthusiastic send-off and testimonial from the eastern parishes in which he had chiefly labored, as well as one from the members of the Waverley branch of the A.H.C. Guild. At the wharf bidding him farewell were hundreds of friends, whilst a specially chartered steamer, thronged with well-wishers went as far as the Heads to give him a parting cheer as the vessel proceeded out to sea.

Irish Nationalism (writes a Tasmanian correspondent) has had a complete revival in Hobart this year. A branch of the United Irish League was founded in February, and formed a strong and energetic committee, which succeeded in celebrating St. Patrick's Day by sports, after 11 years' cessation of any such, and resulted in £50 being sent to William O'Brien, M.P., founder of the League, for distribution among pressing demands for relief of Irish evicted tenants, and £10 to the Orphanage in Hobart. William O'Brien distributed the £50 among tenants in exceptional distress: First, £10 on the Luggacurran Queen's County estate, £10 on the Clanricarde County Galway Estate, £10 to the Maggerone County Louth Estate, £10 to the Coolgraney County Wexford estate, and £10 to the De Freyne County Roscommon estate, and sent an eloquent reply to Mr. M. M. Ryan, president of the Hobart League, describing the great effect messages like that from the Irish across the seas have in encouraging those at home in their battle for freedom.

The death of Monsignor O'Hea, of Coburg, Victoria, (says the 'Freeman's Journal') was not unexpected; for although he is said to have come of a family distinguished for longevity, the weight of his 89 years had for some time been accentuated by failing health. The passing away of this venerable dignitary is another sad reminder that the ranks of the fine old pioneer band of priests are being rapidly thinned by the inexorable Reaper. Of the men who helped to build up the Church in Australia a couple of generations ago with the example of personalities which blended piety, simplicity, wisdom, and indomitable endurance, Monsignor O'Hea was a type. Born at Cork in April, 1814, he reached Melbourne in 1852, when the social elements of the country were mixed and rugged. For a time he ministered to these elements in their most emphatic form as chaplain at Pentridge penal establishment, but for the past 40 years had been identified as pastor with Coburg. He brought to the ministry of Victoria just those qualities needed for the priest in a country where everything was in the making. As well as a priest he was an Irishman whose geniality, while it covered a commanding personality, made many friends even beyond his own denomination. His charity was in keeping with his character as priest and citizen, and will now evoke the reciprocal charity of many prayers for his repose.

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Friends at Court

CLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

- September 20, Sunday.—Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost. The Seven Dolors of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
- „ 21, Monday.—St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist.
- „ 22, Tuesday.—St. Thomas of Villanova, Bishop and Confessor.
- „ 23, Wednesday.—St. Linus, Pope and Martyr.
- „ 24, Thursday.—Our Lady of Mercy.
- „ 25, Friday.—Saints Eustace and Companions, Martyrs.
- „ 26, Saturday.—St. Eusebius, Pope and Martyr.

St. Matthew, Apostle.

St. Matthew is the same as Levi, mentioned in the Gospel of St. Luke (v. 27). He was the son of Alphaeus, and was born near Capharnaum. He was a collector of taxes which the Jews had to pay to the Romans. Tradition relates that he labored for some time in Palestine, after the Ascension of Christ, and then preached the Gospel in Syria, Persia, Parthia, and Ethiopia. In the last-named country he is said to have ended his course by martyrdom. Matthew was the first of the Evangelists who wrote a Gospel, which appeared between the years 64 and 67, or, according to others, in the year 42, about the time of the dispersion of the Apostles. He wrote in Hebrew or Syro-Chaldaic, the language spoken in Palestine at that time. The original is no longer extant, but the Greek version, even in the time of the Apostles, was of equal authority.

St. Thomas of Villanova.

St. Thomas was born at Fuenlana (Leon), Spain, in 1488, and died at Valencia, of which he was Archbishop in 1555. He was distinguished for his humility and charity, and merited the glorious surname of the 'Father of the Poor.'

St. Linus, Pope and Martyr.

St. Linus, the immediate successor of St. Peter, received the martyr's crown after a Pontificate of 12 years.

Feast of Our Lady of Mercy.

In the thirteenth century, when the Mediterranean swept by Moorish pirates, a religious Order was instituted, under the patronage of the Blessed Virgin Mary, for the purpose of collecting alms for the relief and ransom of Christian captives, of visiting them in their captivity, and restoring them when possible to their friends and families.

Among the first members of this noble order was a zealous Englishman named Serapion, who was received into religion by the founder, St. Peter Nolasco. His singular prudence and sanctity caused him to be selected the important office of Ransomer, and he was sent by his superiors on two occasions to treat with the Moors for the ransom of the captives. His first journey was to the Moorish kingdom of Murcia in the South of Spain, where he succeeded in restoring to liberty 98 Christians. Being afterwards despatched to Algiers, he purchased the freedom of 87 others, but being unable to pay the price in full, he remained in the hands of the Moors, according to the common practice of the Order, as a hostage for the discharge of the debt. During the interval he employed himself in consoling and encouraging the Christian slaves and prisoners, and preaching the Gospel boldly to the Mahometans, many of whom he converted to the Faith. The Moorish Governor, enraged at his boldness, ordered him to be cruelly beaten and cast into a dismal dungeon. He afterwards condemned him to be stripped naked and fastened in a barbarous manner to two posts, his body being elevated in the air and his legs crossed. In this painful position he was exposed to all the insults and outrages of the mob, and was finally hacked to pieces with knives and hatchets, during which time he never ceased to preach the Name of Jesus and exhort the Christians to constancy and perseverance.

St. Eustace and Companions, Martyrs.

St. Eustace, a Roman general, suffered martyrdom together with his wife and two sons, shortly after the beginning of the second century.

St. Eusebius, Pope and Martyr.

St. Eusebius, who succeeded St. Marcellus on the Papal throne, was banished by Maxentius to Sicily, where he died of the hardships inflicted on him.

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