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T TABLET

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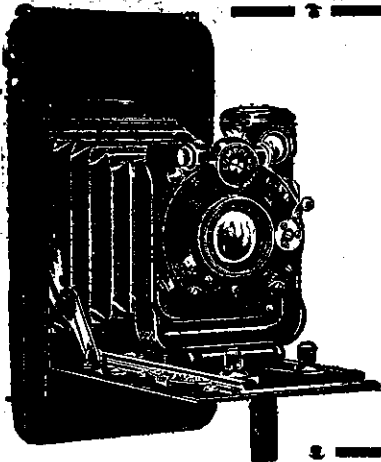
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CLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

- January 9, Sunday.—First Sunday after the Epiphany
 „ 10, Monday.—Of the Octave.
 „ 11, Tuesday.—Of the Octave.
 „ 12, Wednesday.—Of the Octave.
 „ 13, Thursday.—Octave of the Epiphany.
 „ 14, Friday.—St. Hilary, Bishop, Confessor, and Doctor.
 „ 15, Saturday.—St. Paul, the First Hermit, Confessor.

St. Hilary, Bishop, Confessor, and Doctor.

'The illustrious doctor of the churches,' as St. Hilary is styled by St. Augustine, was born at Poitiers, in France, of a very distinguished family. Brought up in idolatry, he received the grace of conversion shortly after reaching manhood. Having been appointed Bishop of his native city, he distinguished himself as well by his learned confutation of the Arian heretics as by his constancy in bearing the ill-treatment he had to endure at their hands. St. Hilary died in 368.

GRAINS OF GOLD.

MY CRUCIFIX.

A little metal crucifix,
 As plain as it can be,
 But only God in heaven knows
 How dear it is to me.

I have it always with me,
 In every step I take;
 At evening when I slumber,
 At morning when I wake;

In bright or cloudy weather,
 In sunshine or in rain;
 In happiness or sorrow,
 In pleasure or in pain.

It helps me in my struggles,
 It reproves when I sin;
 Its look of gentle patience
 Rebukes the strife within.

In days of pain and anguish,
 The greatest help I knew,
 Was to hold that little crucifix
 Until I calmer grew;

And looking on that Figure,
 Which hung in patience there,
 I saw the dreadful torture
 Which He, in love did bear.

His feet are nailed together,
 His loving arms outspread,
 And blood is dropping slowly
 Down from His thorn-crowned head.

And how could I, then, murmur,
 Or bitterly complain,
 When love for me induced Him
 To undergo such pain?

So when the time approaches
 When I shall have to die,
 I hope that little crucifix
 Will close beside me lie;

That the Holy Name of Jesus
 May be the last I say,
 And kissing that dear crucifix
 My soul may pass away.

The Storyteller

MID CLASHING ARMS

It was a bitter evening as the seven piquets marched out of camp, 350 men taken from the regiments of Clare, Rotho, and Berwick. Their destination was an isolated fortress, feebly garrisoned, in Hesse-Nassau; and the year, 1761, fourth of Prussia's seven years' war with Austria, France, and Russia.

Young Fitzmaurice was thinking of a game of cards that he had been watching just before he was called away. One of the men had cheated, and he had been about to charge him with the fact when the imperative order came. Then as he rose the man looked up, and their eyes met, and the man's expression suddenly changed.

The look that flashed into his eyes told that he knew Fitzmaurice had seen, and, having seen that, the man sent a deadly wish with him that he might be killed in the coming enterprise. Then Fitzmaurice had gone from the room without warning the other player.

Why had he done so? It had been the icy, meditative gaze that had followed that flash—a gaze expressive of two things—knowledge that Fitzmaurice knew; then that the man counted upon his silence at that moment and his death hereafter to finally seal his lips.

The soldiers had marched from the plain and were following a road that led through a hilly and woody country. The north wind blew the rain in slanting lines in their faces, and the winter day was falling in. But it was to be a forced march, with no rest that night.

Fitzmaurice was with the vanguard. He heard Ua Maille, the flaxen-haired sergeant, speak to a man in his section. 'What did the French officer want with you as we marched off?' he said.

'He asked me to leave a letter at a castle that we shall pass.'

The voices fell silent. Fitzmaurice's thoughts, thus diverted, wandered off to memories of another land and another castle, where they lingered for a time, then swung back again to the present moment.

Night fell, and the road crossed the ridge of a hill, passing into what seemed a black void. But the guide, his wrist roped to a soldier, went down with assured step.

For hours they tramped; then a sudden halt was made. Something had happened. Fitzmaurice was presently called forward. A faint light from a smouldering fire showed him the figures of the officer in command and those of two rough-looking men. The charcoal-burners had told that a considerable body of Russians had gone through the ravine an hour before. They had probably halted at the castle that commanded the pass. The castle stood about 500 yards away. Fitzmaurice was sent forward with 300 men to reconnoitre.

The vague light was beaten out behind him, and the wall of night rose in front. He and his men went into it. Then he made out blacker things in the blackness—deep silhouettes of trees, towering rocks, after which a darkness, less intense, and a glimmer of the road for a yard or two.

The rain ceased, and the wind tore the clouds, opening spaces of the sky. Leaving the highway, he sent two of his men through the wood on the right, and, accompanied by the third man, entered the field on the left.

Presently he and his companion came to open ground, and there black against the sky rose the castle. There were lights in some of the windows, and Fitzmaurice saw that the road was clear.

Were the soldiers in the castle? He must find that out. Keeping wide of the gleam, he crept on followed by the soldier, a private in Clare's. Suddenly hands clutched him, and before he could use his sword his

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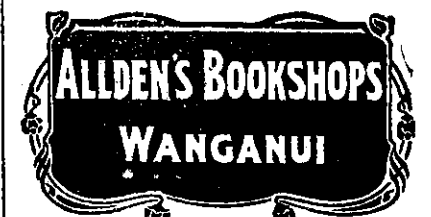
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arms were pinioned to his side. As he tried to cry out he was clubbed on the head.

When he came to consciousness again he found an elderly woman bending over him, her hand on his wrist. In the middle of the room a girl was standing, a letter in her hand—her eyes fixed upon him.

His hand went to his side; his sword was gone. He shook off the woman's touch, and, sitting up, spoke to her in German. She made no reply, and the girl called across the room: 'M. l'officier, we are French.'

Fitzmaurice rose to his feet and bowed; the floor felt for a moment as if it heaved beneath him; then the sensation passed.

'Mademoiselle, I congratulate myself. I thought from the treatment I received I was among the enemy.'

'No, monsieur, the men who had the misfortune to strike you were the gamekeepers. They took you for one of the marauders who steal game. I regret their treatment. I invite you to supper.'

'Mademoiselle, I should be delighted to sup at this table with so gracious and fair a lady'—Fitzmaurice was swinging glibly through the French tongue—'but I must return at once to my commander, who awaits information whether there are Prussians in this castle.'

'The garrison, monsieur, consists of my servants. We are part of the ladies who were in the campaign with the king. We were left here with a small guard, as this country is in possession of the French. We hope his Majesty's army will soon arrive. But do not go, monsieur, till you have drunk a glass of Tokay.'

She stepped up to the table, filled a glass from a green bottle there, and offered it to him. Bowing, he took it. The girl he saw was beautiful, with dark eyes and golden hair.

'To your health, mademoiselle.'

'To your health, monsieur.'

He had drank the wine before her tone struck him. Then he saw all the color had left her cheeks, and that her eyes had no light in them.

'Mademoiselle, are any of my men here?'

'Monsieur, no. Truda, show this gentleman the way.'

Fitzmaurice bowed again and walked to the door. Then he turned. Was there anything he could do for mademoiselle? Charcoal-burners had told that Prussian troops had gone through the ravine. She thanked monsieur l'officier but the charcoal-burners had lied; no Prussians had gone through.

He went out and heard the elder lady's step behind him. She held a light in her hand. The light shot his shadow before him, and beyond lay the darkened corridor. His feet seemed presently to be treading on air; there was a strange singing in his head. An immense flight of time appeared to pass. Then he saw, heaving up and down, a row of stone steps and a great shadowed whirling hall beneath. Then stair, hall, light, and shadows rushed together.

There was daylight in the room when he opened his eyes again. It was the same apartment that he had been in the night before. As he raised himself on one arm, he found he was not alone.

The girl was there. She was leaning forward in her chair, her chin in her hand, gazing across the room. Her eyes had caught the light from one of the small high windows; their darkness had the color of wine. Her gaze was fixed, intent; her features as immovable as marble.

He had been left unbound. Full consciousness returned in an instant, and memory at a leap recalled the interview—the story that she was a Frenchwoman—the glass of Tokay, that had been drugged, of course; her French birth was assumed (had not her companion been called Truda?); the Prussians were in the castle, and he was a prisoner of war. But where were his captors? Why was he left unbound with a woman?

He got to his feet. But she never moved—as still as if she were not living flesh and blood, beautiful as some white chiselled form of memory—her face kept

its look of brooding thought, its unspoken secret.

'Mademoiselle, I thank you for that glass of wine,' he said; 'I have slept long and ill, and will now depart.'

He went to the door, not believing that he would find it barred, but it was. Then he turned and looked at her.

'By whom have I been made prisoner?' he asked.

She had moved; she had risen. The color slowly flowed into her cheeks. 'By me,' she said.

'Then I am fortunate,' he bowed. 'I had believed I had been made prisoner by the enemy. I know no cause, mademoiselle, why you should be one.'

Her immobility had vanished; only her eyes were steady, showing her thoughts rooted to one resolve.

'Monsieur,' her voice had a thrill that made him think of a bird in song, 'understand that I am ruthless, and that I cannot, and will not show you mercy.'

Was she mad? He looked closer at her. But there was no insanity in the eyes that met his.

'Ruthless lady, I have not asked for mercy,' he said, 'but I ask what the charge against me is.'

'You are a spy,' she said. Then he knew that they were not alone, as her head turned in the direction of a green curtain. Behind it, he guessed, stood a listener.

He fixed his eyes on the curtain. 'I am no spy, Mademoiselle, but an Irish officer sent to reconnoitre by his commander. I am Lieutenant Fitzmaurice, of the Irish Brigade.'

'Yes, that is the name,' she answered. 'I have been warned that you are a spy.'

She made a sign with her hand. The curtain was flung aside, and four men dressed in brown clothes, bearing arms, came out of the recess. They pointed their guns at Fitzmaurice.

She looked at him again. 'You are a spy,' she repeated.

His eyes had run over the men. They were the same, he believed, who had struck him on the head; but they were not soldiers.

Then he glanced at the girl. She had spoken all the time in French. Was she playing a part, or in deadly earnest?

'Fraulein, I can speak your language,' he said in German. 'I am no spy, but an officer obeying his colonel's order.'

'You charge me with an untruth!' she exclaimed, answering him in French, and her eyes flashed. 'You were spying on this castle! That uniform is stolen as well as the name you call yourself by!'

She swept up to the men and said something in a low tone, and then passed out of the room by a door in the recess.

He was instantly surrounded and led to a door at the end of the room. Resistance he knew meant death. Six years of a soldier's life had taught him to be cool in danger.

He was brought along a passage to a flight of steps. Midway on the stair the men stopped and a rope was slipped round his waist. One of the men touched something in the wall, and the step Fitzmaurice stood on went back and he sank through the opening. The sudden pressure of the rope seemed to cut him in two; his gaze shot up; he saw the rope running through the men's hands and terrible thoughts flashed before his mind. Then just as the pressure grew more than he could endure his feet touched the ground. Gasping, he caught at the rope, but slipping from the noose, it sped upward. There was the clang of a stone, and the light was cut off.

For a few moments he stood drawing his breath; then he went on his knees and felt around with his hands. About him was the solid floor. Moving on, he reached the wall, and standing on his feet felt his way by its side. Presently one foot touched nothing; far down he heard the murmur of water.

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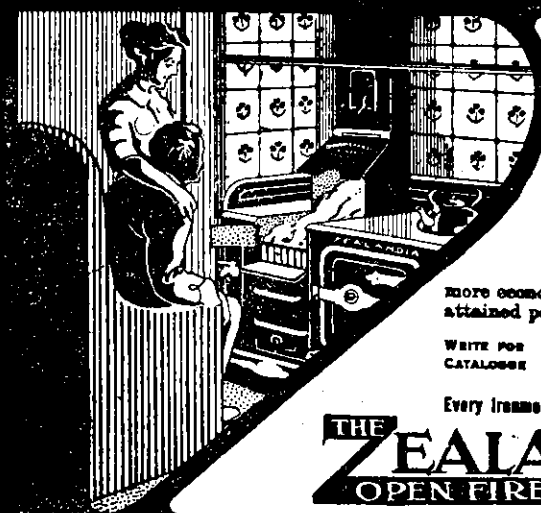
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death: starvation or to end his life in the river below. All his youth shrank back before so terrible a moment. Never would those he loved, never would his comrades know how he had met his end. To die on the battlefield, to die a soldier's death was honor; but this was the death of a rat or a dog!

How had he offended the cruel girl who had doomed him to this fate? Why had she called him her enemy? Why had she charged him with being a spy? Who was she—French or German? French was the language of the Prussian Court; her fluency in it could not answer the question.

There was no escape. He was in the hands of a woman who declared she was ruthless. A faint gleam of hope lightened the darkness of his mind as he repeated the word. Because she had named herself such, because her face belied it, her mood might change.

He lost count of time. It seemed to him that it had already merged with eternity, and that the silence and darkness was for ever. Then suddenly all his soul was in his ears. There was a sound overhead. He sprang to his feet, and his upturned face met the gleam of light that broke in. She had repented.

A voice from above called down—a voice in Irish—Noble one, are you there? Are you alive? It is I, Miceal O'Breenan, who asks.

A bronzed face looked down; the flash of blue eyes met his; he saw the red coat of Clare's. He sent up a shout. 'Alive! Yes, comrade. Haul me out!'

The soldier's face drew back; there followed the sound of voices. After a time a bar of wood was lowered, and he grasped the rope to which it was attached. Slowly he was drawn up.

Hands grasped him as he emerged from the hole, and he saw the red-coated figure of the private and met the man's signalling glance. At the same instant he knew that they were both prisoners. Prussian soldiers lined the stairs and filled the hall.

A loud, rough voice ordered him to ascend the stair. The opening was closed, and, a guard surrounding him, he was led to the room where he had twice seen the girl.

A Nuremberg clock struck the hour of four as the door swung back. Through one of the high-set windows came the last gleam of the sun. He had been five or six hours in the dungeon before the lady had repented. Then he saw that she was there, standing with lowered eyes near the recess. Her face was white and her red lips were pressed together in a straight line.

She was not alone. A group of Prussian officers stood near a table furnished with food. Fitzmaurice's guard led him up to one—a man with a war-worn face and callous gaze. Under his overcoat a brilliant uniform could be seen. He held a letter in his hand: Fitzmaurice saluted him.

'Your name, rank, regiment?' the officer demanded.

'Fitzmaurice, Herr General, lieutenant in the Regiment of Clare, of the Irish Brigade.'

'Your brigade is at Gessen. What brought you to this castle?'

'I was sent with a reconnoitring party, and chanced to get knocked on the head, and was carried here.'

'Do you know the name of this lady?'

'No.'

'Do you know a Baron de Bosanquet?'

Fitzmaurice paused. It was the name of the man whom he had seen cheating at cards. 'I have met him once,' he answered.

'Where?'

'In the camp of Gessen.'

'When did you leave Gessen?'

'Yesterday.'

'I have evidence that you are a spy. This lady was to secrete you in this castle, while your commanding officer pursued his forced march to Fritzlar, leaving you and a soldier to spy upon my command.'

The girl looked up for the first time. Fitzmaurice saw that a look of astonishment flashed into

her eyes, as if the General's words had taken her with great surprise. She seemed about to speak, but the Prussian with a steady gaze asked her to come forward. His voice was commanding.

'I must request you to pay attention to this letter which we took from your messenger,' he continued, when she obeyed. 'And I warn you, mademoiselle, or Fraulein, that I shall require a full explanation of its meaning before I am satisfied that you have not been in the pay of France.'

She opened the letter, and as her eyes rested on it, her face flooded with color. Fitzmaurice, watching her, saw her changing expression, a look tender yet fearful, as if she beheld some calamity approaching one she loved. She stretched out her hand, 'Oh, M. le General, it is my love letter; spare me,' she gasped, and clasped her hands in entreaty.

But the ruthless voice went on, 'Calm yourself, mademoiselle, I will slur over the passages of love, and read the kernel of the letter. This letter proves your guilt, Lieut. Fitzmaurice, but I did not take you from the oubliette to shoot you at once.' He cast his eyes upon the paper, and began to read:

'The Watch Tower—M. de Bosanquet—Regiment du Roi.—Monsieur, I thank you for the assurance of your unchanging affection, the thought of which is my solace in this dreary vigil. Rest assured, monsieur, that as you have placed my image in your heart, so have I placed yours in mine. Monsieur, I have done as you desired. This lieutenant shall be the spy. There is an oubliette in the castle. He, Fitzmaurice, is there. I send this letter to Gessen by the Irish soldier.—HENRIETTE.'

As Fitzmaurice listened to the words he understood. The girl's lover was the man who had cheated at cards, whose eyes had registered a vow that he, Fitzmaurice, should die. He remembered the sergeant's question about the letter; O'Breenan's reply that he was to leave it at a castle. Had she destroyed it? His life now hung upon what the man had written.

'Mademoiselle Henriette von Arnheim,' the general's harsh voice went on, 'it appears that you, being of two nationalities, a Hessian father and a French mother, have decided that the King of France shall supply you with gold, your lover, the Baron de Bosanquet, of the French Regiment du Roi, being your paymaster. You hid his messenger, this officer, when you learnt we were in the neighborhood. You opened your castle gates before me knocked, you received us as friends. But, mademoiselle, we had already captured the soldier who was carrying your letter back to Gessen.'

Fitzmaurice's eyes rested on the girl's face. His life and her own depended upon what was written in Bosanquet's letter. If she had destroyed it, no protest, no words, could save them both from being shot.

She had grown calm again, and her blushes and confusion were gone. Her eyes showed no fear. 'It is true, Herr General, that I have had French money, and that I am a spy, and that officer is a spy. What is to be our fate?' Her voice was steady and clear.

Amazed, Fitzmaurice asked himself why the girl made no defence. Was she afraid that he would escape?

But her confession had been too swift, too eager. The general's eyes rested upon her with a cold scrutiny for a few moments. Then he turned to Fitzmaurice and put a succession of questions sharp as pistol shots that tore the truth from him.

'You carried no letter? You brought no message?'

'I carried no letter. I brought no message. This lady is unknown to me.'

The Prussian's eyes went again to the girl. 'Did this man bring you a letter, or a message? Did you give him a glass of drugged wine? Did you put him against his will in the oubliette?'

She answered without an instant's hesitation. 'This man is well known to me. He brought a message, not a letter. The wine was not drugged. He was lowered by a rope to the oubliette.'

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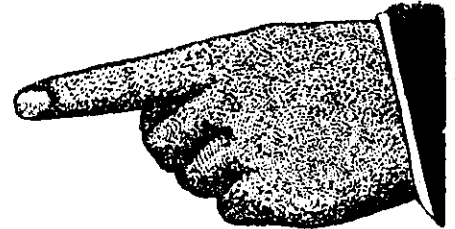
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And the message?

'That, as it was necessary to learn if the Prussians were sending any force against Marburg, he was to wait there. It was known that a party of Prussians would be placed in this castle.'

'Prisoner, you hear this evidence. Captain von Eithal, both spies are to be shot. Take the girl down to the courtyard, and shoot her first.'

The callous eyes watched the girl's face. It had not paled; her gaze turned for a moment on Fitzmaurice. 'Two favors, Herr General,' she said. 'Let me see my fellow-spy shot! Let me be buried as soon as I fall by my servants.'

Her amazing indifference to her own sentence, though her voice rang with passionate entreaty, thrilled Fitzmaurice. What audacity, what courage, what love! And he knew that the Frenchman's letter was near her heart. Great God! he thought, why does she thus desire to kill me. And the answer came as there rose before him the memory of the icy, hate-laden eyes of the man.

Death was now certain and near. Yet, there was the letter—but what damning lie did it contain!

'Mademoiselle, the soldier's hand was on his shoulder, 'I will precede you if allowed.' But I proclaim here to all these gentlemen that you are about to commit suicide in order that M. de Bosanquet may still be thought an honorable man. And that neither you nor I are spies.'

She met his glance stonily. But her hand went to her breast. Then, in an instant, a great change passed over her face. It grew colorless, and fear, fear at last leapt into her eyes.

She struggled in the hands that held her. 'One moment, but one moment!' she cried. 'I cannot die yet!' With an immense effort she recovered her composure. 'Herr General, grant my request; let me pray in the inner room before my mother's portrait! Let me wrap myself in her scarf!'

'You may pray for a minute before your mother's portrait; you may make a shroud of her scarf,' the general answered.

She was released, and fled across the room. An officer followed at a sign from his commander. The curtain had been torn back, the door was open. Those watching could see her pause for a moment within the doorway, then dart out of sight.

No one spoke; some of the officers filled glasses with wine and drank. The General glanced at the clock; then before the minute elapsed the girl re-appeared, followed by the aide-de-camp. There was a strange smile on her face. Round her waist a grey brocaded scarf was wound.

'Now I am ready,' she said, and bowed, 'let my fellow spy be shot first! And, Herr General, I thank you that you say that this scarf shall remain about my waist in death.'

'Mademoiselle, that scarf is too small for a shroud. Hold the girl, von Eithal! Take the despatch from the scarf.'

In a moment she drew a letter from the scarf, and tore it in two. It was taken roughly from her hands before she could tear it again, and her arms held.

The general smiled grimly. 'Now, we shall learn what intelligence the prisoners were conveying,' he said, and placing the two pieces on the table, fitted them together. Then he took them up in his hands and read.

'Henriette, mon cœur, this letter will be given you or left at the castle by a private soldier, an Irishman, whose company has been selected as part of the detachment that is being sent to relieve Gonningen.

One of his officers is my deadly enemy. He holds my honor in his hands, and unless he dies I am a disgraced man. It may be possible for you to send news to the Commandant at Fritzlar that, being a soldier of fortune, this Lieutenant Fitzmaurice, of the Irish Regiment of Clare, has been trying to better his fortunes by selling information about our troops to the enemy. It is necessary that I should be assured of his death.

My reputation at the Court, the honors the King has promised me, my future marriage with you, demand that there should be no hesitation in deciding his fate. He must die. Knowing your love for me, I believe you will act at once. Be confident, Henriette, that your image is ever close to my heart, and that I am for ever the devoted lover of the most beautiful woman in the world. Let the nearest Prussian commander know that Fitzmaurice will sell information. Use all your woman's wits that overwhelming proof of treachery may be found upon him. Mademoiselle, as you love me, compass his death; else, to stand my affairs, I shall have to blow my brains out.—Your devoted

ACHILLE DE BOSANQUET.'

The girl had covered her face with her hands. She was sobbing aloud.

'Take the prisoners from the room,' the general said, and sat down before the table to eat.

They were led forth, and down the stair, the girl sobbing all the while. They were halted in the hall. Two soldiers took the girl into the courtyard. Fitzmaurice tried to speak, but was ordered to be silent. An officer came up to him; he held a purse in his hand. 'The general offers you your life and liberty,' he said, 'if you, who have no native claim on France, will undertake to supply us with information about the French army.'

Fitzmaurice's face crimsoned, and his eyes flashed. 'I am no traitor!' he answered.

'Here is gold,' replied the officer, 'and more gold, and more gold will be yours.' Fitzmaurice snatched the purse from his hand and hurled it back in his face. 'If I had my sword!' he said, half-choked with rage.

The guard seized him, and the officer went away. A minute later he was led into the courtyard. He looked round. The girl was standing against a wall, her face frozen and white, her red lips parted. He was brought up and placed beside her. A firing party faced them.

A minute like eternity passed; then an officer approached and said something to the sergeant in command. 'Now,' thought Fitzmaurice, and he began to say a prayer. But there was still silence, and the silence seemed ever the edge of sound, a pause more awful than death itself. Then a voice tore across it: 'Take the officer to the road,' it said. 'Place him with the other prisoners.' And he knew that death had again passed him by.

The next instant he looked at the girl. She had turned her head towards him, her eyes held an agony of appeal. It was not fear of death for herself he read, but in that supreme moment fear for the man whom she loved. Then he was ordered to stand out. He felt his heart beat violently, a feeling of sickness and faintness overtakes him. The next second he rallied. 'I will be silent,' he said to her, and stepped forward. He attempted to speak to the officer, to make a plea for her life. But he was roughly silenced and marched away. Ten or twelve prisoners were drawn up on the road between guards, and he saw his own soldier in their ranks. Then, as they waited, he listened—listened.

It came; one volley, and then silence. An hour afterwards as the detachment of Prussians resumed their march, he heard an officer say: 'The general thought her dangerous; half-French, her lover one of the enemy, the girl his tool.'

