

MARRIAGES

ARDAGH—LOWICK.—On Easter Monday, April 13, 1914, at the Cathedral, Barbadoes street, Christchurch, by the Very Rev. Chancellor Price, Dr. P. A. Ardagh, second son of Mr. J. J. Ardagh, Timaru, to Lily Hebe Lowick, third daughter of Mrs. R. Lowick, Manly, Sydney.

GREGAN—CORLISS.—On April 29, 1914, at the Cathedral, Christchurch, by his Lordship Bishop Grimes, assisted by the Rev. Father Murphy, B.A., John Joseph, third son of Mr. Daniel Gregan, Christchurch, to Ellen Constance, third daughter of Mr. Mortimer C. Corliss, Superintendent of Telegraph Department, Wanganui.

MORKANE—WHITE.—At the Cathedral, Christchurch, on April 21, 1914, by his Lordship Bishop Grimes, assisted by the Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., and the Rev. Cecil Morkane, of Holy Cross College, Charles Frederick Morkane, F.R.C.S.E., son of the late Mr. and Mrs. J. Morkane, to Rose, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. A. J. White, Christchurch.

DEATH

COTTER.—On May 12, 1914, at his residence, High street, Dunedin, Patrick Cotter; aged 75 years. Deeply regretted.—R.I.P.

[A CARD.]

DR. PATRICK A. ARDAGH
Has commenced the practice of his profession in Christchurch, having succeeded :

DR. C. F. MORKANE.

ROOMS : 226 HIGH STREET.
RESIDENCE : 31 CARLTON STREET, MERIVALE.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH BAZAAR, WAITARA

RESULT OF ART UNION.

The following are the winning numbers in the Art Union in connection with the above bazaar :
First prize, 530; 2nd, 239; 3rd, 659;
4th, 2438; 5th, 50.

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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 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, MAY 21, 1914.

GOVERNMENT BY REFERENDUM



THE plain and practical objections to the introduction of the Referendum as part of British legislative machinery have been stated with remarkable clearness and cogency in two recent articles by such eminent and competent writers as Sir William Robertson Nicholl and Professor A. F. Pollard, M.A., Professor of English History at the University of London. Both writers go straight to the heart of the subject; and it is difficult to see how their admirably reasoned statements can be effectively gainsaid. Sir W. R. Nicholl writes in his own paper, the *British Weekly* of March 26, and Professor Pollard in the *London Times* of March 23; and though both are dealing primarily with the question of a Referendum on Home Rule, their observations admit, of course, of a much wider application. The fundamental objections to the Referendum which they set forth may be thus summarised: (1) The Referendum is useless, because it does not—as its advocates seem to imagine—definitely settle or dispose of the question submitted. (2) The Referendum is vicious, because once admitted, no limit can be placed to its application. What is asked in one case cannot be refused in another; and the indefinite and ill-regulated extension of the principle would certainly be the means of working grave injustice. (3) The adoption of the Referendum means the abdication by Parliament of its essential and constitutional function.

(1) In regard to the first point, both writers are explicit and emphatic. Still speaking with special reference to Home Rule, Sir W. R. Nicholl asks: 'What is the use of taking a Referendum when we know that neither side will accept the result?' After referring to the position of Ulster, Sir William continues: 'But it is of the Nationalists that we are mainly thinking. Does anyone imagine for an instant that the most overwhelming adverse vote in Great Britain would in the least degree terminate their contending? They have failed as yet to win Home Rule, but they are on the edge of victory, and all through these many troubled years they have won concession after concession from Conservative Governments; so that they may look round and say that if any party has been successful it is their own. They are now to all appearance in the zenith of their power. What is a Referendum to them, who have been watching grimly, silently, hopefully, resolutely for more than a generation? Does anyone think they are going to sink back exhausted by the struggle and lose for ever the hope of freedom?' Professor Pollard emphasises the same point; and shows that the objection is not peculiar to a Referendum on Home Rule, but applies as a matter of fact to every Referendum. 'Advocates of the

J. S. TINGEY

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