

ANTONIA DOLORES

SONG RECITALS

Assisted by

MISS CAIROS DE REGO

And

MR. JOHN PROUSE

GRAND OPERA HOUSE - - WELLINGTON

COMMENCING MONDAY, MAY 4.

Full Particulars in Daily Papers.

COME TO LAKE WAIHOLA

for the Holidays and you will be pleased. Charming Tourist Resort. Liberal Table at Hotel. Moderate Tariff.

MRS. SNODGRASS (of Te Anau) Proprietress.

IN MEMORIAM

DOOLEY.—Of your charity pray for the soul of Thomas Thaddeus, beloved second son of Patrick and Margaret Dooley, who died at his parents' residence, Ashers, Kapuka, on April 3, 1913.

For six long months within Death's grip he lay,
Then God in His mercy called him away.

Oh Mary, by the priceless love
Which Jesus bore for thee,
Pray that his home in eternity
That loving Heart may be.

—Inserted by his loving parents, sisters, and brothers.

JOHN BIRD
Surgeon Dentist

Alexandra Buildings, Visits Denniston and
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WANTED KNOWN—That Bill-heads, Circulars, Memoriam Cards, Concert Tickets and Programmes, and General Printing of every description is executed at the *Tablet* Office. Moderate rates.

MESSAGE OF POPE LEO XIII. TO THE N.Z. TABLET.

Pergant Directores et Scriptores New Zealand Tablet, Apostolica Benedictione confortati, Religionis et Justitiae 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.



THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 1914.

EASTER AND ITS MESSAGE



THAT the Apostles from the earliest days really believed in the true physical Resurrection of the body of Jesus from the grave is beyond doubt, and is not seriously questioned even by the most advanced unbelievers. They had seen miracles of resurrection before, and knew what was implied when they asserted the fact of their Master's rising from the dead. This belief of theirs runs right through the teaching of the New Testament and is declared with unfaltering tones. According to four evangelists the holy women, and after them, some of the disciples, on coming to the tomb at the dawn of Easter found the tomb empty. 'He is not here, He is risen,' they are told by the angel, and they believe. During the forty days that followed, many witnesses on several occasions were firmly persuaded they saw and spoke to One Who had risen in the body, even in the body that had been crucified, for it still bore the print of the nails and the spear-mark. To His apostles especially He showed Himself alive after His passion, by many proofs, for forty days appearing to them, and speaking of the Kingdom of God, and eating with them.' (Acts i., 3.) St. Peter in his first discourse openly proclaimed that Jesus had been raised from the dead, for His flesh could not taste the corruption of the tomb. St. Paul is particularly emphatic: 'For I delivered unto you first of all what I also received; how that Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day, according to the Scriptures' (I Cor. xv., 3-4). So sure is the great apostle that he is willing to stake all on this supreme fact: 'If Christ be not risen again, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain; yea, and we are found false witnesses of God' (I Cor. xv., 14). There was no illusion about this belief. He who left Jerusalem for Damascus on a mission of persecution became absolutely convinced on the way that he had seen the Lord in the heavenly glory; a sudden and revolutionary change took place in all his ideas of God, of Christ the Messiah, and the world. Christ's enemy became Christ's slave.

It is not possible to explain this persistent belief on the part of the apostles otherwise than through the fact of the Resurrection. Two considerations should make this clear. On the one hand, the apostles were simple, guileless, and honest. Their testimony was given in a plain, calm way, with a remarkable absence of excitement and amazement. Despite the oft-repeated predictions of their Master, they had sadly concluded that they would never see Him again—His career had ended in defeat and disaster. 'We had hoped that it was He Who should redeem Israel.' They would