And Fitzmaurice knew that he had pledged himself by a bond, with death for a witness, never to reveal what he had seen or proclaim the Frenchman's dishonor.

—Weekly Freeman

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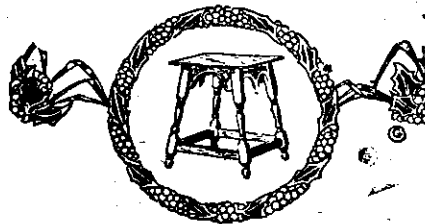
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DOING A GOOD TURN

We must admit that Miss Stanley has two very good points—she is a fine penman, one of the best in the office, I should say, and she is punctual—has not missed a morning so far in being at her desk precisely on time; but there are other considerations, of course. Mr. Slocum evidently considered the wave of his hand sufficiently explanatory in concluding his remarks, and turned abruptly to his desk, while the junior member of the firm, with whom he had been conversing in a low tone, accepted the dismissal understandingly and took his leave.

Pauline Gunther, at her desk near by, could not help hearing the words, and she was both annoyed and surprised at the effect they had upon her. She felt it was contemptible that she should resent, down deep in her heart, the few simple words of appreciation for a fellow-worker; but that there should be a feeling almost of elation at the thought of Ethel Stanley's possible failure to succeed ultimately in the work positively frightened her. She had not thought herself capable of quite that. She fought the feeling valiantly, but it seemed to hold its ground. She recalled seeing Mr. Slocum talking very earnestly with Ethel a few days before, and since then, Ethel's troubled face bore evidence that the talk had been a serious one. And yet, Pauline knew Ethel was capable of good work. And it was this capableness that, in their old school days, far exceeded her own. Ethel grasped book knowledge easier than did Pauline. In that field Pauline had been second. And it was this that had brought to Pauline a swift feeling of regret when she found Ethel a worker for the company. She did not recognise this regret at the time as being a feeling of jealousy, lest here, too, Ethel should in the end outdistance her.

'I am so sorry for poor Ethel!' Louise Downs bent to whisper as she passed Pauline's desk on her way to her own. 'I wish something could be done to influence Mr. Slocum in her favor! I am sure Ethel is competent, and she does so need the work. Can't you think of some way, Pauline? You have such good opportunity, being his secretary.'

Pauline made no reply; she did not meet Louise's eyes, but turned to her work. It was true she had more opportunity than the others to speak for, or against, any of the workers. She had been in the office for more than two years, and had been so successful a worker that she had recently been promoted to her responsible position of secretary to the senior member of the firm. Pauline congratulated herself while Louise was talking on the fact that she had never allowed any personal feeling for a girl, even in the smallest degree, to influence her in her judgment of her office work.

In Pauline's position much of the general office work came under her inspection. It happened on the morning of Louise Downs' words that a certain part of Ethel's work of the day previous was brought in direct connection with the work on hand, and on the very second page of Ethel's work, Pauline saw a grave error.

'It isn't my business to shield any one from the result of errors,' she told herself. 'Let her take the consequences!'

She pushed the papers to one side with a movement that betokened finality. But she found that her decision was not final. Again and again her eyes wandered to the opposite side of the office where Ethel sat at her desk, her troubled face bent over her work. All at once a warm glow filled her heart; it came with the consciousness of her power, the power to avert what would mean difficulty and misfortunes for another. How could she have thought for a moment of not using her privilege?

Hastily gathering up the papers she crossed quietly to Ethel's side and pointed out the error.

'I see,' interrupted Ethel gratefully. 'Thank you,

Pauline; how kind you are! I must be more careful. But at first I didn't quite realise the importance of the work, and of late I have been so anxious to do well that I haven't been able to do my best.'

'I know,' Pauline said, finding it easy just at that moment to say kind words. 'But do try to throw off anxiety, Ethel, and do your best. You are perfectly capable, and Mr. Slocum is very reasonable—not at all hard to please.' Then, obeying a swift impulse, she said, 'I heard Mr. Slocum say that you are one of the best penmen in the office, and that you have never been a moment late to work since you began. So, you see, he is appreciative, and notices one's good points.'

Ethel's face was bent over the papers as she corrected the error, but there was a soft flush upon her cheeks, that had not been seen there for some time. After a moment she lifted her head to hand back the papers, saying quietly:

'You are a true friend to me, I will do my best!'

Pauline turned away with a little smile. But to her the words, 'You are a true friend,' spoken in Ethel's earnest, trusting way, was as a thrust. She knew she was not quite worthy of them. And the words that followed, 'I will do my best,' brought a question to her own heart—was she, Pauline Gunther, doing her best? She stood at the window by her desk and steadily faced the matter. She had been fearful at the start, of Ethel's best, if she reached to it, surpassing her own accomplishment. This was the secret fear that had been in her heart since the day Ethel entered the office. She knew it now.

Her face was flushed with conflicting emotions as she seated herself again at her desk. For a moment only had she tasted the joy that comes with an unselfish act, then the joy vanished. Resentfully the old bitterness awakened, and dissatisfied Pauline strove to turn her full attention to the work. Later she would think the thing out.

It seemed a little strange, but the next piece of work Pauline took up was, as had been the first, associated with Ethel's, only this time Ethel's work was perfect in every detail. It was so well and neatly done, that Pauline could not but admire it. She recalled the occasion, a few days before, of the giving out of this work to Ethel.

'I feel a little doubtful of her efficiency in this particular line of work,' Mr. Slocum had said to Pauline, 'but the others are all busy and we shall have to take a chance of her being able to do it correctly. I am especially anxious in this, as it will not necessarily pass through my hands after it is done. I must trust to you, Miss Gunther, to look out for it.'

Now as Pauline's eyes ran over the pages she exclaimed: 'It is absolutely without an error.' Then again quickly came the impulse to help the other girl. It was not required of her to show this work to Mr. Slocum, but she would be permitted to, if she wished, and it would be so easy to do; otherwise he might not recall the circumstances in this particular instance, or know that Ethel had shown herself competent for the work. The mere absence of discovered error could so easily pass unnoticed in his busy day, whereas the indisputable evidence of work well done would be distinctly recognised.

'But you did not show the error to him, why show the success?' questioned the ever ready, though rapidly weakening tempter. 'It is just as fair one way as the other.'

But this time Pauline did not parley. The taste of joy that had come with the previous yielding to her best nature made the second battle of short duration. With a quick movement she turned to her employer's desk:

'Just a moment, Mr. Slocum. You will remember that you were in doubt about giving Ethel Stanley these accounts of Glendennings. I think you will be glad to know she has done the work perfectly.'

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Mr. Slocum adjusted his glasses and inspected the sheets.

'Very good!' he said as he laid them down. Then, as he turned to Pauline, 'I'm glad you brought this to me, Miss Gunther, and glad you brought it just at this time! I don't mind telling you now, that I've become discouraged about Miss Stanley reaching our standard, and, well—I was this very moment formulating a letter of dismissal—a task I do not in the least like. But this work proves she may be worth trying a while longer. If your object in showing it to me was to do her a good turn, you've succeeded. We will give her a chance to keep on doing good work if she can.'

'I hardly think you will regret it, Mr. Slocum. Ethel stood high at school. I feel sure she will give satisfaction if we give her time!'

'I am learning to rely a good deal on your judgment, Miss Gunther.'

'Thank you,' said Pauline.

And then as she turned from the room she thought:

'Supposing I had not done my best?'

And a spirit of thankfulness came to her at the thought of how much life holds for the one who does his best.—*Sacred Heart Review.*

IRELAND AND THE GOVERNMENT

THE POSITION OF THE IRISH PARTY.

In the debate which took place after Mr. Asquith's statement on the war in the House of Commons on November 2, Mr. John Redmond took the opportunity of stating Ireland's policy in regard to the Government. He said he had not taken any part in a debate on the conduct of the war since its inception, but that was not because he and his colleagues had not had profound dissatisfaction with certain of the events which had taken place both in this country and abroad. It was due solely to the fact that they felt, rightly or wrongly—he thought rightly—the best service they could bring to the country in this terrible crisis was to extend to the Government and the men who formed it, whoever they might be, their fullest possible trust and loyal, and as far as possible silent, support. That attitude was maintained by his colleagues and himself even after the formation of the Coalition Government. During the long and terrible months that had passed he thought Ireland had exhibited a remarkable spectacle. Ever since the war commenced party controversy had disappeared in Ireland. Men who before were divided by the bitterest party passion had since worked together amicably and unselfishly side by side for the common cause. He himself the other day, under the presidency of the Lord Lieutenant in Dublin, sat in amicable consultation with leaders of the Ulster Unionist Party. In addition to that, they had had in Ireland no labor unrest and no industrial strikes. Their workmen, the moment the opportunity was offered to them by the Minister of Munitions, went with enthusiasm into the service of that department, and today thousands of men and women, not only in Dublin and Belfast, but all through the country, were engaged full time upon munition work. All that was only a beginning. In a few weeks' time he believed this work would be going on without interruption all over Ireland. Wherever trouble or friction came from, it would not come from the Irish workers. At the same time, the object of recruiting was being pushed forward steadily and satisfactorily. From the commencement of the war to that moment the Government had been faced by no trouble, no danger, by no factious criticism,

By No Lack of Loyal Support in Ireland.

That had not been due to lack of grave cause of complaint upon our side. It was due solely to the determination that no responsibility or blame for disunion in face of the enemy should at the end of the war be laid to the account of the Irish people. They had

been in Ireland profoundly disturbed by many things which had taken place in England during the last few months. The spectacle of industrial unrest, the determined and unceasing attack in certain sections of the press upon the Government, upon individual members of the Government, and in a special way upon the Prime Minister, had aroused the gravest concern and the deepest indignation in Ireland; and he would like to say to the Prime Minister that attacks made upon him by a section of the press had found no echo whatever in the length and breadth of Ireland, and he stood to-day as he stood before the war—high in the confidence of the Irish people. The persistent pessimism which had been so long preached in certain quarters with reference to the war had had no effect in discouraging the Irish people. The only effect it had had in Ireland had been to some small extent to bring aid to that small fringe which existed there, as it did in England, of men who would if they could, interfere with the success of recruiting.

He had listened to the speech of the Prime Minister with pleasure, for two reasons—viz., although that speech put before the country in serious colors indeed the gravity of the problem with which we were faced, at the same time as a whole it did much to counteract that pessimism which was taking the heart out of so many of their people in every part of the Empire, as well as at home, and which undoubtedly was bringing help, hope, and comfort to the enemies of the Empire. Secondly, he listened with pleasure to the speech because the Prime Minister made a proposal with reference to the Cabinet. That proposal would, at any rate for the time being, silence the wreckers. He (Mr. Redmond) was not in favor of the idea of a Cabinet within a Cabinet. If this committee were to be a Cabinet within the Cabinet, it would be utterly unconstitutional. It would be scrapping

The Whole English Constitution,

and would be without precedent. The position of every member of the Cabinet who was outside the committee would be humiliating and absolutely impossible. If, on the other hand, the committee was to be merely a small body of men who were to attend to carrying out in detail the decisions already come to by the Cabinet as a whole, then he was inclined to agree with Sir E. Carson that after all it did not mean very much—at any rate in principle; and the most that could apparently be said for it was that instead of this fluctuating War Council, as it was called, meeting periodically, and which was not always the same in its component parts, they would have sitting from day to day a small body of men whose names would be known to the country, and who would have the conduct of every matter of detail. 'But,' went on Mr. Redmond, 'I must say to the House of Commons and the Prime Minister that, in my opinion, the whole of the present position is wrong—fundamentally wrong. I never believed in the wisdom of the creation of a Coalition Government. I did not hear at the time, I have really not heard since, any reason to show that that creation was either desirable or necessary. The Government at that time was united. It had the confidence of the House of Commons. It had the open and enthusiastic support of every party and of every section in this House; and, in addition to that, it had the advantage of a responsible and, I will add, a patriotic Opposition. A great deal of nonsense had been talked in the past few months about the desirability of having no criticism of the Government. Criticism of a war Government is, in my opinion, essential. Yes; but it must be reasoned, measured, patriotic criticism, and directed by a responsible Opposition. The idea that the new Coalition Government was to be a stronger Government than its predecessor because it was to be made up by the selection of men to represent various sections and various parties and not of

Men Chosen for their Personal Efficiency and Fitness, seemed to me then, and seems to me now, an absurd idea. Is there any man who will say the present Government is any stronger than the Government it

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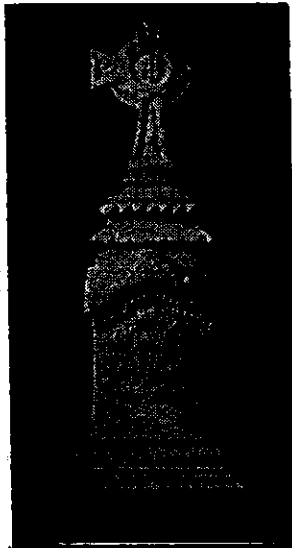
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has succeeded? Will anyone say that the kind of criticism we have had in the main has afforded the Government that considered, restrained, and responsible criticism which would have been heard if there had been a responsible Opposition? I had the honor of being offered a seat in the Coalition Cabinet by the Prime Minister, and amongst other reasons which I had for declining that offer, probably the most powerful of all was this; I felt convinced then, and I am more convinced than ever by what has happened since, that my power of doing good work in assistance in this matter and of helping the country would have been lessened and not increased if I had accepted. I urged upon the Prime Minister that it was unwise for him to bring into his Coalition Government any Irish party. He did not take my advice. I am of that opinion still. I do not know what his opinion is. Proceeding, Mr. Redmond said he did not believe that the proposal of this small committee would remedy the difficulties and evils of the situation. A homogeneous Government and a responsible Opposition was the only satisfactory solution. But though these were his views and those of his colleagues, he could inform the Prime Minister that they would not in the least affect their attitude towards the Government, and any Government of which the Prime Minister was the head would in the conduct of the war

Receive Their Constant and Loyal Support.

He did not think it would be prudent or wise to follow the right hon. gentleman who had just spoken into the reasons for his resignation from the Cabinet. Sir E. Carson commenced by saying he did not see the value of discussing past events and mistakes, but he had dealt very fully with some of them. With his (the speaker's) imperfect knowledge of what happened in the Cabinet, he thought it would be wrong to attempt to trace the blame for any of the mistakes that had undoubtedly been made, both in our warlike operations and our diplomacy. The time would come when these things would have to be discussed and a strict account taken, but we wanted some guarantee that past mistakes would not be repeated. Intense feeling existed throughout Ireland with regard to Serbia, as it had done in regard to Belgium. Like the Prime Minister, he was against compulsion, and until the country was practically unanimous in favor of it he believed resort to compulsion would be a folly and a crime. He was convinced that the necessity for compulsion would never arise. The voluntary system had never had fair play—certainly it had not in Ireland.

Recruiting in Ireland.

In speaking of the efforts he and his colleagues had made throughout Ireland in support of recruiting, the hon. member complained of the lack of support they received from the officials of the War Office. The attitude taken up by the War Office had, he said, at times reduced him almost to a condition of despair. But, in spite of being hampered and thwarted, they had raised in Ireland a body of men of whom Lord Kitchener had spoken as being magnificent. Figures quoted by the General Officer Commanding in Ireland showed that in the last few months in Ireland they had raised three Irish divisions, or an entire army corps. In addition, they had sent to the regiments of the old army many thousands of men. Three months ago General Friend, commanding in Ireland, said 23,000 recruits had gone up to that date to the old regiments, and many thousands had gone since. In addition, about 30,000 reservists were called up, and, adding the old soldiers in the army when the war commenced, they found there were at this moment little short of 150,000 men with the colors from Ireland. Then there were about 115,000 men of the Irish race in Great Britain who had joined their regiments; and, taking the Irishmen serving with the Australian, New Zealand, and Canadian forces, they had 300,000 of 400,000 men in the army, not to speak of the many who belonged to the Irish race. That was a record of which they had reason to be proud. He was glad to say recruiting in

Ireland had now been put on a business basis, and he was certain the voluntary system would triumph in the campaign Lord Derby had inaugurated.

SWITZERLAND AND THE WAR

PEOPLE'S DIVIDED SYMPATHIES.

Switzerland, true to her ancient traditions, has maintained neutrality. Whilst the attitude of the central Government has been perfectly correct, the people have shown very marked sympathies; and these sympathies have taken different directions (writes a special correspondent). It might have been supposed that a nation which had formed a democracy for six hundred years, when all the neighbors were ruled by princes, which had defended its independence and liberty against German Emperors and Austrian dukes in many a hard-fought battle, would have in its entirety taken the side of republican France, of free England, and certainly of Belgium, against the military rule of Prussia. Nor could it escape some of the Swiss that the Power which covets the mouth of the Rhine might some day require for its economical development the whole valley of the river from the Lake of Constance downwards, and the rich cities of Zurich and Basel.

The 'Pacific Penetration'

of this part of the country by the Germans has been more thorough than anywhere in Belgium or eastern France. There is little difference as regards race or character or language between the northern cantons of Switzerland and the southern parts of Germany. The system of education from the lowest to the highest schools is very similar; most of the masters of grammar schools, doctors, lawyers, and pastors, having completed their academical curriculum at home, put in a few terms at Bonn, or Leipzig, or Berlin. Their own Universities are largely staffed by German lecturers; the famous Nietzsche was at one time professor of Greek at Basel. Their literature of every kind, and the news published in their press, hail from the other side of the Rhine. A short time ago a Basel newspaper issued its weekly supplement showing the marks of the German censor; it turned out that the illustrated sheet which the journal sent out every Sunday had been edited and printed in Munich. Intellectually, northern Switzerland forms part of Germany. To this must be added the interest of trade. German banks and business houses have established branch establishments in all the principal cities.

Nor has the danger of this penetration escaped clear-sighted statesmen. The story goes that when the Emperor William in 1912, inspecting the Swiss troops, asked the President in his most genial mood what he could do for him, the latter replied, 'Sir, give us back Zurich!' We can readily believe that a German propaganda has been carried on by methods familiar to all, and that a part of the native press has been gained over. Soon the efforts to make mischief became evident.

Decree of the Federal Council.

The Federal Council had considered it expedient, for various reasons, to issue a decree forbidding any publications which were likely to arouse hatred of, or contempt for, any foreign nation or chief or government. But this decree, which could be differently interpreted, was carried out by the authorities in German-speaking Berne in an arbitrary manner. Thus the anonymous book, *L'accuse*, which gave an account of the way in which the war had been prepared and begun, was removed from the bookstalls of the railway stations. In Berne Mr. Vachen was not allowed to deliver a lecture on the artistic monuments of Belgium, whilst a Herr Muller was permitted to give his recollections of the war. Most remarkable was the case of Mr. Fuglister, who wished to tell his fellow-citizens of Neuchâtel, and to illustrate with photographs, what he had himself seen at Louvain. He was forbidden to say or to publish the things of which he had been a witness.

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The order, drawn up in quaint language, roused such indignation throughout French Switzerland that he was speedily recalled.

Feeling in Favor of France and Belgium.

The same reasons which attracted the northern cantons to Germany have drawn those of the west and south towards France. The bonds of language and literature, of habits of thought, the interests of trade, have attached them to their neighbor; the newspapers in Lausanne and Geneva have given vigorous and lively expression of their sympathies. Religion has played a part as well as language. When a German-Swiss Catholic paper maintained that France had an irreligious Government, that Russia had persecuted Catholics, and that a victory of the Central Empires was in the interests of order and religion, the Fribourgeois promptly replied that Christians of all denominations must be on the side of honor and humanity. When a German-speaking cleric asked the head of a religious house: 'I suppose you are much divided among yourselves, like everywhere else,' he received the reply: 'Reassure yourself, sir; we are here all for justice.' Indeed, at one time the war roused throughout Switzerland a degree of heat and passion which, fanned by German influence, threatened to tear the country into hostile factions. But the truth is now piercing the clouds of falsehood, prejudice, and interest. Eminent citizens of French Switzerland have been the first to convey to King Albert and his suffering people the expression of their admiration. The arrival on Helvetic territory of the civil population which had been deported from Belgium and France, and which was now sent home again: the pitiful procession of old men, women with their babes, and orphans, gave the slow-moving German-Swiss people food for thought. 'It is enough to slaughter a victim; to blacken his name is too much,' exclaimed their greatest writer, Carl Spitteler, in a speech delivered at Zurich. 'The Swiss who speaks evil of Belgium does a most infamous thing. On the day that his existence is attacked, similar charges will be brought against him; poisonous slaver is an arm of German warfare!' He put the heart of the matter before the people.

A Decided Change.

There can be no doubt that, notwithstanding all that German professors and newspapers may say, a change has come over the northern country. Travelers and prisoners have spoken, and people have seen for themselves. A French doctor who brought back a number of his wounded countrymen from Germany told us that the train, as soon as it entered Switzerland, at the stations of Thurgau and Zurich and Berne was wildly cheered and greeted with gifts and flowers, whilst a train conveying German wounded passed through in the opposite direction amidst ominous silence. The Swiss have found out that in the midst of warring nations their duty is to show real impartiality in judgment and charity in action; to use the noble words of their President, their crest, a white cross on red ground, is a symbol of entente, of love.

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TWO NOTABLE DEATHS

On the same day, and within a few hours of each other, occurred the death of two notable sons of the Church—the Lord Bishop of Newport and Father David Fleming, O.F.M.—the one full of years and honors, the other equally full of honors, but, although just the other side of sixty, by no means an old man. Yet both have fallen together at one stroke of the eternal reaper. The death of Bishop Hedley is almost a personal loss to every Catholic in these realms (says the *Universe*)—such a burning and shining light was he in the Church he so long and faithfully served, so wide and deep was his influence as scholar and theologian. As a Latin scholar his reputation was European. His writings were many and varied, some of them having achieved great popularity, among those being *Our Divine Saviour*, *The Christian Inheritance*, *A Bishop and His Flock*, *A Retreat*, *The Light of Life*, *Les Levitarum*, and *The Holy Eucharist*. On his work as an author he received the following high compliment from the late Pope:—

'We are well aware how the writings you have published excel alike for their matter and for the grace of their polished diction; and we know full well how your pursuit of religious perfection, your weightiness in deliberation, and your solicitude in the pastoral office have won for you, and still win for you, the garland of a flourishing renown.'

But it was in the pulpit that Dr. Hedley excelled; and present-day Catholics may form some idea of his popularity as a preacher when we say that he was as much sought after, was as well known, and was as great a church filler in his day as is Father Bernard Vaughan in our day. Such was the genius of his eloquence, so polished were his periods, that on the occasion of the obsequies of both Cardinal Manning and Cardinal Vaughan he was the selected preacher of the funeral sermon. He preached wise counsels and set a saintly example; and his devotion to the Church was only equalled by the faithful manner in which he carried on his duties of both shepherd and friend of his numerous flock. And he had this supreme satisfaction: he lived to see the fruition of his work in a flourishing diocese.

Father David Fleming, albeit he died a plain friar, was in many ways an equally remarkable man, who might, had his ambition soared to his opportunities of advancement, have filled any position he had set his heart on, but he was satisfied to be a good priest and a good patriot; for, if his great and abiding love for the Church and all things appertaining to it had any rival in his sweet soul, it was his love for Ireland, and the Irish community, both in London itself and in greater London over the Border, will keenly feel his loss. Like many other Irish priests have done for centuries, he studied in Belgium, treading the same cloisters in Louvain (how his gentle heart must have been riven by its destruction) as the annalist O'Leary and Luke Wadding, that missionary of Irish freedom who could count Popes and kings among his friends. Having made and established a reputation as an ecclesiologist, he became a professor at Ghent, and later on Provincial of his Order in England. Upon the appointment by the English Catholic Bishops of a committee of experts to report on the question of Anglican Orders, Father Fleming was selected to serve thereon, and when Pope Leo XIII. instituted the historic Papal Commission, he also was selected for that, and the Holy Father was so struck with his research and abilities that he retained him in Rome for some years, during which time he was regarded as the unofficial representative of Ireland at the Vatican. As we have said, the ladder of ambition was at his feet, and almost any position in the Church might have been his for the climbing; but his Order, his Priesthood, and his beloved country filled his life, and he died at the early age of sixty-four, a simple friar, carrying with him to the grave as much love and as deep regrets as any priest who has doffed this mortal coil.

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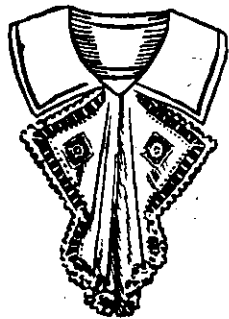
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ENGLAND

DEATH OF BISHOP HEDLEY.

The death occurred at Llanishen, Cardiff, on November 11, of the Right Rev. Dr. Cuthbert Hedley, Bishop of Newport, at the age of 79 years. The deceased prelate, who was born at Morpeth in 1837, was the son of Edward A. Hedley, M.D., and was educated at Ampleforth. He joined the English Benedictine Congregation in 1854, and was ordained priest in 1862, and soon after his ordination he was sent to the house at Belmont, with which he was so intimately connected during his life. His literary gifts soon gained him a name which became known outside his own convent, and he was made a member of the Diocesan Chapter and received other distinctions. Owing to the failing health of the then Bishop of Newport and Menevia he was selected to act as auxiliary to that prelate, being consecrated by Archbishop Manning in 1873 as Bishop of Calsaropolis, and eight years later he succeeded to the Bishopric of the diocese of Newport and Menevia, which in 1896 became known as the diocese of Newport, owing to some changes in the diocesan territory. But five years previously another honor was conferred upon him by Pope Leo XIII., who named him Assistant at the Pontifical Throne. Bishop Hedley celebrated his golden jubilee three years ago, and on that occasion he received a long autograph letter from Pope Pius X., with the gift of a beautiful chalice, sent to testify the Pope's high opinion of the venerable prelate.

FRANCE

THE HOLY FATHER AND PEACE.

M. Louis Herbert, in an article recently written for a French journal, warns his readers against believing the many false statements which have been circulated as regards the Pope and peace, and points out that the official declarations of the Pope have for a long time shown that he will not make an inopportune suggestion. M. Herbert refers to an audience which he had the honor of having with the Holy Father, saying: 'It never entered my head for a moment to consider my conversation with his Holiness as an interview for the press, but I may say now, that so many months have elapsed since I had the audience with Pope Benedict XV., not only has the Pope not said to me that he hoped to see France ask for peace, but he appeared to be pre-occupied with one desire, and that was to have it made known in France, as well as in Belgium, that he was anxiously awaiting peace obtained through the vindication of right and justice.'

REQUIEM AT NOTRE DAME.

The Solemn Requiem Service celebrated on November 12, in Notre Dame Cathedral for the repose of the souls of the French and Allied soldiers who have been killed in battle or died of their wounds since the beginning of the war was, perhaps, the most important religious function which has been held in France during the present hostilities (writes the Paris correspondent of the *Irish Catholic*). It was presided over by Cardinal Amette, Archbishop of Paris. The high altar was decorated with the flags of the Allied nations. The faithful, who offered up ardent prayers, crowded the Cathedral to overflowing. Among the very numerous personalities present were the representatives of the President of the Republic, of M. Briand, the Prime Minister, and those of the Ministers of War and the Marine. M. Denys Cochin, Minister of State, who had left Paris for Salonika, was represented by Captain Denys Cochin. Beside these personages were M. Jules Cambon, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; General Florentin, Grand Chancellor of the Legion of Honor; the Ambassadors of Great

Britain, Italy, and Russia, the Ministers of Belgium and Serbia, etc. In his address, made in the course of the Solemn Mass, Cardinal Amette extolled the memory of the heroic victims of the war, and added—'We have to fulfil towards them a duty of admiration, a duty of gratitude, a duty of imitation, and a duty of supplication.'

ROME

POLAND'S GRATITUDE.

The letter which Henry Sienkiewicz sent on November 6 to his Eminence the Papal Secretary of State is too touching not to be given here in full (writes a Rome correspondent). It conveys Poland's gratitude to the Pope for his action on behalf of a starving nation. 'Allow me to address myself once more to your Eminence,' writes the author, 'not with a view to ask another favor, but to thank you from the depths of my soul for the compassion shown to my dear country, and for your prompt exertion on behalf of the unfortunate victims of the war in Poland. Thanks to the action of your Eminence, thousands of Polish children will be snatched from certain death, and thousands of men will owe to you their life. Whatever be the result of the collection recommended by the Holy Father on behalf of Poland, our gratitude will be undying, and we shall feel certain that the Holy See alone should recourse be had first of all in time of calamity and sorrow. The Polish nation has ever been profoundly Catholic; its faith has withstood the hardest trials, but the paternal goodness of the Holy Father and the love shown by him to our dear country render his person particularly dear and venerable to us. The name of Benedict XV. is invoked with filial tenderness in every corner of our vast country, which is now covered with blood and tears. All eyes turn to him, filled with hope and with the certain faith that if the whole world abandoned Poland to her sorrow, she would still find a protector in the best and gentlest of fathers. May Divine Providence grant that a day may be given to the Polish people to show their devotion and gratitude by deeds and not by words.'

UNITED STATES

JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS.

'Magnificent' is the only word to describe the celebration in Philadelphia of the fiftieth anniversary of the ordination to the priesthood of the Most Rev. Edward F. Prendergast, Archbishop of that diocese (says the *Sacred Heart Review*). His Excellency, the Most Rev. John Bonzano, Archbishop of Militene and Apostolic Delegate to the United States, his Eminence Cardinal Gibbons, his Eminence Cardinal Farley, the Most Rev. James J. Keane, Archbishop of Dubuque, Ia., and twenty-three other archbishops and bishops attended the celebration. Priests in large numbers, not only from Philadelphia but from many other dioceses, were participants in the ceremonies of the celebration, and the great parade of the laity, which was one of the chief features of the jubilation, is estimated to have contained more than 70,000 men, the majority of them members of the Holy Name Societies.

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Current Topics

How and What to Read

We have referred elsewhere to the complaint made by the Minister for Education that reading and writing were being neglected in our schools, and we have expressed the opinion that this was mainly due to the temper of the time and to the policy of the Department that led our boys and girls to shirk as far as possible everything in the shape of serious, personal effort or labor. There is no doubt that this is, in a certain sense, a reading age, and that more books now issue from the press than in any age that has passed. Books are published upon every subject, treating it from every point of view, and in every form; yet in the aristocracy of intellect we have no one to compare with Pericles or Plato or Homer, with Dante or Aquinas or Shakespeare; and in the rank and file the average modern reader compares unfavorably, so far as the understanding of what he reads is concerned, with the average reader of the generations that have gone by. The tradition of the modern school to skim over as many lessons as possible in a stated time is carried from the school and remains with most readers during the whole term of their lives. They read much but think little, and superficiality triumphs at the expense of depth. The ancient who feared the man of one book would have nothing to fear from the modern, whose intellect is atrophied from overcrowding and want of exercise, and whose opinions and judgments are worth precisely what they cost in personal and laborious study.

Less reading with more observation and original thinking would make wiser and better men. Fewer printed books and a fuller acquaintance with the open book of Nature and with the inner voice of the soul would save many from much deceit, and make them expert in sifting, weighing, arranging, and digesting the accurate facts and the lofty thoughts their labor garners from the great master minds of the past. The thinker is never deceived, but shallow books deceive shallow readers, and leave them at the mercy of every intellectual mountebank. The unthinking conclude without any process of reason that a master in one branch of learning is an expert in all, and they go to Edison for judgments in philosophy when they should consult him only on automobiles. Another man is remarkable for beautiful style as a writer, and those who are too indolent to think beseech him to discourse on Eternal Beauty, Truth, and Love. These would in unrestrained enthusiasm bind the poems of Archilocus in vellum and build a palace for himself; but the Lacedaemonians in their better wisdom were not so minded. It is inevitable that things should be so: man gets nothing for nothing; truth and wisdom are not at beck and call, they must be wooed and won by patient, strenuous labor, by much-proved love and devotion.

We would urge our young boys leaving school and the youthful members of our Catholic clubs and debating societies to avoid these evils of the day and to seek out a way that is better and follow it. If they would become wise they will read deeply and well, they will for the most part select books that demand study to understand them; only such books are worth reading, for only such educate a man by bringing out his latent powers and tempting him to rise higher and higher above the level on which he finds himself. Let others be superficial and shallow, let them be discoverers, leaving the beaten track in search of rich and hidden mines. A learned Australian priest, long since dead, was once asked for a list of books. The present writer can quote that list only from memory, but it contains the nucleus of a perfect library. It did not overlook the essential fact that the superstructure of a worthy spiritual life must be raised upon the foundation of the natural virtues;

therefore, it recommended Plutarch for honor, Fenelon for nobility of character, Lingard for a fearless love of truth, for he wrote truth fearlessly when all around him were conspiring against it; a Kempis for kindness, and the gentle Francis de Sales for that gentleness that so sweetly harmonises with greatness of mind. Having used these in laying the foundation of the natural virtues, the young man must have recourse to the Book of Books, the inspired word of God, for the rules by which to raise the supernatural edifice, the spiritual house of the soul. But there must be no superficial and hasty skimming; all these he must study deeply and well; patient industry must explore for him their inmost core and reveal to him their every hidden source of strength and beauty. Here, too, it may well be said that none but the brave deserve the fair. Mr. Belloc tells us in one of his pleasant papers on 'Nothing' that 'once there was a man who lived in a house at the corner of a wood with an excellent landscape upon every side. . . . He remembered an uncle of his who had pointed out that burdens, especially if borne in youth, strengthen the upper deltoid muscle, expand the chest, and give to the whole figure an erect and graceful poise. He remembered also reading in a book upon country sports that the bearing of heavy weights is an excellent training for all other forms of exercise, and produces a manly and resolute carriage, very useful in golf, cricket, and colonial wars. He could not forget his mother's frequent remark that a burden nobly endured gave firmness and at the same time elasticity to the character.' This, then, is the resolution for the hour, the potent remedy for our time's decay. Let every reader make a serious choice of good books, and let him make his study of these a serious labor. It will turn out to be a labor of love, enlightening his mind, strengthening his character, and safeguarding his country and his generation.

What more than this does any reader need unless it be some books for mental recreation? But even here fair wisdom, loved by him, will not desert him; for with love of wisdom it has been decreed that love of all good things shall come: a clean mind, a pure heart, sweet imaginings and books that need no fuming. He may turn to romances and love stories, he will find these in every language, full of sweetness and purity, for wisdom will lead him in the search. He will discover heroes, manly, noble, kind, virtuous; and the heroines who will spring up to charm him will be like 'the Blessed Damozel leaning out from the gold bar of heaven' and handing him 'a white rose of Mary's gift.' He will find such heroines, in a host of Christian writers, like so many sweet symphonies stirring the depths of his soul, lighting up the dark ways of his life by the glory that sparkles on their brow, awing him into submission by their spiritual beauty, and giving him a foretaste of heaven in the odors of sweetness and grace they shed around them. Such were Cecily and Gertrude and Magdalen, and Margaret and Rosalys in the dear days of old; such was the lady who led the author of the Divine Comedy up to the steep heights of heaven when the pagan poet had failed; such the lady who is idealised by a host of Christian writers, easy of discovery to one who is led by wisdom, whose flights of genius are not hampered by morbidity, but are ever borne upwards by a divine breath.

Writing of the pledges given the United States Government on behalf of Carranza in Mexico, the *Catholic Bulletin* says: 'These pledges are all very well in themselves, but the question is, will they be observed by Carranza? Will the United States Government see that they are observed by him? Now that this step has been taken it is the bounden duty of President Wilson and his advisers to see that Carranza lives up to the pledges he has given to grant the fullest religious liberty to all and to cease persecuting bishops, priests, and Sisters in Mexico on account of their religion.'

IRISH CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ARMY

RECRUITING RESOURCES HEAVILY-TAXED.

A careful examination of Ireland's present resources for military service is made in the following article from an Irish correspondent which has appeared in the *Manchester Guardian*.

The new recruiting campaign in Ireland has got under way, and 50,000 men are now demanded at once. If we are to form any proper estimate of what success the new efforts are likely to meet with it is essential to examine closely how many men in Ireland are still available for military service.

It is essential to grasp the fact that the Irish population has been halved, while that of most other countries, including England, has doubled. Seventy years ago Ireland had eight and a-quarter millions. If the decline had not taken place, and the normal increase had continued, Ireland to-day would have, not four, but fourteen or fifteen millions. We should bear in mind also that a disproportionate part of the present Irish population is composed of old men and women, who will die off within the next twenty years, and the majority of whose places will not be filled. Ireland is probably the only country in the world in which there are more people between the ages of 65 and 70 than between 60 and 65, and a still larger number between 70 and 75. And the annual emigration, which in the last decade still amounted to an average of 30,000, is drawn almost entirely from the young and the enterprising. Taking these facts into account, it is not surprising to find that there were only 850,000 men between the ages of 18 and 45 in Ireland according to the census of 1911; and that figure represents the total supply upon which the military authorities can draw.

Recruits and Would-be Recruits.

In a statement to a Vice-regal Conference preliminary to opening the new recruiting campaign, General Friend declared that 81,000 recruits had already been found in Ireland for the infantry alone. We are not given the figures for any other branch of the military forces—for the Cavalry, the Artillery, the Engineers, the Flying Corps, the Army Service Corps, the Army Medical Corps; nor are we given the total of those who have gone to England and Scotland to enlist in the Liverpool or the Tyneside Irish or other regiments; and apparently General Friend's figures do not include Irishmen who have obtained commissions during the war. Nor are we given the Irish contribution to the navy. We can only guess at what the total of these figures should be. We cannot be far out if we put the figure for all these contributions at 40,000. We know that 30,000 reservists have rejoined their regiments since war began, and also that 22,000 Irishmen from Ireland were in the Army at the outbreak of the war. Add these figures together and we arrive at a total of 170,000. Then Mr. Redmond announced the other day that 80,000 men who had applied for enlistment had been rejected as physically unfit. Combining all these figures we reach a grand total of some 250,000 who are either with the forces at present or have attempted to join and have been unable to do so for reasons of health; deduct that 250,000 from 850,000 and we find, according to the Census, a remainder of 600,000 men of military age.

Demands of Farmers' Work.

On the face of it, it would seem a paradox to say that the Irish resources in men had been exhausted; but the outstanding fact about the Irish population as a whole is that three-fourths of it live in the country and only a small proportion in the towns. Ireland is a nation of farmers; and it has been universally recognised outside of Ireland that the farmers should not be required or even allowed to enlist. There were in 1911, as nearly as we can estimate, 430,000 farmers and agricultural laborers in Ireland between the ages

of 18 and 45. Either the Irish farmer is to be expected to join the army, or his duty, from the point of view of helping on the war, is to remain at his ordinary work. Some definite policy on the subject is urgently required. We have enthusiastic recruiting sergeants denouncing the Irish farmers as cowards for staying at home. Equally emphatic denunciations have been hurled at them for not increasing the food supply during the past year. And the farmer himself, when he becomes vocal, complains bitterly that he cannot possibly break up more land—in some places he cannot even till the same amount as last year, because the Government has called up all the men for munitions work or for the army. Lord Wimborne shows that 120,000 farmers' sons (of whom 119,000 are unmarried) are still in Ireland, and 97,000 agricultural laborers. But it is not too much to say that practically all of them are fully employed upon the land. In the grazing counties the laborers have been recruited wholesale; and in the counties of small farms labor cannot be economically withdrawn.

Eligibles Who Cannot be Spared.

At any rate the principal fact in connection with these 600,000 men of military age in Ireland who have not yet joined the forces is the solid block engaged in agriculture. Leaving them aside, there are only some 170,000 others to be taken into account. A close scrutiny of the occupation tables in the Census shows that the following classes of men of military age are either obliged by their employment to remain at home, or cannot have their places readily filled by the physically unfit. Detailed comment would require more space than is at my disposal. Police, civil servants, and clergy account for 17,500, transit and shipping for 17,500, skilled workers in indispensable industries for 49,000, and coal-heavers, navvies, and other heavy manual employments 11,000, making a total of 97,000. Other classes too small for separate mention would in the aggregate amount to many thousands. Doubtless many of those enumerated in the Census could either be spared or replaced, but there has been a hugely increased employment in certain other industries since the 1911 Census was taken—in munitions work, the manufacture of khaki uniforms, military boots, etc.—and the corrections to be made in each direction will on the whole balance each other. We are obliged, therefore, to allow for 100,000 eligible men who cannot be spared for the army from their present occupations.

Flow of Men to Great Britain.

One more category must be considered. Since the beginning of the war there has been a steady flow of men to England and Scotland for various forms of industrial work, which has been most marked in recent months, amounting to fully 2500 per month; and the total of men who have left Ireland on this account can scarcely be less than 35,000, of whom a considerable proportion were of military age.

Taking everything into consideration, it is not too much to say that, with the exception of shop assistants, university students, and a few other small classes, the Irish recruiting resources have already been heavily taxed. Make every allowance for overlapping, and when all is said the remainder of men available in Ireland is small.

How the Church would be treated in the happily impossible event of a German conquest of this country (says the *Irish Catholic*), may be guessed from the fact that the Metz correspondent of the *Amsterdam Tgd* reports that new German regulations concerning the use of the French language in Alsace came into force recently. Two sermons must be delivered in Catholic churches in Lorraine, one in French and another in German. In Lorraine the use of the French language is no longer to be permitted in the communal councils, and the French names of towns and villages are to be Germanised, with the exception, by the Emperor's orders, of those places which have an historical reputation from the Franco-German war.

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

December 31.

Cable advice has been received announcing the death last week at Lyons, France, of the Rev. Father John Goutenoire, S.M. The deceased priest was one of the pioneer Marist missionaries of New Zealand, and was for some years in charge of the parishes of Timaru and Waimate. Later on he was appointed chaplain of the Mount Magdala Home, Christchurch, and after doing good service there, he took up the position of Superior of the Marist Seminary at Meeanee, Hawke's Bay, which position he held for several years prior to his departure for France.

The annual re-union of the Marist Brothers' Old Boys was held at the Marist Brothers' School, Tasman street, last Tuesday evening. Mr. J. E. Gamble presided over a large attendance. Among those present were the Rev. Brothers Basil (Superior), Fidelis, Augustine, and Donatus. Toasts proposed were the 'Pope and the King,' 'Catholic education,' 'Kindred societies,' 'Old boys at the front,' and 'Our alma mater.' During the evening Mr. E. J. Fitzgibbon announced that a gentleman, who did not wish his name mentioned, had donated a bat to the winners of the match between the St. Anne's Club and the Marist Brothers' Cricket Club. It was also stated that Mr. McParland and another gentleman had given a guinea each towards the cost of the preparations of the M.B.O.B. Roll of Honor.

Christmas Day was observed with the usual solemnities in all the Catholic churches. At the Basilica his Grace Archbishop Redwood celebrated Pontifical High Mass, assisted by the Very Rev. Dean Regnault, S.M., Adm., and the Rev. Father O'Connor, S.M. His Grace also preached in the evening. At St. Joseph's Church, Buckle street, his Grace Archbishop O'Shea celebrated Pontifical High Mass, assisted by the Rev. Fathers Hurley, S.M., Adm., and Barra, S.M. His Grace addressed the congregation. At St. Mary of the Angels' Solemn High Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Father B. Ryan, S.M., and the Very Rev. Father O'Connell, S.M., preached. In the evening the preacher was Rev. Father Ryan. At St. Anne's Solemn High Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Father Peoples, S.M., assisted by the Ven. Archdeacon Devoy and Rev. Father Finnerty.

The reception committee in connection with the visit of his Excellency Archbishop Cerretti, Apostolic Delegate, to the Dominion was held in St. Patrick's Hall last Wednesday evening. Mr. J. J. L. Burke occupied the chair, and among those present were the Ven. Archdeacon Devoy, S.M., the Very Rev. Dean Regnault, S.M., the Very Rev. Father O'Connell, S.M., and the Rev. Father Hurley, S.M. It was decided to charter a steamer to take the reception committee to the Ulmaroa, in which his Excellency is coming from Sydney, and to convey him to the landing place. In the evening his Excellency will be accorded a reception in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, and next evening the laity of Wellington will entertain him and present him with an address of welcome. On this occasion the Hibernian Society will act as a guard of honor. A sub-committee, consisting of Messrs. P. D. Hoskins, J. J. L. Burke, W. F. Johnson, and Major Halpin, was appointed to draw up the address and arrange for the illumination. His Worship the Mayor, city councillors, members of the Harbor Board, foreign consuls, the Chief Justice and judges, and other prominent men will be invited to the function. A musical programme will be arranged, and the speeches limited to four—the speakers to be his Excellency Archbishop Cerretti, his Grace Archbishop Redwood, the chairman (Mr. J. J. L. Burke), and probably the Prime Minister, or, in his absence,

some other member of the Ministry. The five city choirs will probably combine, and sing 'Ecce Sacerdos,' and the audience will, at the conclusion, sing the hymn, 'Faith of our fathers.'

In spite of dull and threatening weather a big gathering attended the Boxing Day picnic at Karori Park in aid of the Catholic education fund. Happily, little or no rain fell during the day, but towards evening when the picnickers were dispersing to their homes a slight drizzle began to fall, and later on this developed into a steady rain. A special service was run every ten minutes from Courtenay place. Special cars for school children left Kilbirnie, Island Bay, Brooklyn, and Courtenay place at 9 a.m., and a special return service for children was also run in the evening. Among those present at the park were his Grace Archbishop Redwood, his Grace Archbishop O'Shea, Ven. Archdeacon Devoy, Very Rev. Dean Regnault, Very Rev. Father O'Connell, Rev. Fathers Hurley, Barra, Ryan, O'Connor, Finnerty, Peoples, Gilbert, Ryan, and Kimbell. The Waterside Workers' Band was in attendance, and excelled itself in the admirable programme of instrumental music presented. The whole of the arrangements were ably carried out by the general committee—Mr. J. J. L. Burke (chairman and treasurer) and Mr. P. D. Hoskins (hon. secretary); the sports committee—Mr. L. T. Reichel (chairman) and Mr. A. Cassie (secretary); and the side-shows committee—Mr. W. F. Johnson (chairman) and Mr. F. J. O'Driscoll (secretary), who were assisted by Messrs. A. W. Godsell, K. Demuth, A. Hosie, Turner (2), and Tustain. The provision of refreshments was left in the capable hands of the Ladies' Hibernian Society.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

January 3.

Beside the earlier Masses on New Year's Day at the Cathedral, one was celebrated at 9 o'clock, the congregation being large on each occasion.

There was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from the 11 o'clock Mass in the Cathedral on Sunday last with the usual procession, followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament after Vespers.

The lead given by the Catholic Federation in regard to a censorship of picture films is evidently being followed up with some effect, at least in Christchurch, as is shown by the following weighty utterances at a conference of the Church of England Men's Society now in session in this city. 'I don't go to picture shows,' Bishop Julius said at the conference above mentioned, 'but I did go to one, not, I may say, in this diocese. I was told that the proprietor was a churchwarden, and that his show, therefore, would be above reproach. I took some little children. I saw the most ghastly things I ever dreamt possible, and I am not at all squeamish. The proprietor spied me there and followed me out, and expressed his regret. The thing was too awful for words. It was not art. It was not literature. It was not that it was indecent. It was simply filth and vulgarity. I am sure that we need a censorship there.' As a matter of fact, I should like to transfer the newspaper censor to picture shows.' Bishop Julius's remarks met with unanimous approval.

There was a largely attended meeting representative of the Catholics of the city and suburbs of Christchurch in the Hibernian Hall yesterday afternoon to make preliminary arrangements for the reception of his Excellency the Most Rev. Archbishop Cerretti, Apostolic Delegate, to Christchurch, and, incidentally, a fitting welcome to the Right Rev. Dr. Brodie, Bishop-Elect of Christchurch. The Very Rev. Dean Hills, S.M., presided, and among those present were the Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., and Rev. Brothers Calixtus and Anselm, of the Marist Brothers.

In opening the proceedings, the Very Rev. Dean Hills said that the gathering was representative of the Catholics of Christchurch and, he might say, of Canter-

bury, as it was improbable that any similar event to that they were assembled for to arrange would have prominence anywhere else in the diocese. After describing in detail the high office and all-embracing duties of the Apostolic Delegate as direct representative of his Holiness the Pope, the Very Rev. Dean went on to say that the visit of such an eminent dignity of the Church would be an occasion unlike anything else hitherto experienced in the Dominion. Nothing should be left undone, therefore, in showing their veneration for so distinguished a visitor and according him a reception and welcome appropriate and fitting, as well as memorable.

The Very Rev. Father Price outlined what might be thought necessary for the reception and subsequent entertainment of his Excellency in view of the time and opportunities that would be at their disposal on the occasion and duration of his visit. The various functions would need ample preparation, and he trusted a large and energetic committee would be formed to carry out whatever was decided upon.

Mr. J. R. Hayward said he sincerely hoped that the Catholics of Christchurch would rise to the occasion. This would be their first opportunity of receiving the direct representative of his Holiness the Pope, and the event was unique in many respects. With a good working committee and unremitting efforts, a reception and welcome worthy of the occasion, and creditable to the city, would be easily attainable.

Mr. J. J. Wilson was elected to assist the Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., in the secretarial duties, and the following were elected a general committee, with power to add to the number:—Sir George Clifford, Bart., Dr. A. B. O'Brien, Dr. Morkane, Dr. Ardagh, Superintendent Dwyer, Councillor J. R. Hayward, Messrs. H. H. Loughnan, J. A. Cassidy, Eric Harper, W. Hoban, A. J. Malley, P. J. Amodeo, W. T. Ward, W. Hayward, jun., J. Curry, M. Grimes, Cyril Ward, P. Herbert, T. Cahill, R. P. O'Shaughnessy, G. C. Hayward, M. Garty, T. Cotter, W. Rodgers, F. C. Delany, E. D. Hoben, M. Donohue, P. Walsh, R. Ewing, W. P. Daly, L. Blake, W. Cassin, E. Daley, F. J. Doolan, Griffen, J. Jacques, A. J. O'Malley, P. A. O'Connell, M. O'Brien, J. J. O'Gorman, Brittenden, J. O'Brien, W. Mahar, Reddington, A. J. Ormandy, E. J. P. Wall, P. A. Young, G. Getson, F. Holley, J. P. Noonan, L. Haughey, Bowen, E. L. McKeon, B. B. Wood, E. Hollobon, McLaren, J. Power, J. Olin, P. J. Nelson, A. C. Nottingham, T. B. Gaffney, Amos, R. Anderson, J. E. Doolan, D. Maher, Dr. Hight, Mesdames T. Cahill, Garty, Green, Rodgers, W. Mahar, Neilson, J. O'Brien, Palmer, Herbert, McLaren, Dwyer, Morkane, Nottingham, W. Lee, Misses Maud White, Conder, Guiney, J. Cronin, L. Johnson, M. G. O'Connor.

The Very Rev. Dean Hills suggested, as financial means would be necessary for the purpose undertaken, the Committee should at once endeavor to raise a fund, and to head the list, he, (the speaker) would subscribe £5. It was decided that the committee meet again on Monday, January 10, in the Hibernian Hall, to elect sectional committees, and adopt a definite programme.

On last Sunday, in the presence of a large gathering in the Hibernian Hall, the Rev. Brother Calixtus, late principal of the Marist Brothers' School in this city, and who is leaving Christchurch for another sphere of activity, was presented with a suit and dressing-case as a parting gift, and as a mark of the appreciation of the boys and their parents of the really splendid work done by him during the six years he has been in charge of the school here. In making the presentation, on behalf of the subscribers, the Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., said that although we had been blessed with excellent directors of the school in the past, none of them had won to a greater extent the affection, respect, and good-wishes of the pupils, and all whose privilege it was to have near intercourse with him, than Brother Calixtus. All were sad at the thought of his departure, and none regretted the fact more than he (the speaker), and the priests of

the Cathedral. The greatest good feeling had always existed between them and Brother Calixtus, and a personal friendship, which he (Father Price), ardently trusted would not be severed by the departure of Brother Calixtus from Christchurch. It was also proposed (continued Father Price), to make Brother Calixtus a monetary gift. Whilst thanking him most cordially for the great interest he had always taken in the school and for the really excellent results attained, Father Price expressed the hope that Brother Calixtus would be equally successful in whatever capacity he might be placed. In leaving Christchurch he was not leaving an enemy behind, but numerous steadfast friends.

Councillor J. R. Hayward, speaking from a layman's point of view, eulogised the manifest improvement in everything connected with the school. Everyone respected Brother Calixtus who had raised the standard of Catholic education very appreciably in this city. His influence and lead were shown also in the sports' field, and in the exceptionally large number of ex-pupils who had gone to fight the Empire's battles in the best of causes. Brother Calixtus will be greatly missed, and not one among the Catholic community, but would wish him long life and success in the noble profession of Catholic educator.

The Very Rev. Dean Hills and Mr. W. Hayward, jun., also added their tribute of appreciation of the successful efforts of Brother Calixtus in this city, and expressed their best wishes for his future.

Brother Calixtus, who was warmly received, gave credit to the Order to which he belonged for any success it had pleased the speakers to attribute to him. So far as the school in Christchurch was concerned, his lot had been made easy and his life happy by the deep sympathy and helpfulness of Father Price, towards whom he felt more grateful than he could find words to express. He desired to thank also the priests of the Cathedral, whose kindly intercourse with, and good advice given to the boys, greatly aided the teaching staff. In the Hibernian Society, too, he had found real friends personally, and in regard to the school the interest of the members was constant and generous. Although he had taught in all but one of the Marist Brothers' schools in the Dominion, he could truthfully say no boys had more endeared themselves to him than those of Christchurch.

CATHEDRAL ALTAR SOCIETY, CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

The fifth annual meeting of the Cathedral Altar Society, as at present constituted, was held in the Cathedral on Sunday afternoon, December 12. The Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., presided. The annual report stated that during the month of May of the present year an earnest appeal was made for additional subscribing members, with the result that twenty-one names were included in the list of those contributing one shilling per month, making a total of 120. The honorary members, who subscribe annually, number ten. The sum of £3 was received from Mrs. A. C. Nottingham as the result of a special effort organised by her to benefit the funds of the society. A handsome piece of lace, the work of a lady member (Mrs. Cunningham), was presented by her to the society, for use at the altar of the Holy Souls. Monthly meetings were held throughout the year, on Thursdays following the first Friday, at which the monthly subscriptions were received and accounts passed for payment. Holy Mass is offered each month for the intentions of members, every three months for deceased members, and at the death of any member. The following is a summary of the work done by the sewing guild during the year:—Made—6 surplices, 2 stoles; re-lined—Benediction veil; repaired—6 cassocks, 28 surplices, 11 albs, 2 copes, 5 amices, 4 maniples, 1 rochet, 2 vestments, 10 stoles, 4 palls, 1 corporal. The society is indebted to Mrs. Nottingham, a member of the sewing

ing guild, for one new surplice and new lace for a Communion cloth.

The balance sheet showed receipts amounting to £71 12s 9d, made up as follows:—Honorary members' subscriptions, £11 10s; monthly subscriptions, £52 19s 7d; first Friday collection, £3 7s 2d; special collection, 16s; per Mrs. Nottingham, £3. Expenditure, including debit balance carried forward from last year of £4 1s 5d, amounted to £59 14s 1d, leaving a credit balance of £11 18s 8d.

The Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., is spiritual director. All the officers of the society were re-elected as follow:—President, Mrs. Morkane; hon. vice-president, Lady Clifford; vice-presidents—Mesdames Harper and Holland, and Miss Kearney; members of committee—Mesdames Hayward, Horan, Hynes, Palmer, McLaren, and Miss McGuire; hon. secretary, Miss Mary G. O'Connor. Misses Conder and McGuire were elected to represent the society on the Cathedral parish committee of the New Zealand Catholic Federation. At the conclusion of the meeting Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was given.

Timaru

(From our own correspondent.)

January 3.

The annual retreat for ladies, which is to be preached by Rev. Father Ryan, S.J., is to commence at the convent on Monday evening.

At the recent Standard VI. examinations all the pupils presented by the nuns and the Brothers were successful in gaining proficiency certificates.

Rev. Father Ryan, S.M., one of the recently ordained priests, is at present in Timaru replacing Rev. Father Murphy, S.M., who has gone for a few weeks' holiday to the West Coast.

On Sunday last there was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from the last Mass until the evening devotions, after which the usual procession of the Blessed Sacrament took place. The sermon was preached by Rev. Father Schaefer, S.M.

The parish picnic, which was held at Winchester on Boxing Day, was very well attended. The weather in the morning left nothing to be desired. A programme of sports was commenced, but as a heavy downpour of rain fell in the afternoon, these had to be postponed. However, a large shed on the ground provided accommodation for all, and with indoor games and other amusements a very pleasant time was spent.

OBITUARY

MRS. MARY BEIRNE, GREYMOUTH.

(From an occasional correspondent.)

Death removed from our midst on December 16 an old and respected resident in the person of Mrs. Mary Beirne, relict of the late Francis Bierne (who died 18 months ago). The deceased, who was born in County Clare, Ireland, was 68 years of age, and had been a resident of the Coast for the last 40 years. She was of a cheery disposition, and endeared herself to all with whom she came in contact. The deceased took great interest in all Church matters, and was at the time of her death a member of the Sacred Heart Confraternity, and died fortified by the last rites of the Church. She leaves a family of five sons and four daughters to mourn their loss, the sons being Messrs. John (Blenheim), James (late of Nelson), Francis (Westport), Patrick (Blenheim), and Thomas (Greymouth), and the daughters—Mrs. Noyer (Wellington), Mrs. Nash (Wanganui), Mrs. M. O'Connell (State Collieries), and Mrs. W. McKenzie (Blackball), and several grandchildren. The funeral took place on December 18, and was largely attended, friends coming from all parts of the district.—R.I.P.

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DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(By telegraph, from our own correspondent.)

January 3.

His Grace Archbishop Carr and their Lordships Bishops Reville and Phelan arrived by the Riverina this afternoon, and were met on arrival by his Lordship Bishop Cleary, the Right Rev. Dr. Brodie, Bishop-elect of Christchurch, and several of the local clergy. The distinguished visitors will be guests at the Bishop's house, Ponsonby, until their departure for Te Aroha, where they will spend some weeks. They had a very fine passage across from Sydney. His Grace the Archbishop celebrated Mass on New Year's Day and on Sunday for the Catholic passengers. The visiting prelates were delighted to find Bishop Cleary greatly improved in health. The Rev. Dr. Ormond, secretary to the Apostolic Delegate, also arrived by the Riverina. He remains in Auckland until the end of next week, when he goes to Wellington to meet his Excellency Archbishop Cerretti, who is due there on January 17. Rev. Father Ganly, St. Kilda West, Melbourne, accompanied his Grace Archbishop Carr from Sydney. He will spend some time at Te Aroha.

At a meeting of the diocesan consultors, presided over by his Lordship Bishop Cleary, held at the close of last week, a number of important changes were decided upon in the Auckland diocese. The appointment of Monsignor Brodie as Bishop of Christchurch has necessitated a change, and the Right Rev. Monsignor Mahoney, of Onehunga, takes his place as Vicar-General. The Very Rev. Father Cahill, Administrator of St. Patrick's, has been appointed rector of Parnell, in place of Monsignor Brodie; Rev. Father Murphy, of Ponsonby, has been appointed administrator of St. Patrick's Cathedral; Rev. Father Carran, of Cambridge, takes charge of Ponsonby; Rev. Father Forde, of St. Benedict's, takes charge of Taumarunui; Rev. Father O'Malley, of Ormond, Poverty Bay, takes charge of Remuera, in place of Rev. Father Doyle, who proceeds to the front with the January Reinforcements; Rev. Father Dunphy, of St. Patrick's, takes temporary charge of Puhoi during the absence of Rev. Father Kirrane; Rev. Father Farragher is transferred from Puhoi to Ormond; Rev. Father O'Doherty transfers from Huntly to Cambridge; Rev. Father Edge has returned from his Australian trip, and resumes charge of Huntly parish; Rev. Father Flynn goes from Remuera to St. Benedict's; Rev. Father Spiering will become assistant at Remuera; Rev. Father Taylor has been appointed assistant at St. Patrick's; Rev. Father Blakley has been appointed assistant at Ponsonby; the Very Rev. Chancellor Holbrook, of Grey Lynn, has been added to the list of diocesan consultors, and made private secretary to his Lordship the Bishop.

A meeting, convened by the city branch of the Hibernian Society of all the branches in Auckland district to consider the advisability of establishing a diocesan advisory council, was held in the Hibernian Hall last Tuesday evening. Bro. Woodley (president Auckland branch) presided. Thames, Waihi, and Dargaville branches were unable to attend, but were in accord with the objects of the meeting. Bro. Woodley, in his opening remarks, informed the delegates that the Auckland branch had carefully considered and discussed this important matter, and decided to enlist the co-operation of branches in the Auckland district. The best results were likely to accrue from the scheme if favorably launched and administered. More intercourse and unity of purpose were necessary between branches located so near each other. He proposed the following resolution—'This meeting of the delegates, representing the branches of the H.A.C.B. Society in the Auckland diocese do hereby form a council to be called the Auckland Diocesan Advisory Council of the H.A.C.B. Society.' This was seconded by Bro. Dane (Onehunga), and supported by Bros. Nerheny (Auckland), O'Connell (Otahuhu), Budge (Huntly), Tooman (Ohaupo), and McCartan (Onehunga). Bro. Nerheny was elected president, Bro.

E. Dane vice-president, Bro. A. J. Woodley secretary. The objects of the advisory council are as follow:— (a) To arouse the enthusiasm of the members generally in matters appertaining to the mutual advancement and extension of the society; (b) to assist the district officers in the establishment of new branches and visiting and assisting of branches already established; (c) to endeavor to obtain new members, and enlist the support of the clergy and others in sympathy with the objects of the H.A.C.B. Society; (d) the interchange of ideas, and discussion of matters generally affecting the branches affiliated, and considering from time to time that which may be deemed meet and necessary to further the interests of the society in this diocese. Bro. Nerheny gave a brief resume of the society's history in New Zealand, which highly delighted country delegates. Several expressed their pleasure at the information imparted. Bro. Budge suggested that Bro. Nerheny's statement should be printed and circulated amongst branches in the diocese, where good results would follow. The utmost unanimity prevailed, and the date of the next meeting was left in the hands of the newly-elected executive officers.

Woodville

(From an occasional correspondent.)

On the eve of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Hoult's departure from Woodville for Thames, where Mr. Hoult has been appointed first assistant master in the High School, they were the recipients of several presentations from various sections of the community. The parishioners of St. Columbkille's Church entertained them at a social evening in the Foresters' Hall on the evening of December 16, and presented Mrs. Hoult with a silver-backed brush and comb, whilst Mr. Hoult received a gold albert and Maltese cross, suitably inscribed. The presentation was made by the Rev. Father McKenna, who spoke of the many good qualities of the recipients, the great interest taken by both in Church matters, and the void that their departure would leave locally. Messrs. Redwood, representing the church committee, and Stevenson (head-master of the local school) also spoke in eulogistic terms of the guests of the evening, and while regretting the loss occasioned by Mr. Hoult's departure, congratulated him on his well-deserved promotion, and wished him every success in his new home. During the evening songs were rendered by the Misses Crawford, Fletcher, Hutchins, and Speedy, and a musical trio by the Misses Murray. The incidental music was in the capable hands of Miss Cosgrove, whilst the ladies of the parish provided a delightful supper. The proceedings terminated by the gathering joining in the singing of 'Auld lang syne.'

At a meeting of the National Reserve in the Drill Hall on December 20, Mr. Hoult, who has been secretary of the local branch since its inception, was presented with a pair of ebony-backed military brushes and a cut-glass scent bottle for Mrs. Hoult.

The teachers and scholars of the district high school, prior to breaking up for the holidays, made Mr. Hoult a present of a travelling bag. The various speakers, whilst voicing the regret felt at his departure, expressed the opinion that Mr. Hoult's abilities, and attention to his duties, would ultimately place him high up in his profession. Mr. Hoult's replies at the various functions were characteristic of him. He said he was not aware that he had done anything to deserve such praise, simply having done what he considered his duty.

In Mr. Hoult the local branch of the Hibernians had been most fortunate in their choice of a secretary, which position he has filled with credit to himself and much advantage to the branch since its inception two years ago. During his eight years' residence in Woodville he has been a worthy type of citizen, and Thames is to be congratulated on securing his services. Mr. and Mrs. Hoult carry with them to their new home the best wishes of hosts of Woodville friends.

Wanganui

(From our own correspondent.)

The following is a copy of the report of the Government inspector (Mr. T. B. Strong) on the Convent High School:—The above school consists of a primary and secondary department. The highest class in the latter is prepared for the matriculation examination. In both departments the teaching is of a very satisfactory character, and the pupils are well grounded, particularly in the English subjects, which are compulsory for all pupils. In the secondary classes some pupils specialise in music and omit arithmetic. The Standard VI. class was very successful at the recent proficiency examination, their English tests, and in particular their reading, being exceedingly well done. On the day of my visit the higher secondary pupils were absent at the matriculation examination, but the juniors did well under the various teachers, and particularly in the French class, where the teaching is almost entirely conversational. The school-rooms are well equipped, and to a very marked degree clean and attractive. There is ample accommodation and the rooms are well lit. Special rooms are provided for music and drawing, and in these subjects, as also in art needlework, the girls appear to excel. The physical exercises were well done. As regards domestic training, the institution, I was given to understand, can furnish all that is required; but so far not much has been done except perhaps incidentally. I would recommend that this side of the girls' training be provided for and suitable classes arranged. The convent has a large hall attached, and here the singing was heard to advantage. The hall is also used for the physical exercises and dramatic recitation. The institution appears to me to be very well managed indeed. The principal is a teacher of long standing, and has had some twenty years' experience in this class of work.

Palmerston North

(From our own correspondent.)

December 25.

Wet and cold weather was experienced in Palmerston North during the Christmas holidays.

The half-yearly meeting of the Diocesan Council of the Catholic Federation, which was to have been held in Palmerston North on January 19, will now take place in Wellington, owing to the forthcoming visit of his Excellency the Apostolic Delegate.

On Christmas Day there were five Masses, all of which were well attended. A *Missa Cantata* was sung at 11 o'clock by the Rev. Father Cashman, the choir rendering Mozart's Twelfth Mass. The conductor (Mr. J. Cosgrove) is to be complimented on the successful manner in which the choir acquitted themselves. After Mass the choir were entertained by the Rev. Father McManus, who wished all a happy and holy Christmas. Mr. Cosgrove replied on behalf of the members.

The quarterly meeting of the I.A.C.B. Society took place on Tuesday evening. Bro. Comerford was in the chair, and there was only a moderate attendance. The following were elected officers for the half-year:—President, Bro. F. Comerford; vice-president, Bro. D. Colch; warden, Bro. G. V. Graham; guardian, Bro. J. Sweeney; secretary, Bro. Westmorland; treasurer, Bro. T. Norris; sick visitors, Bros. Colch and O'Donald; auditors, Bros. Duggan and Graham; trustees—Bros. Oakley, O'Riely, and Gleeson.

Taumarunui

At the Catholic Church, in connection with the Feast of the Nativity, Midnight Mass was celebrated, followed by the Benediction. The music (says the local *Press*) was ably rendered by the choir, which sang Schubert's 'Mass in C.' The sermon was on the text, 'Behold I bring you glad tidings of great joy that shall be to all the people' (St. Luke ii., 10). The Rev. Father Jansen dealt with the greatness of the

feast and what it means to us. There were great lessons to be drawn from the circumstances surrounding the Nativity of our Lord. By His example He taught us to love humility above love of honors, the spirit of poverty above the love of riches, mortification above love of pleasures. Mass was again said at 11 a.m., at which the sermon was on the same lines.

VENICE AND VANDALISM

INESTIMABLE ART TREASURES IN DANGER.

With the two air attacks which took place recently, Venice has now been subjected to six of these veritable bolts from the blue (says the *Universe*). The first took place on May 24, within twelve hours of the declaration of war—the others being respectively on May 28, June 8, and July 11, this latter one being notable for the fact that two bombs fell into the lagoon quite close to the Palace of the Doges. The latest act of vandalism on October 24 actually did do some damage, for one bomb struck the roof of the Church of the Scalzi, bringing down the ceiling, which was adorned with precious paintings by Tiepolo, and it is no fault of the raiders that they only narrowly missed damaging some of the greatest of the treasures of Venice, for one of the incendiary bombs fell in the Piazzetta di San Marco, which is a short open space leading from the Cathedral on the eastern side of the Piazza to the Canal of St. Mark. On the eastern side of the Piazzetta is the Palace of the Doges, while in the Piazza are the Campanile and the Clock Tower, with its two giants in bronze who strike the hours, so had this bomb taken the effect intended what a deplorable loss the world would have suffered!

The Palace of the Doges,

a singularly graceful type of the Gothic style, is said to date back to the ninth century, and in the alterations and additions which were made in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries such artists as Pierparlo, Massegne, Lombardo, and Scarpagnino wrought upon it. Colossal statues of Mars and Neptune by Sansovino adorn the Giants' Staircase, and the halls are richly adorned with paintings by Tintoretto, Paolo Veronese, Palma Giovane, Titian, Tiepolo, Andrea Vicentino, and Gabriele Caliari. The Libreria Vecchia, now the Royal Palace, is the work of Sansovino, and is the most magnificent non-religious edifice in Italy. But, oh, what pen can reach the lofty praise of

Noble St. Mark's,

built in 829, when Venetian merchants purchased the relics of St. Mark at Alexandria, and remodelled in the eleventh century in imitation of the Basilica of the Apostles at Constantinople, and enriched with columns, capitals, and friezes taken from the world's ancient buildings. Its whole pavement is mosaic, containing gold, bronze, and the greatest possible variety of rare stones. The facade is decorated with mosaics of different periods, Byzantine sculptures, and statues of the Evangelists and our Saviour. Above the great doorway are the four horses of gilded bronze that once adorned the arch of Trajan; these were first transferred to the Hippodrome at Constantinople, and were brought to Venice in 1204. The priceless mosaics of the atrium belong partly to the tenth century. The baldacchino over the high altar is on columns decorated with eleventh century reliefs; the altar-piece is the famous Pala d'oro (Golden Pall) Byzantine metal-work of the year 1105, and in the Treasury is an episcopal chair of the seventh century. These be treasures which all Catholics view with the pride of a general ownership, and not only they, but everyone with an artistic soul or a capacity for admiring the splendid works of bygone ages; and all (save and excepting the destructive Central Powers) will rejoice to hear of the efforts now being made to save these wondrous and irreplaceable mementos of the art of a long-distant past from the savage and indiscriminating vandalism of an enemy who, so long as his lust for destruction be satiated, reck not what he destroys.

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SIDELIGHTS ON THE WAR

GENERAL.

The Rolls of Honor of the Paisley Catholic churches now total 1121, made up as follows:—St. Mirin's, 700; St. Mary's, 304; St. Charles', 117.

The Republic of San Marino has thrown in its lot with the Allies. As San Marino, the smallest independent republic in the world, has a total population of but 11,000, and an army of 1000 men, the numbers are not likely to count for much amongst the millions engaged in the present war.

The war has had an extraordinary effect on the shipping industry, old vessels for which only breaking-up prices could have been realised eighteen months ago finding ready purchasers at Cardiff and other ports at £10 and £11 per dead-weight ton—considerably more than they were worth when newly built. A ten-year-old steamer of 6500 tons, which sold for £25,000 in 1911, changed hands recently for £60,000.

SOLDIER'S ROSARY OF SHRAPNEL.

The Bridgetine nuns of Zion Abbey, in Devonshire, England, tell a war story in the little monthly magazine they publish.

A French soldier who had been wounded by shrapnel conceived the idea of using the pellets that had nearly cost him his life as beads of a rosary to be sent to his mother. In the hospital he collected bits of shrapnel extracted from the wounds of others, and being expert with his fingers, made a very serviceable rosary. His mother uses it now at her prayers, and when she touches the beads on which the five Paters are said her hand trembles a little, for those are the bits of shrapnel that nearly deprived her of a son.

This community of Bridgetine nuns has an interesting history. It was founded by Henry IV., who gave the nuns he invited from Sweden, where the Order originated, Zion House, now the property of the Duke of Northumberland. In the reign of Henry VIII. the nuns fled to Flanders, returned at the accession of Mary, and went back to Flanders when Elizabeth became Queen. Wars drove them from Flanders to France, whence they went to Portugal. The community, which has always remained English, returned to England some fifty years ago, and is now established at Chudleigh, where one of their greatest treasures is the carved capital of a pillar of their original home on the Thames. They have taken it about with them in all their wanderings.

A VISIT TO REIMS.

A visit to Reims is described by a special correspondent of the *Central News*, who writes:

'The living accommodation at advanced headquarters strikes one as a mixture of yacht, London tube railway, and coal mine; electric light and a little engine to generate it; different compartments, one for the doctor, with a dispensary and operating-room, a salle-a-manger, officers' room and bedrooms fitted up like a steamer berth; an observation tower, and a large bell from the church to sound the alarm when asphyxiating gas attacks are imminent. These quarters are, of course, underground, and are rendered shell-proof by means of iron plates and mounds of earth. The front opens on a garden, with apple and pear trees, a grotto, a cat curled up in a comfortable chair, a statue of Joan of Arc, and some beautiful chrysanthemums.

'At 7 a.m. we went to Mass at the local church. Church it still is, though German shells have battered it out of all likeness to one. It has no roof or tower, its windows are smashed, its pews demolished, and the only two pillars left standing rise amidst a heap of ruins and rubbish. But in one corner there was an altar, with tricolor flags and a beautiful statue of Joan of Arc.

'Soldiers sang the Mass beautifully. There was no organ or harmonium, but the twittering of birds mingled strangely with the near reports of snipers' rifles and the distant booming of cannon. Three ladies who still remain in the place were at Mass.

'Walking about Reims itself is something like walking about Pompeii. It is good, however, to find that the Cathedral is not altogether destroyed, and is even not beyond repair. The outer wooden roof, which was needed to protect the stone roof from the weather, has been burned, but the Cathedral looks better without this ugly hump on its back. The stone roof, except for a small hole, is entirely as it was. A new roof will probably be made of slate and asbestos. Half of the celebrated orange window is broken, but much glass has been saved wherewith to repair it. The two organs are untouched, as are the paintings, the pulpits, and the chapels, and the Cardinal goes very often to pray in his private chapel.'

REIMS CATHEDRAL.

Although the exterior of this celebrated cathedral has been grievously injured it is good news to learn that much of the interior has been spared—not, we (*Universe*) are sure, by the goodwill of its barbarian besiegers. Wordsworth tells us of the unsophisticated young man without imagination:

'A primrose by a river's brim,
A yellow primrose was to him,
And it was nothing more.'

So with the Hun. A cathedral, venerable with antiquity, fires no spark in his unimaginative brain. On the contrary, his pastors and masters teach him the direct opposite, as is proved by the fact that, when the outcry arose about the shelling of this cathedral, a leading man in Germany wrote to the effect that the simple slab of wood or stone which marked the last resting-place of a Pomeranian Grenadier was of more consequence to Germany than all the Reims Cathedrals and Louvain libraries put together.

AMENITIES OF WARRING RACES.

At St. Louis the German-Americans were holding a bazaar to raise funds for wounded German soldiers. To this fund the French Society of St. Louis (G. V. R. Mechin, president), sent a cheque for 25 dollars, saying that its sympathy for France was not inconsistent with sympathy for the suffering soldiers of Germany. Thereupon August A. Busch, prominent in connection with the German relief bazaar, sent his cheque for 100 dollars to the relief fund which the French Society of St. Louis is arranging. All this shows, says the *Catholic Citizen*, how fraternally the warring races can dwell together here in free America. Why should not Christianity and civilisation enable them to behave in like manner across the water?

FOOD SCARCITY AND HIGH PRICES IN GERMANY.

According to information which we (*Catholic Times*) have received from a native of a neutral country who has just been on a visit to Germany, the sufferings of the German people, owing to high prices and the scarcity of food, are much more severe than is generally imagined. It is sought to save them from absolute starvation by insisting on the rigid observance of edicts. The use of meat is forbidden on Tuesdays and Fridays. Fat may not be used on Mondays and Thursdays. Pork is strictly forbidden on Saturdays. The prices of milk, cheese, eggs, butter, and margarine are so high that the poorer classes—that is, the great majority of the population—have to do without these articles of food and be content with bread and potatoes. Coal and petroleum are so dear that the hours of attendance at school have been shortened for children, and it has been found necessary to dispense the pupils from home lessons. From the knowledge that these hard conditions are telling decidedly on the health of the old and the young, people in this country can de-

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2 tablespoons sugar, 5 eggs (beaten separately), half a cinnamon stick, 1 tablespoonful Capstan Milk (undiluted), 1 oz. gelatine, essence of Lemon, ½ pint water.

METHOD:—Soak the gelatine in the water. Boil the milk, cinnamon and sugar. Strain over the gelatine and stir until dissolved. When cooled, pour on to the beaten yolks. Return to the fire to thicken without boiling. Cool again before adding to the stiffly beaten whites and essence. Cool, and stir occasionally before pouring into a wet mould. Turn out and serve with tinned pineapple.

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GODBERS.

rive no pleasure, but it is to be hoped the Germans will learn from what they have to endure how wicked it was on the part of the Kaiser to provoke the conflict and will let him know how bitterly they feel the cost of prolonging it.

WAR TOLL OF THE MISSIONS.

A mission journal referring to the losses sustained by the Catholic missions owing to the war gives some interesting statistics of the number of French religious of different Orders serving under the colors in various capacities (says *America*). The White Fathers, the Lazarists, the Fathers of the Holy Ghost, and the Lyons Mission Seminary have each furnished approximately 200 men. The Paris Mission Seminary has sacrificed even a larger number, sending 200 missionaries, 4 directors, 2 lay-brothers, and 103 candidates. On September 19, 1914, only 8 candidates received Holy Orders, and only 3 new missionaries have been sent to mission fields since the war began. During the year 1914 the Seminary lost by death 36 of its apostles. The Franciscans, according to their own organ, have 182 men in the service, of whom 86 are under arms. The missionaries of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Marists together have 100 men serving as soldiers. It is impossible, we are told, to obtain figures from any of the other missionary Orders and Congregations, excepting the Society of Jesus, which by July 31, 1915, had 615 members in the country's service, of whom 281 were priests. The Jesuits have suffered by far the greatest losses. The cost for them of the first year of the war has been 47 dead, 18 prisoners, 7 missing, 37 wounded but on the way to recovery, and 22 whose wounds will cripple them for life. The organ of the Lyons Mission Seminary writes that there is great danger that the Seminary itself, the fruit of 75 years of labor and sacrifice, will be utterly ruined, since the sources of supply are failing, one after another. The need is greater and more pressing than we can say.

CAPTAIN A. J. SHOUT, V.C.

(From our Wellington correspondent.)

The following description of the death of Captain A. J. Shout, V.C., is interesting, because the deceased was a cousin of Mr. J. C. Turner, a member of the Hibernian Society, Wellington, and was educated at the Marist Brothers' School, Boulcott street, under the late Rev. Brother Mark, M.A.

The late Captain Alfred John Shout, who has been awarded a V.C. for his gallantry at Lonesome Pine, where he was severely injured, from the effects of which he died, was well known in military and rifle shooting circles in Sydney. For some years he was a member of the 29th Infantry, and held the rank of sergeant, but when the regiment was mobilised in August, 1914, he was made a second lieutenant, a rank which he held when he left Sydney for Egypt with the First Battalion. He took part in the original landing at Gaba Tepe, and was wounded on the first day. On recovering from his injuries he again went to the front, having in the meantime been awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal. Later on he was appointed to a captaincy. On the day on which he received the injuries which resulted in his death, he and another officer and eight men seized a trench from the Turks, and in endeavoring to hold it, the captain and his men threw bombs. The captain was lighting two or three at once, handing them to the man beside him to throw or throwing them himself, when one of them exploded in his hand, blowing off the hand and shattering his side. Captain C. E. W. Bean, the official correspondent at Gallipoli, said that Captain Shout was 'one of the gamest officers who ever lived. From the first day he was ready for any adventure, plunging into the thick of it, light-hearted and laughing.' This opinion was borne out by many of the returned soldiers who came in contact with the deceased officer.

IRISH SCRIPT

To St. Patrick Ireland owes its exquisite script, which speedily supplanted the original Ogham, the Gaelic alphabet of ancient times. The basis of this script is the Roman half-uncial hand—uncial being the script used upon papyrus and parchment in the late years of the Roman Empire, consisting of rounded forms with somewhat curved vertical strokes. Owing to the isolated position of the island and the consequent absence of extraneous influences, a strongly characteristic, national hand developed, which ran its uninterrupted course down to the Middle Ages. This hand was at first round in character and of great clearness, beauty, and precision; but at an early period, a modified, pointed variety of a minuscule type developed out of it, used for quicker and less ornamental writing. As might have been expected the English adopted both the round and pointed varieties of their Irish teachers. One of the earliest and most beautiful examples of the former is the *Book of Durham* or the *Lindisfarne Gospel*, written about 700 A.D. by Eadfrith, Bishop of Lindisfarne. And, as a specimen of the latter, may be mentioned a fine copy of *Bede's Ecclesiastical History* in the University of Cambridge, written not long after 730, which possesses an additional interest as preserving one of the earliest pieces of poetry in the English language, 'The Hymn of Caedmon,' in the original Northumbrian dialect.

A Relatively Small Number of Manuscripts has come down to us through the vicissitudes of the ages; they are scattered far and wide, at present through collections public and private, Trinity College, the Royal Irish Academy, London, Paris, Berlin, Brussels, and scores of others are jealously preserving the most precious specimens. The exact amount of Irish literature still remaining has never been determined, maintains Dr. Douglas Hyde. According to him a French scholar has noted 133 existing manuscripts, all of them over three hundred years old, and some over a thousand years, and the whole number found existing in public libraries on the Continent and in the British Isles was 1009. But hundreds upon hundreds exist in private collections scattered throughout the country, and hundreds upon hundreds more have been destroyed.

The Art of Illuminating Manuscripts has been known from time immemorial. The moment a manuscript had been finished in the Scriptorium, the general writing room of the typical monastery, it passed into the hands of another expert, the illuminator, before being turned over to the binder. The characteristic feature of Irish illuminating is the use of dots, following the outlines of the initials; delicate spirals, interlacing ribbons, and tessellated patterns. This applies particularly to early Irish manuscripts, notably the *Book of Kells* of the seventh century, now in Trinity College, Dublin. A well executed specimen page giving a portion of Christ's genealogy reveals other characteristics, profuse capitals, bold penmanship, and trenchant figures. To the monk-artist, illuminating was a labor of love, as may easily be seen from the rich tints and delicate intricacies of his glorious art.

The monastic rule of the early Church made liberal allowance for the copying of manuscripts, religious and profane. The men who wrote both roll and book, and to whose patience and devotion we owe so much of our knowledge of the times gone by, were the monks themselves. The cloister was the centre of life in the monastery, and in the cloister was the workshop of the patient scribe. In these scriptoria or writing rooms of various kinds the earliest annals and chronicles in the English and Gaelic tongues were penned, in the beautiful and painstaking forms in which we know them.

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BIRTH

PAVLETICH.—On January 2, 1916, at 4 Montpellier street, Dunedin, to Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Pavletich—a daughter.

DEATHS

BEIRNE.—On December 16, 1915, at her residence, Brick street, Greymouth, Mary, relict of Francis Beirne, native of County Clare, Ireland; aged 68 years.—R.I.P. Westport papers please copy.

FLEMING.—On November 12, 1915, at Forest Gate, London, Very Rev. Father David Fleming, O.F.M.—R.I.P.

MULLANY.—At Napier, on August 24, 1915, Harold Joseph, seventh son of Mr. and Mrs. R. Mullany, Napier; aged 22 years. Deeply regretted.—R.I.P.

IN MEMORIAM

CRAWFORD.—In loving memory of William Crawford, who died at the Wellington Hospital on January 6, 1915.

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, have mercy on his soul.
—Inserted by his loving wife, brother-in-law, and family.

MESSAGE OF POPE LEO XIII. TO THE N.Z. TABLET.
Pergant Directores et Scriptores New Zealand Tablet, Apostolica Benedictione confortati, Religionis et Justitie 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, JANUARY 6, 1916.

A WORD IN SEASON

THE present season of the year is in more senses than one the children's season. It is theirs because of the Christ-child Whose coming is being celebrated, and Whose ineffable beauty surrounds all childhood with a halo. It is theirs, too, because in these southern lands Christmas brings the end of the school year with its examinations and rewards, and these become the almost universal subject of conversation in the household, and their eulogy occupies very largely the public press. The heads of our Catholic schools and

the members of public school boards and local committees have been busy making speeches, and no chronicle of the greatest war the world has seen has been able to crowd their report from the pages of the daily paper. These speeches contain a great deal of sense, but as usual some nonsense is found intermingled with it. We have noticed once again in many of our country exchanges how emphasis has been laid upon the advantages the present day affords to school children. For such emphasis in itself we have, of course, only praise; but when the eulogisers go on to say that the particular advantage of the present day lies in the ease with which knowledge may be acquired, we begin to rub our eyes and ask ourselves if we have not in some dream misread the processes of education and grossly exaggerated the toiling of those who have been the scholars of their several generations.

*

The three greatest poets of all time lived in days when the acquiring of knowledge was a hard labor. We are convinced that in this respect our boasting of a favored age is all in vain; and we are convinced, too, that our system of education in New Zealand is wrong in so far as it is based upon the facility which the age affords of acquiring without corresponding labor a knowledge of a multiplicity of facts. Knowledge, like most things else, is worth what it costs, and in its markets labor is the current coin. In the days of great light and learning the student was a patient and industrious delver; but to-day, at least in this country where the regulations are dispensing more and more with home work, the teacher has to spread out knowledge before the eyes of the pupil instead of making him acquire it mainly by his own industry. It has been well said that 'discipline distinguishes human beings from the lower animals,' but it must never be forgotten that labor is the most potent discipline of life. Let our school children, therefore, rather dread the facilities of the day, and be taught to set little value upon what may be purchased at too cheap a price. Let them have all their best efforts directed against the temper of the time, and, *'ut quocumque paratus'*—family motto of an Irish nobleman—with a heart for any fate, let them seek the secrets of learning in hard labor and stress.

*

Our editors know too much and write too much; it were better that they knew less, or, knowing more, confined themselves to a few topics, and allowed their readers to delve and mine for themselves in the rich fields and quarries of learning. Even our preachers, *salva reverentia*, may easily err in this respect. It may well be that they talk too much and do not afford sufficient time to their people to think and meditate upon what has been said. But the temper of the time is against thought and meditation; men seem to be afraid to think, and the organ must peal and the choir sing before the preacher has left the pulpit, lest between sermon and Benediction there should be any little interval for thought. The cinematograph has come to show us in an hour more than many a scholar could garner by his own efforts in a year, and the unthinking hail it as an educator, and the advertising sheet acclaims it to the wings of the wind; but a year's patient industry would make a more cultured man. We saw one evening lately the whole process of honey-making spread out before us at the picture show; but it was at no picture show that a great Belgian naturalist learned the secrets of the life of the bee; (nor would secrets learned thus afford the delights that thousands and tens of thousands have drawn from his charming pages). We have seen gardens, too, in the show, but real delight in flowers comes only from personal observation, patient study, and devoted culture. The gardener who tours his garden with Alphonse Carr as guide could never love the touring pictures no matter how rich and wonderful and astonishing the colors. The time may come when the ascent of Egmont or Mount Cook may be made by means of a lift, but the use of a lift will never bring about that

robust health and those sweet delights that reward the sturdy climber. The processes of real education must be slow, patient, and largely personal; and the last ruin of education will be complete when it will be all teaching and no learning. Power and activity come after labor, but the boy for whom the teacher does the thinking will never grow into a man of power, for growth has its processes which will brook no interference. An educator then is not one who supplies information but one who supplies a stimulus to personal effort after knowledge. A boy may fail in every school examination, but if he can read and write and has a taste for books his feet are on the high road to knowledge, and he will become an educated man. The Minister for Education complained the other day, and rightly, that reading, writing, and composition, were neglected in our schools. We will return to this another day, but for the present we merely say that the chief reason for the defect lies in what we have been saying. The temper of the age is against effort, and, as De Quincey says: 'It is more even by the effort, and tension of mind required, than by the mere loss of time, that most readers are repelled from the habit of careful reading.'

*

We are glad to know that we have thousands of boys amongst our Catholic readers; we would impress on these the duty of striving by every possible effort to become educated men. They owe this duty to themselves, to their parents, and to the priests and Brothers and nuns who are making such sacrifices in their behalf. Each Catholic is an individual cell in the mystic Body of Christ, which is the Church, and the higher the life of each cell the nobler the life of the whole body will be. The life of a city is the life of the citizens. As the water tower in one of our North Island towns raised the water level, the merchants were induced to put up more stately buildings, if not quite so high as the tower itself, at least higher than the dwarfed shops that had in their obscurity hugged the ground. Thus let each Catholic labor to know, that he may lift the level of all. To study for self improvement or self amusement is a form of self-indulgence, just as eating or drinking may be. 'One may, of course,' writes the author of *Ekkehard*, 'play the miser with scientific lore just as with gold, and he who scrapes and gathers for the mere pleasure of having, all forgetful that his possessions should be turned to account, benefits neither himself nor any one else.'

Notes

The Horrors of War

Twenty-seven years ago there was published in England a translation of the diary of the Emperor Frederick of Germany, father of the present Kaiser. It was written when the short-lived Emperor was Crown Prince of Prussia, and covers the date of the Austro-German war of 1866 and the more titanic struggle between Germany and France that made for ever memorable the year 1870-1. The little book has been long out of print, but the *Scotsman* has discovered a copy and tells that a page in the Crown Prince's diary written during the Austro-German war shows what he thought of the game that delights his son and successor. 'It is a shocking thing,' he wrote, 'to ride over a battlefield, and it is impossible to describe the hideous mutilations which present themselves. War is really something frightful, and those who create it with a stroke of the pen at a green cloth table little dream what horrors they are conjuring up.' On January 27, 1871, Prince Frederick wrote: 'This is William's thirteenth birthday. May he grow up to be an able, honest, and thorough man, a true German, prepared to continue without prejudice what has now been begun. . . . It is really a painful reflection when one realises what hopes have already been placed on the head of this child, and how great is our respon-

sibility to the nation for his education, which family considerations with the Court life at Berlin and other things will tend to make so much more difficult.'

The Story of Modern Greece

A Home exchange recalls the condition under which the reigning dynasty in Greece was raised to, and still occupies, its throne. Greece was declared an independent kingdom by a convention signed in London between Great Britain, France, and Russia in 1832. A ruler was found in the person of Prince Otto of Bavaria, who became King of Greece, and ruled despotically till 1843, when he was forced to accept a Constitution. His acceptance proved a mere pretence, and in 1862 a National Assembly pronounced his deposition. For a year the country was in a state of chaos. But again in 1863 Great Britain, France, and Russia signed a protocol, giving Greece a Constitution and a King. They found Prince George of Schleswig-Holstein, father of Constantine, the present monarch, and created him, with the assent of France and Russia, George I., 'King of the Hellenes.' It is to be noted that the condition upon which rested this protocol and the establishment of constitutionalism in Greece was the cession of the Ionian Islands by Great Britain to Greece. That is to say, Great Britain obtained the observance of constitutional practice on the part of Greece in exchange for a substantial gift of territory.

*

The point is of particular importance at the present time, because the Crown has overridden the authority of the Chamber of Deputies. The protesting Powers gave Greece a Constitution, and a King because it wished to be a monarchy. But they did not find a country for a Prince whom they wished to see enthroned. Moreover, by way of further recognition of the bargain which was to bind Greece to a constitutional governance, they undertook to contribute each the sum of £4000 per annum for the personal use of the King. The position to-day cannot possibly be appreciated without taking these facts into account.

The Broader Outlook

War is an evil; it causes the greatest misery and suffering, and the sacrifice of untold numbers of human lives, yet some good has come out of it. The world is full of admiration for the French clergy, many of whom had been banished from their fatherland by an atheistic government, yet when their beloved country was in danger they hastened from the furthest ends of the earth to take their places in the firing line, or in the little less dangerous ranks of the Red Cross Society. The war has also shown us that the people of France needed only some such misfortune to stir up their religious fervor. Then, again, the devotion of the clergy and religious and their self-sacrificing spirit have made a lasting impression on our army—men and officers—and on visitors from the United Kingdom. The Rev. R. J. Campbell, in an article in the London *Sunday Herald* pays a generous tribute to some of the most sacred beliefs of the Catholic faith. Speaking of All Souls' Day, he says: 'What a yawning gulf ordinary Protestantism makes between the living and the dead, to be sure!—or, rather, between those still in the flesh and those who have done with it. Not so the devout Catholic, simple-minded, earnest, and sincere.' And again, on the subject of the Blessed Sacrament, he thus candidly writes: 'Since the war began, I have realised in French churches, as I never did before, the devotional value, the practical helpfulness, of the reservation of the sacrament of the altar. It makes all the difference between a dead building and a place that is a sanctuary indeed, wherein worshippers feel that they are in immediate contact with the supernatural and divine.' War is a great teacher. If it has thus taught the beauties of Catholic teachings and practices to a Protestant, what must be its influence on the millions of French Catholics who

for years saw their faith and its teachers derided, impoverished, and persecuted by those whom they had themselves set in authority over them?

DIocese OF DUNEDIN

The annual retreat of the clergy commences on Monday at Holy Cross College, and will be conducted by the Very Rev. Father Gleeson, C.S.S.R., Waratah, N.S.W.

On Sunday there was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Joseph's Cathedral from the last Mass until after Vespers, when the usual procession, followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, took place.

There were good congregations at the Masses, celebrated at 6, 7, 8, and 11 o'clock, at St. Joseph's Cathedral on New Year's Day. Large numbers approached the Holy Table at the early Masses. Mass was celebrated at 7 o'clock at the Church of the Sacred Heart, North-east Valley, and at 8.30 at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Kaikorai.

VISIT OF THE APOSTOLIC DELEGATE

In a letter to the Very Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., St. Joseph's Cathedral, his Grace Archbishop O'Shea states that his Excellency the Most Rev. Archbishop Cerretti, Apostolic Delegate, is to arrive in Wellington from Sydney on January 17, and will leave at the end of that week for Dunedin. His Excellency will be in Dunedin on Sunday, January 23. From Dunedin his Excellency proceeds to Auckland, from where he returns to Christchurch for the consecration of the Right Rev. Dr. Brodie.

CATHOLIC FEDERATION

CHRISTCHURCH DIOCESAN COUNCIL.

(From our own correspondent.)

The executive committee of the Christchurch Diocesan Council met on Wednesday evening, December 22. Mr. W. Hayward, jun. (senior vice-president), presided, and there were present the Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., Mr. M. Garty (treasurer), Mr. J. R. Hayward, and the secretary. An apology was received from the Very Rev. Dean Hyland (president) owing to indisposition. An amount of correspondence was read and reported on by the secretary as having been attended to. After a lengthy discussion it was decided, on this occasion, to depart from a previous resolution to hold half-yearly meetings in other than the chief centre and to convene the next half-yearly

ST. BRIDE'S CLUB, WELLINGTON.

The annual Christmas gathering of the St. Bride's Club took place on the evening of December 30, when there was a crowded attendance at St. Patrick's Hall. Many girls, who have settled in the Wellington province, since they were first welcomed on landing in New Zealand by the visitors of the Catholic Immigration Committee, came to the re-union. In order not to trench upon the limited funds at the disposal of the club a lady, who desires her name not to be mentioned, provided the amount required for the many presents on the Christmas tree, and these were distributed to the large attendance, all of whom enjoyed their evening and also the excellent Christmas fare provided. The re-appearance of Miss Girling-Butcher, who has been the secretary of the club since its inception, and who has been laid up by illness and a serious operation in hospital, was welcomed in a very hearty manner, and many congratulations were tendered to her, accompanied by wishes for a permanent recovery. The St. Bride's Club is continuing its excellent work

amongst the immigrants, and visiting girls from other parts of the Dominion, and its weekly socials are the source of much pleasure both to members and visiting friends. Several of the local clergy, including the Rev. Father Venning (spiritual director), were present, and good wishes for the success of this excellent institution were received from others of the clergy whose engagements prevented their attendance. When so many willing helpers did their utmost for the success of the Christmas gathering, it is almost invidious to single out individuals, but the leaders of the work may congratulate themselves upon the success of the function.

meeting in Christchurch on Wednesday, January 12, commencing at 10 a.m. The secretary was directed to notify all branches accordingly, and to prepare and circulate the order paper with the least possible delay, also to expedite the arrangements for establishing a sub-diocesan council in Westland.

Christchurch North

January 3.

The members of the Ladies of Charity, in recognition of the good work and unselfish devotion to duty of a leading member of the society (Miss Morgan), made her the recipient of a handsome leather hand-bag. Rev. Father Hoare, S.M., made the presentation, and spoke of the pleasure it gave him to perform such a ceremony where it was so richly deserved. Miss Morgan, who was quite taken by surprise, suitably responded.

The popularity of the Catholic Girls' Club as a place of abode was fully evidenced by the number of visitors staying there during the Christmas and New Year holidays. The accommodation was fully taxed, but the visitors, who hailed from Auckland to Invercargill, were loud in their praises of the management of the club, which for comfort and general homeliness cannot be excelled. The matron (Miss L. Johnson) reports a full booking up to February.

On Sunday afternoon, January 2, the Children of Mary, at the close of their monthly meeting, assembled to bid farewell to two of their members who are severing their connection with the sodality. The spiritual director (Rev. Father Hoare, S.M.), presented Miss Grace Haughey (president of the sodality), who is entering religion in the Order of the Sisters of the Missions, with a beautifully bound book, suitable for religious, and Miss Grigsby, who is about to be married, with a handsome prayer-book. Father Hoare, S.M., in making the presentation, spoke of the good example the young ladies had always given as members of the sodality, and said these little gifts would always serve as a reminder of the happy days spent among their companions in the sodality.

CORRESPONDENCE

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

H.A.C.B. SOCIETY.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—May I through your columns draw the attention of branches of the above society to the fact that although the triennial movable meeting, which had been set down for Westport in 1916, has been indefinitely postponed, there is much important business to be brought forward at the annual meeting, which should be held in February next. In order that branches should have direct representation at this meeting branch No. 95 has tabled the following motion:—That owing to the postponement of the T.M. Meeting of 1916, the expenses of delegates to the annual meeting at Auckland in February (or when held), 1916, be paid out of the district management

fund to the same extent as delegates' expenses are paid at a T.M. meeting.'

To avoid the farce of proxy meetings, which have been so common in the past and resultant of so little good, branches are urged to appoint a direct representative to attend this meeting, and instruct him to vote for this motion so that the business of the society may be properly carried out and the expenditure may be borne, as it should be, by the district management fund.—I am, etc.,

J. J. L. BURKE.

Wellington, December 31.

OBITUARY

MR. H. J. MULLANY, NAPIER.

The funeral of the late Mr. Harold J. Mullany (says an exchange) was of more than ordinary impressiveness, owing to the fact of the deceased being buried with full military honors. The Regimental Band (of which he was an old and esteemed member) and the Napier City Band turned out, and the remains were conveyed to their last resting place on a gun-carriage, covered by a Union Jack and attended by a detachment of Territorials, the bands playing the 'Dead March' from 'Saul.' The service at St. Patrick's Church was conducted by the Rev. Fathers O'Sullivan and Dignan, and the prayers at the graveside were said by Rev. Father Dignan. Members of the Marist Brothers' Old Boys' Football Club acted as pall-bearers. The cortege included a very large attendance of the public, by whom very deep sympathy is felt for the family, whose sorrow is intensified by the fact that another son was recently killed in action at the Dardanelles.—R.I.P.

REV. FATHER JOHN GOUTENOIRE, S.M.

The Very Rev. Dean Tubman (writes our Timaru correspondent) has received cable advice of the death of the Rev. Father John Goutenoire, S.M., who passed away last week at Lyons, France, at the age of 76 years. The deceased priest was one of the pioneer Marist Missionaries of New Zealand, and was for some years in charge of the parishes of Timaru and Waimate. Later on he was appointed chaplain of the Mount Magdala Home, Christchurch, and after doing good service there he took up the position of Superior of the Marist Seminary at Meeanee, Hawke's Bay, which position he held for several years prior to his departure for France. At all the Masses on Sunday reference was made to the late Father Goutenoire, and prayers were asked for the repose of his soul. Many of the older members of the congregation still cherish kindly recollections of the piety and charity of the late 'Father John,' as he was familiarly known, and of the many good works he accomplished in the early days here. On Wednesday morning next at nine o'clock a Solemn Requiem Mass is to be celebrated for the repose of his soul.—R.I.P.

MRS. C. LAFFERTY, HAMILTON.

(From our own correspondent.)

The death occurred at her residence, Taura road, Hamilton, on December 28, of Mrs. C. Lafferty, after a long and painful illness. The deceased, who was 47 years of age, was the fourth daughter of the late Mr. C. Haughey, of Hills road, Christchurch, one of the oldest pioneer farmers of Canterbury. Mrs. Lafferty, who was well known in Christchurch and Wanganui, came to Hamilton about three years ago with her husband, and made a large circle of friends here. She had been seriously ill for about a year, and her death, therefore, was not unexpected. She leaves a husband, six sons, and five daughters to mourn their loss. The funeral took place on December 30, leaving St. Mary's Church for Hamilton East Cemetery. The large number of mourners which followed the remains bore testimony to the respect in which the deceased was held.—R.I.P.

Hokitika.

(From our own correspondent.)

December 30.

At St. Mary's Church in connection with the Feast of the Nativity, midnight Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Father Clancy, which was attended by a very large congregation. The sanctuary was tastefully decorated for the occasion by the ladies of the Altar Society. The Rev. Father Clancy preached an eloquent sermon on the day's feast. The choir, which was capably conducted by Mr. S. W. Richardson, rendered Turner's 'Mass of the Holy Angels.' A second Mass was celebrated at 8 o'clock on Christmas morning.

The death of Mr. David Heenan, of Revell street, took place last week. He was 55 years of age, and leaves a wife and five children to mourn their loss.—R.I.P.

St. Benedict's, Auckland

(From an occasional correspondent.)

The annual concert in aid of the schools of the parish took place on Wednesday, December 15, in St. Benedict's Hall. The spacious building was well filled by a very appreciative audience, and the programme was considered one of the best presented for many years. The items rendered by the pupils of the schools, which included choruses, action songs, and dialogues, deserve special mention, being of a very high standard, and reflected great credit on the Sisters of St. Joseph, who have been working assiduously for some time past to produce such excellent results. The Elite Symphony Orchestra opened the programme with a fine rendering of 'The gladiator's farewell,' and later in the evening was well received with a waltz, entitled 'Under my darling's window,' and a march, 'Tartar of the Navy.' The choruses, 'There is no land like Ireland' and 'Zealandia,' by the pupils were well received. The following contributed items, which were much appreciated, encores being the order of the evening:—Mrs. Hanson, Misses B. Clarke, L. Lowry, L. Murphy, V. Hill, N. Stone, T. Childerhouse, Messrs. A. L. Pinard, F. Cunningham, G. Fleming, L. O'Malley, and W. Hill. Mr. Leo Whitaker, L.A.B., A.T.C.L., rendered valuable assistance as accompanist. The committee is to be congratulated on the splendid results attained, and the substantial amount realised will be well spent in furthering the work of free Catholic education in the parish.

THE KING'S HORSES

The unfortunate accident which befell his Majesty has touched all hearts, and perhaps none more so than his Catholic lieges (says a writer in the *Universe*). Few Catholics, if any at all, have forgotten the King's activity in revising the Coronation Oath, which in the old form contained a pernicious clause which was reminiscent of the days of the Gunpowder Plot in so far as it affected the Catholic subjects of the Realm. Since the penal days the diabolical words of that clause were solemnly repeated by each successive sovereign, to the shuddering horror of Catholics, to say nothing of the disgust of every right-minded person. King George tore it out of the Declaration. Since the Master of the Horse is responsible for all the King's horses and all the King's men, his lordship must have suffered more than one sleepless night since the accident. He has charge, at Buckingham Palace, of 130 horses, and it is his duty to select twenty of these for work every week, of which at least two pairs are always ready harnessed for any emergency at the Royal call. There are ninety grooms to look after the King's horses, and their chief is the Master of the Horse. The office is no sinecure. When Royal processions are made the Master makes all the necessary preparations and arrangements with regard to the turn-out, the horses and men having to be rehearsed in the public streets some two or three times before the day.

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Irish News

GENERAL.

The people of Abbeyfeale and other friends of the late Dr. Willie McCarthy, are presenting two magnificent stained glass windows as a memorial to him to the parish church.

A new toy-making industry has been started in Galway by the Patrician Brothers in connection with their schools. The work is done on Saturdays outside school hours, but the Brothers hope to have it made one of the school subjects. The proceeds of the sale will be devoted to the purchase of tools and material to enable the boys to carry on the work in their own homes.

Rev. Robert Kane, S.J., was the preacher at a Solemn Requiem Mass offered in the Jesuit Church, Dublin, on November 12, for the past students of the Irish Jesuit College who have been killed in the war. In his sermon Father Kane said the Irish regiments, 'although shamefully ignored by the official diplomats, had been the spear-head of the British Army, now as always.'

Twenty of the alumni of Clongowes College have been killed, 28 have been invalided home as seriously wounded, 19 have been mentioned in despatches, two have received the decoration of the Distinguished Service Order, two have received the Military Cross, two have received the Cross of the Legion of Honor from the French Government, and one has received the French 'Medaille Militaire.'

Corporal Lyons, of the Staffordshire Regiment, who is a native of Rathkeale, Co. Limerick, was at home on leave in November. He was awarded the D.C.M. for great gallantry at Neuve Chapelle, when Sergeant Magee was shot in both legs, his left knee-cap having been blown away, and a dozen bullets from a machine gun having lodged in his right leg. Lyons volunteered to bring him in, and succeeded in doing so under constant fire from the enemy. The man he rescued tells of his heroism, Lyons himself not caring to discuss the matter, saying it was 'only what any one would do.'

The *Manchester Guardian* emphasises as very significant the statement of the Rev. Dr. Beecher, who, preaching at the consecration of Bishop MacRory, the new Bishop of Down and Connor, in Belfast on Sunday, November 14, dwelt on the prudence, kindness, and amiability of the new prelate, saying that 'there was not within the Sees of Ireland a man more ready to extend the hand of friendship, to speak the word of kindness, and tread the path of peace.' The selection of such a man as Catholic Bishop in Belfast, conjoined with the recent appointment of Dr. Bernard as Protestant Archbishop of Dublin, gives ground for the belief that one good result arising from the present terrible evil of war may be the 'bridging of the Boyne which divides North from South.'

MR. JOHN DILLON AND EMIGRANT-BAITING.

Mr. Dillon, in a letter to the secretary of the Bal-laghadereen branch of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, says all Nationalists must have been pained and horrified at the scenes in Liverpool at the arrival of the Irish emigrants. However wrong and mistaken some of the emigrants might have been in deciding to fly to America and desert their country at a crisis like this, they had a perfectly legal right to go, and, in reading of the shameful insults to which they were subjected, one could not forget the millions who went before them, and whose flight from Ireland was made the subject of insult and exultation by the English press and public of the days that were gone by. Referring to Lord Derby's warning to unmarried men, he said the Earl had no jurisdiction over recruiting in Ireland. But, dealing with it as applying to Great Britain only, he held it to be a most injudicious and mischievous statement. No man had a right to say to

the British people that conscription would be inflicted upon them until he had obtained the consent of the House of Commons, and that consent had not yet been given. He did not believe that compulsion would be attempted in Great Britain; but, whatever might happen there, there could be no doubt as to the position in Ireland, for the condition laid down in the Prime Minister's speech as essential to making compulsion or coercion in any shape practicable, viz., something approaching general assent, was plainly outside the limits of possibility in Ireland.

DEATH OF A FAMOUS FRANCISCAN.

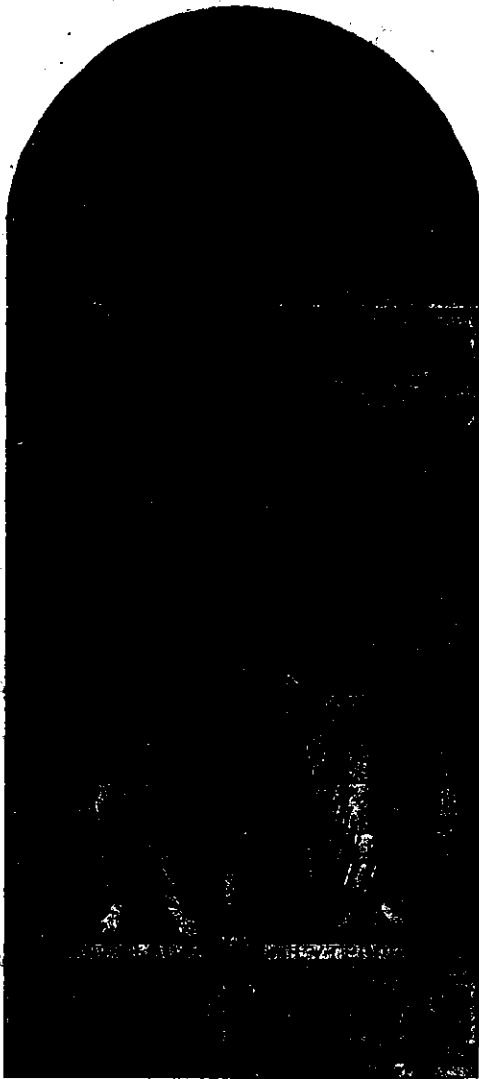
The news of the death of Father David Fleming, O.F.M., has been received with deep regret (says the *Irish Catholic*). Although he had been ill for some time, still it was hoped that he would ultimately recover, and within the last week or two these hopes seemed likely to be realised. Providence, however, had ordained otherwise, and the great Irish Franciscan passed away on November 11 at the Franciscan Priory, Forest Gate, London, E. Father Fleming was born in Killarney in 1851; he was only eighteen when he joined the Franciscan Order, which he entered in Thielt, Belgium, in 1869. He was ordained in Ghent in 1875, and soon after was appointed Lector in Philosophy, which position he held for nine years. It was in 1884 that he was appointed Definitor of the Province and Guardian of St. Anthony's (Forest Gate), and some three years later, when the Franciscans of this country were separated, he was nominated Custos Regiminis. His next appointment was Provincial Minister of the English Province, O.F.M., which he attained in 1891. He took a very prominent part in the inquiry into the validity of Anglican Orders, being nominated by Cardinal Vaughan a member of the committee for the collection of evidence on that subject to be submitted to the Holy See in 1896, and he was subsequently appointed representative of the Church in England on the Papal Commission on Anglican Orders. At this period the Pope made him Consulor of the Holy Office (a life appointment), and in the year following he received a higher dignity when he became Definitor-General of the United Franciscan Order. For three years he was Vicar-General of the Order of Friars Minor, and another post which he held with distinction was that of Secretary to the Commission appointed by Pope Leo XIII. on Biblical studies.

IRELAND'S FIGHTING MEN.

Almost—if not quite—unique in the military annals of Aldershot was the visit of Cardinal Bourne to that great soldiers' centre on November 14, in order to inspect the Irish Nationalist troops quartered there. No parade ground could properly accommodate the great mass of khaki-clad Catholic soldiers, hence the large garrison recreation ground at Blackdown was utilised for the occasion. His Eminence, attired in his scarlet robes and hat, made a close inspection of the men from his motor-car, accompanied by the General Officer Commanding the division. At the close of the inspection the Cardinal took up a suitable position in the lines and addressed the men.

'You are,' he said, 'giving yourselves as free men, in the full use of your freedom, in the service of your country. It has been no kind of compulsion, but your own sense of duty, that has impelled you to take pains in defence of your country, the Empire, and your King. I have been asked more than once to make some sort of public appeal to young Catholic men to come forward and enter the Army. I have hesitated to make such an appeal simply and solely because, so far as my own information goes, such an appeal has not been necessary. I know that in England young Catholic men out of all proportion to our numbers in the community have come forward very nobly, and what I know to be true of English Catholics I believe to be true of our brethren in Ireland. The enemy counted on political dissension to render us impotent,

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and no doubt some at home were apprehensive on that account also. But the historical declaration of the Irish leader on the outbreak of war swept away all such hopes on the part of the enemy and apprehensions at home, and you are the living embodiment of the declaration of that illustrious leader. Linked as I am by equal ties of blood to both England and Ireland, you will understand how sincerely and heartily I congratulate you all.' Having referred to the excellent reports he had received of the men's discipline and conduct, his Eminence concluded: 'Be prepared! Do your duty as good sons of Ireland and the Catholic Church, and may God be with you and guard you.'

Catholics throughout the kingdom will find much comfort in the fact (says the *Universe*) that the Cardinal took this opportunity of bearing public testimony to the readiness with which all their requests for chaplains had been attended to. If they put aside the first few weeks when the turmoil of the sudden war caused some difficulty about having a sufficient number of chaplains, a difficulty felt by all religious denominations alike, he was glad to say publicly that ever since the day, more than a year ago, when he personally approached the Prime Minister, there had been no reason to make any complaint.

IS THERE A PLOT?

That question must be asked, in view of Mr. Tennant's answer to a question regarding the capture of guns by the London Irish during the recent advance on Loos (says the *Catholic Times*). At first he said the War Office had no information as to any gun having been captured by the London Irish. Pressed by Mr. Redmond to say whether he meant that there was no statement in the official report from the commanders at the front that guns were captured by the London Irish, and whether there was any reason to doubt the statements made as to the capture of the guns and the gallantry of this regiment, Mr. Tennant replied that no authentic information had been received, but that he had no reason to suppose that the capture of these guns was not made by the London Irish; he believed in fact that the guns were taken by the regiment. Then why did he not say so at first? And why do the official reports not contain information reflecting credit on Irish soldiers for glorious deeds gallantly performed? We do not like to think that a counsel has gone forth from the War Office to commanders that they should ignore the bravery of Irish Catholic soldiers. But the instances where such ignoring has taken place have become so numerous that we begin to feel justified in concluding that the War Office has either ordered or at least is pleased with the fact of Catholic soldiers being deprived of the public praise due to them for gallantry on the battlefield. A few more instances of this sort and Catholics will think they are not welcome in the Army.

People We Hear About

It is a strange coincidence for Mr. Matthew Keating, M.P. (says the *Irish Independent*), that the bishop who confirmed him and the priest who married him—Bishop Hedley and Father David Fleming—should both have died on the same day.

Our English exchanges announce the death of the distinguished Catholic novelist, Dorothea Gerard. She was a sister of Very Rev. Father Gerard, S.J., of Rochsoles, Lanarkshire, and attained considerable popularity among English readers as a novelist.

In point of seniority Cardinal Gibbons, of Baltimore, is Dean of the Sacred College, but on account of his distance from Rome that position is filled by Cardinal Vannutelli. Cardinal de Roverie, Bishop of Montpellier, France, is the oldest of the Cardinals, he being eighty-six years of age.

The following are amongst the Catholic Mayors of English cities for the coming year:—Alderman H. A. Leicester, Worcester (third term); Mr. Alban J. Woodroffe, J.P., Lyme Regis (fourth term); Alderman E. O'Bryen, Hampstead, London (third term); Councillor Dr. Lewis Hunt, Richmond, Surrey (first term).

There will be quite a sensation in the House of Lords when Lord Ashbourne takes his seat (says a contributor to an English magazine). He is the most unconventional of all the peers, for he invariably wears an Irish kilt, and intends, I hear, to take his seat in the Lords in this costume. The other day I saw him walking down Piccadilly in this garb. He had just returned from Ireland, where he warmly supported Mr. Redmond in his patriotic attitude over the war. Lady Ashbourne, who comes of a noble Alsatian family, has a hospital in France, which she ran herself for some time, until she was obliged to take a rest.

Commendatore Hicks, K.S.G., whose great generosity to the Catholic Church in England was referred to recently by Cardinal Bourne at a religious ceremony in a suburb of London, is a prominent scientific instrument maker in London, and a founder of Westminster Cathedral. He presented to the Vatican Observatory all the meteorological instruments necessary to bring it up to date, and when Pope Pius X. was leaving Venice in 1906 he presented to the Patriarchal Seminary in that city a similar set to that which he had given to Pope Leo XIII. for the Vatican. He is indefatigable in his endeavors to promote the cause of Catholicity, and, as before mentioned, his benefactions to the Church have been very numerous.

Lady Scott, the wife of the famous explorer, completed three months of labor at the munition works at Erith, recently. She left her home every morning at 6 o'clock to be on duty at 7, and returned at 6 o'clock at night. 'I am simply helping,' she said, 'because I want to be of service in some way. I am in the electrical department, and have to wind electric coils. I am the only woman among the forty workers in my department. We have half an hour for breakfast—from half-past 8 till 9—and we knock off again from 1 till 2 for dinner. We have been free on Sunday up till now, but I believe we shall soon have to work on Sundays also. Even so,' she added, 'I would not miss my work now for the world.'

Mr. John Dillon, M.P., who is a very strong opponent of conscription, was born in 1851 at Druid's Lodge, Killiney, County Mayo, his father being Mr. John Blake Dillon, who followed the political fortunes of Smith O'Brien, and later became one of the founders and proprietors of *The Nation*, and M.P. for Tipperary. Mr. Dillon was educated at University College, Dublin, and for medicine (M.R.C.S. of Ireland). He represented Tipperary, 1880-83, and has sat for County Mayo, E., since 1885. Mr. Dillon married (1895) Elizabeth, daughter of the Right Hon. Lord Justice Mathew, and became a widower in 1907. To write a history of Mr. Dillon's public career would be to write Ireland's history for the last quarter of a century, so deeply is his name engraven over it.

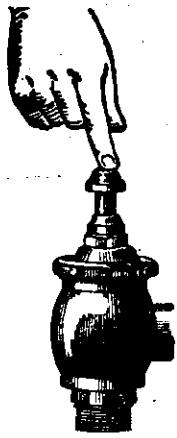
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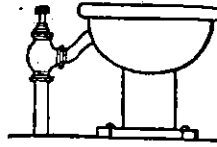
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ST. THOMAS'S COLLEGE AND ST. MARY'S CONVENT, OAMARU.

The annual break-up of St. Thomas's Preparatory College and St. Mary's Convent School took place on December 15. Right Rev. Mgr. Mackay, V.G., presided. In the course of his remarks he heartily congratulated the pupils on their highly successful year, and wished them a pleasant holiday; the season's greetings, and a welcome return. The following is the report and prize list:—

Another successful year has been concluded in St. Thomas's College. The number of boys at present in residence is 22. Every department of education, spiritual, mental, and physical, has been given due attention to, and in each department satisfactory progress has been made. Religion, the basis of true education, has received a prominent place, and the boys, profiting by their teachers' instructions, have gained an intelligent grasp of Christian doctrine and Bible history. In the classics, the inspectors' excellent report sufficiently indicates the good progress made. The senior boys attended the woodwork class in the Technical School. They fully appreciate the kind interest taken in them by Mr. Griggs, under whom they worked with gratifying results. Music has its place in the year's work, and in this branch several of the students gained distinction. Physical training has been a prominent feature of the college curriculum, and the bodily health of the lads is evidence enough that this training has been on proper lines. The excellent health of the boys is in great part due to the introduction of two new elements in physical exercises, viz., boxing and swimming. In these the collegians have taken a keen interest. The discipline of the school has been well observed and the general conduct has been all that could be desired. In every respect the year's work has been of a highly satisfactory nature, and the approaching vacation has been well merited by the pupils.

ST. MARY'S COLLEGE.

Form V.—Christian doctrine (gold medal), L. Miller; dux of school (silver medal), M. Molloy; physiology, M. Foley; botany, A. Atkinson; mathematics, M. Molloy; geography, M. Foley; history, A. Atkinson; French, M. Molloy.

Form IV.—Class medallist, I. Rowe; geography, L. Miller; drawing, K. Fallon; arithmetic, I. Rowe; botany, L. Miller; physiology, K. Fallon.

Grade VI.—Class medallist, E. de Courcay; arithmetic, A. Harney; domestic economy, M. Wylie; geography, G. Molloy; drawing, A. Harney; history, E. de Courcay; recitation, M. Wylie; improvement in music, G. Molloy.

Grade III.—Class prize, M. Marshall; English composition, M. Maxwell; writing, G. Rowe; French, M. Marshall; geography, M. Maxwell; drawing, G. Rowe; improvement in studies (Grade I), M. Toomey.

General Prizes.—Good conduct, M. Foley; politeness, M. Wylie; needlework, E. de Courcay.

PREPARATORY COLLEGE.

Grade IV.—Christian doctrine (gold medal presented by Miss Ralph), H. Greaney; class prize, A. Loughnan; arithmetic, R. Waldron; general improvement, B. McClintock; French, A. Loughnan; English composition, H. Greaney; recitation, R. Waldron; Latin, A. Loughnan; drawing, R. Waldron; brush work, A. Loughnan.

Grade III.—Class prize, T. Goodger; arithmetic, P. Loughnan; geography, B. Carter; drawing and brush work, C. Buchanan; recitation, P. Loughnan; English composition, B. Carter; French, J. Milne; writing, C. Buchanan; general improvement, P. Inkson; Bible history, J. Milne.

Grade II.—Class prize, C. Tulloch; arithmetic, R. Usherwood; spelling, A. Milne; improvement in studies, G. Buchanan; drawing and brush work, R. Usherwood; recitation, C. Tulloch; writing, G. Buchanan.

Kindergarten: Grade I.—Class prize, L. Pavletich; arithmetic, H. Gallien; reading, F. McLaughlin; drawing, L. Pavletich; spelling, H. Gallien; singing, F. McLaughlin.

Class III.—Catechism, H. Kempston; tables, I. Buchanan; improvement in studies, B. Inkson; reading and spelling, H. Kempston; recitation and singing, I. Buchanan; writing, B. Inkson.

Class II.—Reading and spelling, R. Kelly; general improvement, J. Daly; drawing, F. Crosbie.

General Prizes.—Good conduct, B. Carter; politeness, P. Loughnan; woodwork, A. Loughnan; physical drill, P. Inkson; physical drill (hon. mention), P. and A. Loughnan; swimming, B. McClintock; flower gardening, A. Loughnan, P. Inkson, and R. Waldron; vegetable gardening, B. McClintock; domestic duties, H. Kempston, I. Buchanan, and F. Crosbie.

Music Prizes.—Royal Academy of Music—C. Tulloch (distinction, silver medal); H. Geaney (distinction, silver medal); C. Buchanan (improvement in music), prize.

ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL, OAMARU.

On December 15 the scholastic year closed for St. Joseph's Parish School with the annual break-up and distribution of prizes. The Right Rev. Mgr. Mackay, V.G., presided, and after a pleasing musical programme had been presented, addressed the pupils. He congratulated both teachers and children on the success of the past year, and made special reference to the excellent report of the examiners, Messrs. Richardson and Robinson. He impressed upon the pupils the necessity of regular attendance if good progress was to be made. He also urged them to show forth in their conduct during the holidays the good examples set before them in school life, and concluded by wishing all a pleasant vacation and happy Christmas. At an interval in the function, Rev. Father O'Connell, on behalf of the girls of the cooking and swimming classes, presented their instructress (Miss Howejohns) with a beautiful framed picture as an appreciation of her kindly and practical interest in them. The recipient thanked the girls for their gift, and said what a pleasure it had been to teach classes so obedient and so responsive to her tuition. She hoped to be able to give them the benefit of her services again next year. In the afternoon a number of pupils and friends were entertained to tea by Miss Howejohns and her cooking class, when the good results of the year's work were seen in a variety of tasty edibles, and an enjoyable hour was passed.

The following is the prize list:—

Standard II.—W. Firth, M. Brown, and K. Hanley (equal).

Standard III.—R. Costigan, T. Wells.

Standard IV.—C. Rowe, A. Hanley.

Standard V.—A. O'Donnell, M. Curran.

Standard VII.—J. Cartwright (dux), O. Cooney, and A. O'Brien (equal).

Regular attendance—M. Ny, W. Ny. Politeness—R. Ralfe. Good conduct medals—Senior, M. Meehan; junior, J. Mackay. Religious knowledge—Senior, E. Doherty (gold cross, presented by Rev. Father O'Connell); junior medal, K. Redding. Special prize for obedience and good conduct—L. Collins.

At the inspectors' examination held last August the following pupils of St. Joseph's obtained Standard VI. certificates:—Proficiency—J. Cartwright, L. Collins, O. Cooney, A. O'Brien, M. O'Brien, W. O'Grady. Competency—E. Dwyer, M. Meehan. All the pupils presented passed.

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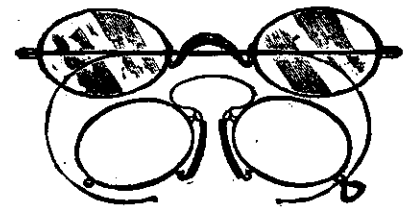
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SACRED HEART COLLEGE, CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our Christchurch correspondent.)

Having decided to devote the amount usually expended on prizes to the Patriotic Fund the annual events in this connection, so far as the Sacred Heart College and St. Joseph's (parochial) Girls' School of the Cathedral were concerned, were this year abandoned, and instead, the pupils of the Sisters of the Missions gave an entertainment on Wednesday afternoon, December 15, in aid of the Patriotic and Red Cross funds. There was a crowded audience, and the lengthy programme was greatly enjoyed. The Very Rev. Dean Hills, S.M., presided, and there were present the Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., and a number of the clergy. The concert opened with the singing by the scholars of 'La Marseillaise,' with full orchestral accompaniment. An historical play, 'Sir Thomas More,' was the principal feature of the afternoon, the costumes and stage mountings being appropriate and effective. Miss Olga Wacked, who took the part of Sir Thomas More, gave an excellent performance. Miss Irene Mahon, as Margaret, his daughter, was also good. The tiny tots of the junior school sang several choruses very sweetly, opening with a Japanese fan song, for which each child wore a kimona. One especially, 'A little bit of heaven' (Ireland), with a harp accompaniment, gained much applause. Miss R. Green, one of the senior pupils, with a voice of exceptional quality, sang 'O dry those tears' to a violin obligato played by Miss K. Murphy. Miss E. Ives and Miss L. Boyes sang an illustrated song, 'Do play with me, please do,' which was much enjoyed. An excellent orchestra played 'Intermezzo gavotte,' 'Jour passes.' Miss I. Mahon played the accompaniments.

During the afternoon Dr. Thacker, M.P., sold by auction a cushion, presented by Mrs. Hoben, for which £60 was realised in a few minutes, Dr. Thacker being most persuasive in his efforts. The final purchaser was Mrs. Thacker at £5 5s.

The Very Rev. Dean Hills cordially expressed the appreciation of the audience for the excellence of the entertainment and thanked the performers for the enjoyment afforded.

The record for the school for the past year was a good one; it had sent a candidate for B.A. and Senior University Scholarship; obtained two full passes and two partial passes for teachers' 'D'; two successful candidates for senior free places, five successful candidates for junior free places, twenty-one proficiency, and eight competency certificates, and good reports from the inspectors. The gold medal for dux of the High School, presented by Mr. G. White, was gained by Miss Margaret Hickey, while the gold cross, donated by the Hibernian Society for the dux of St. Joseph's School, was won by Miss Jessie Coates. Silver medals for Christian doctrine were gained by Miss Peggy O'Reilly (High School) and Miss Rita Humphreys (kindergarten).

The following were the successes obtained in the examination conducted by Mr. Brock, inspector under the North Canterbury Board of Education:—High School.—Proficiency—R. Murphy, M. Rundle, D. Pawson, M. Pawson, C. Slattery, P. Maher, I. Bradford, M. Banfield, C. Jarman, V. Berry, K. Mullan, M. Hoban; competency—G. Dudderidge, E. O'Malley, I. Clarke. St. Joseph's School.—Proficiency—J. Coates, T. Ryan, E. Newman, M. Swanston, M. Murphy, L.

McInerney; competency—P. Wilson, M. Evans. Addington School.—Proficiency—E. Lagan, M. Williams.

Large numbers eventually accepted the invitation of the Sisters to inspect the exhibition of art. This comprised an amazing collection in every possible line of study. In paintings, oil and water colors, and black and white studies the exhibits were of a distinctly high order, and it was generally conceded that for numbers and variety the exhibition passed all previous records. This fact is a most cheering one to the devoted Sisters, and must be also to the parents of the children. The industry and talent displayed were indeed most creditable to all concerned.

The Sacred Heart College re-opens on the 31st January.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL, ADDINGTON.

(From our Christchurch correspondent.)

The annual entertainment in connection with the Sacred Heart School, Addington, conducted by the Sisters of the Missions, was given in the schoolroom on Wednesday evening, December 13. It was previously decided to forego the usual prize-giving, the amount usually expended thus, together with the proceeds of the entertainment, being donated to the Patriotic fund. A substantial sum was thereby realised. There was a large audience of parents and friends, and the various numbers of the lengthy programme were given with great success, and to the evident pleasure of all present. Special prizes donated were presented by the Rev. Father Murphy, B.A., as follow:—Hibernian (dux), E. Lagan; good conduct, M. Williams; devotedness, A. Mahoney. The following was the programme:—Duet, M. Williams, V. Blake; dialogue, 'England, Scotland, Ireland,' R. Pope, E. Glubb, L. O'Donoghue, V. Clancy; action song, 'Umbrella song,' pupils; recitation, 'I'm only a boy,' D. Glubb; song, 'Hands across the sea,' senior boys; song, 'The volunteers,' junior boys; recitation, 'Keeping his word,' Julie Lancaster; song, 'Silver bells,' senior girls; song, 'Marching to Germany,' senior boys; dance, sailors' hornpipe, senior girls; duet, 'Japanese fan dance,' O. Hooker, R. Pope; recitation, 'O'Leary, V.C.,' Dan O'Connell; flag drill, junior girls; song, 'Daddy, soldier daddy,' Max Judd; dialogue, 'Angelina,' E. Glubb, T. Mullins; song, 'A toast to England's Allies,' senior boys; song, 'You can't come to our house,' N. Phillips, J. Lancaster; song, 'Ireland, beautiful Ireland,' senior girls; song, 'Lads in navy blue,' V. Clancy; song, 'The coach and four,' senior pupils; finale, 'God defend New Zealand,' pupils.

ST. ANN'S SCHOOL, WOOLSTON.

(From our Christchurch correspondent.)

The annual Christmas entertainment of the pupils of St. Ann's School, Woolston, conducted by the Sisters of the Missions, was given on Tuesday evening, December 14, and proved very successful and enjoyable. The whole of the proceeds was devoted to the Patriotic fund, which benefited to quite an acceptable amount. The programme was of the usual order, and the young performers gave their allotted parts in a manner distinctly creditable to their teachers and themselves.

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ST. JOSEPH'S CONVENT, HASTINGS.

A large crowd was present at St. Joseph's School-room, Hastings, to witness the concert and prize-giving which are held annually at the end of the school year. The Rev. Father Macdonell and his Worship the Mayor (Mr. W. Hart) delivered short addresses, in which they urged upon the children to rise to the top of the ladder and become good citizens of the town. A most enjoyable concert programme was submitted, all carried out by the pupils of the school, and the manner in which they went through the respective items was a credit to the children and to the Sisters, who have taken a lot of time and trouble to prepare them for the different numbers. The performance went with a real good swing from start to finish. The Sisters are to be congratulated upon the grand results of the year's work. The following is the programme submitted, and by the hearty applause that greeted each item the audience were fully satisfied with it:—Chorus, 'Red, white, and blue,' girls; song and dance, 'The milk maids,' infants; pianoforte solo, 'Fragment' (Mendelssohn), Miss D. Sturrock; welcome song, infants; calisthenic exercises, junior boys; song, 'The Japanese sailor man,' boys; 'Japanese umbrella dance,' senior girls; hoop drill, infants; song, 'The soldier,' pupils; recitation, 'The indignant babies,' (pupils) infants; vocal solo, 'Mother Machree,' Miss N. Stack; chorus, 'Oft in the stilly night,' senior girls; vocal solo, 'To the spring,' Miss N. Stack; song and dance, 'The Spanish gipsies,' juniors; military dance, junior girls; song and chorus, 'Just before the battle, mother,' senior girls; flag exhibition, 'Allied nations,' pupils; 'God save the King.'

At this stage the Mayor presented the prizes, which were both valuable and instructive.

The accompaniments were ably carried out by Miss N. Stack and Madame Lelievre. Mr. Myerscough, Trinity College examiner, at his recent visit here, congratulated Madame Lelievre on her skill as an accompanist. The Sisters wish to thank these two ladies for their kind services, and also those who donated prizes or contributed towards same.

CONVENT HIGH SCHOOL, WANGANUI.

The pupils of the convent schools have, like those of other schools, generously sacrificed their prizes, and given the amount involved to the Patriotic Committee for the benefit of our soldiers. The only prize presented was the annual amiability crown, which the Mayoress, on behalf of the convent authorities, bestowed at the concert upon this year's winner, Miss Florrie Mullins. The names of those to whom prizes would have been presented in the ordinary course of events, and to whom certificates were presented in lieu thereof, are as follow:—

Amiability crown (chosen by vote of companions), F. Mullins; good conduct (gold medal), W. O'Connell; Christian doctrine (gold medal)—E. McDavitt 1, M. Spillane 2, M. Kavanagh 3; junior division—M. Missen 1, H. Missen 2, E. Healey 3; dux (gold medal), R. Dennis; proxime accessit to dux and general excellence, M. McCartin; matriculation (gold medal), N. Limbrick; calisthenics (gold medal)—R. Foster 1, H. Rhodes 2, H. Rogers 3.

Instrumental Music.—L.A.B. (gold medal), R. Curran; advanced grade, R.A.M. (gold medal), O. Martin; higher local, W. O'Connell; senior honors, T.C. (gold medal)—R. Dennis 1, L. Dowling 2; intermediate grade—M. Kavanagh 1, B. Calver 2, E. Punch 3; junior grade—T. Kaganski 1, H. Rogers 2, M. Missen 3.

Singing.—Gold medal—M. Spillane 1, W. O'Connell 2, M. Gower 3; intermediate theory—W. O'Connell 2, M. Gower 3; advanced theory—W. O'Connell 1, M. Bremer 2; advanced junior—E. Clinton and E. Punch; local centre, rudiments—O. Martin and E. Punch; junior—Q. Clinton 1, M. Kavanagh and B. Calver 2; preparatory—F. Death and G. Calver.

Painting (pastel)—M. Carn, T. McDonald, and N. McCartin; drawing (black and white)—N. McCartin and M. Cleary; leather embossing—M. Carn and E. Rhodes; art needlework—E. Rhodes and W. O'Connell 1, M. Bremer and F. Mullins 2, R. Foster 3; juniors, M. Gower. Mt. Mellick work and embroidery—T. McDonald 1, M. Missen 2, R. Death 3; point lace, B. Limbrick; plain sewing (senior division)—E. Murphy 1, T. McDonald 2, W. O'Connell 3; (junior division), S. Punch 1, M. Missen 2, R. Death 3; politeness—W. O'Connell 1, M. Bremer 2, V. Ruscoe 3.

Commercial Course.—Gold medal (presented by Business College), E. Rhodes; book-keeping—E. Rhodes 1, M. Carn 2, B. Limbrick 3; typewriting—M. Carn 1, M. Bremer 2, E. Rhodes 3; shorthand—E. Rhodes 1, M. Carn 2, W. O'Connell 3; house prize, V. Hoult. Class 'D' (partial passing already secured by matriculation in January), N. Limbrick.

University Class.—Latin 1, French 1, history 1, English language and literature 1, essay writing 1, geography 2, algebra 1, geometry 1, arithmetic 3—R. Dennis; Latin 3, English language and literature 2, arithmetic 2, geography 3, history 3, geometry 3, algebra 3, essay writing 3—M. McCartin; Latin 2, French 2, history 2, essay writing 2, English language and literature 3, geography 1—K. Carroll; arithmetic 1, algebra 2, geometry 2—M. Johnstone.

Intermediate and Prep. Matriculation Class.—English language and literature 2, Latin 1, French 2, history 2, geography 3, essay writing 2—B. Calver; English language and literature 1, essay writing 3—M. Bremer; essay writing 1, geography 2, algebra 3, history 1—E. McDavitt; geometry 1, arithmetic 1, French 1, Latin 2, geography 1, algebra 1—M. Cleary; geometry 3, Latin 3, French 3, algebra 2, geography 2—V. Ruscoe; arithmetic 3—M. Spillane; diligence—E. Punch.

Form IA.—Essay writing 1, English language and literature 1, history 1—F. Mullins; arithmetic 3, geography 2, penmanship 3—E. Richardson; essay writing 2, English language and literature 2, penmanship 2, arithmetic 3—M. Carn; essay writing 3, English language and literature 3, arithmetic 1, history 2, geography 1, penmanship 1—E. Murphy; general improvement—E. McCartin.

Form IB.—English language and literature 1, essay writing 1, drawing 3, reading 1, history, penmanship 3, arithmetic 1, geography 3—M. Kavanagh; English language and literature 2, essay writing 2, history 1, geography 2, arithmetic 2, drawing 2—G. Piper; English language and literature 3, essay writing 3, reading 2—M. Sullivan; arithmetic 2, history 3, geography 1—V. McLaughlin; penmanship 2, reading—Irene Benefield; penmanship 1, drawing 1—G. Calver; general improvement, D. Law, M. Seed, C. Thurston, D. Jefcoate, M. Hurley, K. Kearins.

Form II.—English 1, essay writing 1, penmanship 2, elocution 1, geography 2, history 1, arithmetic 3—F. Fanning; English 2, essay writing 2, geography 1, history 2, arithmetic 2—H. Rogers; elocution 2, penmanship 1—A. McLeod; English 3, essay writing 3, penmanship 3, drawing 2, history 3, elocution 3—H. Scott; arithmetic 1, geography 3—M. Leamy; drawing 1—T. McDonald; drawing 3—S. Green; diligence—M. Storey and S. Punch.

Form III.—English 1, essay writing 2, history 2, elocution 1, penmanship 2, geography 1, drawing 1—M. Missen; English 2, essay writing 1, history 3, elocution 2, penmanship 1, drawing 2—H. Rhodes; essay writing 3, history 1, geography 2—A. McLoughlin; English 3, elocution 3, penmanship 3, geography 3—E. Healey; drawing—R. Death; diligence—E. New.

Form IV.—English 2, essay writing 2, history 3, elocution 2, penmanship 2, geography 1, drawing 1—H. Missen; English 1, essay writing 2, history 1, penmanship 3—M. Fake; English 3, history 2, elocution 3, geography 3—M. Foster; essay writing 3, penmanship 1—M. Gower; elocution 1, drawing 2, geography 2—P. Macfarlane; drawing 3—G. Rhodes; diligence and general improvement—I. Hall, R. Lisette, E. Fake, and M. Jackson.

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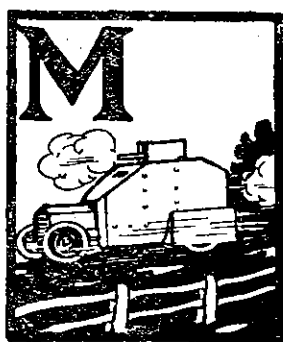
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for the
Children

4866

Out of seven candidates presented for proficiency from the Convent High School, six obtained proficiency certificates and one competency. Out of 13 candidates presented for proficiency from St. Joseph's School six obtained proficiency certificates, and four competency.

Successes at Public Examinations:—Matriculation, Solicitor's General Knowledge, and Medical Preliminary.—N. Limbrick. Intermediate.—N. Limbrick (credit), R. Dennis (credit).

Commercial Course (in connection with the National Business College, Sydney, N.S.W.)—Shorthand certificates—F. Rhodes, M. Carn, E. McCartin, C. Thurston, W. O'Connell, and B. Limbrick. (All presented passed.) Bookkeeping—E. Rhodes, W. O'Connell, B. Limbrick, E. McCartin, M. Carn, N. Cribb, A. Wood, and M. Callaghan. (All presented passed.) Typewriting—E. Rhodes, M. Bremer, M. Carn, L. Bretherton, M. Kavanagh (All presented passed.) St. Joseph's School—M. Koorey, R. Cribb, and N. Cribb. (All presented passed.)

Music (instrumental and vocal, in connection with Trinity College, London)—Practical, L.T.C.L. (singing), T. Vickers; higher local, W. O'Connell; senior (singing), H. Roche (honors), R. Dennis (honors), N. Dowling (honors); intermediate—R. Curran (honors, singing), M. Kavanagh (honors), B. Calver, E. Punch, E. Mullins, A. O'Neill, C. Gellatly. Junior: Honors—T. Kaganski, G. Heinold, H. Rogers, M. Missen, M. Reubin; pass—E. Punch (singing), D. Martis, S. Green, Q. Clinton, M. Reubin (singing), M. Bremer (singing). Preparatory: Honors—M. Foster, T. McDonald, D. Powell, M. Gower, G. Rhodes, G. Calver, E. Healey, H. Scott, R. Death, D. Jeffcoate, S. Punch, M. Leamy. First steps—L. Price (honors), H. Fake, P. Macfarlane. Class singing—Pupils of convent High School (honors), pupils of St. Joseph's School (honors). Associated Board, R.A.M.—L.A.B., Ruby Curran. Advanced Local Centre—O. Martin. Intermediate Local Centre—H. Roche (singing). Higher School—R. Curran (singing). Elementary: Distinction—W. O'Connell (singing), M. Gower, J. McGonigle; pass—V. Shale, N. Powell, R. Crotty, M. Craig, S. Satherley, D. Morse, P. Macfarlane, M. Gower (singing), T. McDonald (singing). Class singing—Pupils of St. Joseph's School, pupils of Convent High School. Trinity College Theory.—Intermediate division—W. O'Connell and M. Bremer; advanced junior—E. Clinton and E. Punch (honors); junior, honors—Q. Clinton, B. Calver, M. Kavanagh, F. Death, L. Brosnahan, C. Thurston, M. Carn; preparatory—F. Death, B. Calver, C. Calver, H. Rogers, M. Missen, W. Seed, H. Rhodes, N. Piper. Associated Board Theory.—Local centre, rudiments—H. Roche, O. Martin, E. Punch; Division III.—M. Kavanagh, E. Punch, C. Thurston, E. Clinton; Division II.—B. Calver, Q. Clinton, H. Rogers, G. Calver; Division I.—G. Calver.

ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL, WANGANUI.

Good Conduct.—Standard VI., N. McWilliams; V., C. Kruse; IV., C. Corney; III., E. Slatter; II., M. Tuka; I., S. Beans.

Christian Doctrine.—Senior, M. Koorey; Standard VI., N. Cronin; V., R. Crotty; IV., C. Corney; III., V. Shale.

Needlework.—N. McWilliams, V. Emeny, M. Burr, M. Benefield.

Politeness.—F. Emeny, M. Murray.

Standard VI.—Book-keeping—C. Sloan 1, M. Koorey 2, N. Cribb 3; typewriting—M. Koorey 1, C. Sloan 2, N. Cribb 3; shorthand—N. Cribb 1, M.

Koorey 2; euclid, C. Lewis; arithmetic—C. Lewis 1, C. Sloan 2; geography—M. Koorey 1, N. Cribb 2; essay, N. Cribb; history—C. Sloan, C. Lewis.

Standard VI.—Dux, J. O'Leary; attendance—V. Emeny, N. Cronin; arithmetic—N. Cronin, J. O'Leary, R. Duncan; essay—N. Cronin, M. Donald; geography—R. Duncan, A. Smithies, M. Melody; history—J. O'Leary, L. O'Leary, N. McWilliams; writing—F. Emeny, B. Boyle; drawing—V. Emeny, M. Donald; reading and recitation, M. Craig.

Standard V.—Attendance—M. Luxford and P. Austin; arithmetic—E. Howard, R. Crotty, E. Brown; essay—M. Burr, M. Luxford, A. Meehan; history—L. Broome, P. Austin; geography—L. Hodge, E. Brown; writing—M. Luxford, E. Howard; reading—I. Reed, L. Hodge, M. Coxon; drawing—C. Lawson, I. Reed, P. Walker.

Standard IV.—Arithmetic—M. McKenzie, C. Corney, D. Madgwick; essay—D. Madgwick, Q. Conder, M. Murray; history—Q. Conder, N. Powell, D. Rout; geography—M. McKenzie, N. Powell, C. Corney; writing—B. Cooper, C. Corney, M. Murray; reading—N. Powell, D. Rout; drawing, M. McKenzie, M. Murray.

Standard III.—Attendance—J. Duncan and M. Welshe; arithmetic—B. Dwyer, V. Shale, M. Welshe; essay—M. Welshe, D. Smithies, J. Burr; geography—D. Smithies, M. Grogan; reading—V. Shale, J. Burr, C. Brown; writing—M. Benefield, I. Broome, M. Welshe; drawing—V. Shale, T. Herd, E. Slatter; history, B. Dwyer.

Standard II.—Attendance—P. Emeny; reading and recitation—E. Courtney, M. Tuka, S. Lawson; writing—L. Lawson, M. Tuka; arithmetic—E. Courtney, T. Conder, C. Broome; drawing—S. Lawson, T. Conder; composition—C. Hogan, D. Gibson, P. Emeny.

Standard I.—Attendance, J. Herd; reading—L. Koorey, C. McAlister, L. Harris; writing—J. Dolan, E. Carmody, V. Vernon; arithmetic—R. Fowler, A. Williams, K. Muir; composition—P. McCartney, C. Tuffin, M. Emeny; drawing—J. Shore, B. Stewart, R. Cotelli.

Of the thirteen pupils presented for proficiency, six obtained proficiency and four competency.

MARIST BROTHERS' SCHOOL, VERMONT STREET, AUCKLAND.

On Tuesday, December 14, the pupils of the Marist Brothers' School, Vermont street, gave their annual entertainment in the Concert Chamber of the Town Hall, the performance being well up to the high standard of excellence for which this school is noted. The items were bright and cheery from start to finish. The opening item was an original dialogue, the scene representing a miners' camp. During the evening several excellent choruses were given, the pick of them being 'Ireland and liberty,' 'When Irish eyes are smiling,' 'Oft in the stilly night,' 'Let the hills resound,' 'Motherland,' 'Maple leaf,' and the 'Captain's ditty.' Several tableaux were staged, the best being a representation of the crib at Bethlehem. During this tableau 'Adeste Fideles' was sung, the solos being taken by Masters E. O'Donohue, V. Cooke, and H. Righton. The chorus was rendered in three-part harmony by an invisible chorus of boys. Another very fine tableau represented a military camp. The Marist Brothers' Senior Cadets supplied the drill, and Master H. Righton sang the solo. Master V. Cooke sang

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'When shall the day break in Erin,' in excellent voice, the tableau representing Erin leaning on the harp in an expectant attitude, being greeted with rounds of applause. The junior pupils sang two very fine and amusing choruses, 'The members of the force,' and 'A cricket song.' These items were very well received, being somewhat above the standard of the usual junior choruses. Several recitations were given in a first-class manner, the best being 'At Tel-el-Kebir,' by Master H. Patchet, and 'Selected,' by little Victor Courtney; while Master Jaspar McMahon excelled himself in a comic piece, entitled 'A trifle mixed.' The class recitation, 'Barbara Freitchie,' was somewhat of an innovation, but its value was proved by the applause which greeted it. Displays of dumb-bells by the junior pupils, and Indian clubs by the seniors were done in a wonderfully clever way. The time was perfect, and not a single mistake was made. A duet, 'Shepherd of souls,' was sung by Masters E. O'Donohue and H. Righton, while Master Leo Sayers sang 'Good old New Zealand' in fine style. The whole was brought to a close by an extremely bright and laughable farce, entitled 'Cherry bounce,' in which the performers—Masters Righton, Cooke, Smith, Ryan, Stevenson, and Driffin—acquitted themselves admirably. It should be very gratifying and encouraging to the Brothers to know that the unanimous opinion is that this concert was the best ever given by school children in Auckland, and when we consider that the Brothers confine the items to the pupils of the school, without any outside help, it is all the more reason that they should be proud of the excellent standard reached on this, as well as on other occasions.

The Right Rev. Dr. Brodie presided. A presentation was to have been made to Dr. Brodie at the concert, but owing to the late hour, it was deferred to a later and more suitable date. Mr. Harry Hiscocks, the Cathedral organist, accompanied the boys on the piano, in his usual able manner.

It may be here remarked that only two weeks were available in which to prepare this concert, as previous to this the Brothers were kept busy preparing the lads to take their part in the combined schools concert, given in the Town Hall, at which the boys, besides joining in all the choruses, also staged statue and maze drill, which everybody admitted to be easily the best item of the evening. On Saturday evening the boys of the school, under the charge of Brother Emilian, gave the inmates of the Costley Home a fine entertainment, which the old people enjoyed immensely.

SACRED HEART CONVENT, ISLAND BAY.

The distribution of prizes to the pupils of the Sacred Heart Convent, Island Bay, took place on December 16. The following is the list:—

Decorations.—The first medallion and ribbon of merit have been given by the votes of the pupils, ratified by the Religious, to M. O'Donovan; the fourth ribbon to F. Fitzgerald, 5th to M. Uniacke, 6th to N. Kilsby. The first green ribbon to E. Sykes, 3rd to M. Evatt, 4th to V. Ross; next in merit, A. Sykes. The pink ribbon to—E. Sheridan, B. Loughnan, H. Mills, A. Mills, E. Dallow, M. Dallow, I. Meadows, G. Griffiths, C. Johnston, S. Kennedy, L. Saunders.

General Good Conduct.—M. O'Donovan; accessit, F. Fitzgerald, M. Uniacke.

Christian Doctrine.—2nd Division—B. Fitzgerald; accessit, I. Dunne, I. Duncan. 3rd Division—Z. Sheridan; accessit, E. Barry, H. Mills. 4th Division—C. Johnston; accessit, A. Mills. First Class—M. O'Donovan.

English Subjects.—2nd Class—I. Dunne; accessit, B. Fitzgerald. 4th Class—Z. Sheridan; accessit, E. Sykes. 6th Class—M. Johnston; accessit, G. Griffiths.

Science Subjects.—2nd Class—I. Duncan; accessit, N. Kilsby. 4th Class—E. Sykes; accessit, M. Kennedy. 6th Class—M. O'Donnell; accessit, E. D'Ath. 7th Class—A. Mills; accessit, C. Johnston. Elementary Class—E. Dallow; accessit, L. Saunders.

Languages (French).—3rd Division—B. Fitzgerald; accessit, I. Duncan. 4th Division—E. Sykes; accessit, M. Morgan.

Diligence.—Supplementary Division—N. Kilsby; accessit, E. Barry. 6th Division—A. Sykes; accessit, E. Sheridan. Elementary Division—C. Johnston; accessit, S. Kennedy.

Needlework.—2nd Division—B. Fitzgerald; accessit, I. Dunne. 3rd Division—E. Sykes; accessit, E. D'Ath. 4th Division—A. Mills; accessit, E. Dallow.

Order.—1st Division—M. Morgan; accessit, M. O'Donovan, N. Kilsby. 2nd Division—A. Sykes; accessit, M. Johnston, G. Griffiths.

Domestic Economy.—K. Cornish.

Cookery.—M. O'Donovan; accessit, G. Cullinane.

Certificates for Good Conduct and Diligence.—M. Uniacke, E. Sykes, N. Kilsby. Certificates for good conduct—F. Fitzgerald, M. Evatt, V. Ross. Certificates for diligence—B. Fitzgerald, E. Barry, I. Duncan, Z. Sheridan.

Classes will re-open on Tuesday, February 15.

MARIST BROTHERS' SCHOOL, CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

The closing of the year's studies by the pupils of the Marist Brothers' School, Christchurch, was marked, as on previous similar occasions, by a public entertainment. This eventuated in the Choral Hall on Monday evening, December 13, when there was a large audience. Among those present were the Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., and a number of the clergy. This annual fixture of the Marist School boys has always proved very popular, and the present was certainly no exception to the well-established rule. The entertainment was thoroughly enjoyable, and the whole-hearted manner in which all performed their allotted parts, evidenced the careful and unremitting training imparted by the Brothers, and the talent and industry of the boys. The following was the programme:—Part I.—Overture, 'Battle of Gallipoli,' Miss H. Woodward; prologue, Master Gordon Daly; chorus, 'Minstrel boy,' pupils; physical drill, junior pupils; violin solo, 'The harp that once,' Master Frank Banfield; Duet, 'Night of stars and night of love,' Masters Roy Summer and Fred Main; statue drill, senior pupils; recitation, 'The blacksmith of Limerick,' Master Fred Main; chorus, 'Zealandia,' pupils. Part II.—Chorus, 'O'Donnell Aboo,' senior pupils; parallel bars, senior pupils; dumb-bells, junior pupils; play, 'The brigand's son,' cast of characters—Corporal Nicolo Gamba, Master L. Ryan; Matteo Falcone and Gianetto, Master R. Dobbs; Brozzo, Master F. Main; Fortunato Falcone, Master W. Maloney. Chorus, 'God defend New Zealand,' pupils. Miss H. Woodward was accompanist.

Before presenting the awards, the Very Rev. Father Price, in eulogistic terms, referred to the good record of the school for the year just closed, and expressed warm appreciation of the efforts of the principal (Brother Calixtus) and his assistant teachers for the excellent results attained. He urged the pupils to renewed efforts during the coming years, and thus maintain the high standard the school has attained. Father Price then presented the prizes, after which the following report was read by Brother Calixtus:—

This year, the progress noted in previous reports, has been well maintained in all branches of the school work. The conduct of the pupils, both within and outside school hours, has been very good. In the report sent in by the director of the Technical College, on the woodwork class, no boy had less than 'very good' for conduct. The Christian doctrine examination was conducted by the Rev. Father Murphy, who expressed himself as being very well satisfied with the progress made. The rev. examiner very kindly donated the prizes for that subject. The inspector's report was very satisfactory. In Standard VI., 24 were presented, 22 securing proficiency and one competency.

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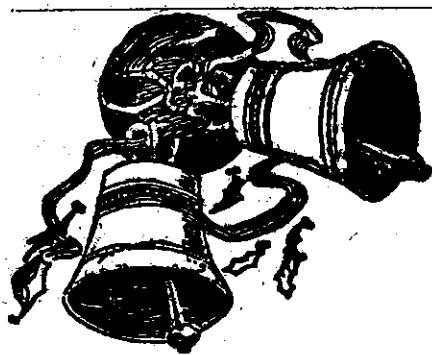
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On the athletic field, the footballers put up somewhat of a record, winning all their games and scoring 437 points to 3. During the last six years their line has been crossed but twice, and they have been unbeaten throughout. Eight of the team were chosen to represent the province in the school representative games, including the captain (E. Sloane). The Brothers and boys are deeply grateful to the clergy for their ever ready help and keen interest in the school, to all who have contributed towards the prize fund, to Mr. Gundersen and Mr. Hornibrook for training the boys in the parallel bars, to Mr. F. McDonald, who coached the boys for the play, and to Miss H. Woodward and Miss E. Cotter for helping with the singing. We have also to thank Mr. Joyce for decorating the stage. The school committee has done excellent work, and deserves hearty co-operation. One hundred and thirteen 'old boys' of the school, more than 60 per cent. of the association, have gallantly responded to the call of King and country. We wish you all the compliments of the season.

The following is the prize list:—

Good conduct (Dr. Morkane's gold medal), E. Sloane; Christian doctrine (Bishop Grimes' medal and Clifford shield)—H. Batchelor 1, F. Main 2, J. Kiely 3; dux (Hibernian gold medal), J. Burns; champion all-round athlete (medal presented by Dr. O'Brien), H. McCormack; best runner, G. Getson; batting average, L. Neilson (Father Seward's medal); bowling average, R. Sumner (Father Seward's medal); woodwork, G. Blogg; Federation essays—H. Batchelor, V. Haughey, J. Kiely.

Standard VI.—2nd Aggregate, R. Sumner; English—N. Kelly, V. Haughey, H. McCormack, B. Rundle, E. O'Donoghue; arithmetic—L. Neilson, J. Darragh, C. Ashton, S. Harrington, P. Gregory; spelling—C. Sutherland, W. Ward; reading—J. Jacques, R.

Gray, E. Barrett; writing—J. Kiely, F. Banfield, D. Christie, C. Batchelor; drawing, G. Getson; essay, J. Wilson.

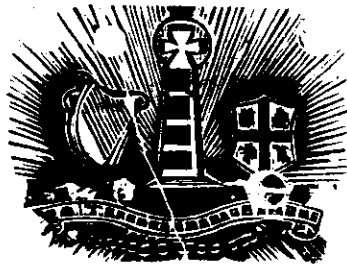
Standard V.—Christian doctrine—L. Cecil, R. McKay; dux (medal presented by Mr. Kelly), aggregate—T. Campbell 1, W. Barnard 2, A. Logan 3; arithmetic—W. Mitchell, L. Mahoney, C. Belcher, O. Brittenden; reading—W. Sutherland, H. Hope; essay—M. Darby, M. Daly; writing—B. O'Malley, C. McArley, J. Collins, L. Cotter; mental—E. Consedine, R. McKay; geography, W. Stride; drawing, J. Proudfoot; oral work—R. Wilson, C. Dobbs, L. Cecil; spelling, G. Dunn.

Standard IV.—Christian doctrine—H. Rodgers, E. Egan; aggregate—E. Goodman 1, R. Glubb 2, S. Flood 3; reading—A. Matheson, W. Smith, C. Garty, W. Green, C. Barnett; essay—P. Clarkson, W. O'Brien; arithmetic—C. Hayes, J. Healey, L. Lanyon, J. Ellis, C. McArley, J. O'Donoghue, R. Arroll, — Hope; mental, L. Harrington; writing, W. Holland, C. Croucher; spelling—P. Madden, D. Roche, P. Malone.

Standard II. (Lower).—Christian doctrine, F. Cavey; aggregate—F. Curran, J. Coomber, C. Langdon; good conduct, R. Milligan; reading—H. Granger, J. O'Connell, L. Mitchell, J. Lloyd, J. Noonan; arithmetic—P. O'Connor, C. Boyd; J. O'Loughlin, D. Crowe; drawing—C. Babington, J. Noonan; oral work—H. Mathieson, F. Rose; handwriting, P. Barnard; general improvement—A. Moody, P. Burns, E. Ward, J. Commons; table and spelling, M. Farrell.

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ROME LETTER

(From our own correspondent.)

October 24.

THE TWO SISTER NATIONS.

It is with no small degree of satisfaction one sees coming to a head that project as to the founding of a common plan of action between the Catholics of France and the Catholics of Italy for the defence of the rights of the Church and of the Holy See. Not, indeed, in 1915, but in 1895—five years before French Masonry swore eternal hostility to the Catholic Church—should this league have been formed. Strong are the ties and well-pondered are the assaults that characterise the common action of Franco-Italian Masons against the Vatican. Hence the necessity, growing daily more palpable, for united action on the part of the sister countries.

The idea has these days met with the powerful advocacy of the Cardinal Archbishop of Paris, who, it is stated, came to Rome at the request of Benedict XV. to hear details of the entire situation in France from his Eminence's own lips. While positively refusing to receive journalists, by reason of the delicacy of the situation, Cardinal Amette gives full voice to his enthusiasm for the project to a militant pressman in the Catholic camp.

'Italy and France,' said the Cardinal, 'are not vainly called "the sister nations," and therefore they must walk side by side on the same path, just as do two sisters united by cordial affection. But, mark you well, they must walk on "their own" path. For just as the stars cannot give light if they do not follow in the orbit assigned to them, so France and Italy shall not be able to give that light of civility which the world has always expected from them, if they do not follow "their own" way. And the way of Italy and of France is, as you know, Catholicism.'

If Cardinal Amette remained a few months in the Eternal City, he should see an amusing form in which the Pontiff's enemy, the secret society, manifests its rage and chagrin at the triumphs obtained by his Holiness in the service of humanity. Catholic, Protestant, Schismatic, and Moslem give ear to only one man in Europe—*hinc illae lacrymae!* So last week, when the Pope's letter to the Sultan of Turkey, appealing for poor, persecuted Armenia, resulted in a cessation of massacres and expatriations of Catholic and Schismatic Armenians, an explanatory circular from the Ottoman Minister of Interior Affairs (who charges the Armenians with plotting for the erection of an Armenian State) on the awful situation, and in the expression of public thanks of the Schismatic Patriarch at Constantinople to Archbishop Dolci, Papal Delegate on the Bosphorus, who could expect the gutter organs by the Tiber to restrain their feelings any longer? And so, in a series of rumors, malice found an outlet. What were they? One, the old story over again: 'The plan for the Pope's flight from Rome,' which the King of Spain and Prince Hartstein, Austrian Ambassador to the Holy See, were supposed to have engineered, formed the burden of their song. Rome and Ireland are the safest, perhaps the only really safe, spots in Europe. But what mattered that to those who would have the masses believe—and they will credit anything nowadays, provided the fabrication is recounted in a positive manner, without blush or hesitation—the Holy Father found it expedient 'to fly from Rome'! Had the lovers of truth gone to the hotels, they should have found that a fair number of foreigners are gathering into Rome for the winter, one evidence of which is that the Advent course of sermons is taken on by the Very Rev. Dr. O'Gorman, Rector of the Church of St. Patrick, Rome, in San Silvestro in Capite. Were there not a pretty large number to attend the usual course, the series should not be held in English. Still, the Pope was to fly at once from Rome!

Another was that detailed letter from the Pope to the King of the Belgians calling upon him as a son of the Church to initiate a peace project, and King

Albert's respectful and emphatic refusal to entertain the very idea. So tenaciously did the *Messaggero* (the Masonic organ) hold to the reality of such a letter that it required two denials from the *Osservatore Romano*, the semi-official organ of the Vatican, to lay the report at rest. Neither in substance nor in form is there any foundation for the rumor (it says), and if 'an ecclesiastical diplomat' made such a statement (which we do not believe), he would be the author of a mystification.

Really the Holy Father is too busy. The Consistory will give to the Sacred College at least 9 Cardinals, and that means work, every detail of which must be seen to by himself. He can, and does, leave to the Sacred Congregations of Propaganda and Consistorial the onus of choosing bishops for the dioceses of the world, up to the point of ratification, where the supreme authority must alone act. And this calls to mind the pretty total of dioceses in English-speaking countries, which are at this present hour widowed of their bishops—Buffalo, Los Angeles, Chicago, in the United States; Nottingham in England; Christchurch in New Zealand; Ballarat in Australia; Dromore and Waterford in Ireland. Dr. O'Neill, Bishop of Dromore, the latest of these bishops to pass to his reward, was one of the most courtly and polished gentlemen that ever entered by the Flaminian Gate.

Early in November the Romans, it is announced, will devote a day to the solemn commemoration of all Italian soldiers that have fallen in the Italo-Austrian war. Later on the Municipality of Rome will raise a monument in San Lorenzo over the tomb of all Roman soldiers whose remains, from general down to private, the city, as far as it possibly can, will have transferred to the vast city of the dead. Both ideas betoken the good hearts of Italians and the wonderful reverence, intense and profound, which they have for 'their dear dead.' But when Roman citizens are erecting that monument let them look through the tens of thousands of others in San Lorenzo. Among them stands one, lofty, rich, and significant in its marble and bronze, which Pius the Ninth erected to the memory of the Canadian, French, Irish, Swiss, and Italian soldiers who fell in defence of the Papal States. Upon the summit of the grand monument stands a marble statue of St. Peter in the act of placing a sword in the hands of a Christian knight. And around the column are inscribed the names of the dead heroes. At its base lies a marble slab placed there by those who conquered Pius the Ninth in their first flush of victory. Its inscription brands the fallen ones as 'mercenaries.' 'Mercenaries'! those brave Franks and Celts with the best blood of Europe flowing in their veins, men who gave up rank, title, wealth, profession to enter the Pope's little army as full privates!

The following students of the Irish College will be ordained Deacons on November 1:—Rev. P. J. Roughneer (Achonry), Rev. B. Duggan (Raphoe), Rev. J. Kelly (Bathurst), Rev. H. O'Neill (Cork), Rev. S. Marley (Dublin), Rev. P. Dargan (Dublin), Rev. P. Flynn (Ardagh). Subdeacons:—Rev. Messrs. H. Devine (Goulburn), J. Fitzpatrick (Dublin). And from the Irish Augustinians:—Deacons—Rev. P. Redmond, O.S.A., and Rev. T. Conlan, O.S.A.

NOTE.

Brother O'Hagen, Assistant-General of the Irish Christian Brothers, who is on a visitation of their institutes, has been received in private audience by the Holy Father; so also has been the Procurator-General of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart.

What is coming out of our lives, we can never quite know. The unexpected continually happens. But of one thing we can be sure—that is if we do our best, something will come that is worth while.

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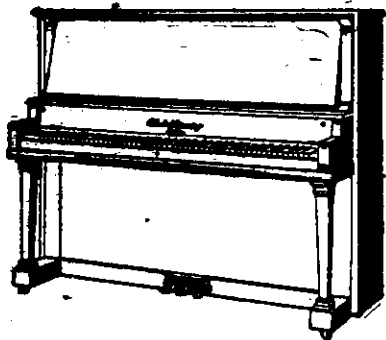
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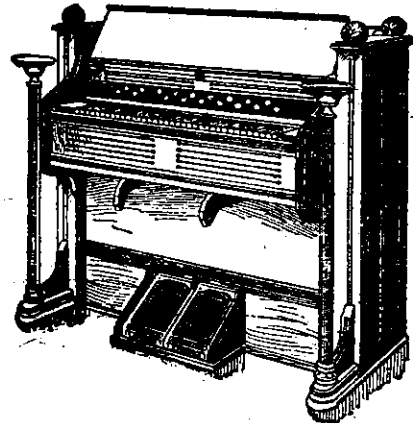
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Domestic

(BY MAUREEN.)

Summer Beverage.

A nice summer-drink (non-alcoholic) may be made from apples. Slice four large, juicy apples, without paring; add a quart of boiling water; cover until cold, then sweeten slightly and flavor with lemon or orange juice.

French Pancakes.

Beat 2oz of butter to a cream, and add 2 well-beaten eggs. Stir in 2oz of castor sugar and 2oz of flour, and mix well with half a pint of milk. Bake for twenty minutes in a quick oven, on well-buttered plates. Serve with jam.

To Wash Chenille Curtains.

Chenille curtains should be washed in a mixture of soft soap and borax, rather weak, and with cold water. When hanging them out to dry, they should not be doubled across the line in the usual way, as the weight of the water would drag the strands apart. Double them lengthwise; or, better still, if the weather is dry enough, spread them on sheets of newspaper on the ground.

To Wash a Crochet Quilt.

Half fill a copper with water, and into it shred finely a square block of good soap. When the water is just warm put in the quilt. Turn it over frequently, poking it about gently with a wooden stick. When the water boils keep the quilt well under. Boil for ten or fifteen minutes. Take it out and rinse thoroughly. To the last rinsing water add a little blue, which has been strained through muslin. Put the quilt through the wringer, and double it over the line to dry. If it has a fringe, a vigorous shaking when nearly dry will put the fringe in order.

Almond Icing.

To each pound of fine white sugar, allow 1lb of ground almonds, and the whites of three eggs. Put the almonds into a basin and work to a paste with orange-flower or rose water, then mix in the sugar and stiffly beaten whites of the eggs. When the paste is quite smooth, and the cake is finished baking, moisten the top of the latter with beaten white of egg, and lay on the almond paste to cover it evenly and completely. Put into a very moderate oven to harden sufficiently.

Old-fashioned Pot Pourri.

To make this delicate scent, take six handfuls of rose petals of all kinds, three handfuls each of clove pinks and carnations, also orange blossom, together with two good handfuls of any other sweet smelling flower, these to be added when they bloom. To this proportion of flower petals (without stalks or leaves) allow, when they are dried, one nutmeg, half an ounce of cloves, one pound of bay salt, and two ounces of saltpetre. These should be well grounded or pounded together, and the ingredients all mixed. To this should be added six ounces of orris root and one ounce of bergamot, and one dram each of spirits of lavender and essence of musk or lemon.

Household Hints.

A cup of hot milk sipped slowly before going to bed each night will add flesh to the thinnest body.

Before going into the garden to plant or fuss about the soil, put a little good soap under your finger nails. It will keep them from getting injured. This is simple, but good.

Housekeepers are often troubled and perplexed by mildew from damp closets and from rust. Put an earthen bowl or deep plateful of quicklime in the closet. The lime will absorb the dampness and also sweeten and disinfect the place.

Chaplain Father Francis Clune, C.P., brother to his Grace the Archbishop of Perth, has left for the front.

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On the Land

GENERAL.

A correspondent asks the *Journal of Agriculture* for a receipt for a cheap durable paint for farm out-buildings. Mr. D. Oliver, foreman painter, Public Works Department, Wellington, to whom the matter was referred, states that if the color does not matter the following is about as cheap and durable a paint as it is possible to make up: To 5 gallons boiled oil add 1 cwt oxide of iron; let soak twenty-four hours; add 15lb patent driers and two gallons kerosene, and mix well together. The color of this paint is dull red.

THE RENNET-SUPPLY FOR CHEESEMAKING.

By the term 'rennet' in dairying is understood the liquid or powdered preparations used for purposes of cheesemaking, and containing as their chief constituent a special ferment which exerts a powerful action on the caseous matter of milk (says the *Journal of Agriculture*). This ferment is found in the stomach of a large number of animals, and is especially abundant in the stomach of calves. On account of the ease with which they can be procured, these animals are used almost exclusively as a source of rennet-supplies.

Rennet is the only suitable medium for coagulating milk for the manufacture of cheese, therefore in the absence of the requisite quantity of this constituent cheesemaking would have to stop. What this would mean to New Zealand can be more readily imagined than discussed, but we may hope that there is no immediate danger of such a thing happening to our cheese industry, which is now valued at considerably over two and a-half millions sterling per annum.

It is well, however, at a time like this, when all branches of commerce are liable to interruption, that we should be prepared against the possibility of supplies of rennet being short, or perhaps entirely cut off. It must be remembered that New Zealand has to depend almost wholly upon European Continental sources for its supply of rennet, Sweden, Denmark, and Holland being the principal rennet-exporting countries. If, therefore, this trade to the Dominion should be hampered owing to the war it would be a bad day for our cheese industry, unless some provision be made to otherwise furnish the rennet required. When the war broke out the probability of rennet-supplies for New Zealand being interrupted was taken into consideration. It was then learned that for this season at least the full supply might be expected, a good deal of it already being on the water, and an assurance obtained that the remainder would come forward; therefore up to the present time there has been no cause for alarm. It was thought expedient, however, that some inquiries should be made in England regarding the preparation of rennet for cheesemaking, and also as to whether we could depend upon Great Britain furnishing even a portion of our needs. The Inspector of New Zealand dairy produce in London (Mr. W. Wright) was accordingly asked to make full inquiries on the subject. The following are extracts from reports furnished by him:—

The Intelligence Department of the British Board of Trade supplied me with the names of four firms, three in England and one in Ireland, who were supposed to be manufacturers of rennet. On investigation I found that two were out of business as actual manufacturers, and were merely agents for Continental firms now. The only two firms that are making rennet in this country are, so far as I can find out, the Viking Rennet Company (Limited) and Messrs. Fullwood and Bland, both of London.

Prior to the war the bulk of the vells came through Germany, principally through German houses at Hamburg and Leipzig. The Germans managed to get the bulk of the trade through advancing the necessary cash to the eastern butchers to enable them to carry on the business of purchasing and collecting the vells. Should Germany be successful in seizing Riga it is expected that the supplies of vells to Scandinavian houses will be cut off. Some years ago large supplies of vells used

to come to hand from Ireland, but the trade has died out entirely.

The inference, so far as I can gather, is that the supply of rennet in the near future is likely to be uncertain, and it is not at all unlikely that there will be a considerable shortage, so that the outlook generally is not very hopeful.

THE MARGARINE AND BUTTER TRADES.

Drawing attention to the great development which continues to take place in the margarine trade, the High Commissioner, London, reports, under date 12th October last, as follows:—

During the last few years the consumptive demand for margarine has been increasing rapidly, and during the last twelve months it has increased more rapidly still. So great has this demand become that manufacturers have the greatest difficulty in filling orders, and in some cases they find it almost impossible to do so. Some time ago a new brand of high-grade margarine was placed on the market, the wholesale price of which is 9d and the fixed retail price 1s per pound, which it will be seen leaves 3d per pound for the grocer's expenses. The success of this line has been remarkable, aided no doubt in no small degree by the retailers pushing the sale of an article that returns them a good margin of profit, which for some time butter has not done. The worst feature in the case is that this class of margarine has, according to the opinions expressed by the trade, permanently displaced butter in the consumptive demand to a very considerable extent in quarters that had not hitherto been affected.

The butter position in this country has been a most unsatisfactory one for some time. The premier country from which the bulk of choicest butter is obtained is Denmark. Denmark has been exporting largely to Germany and Austria and latterly to Switzerland, and on account of the great shortage of butter and other fats in these countries the demand for the Danish article has been very keen, and prices are ruling very high. So far as the United Kingdom is concerned, retail prices for this class of butter are from 1s 11d to 2s per pound, which has greatly curtailed the consumption, because people generally cannot afford to pay so dearly for this class of goods. Prices for Irish creamery have risen in sympathy, but the supply is not large and is decreasing. Siberian butter has, with few exceptions, been coming to hand badly heated, mouldy, and of poor quality, so that this butter has not been able to any great extent to fill the requirements of the trade. It is stated that there are to-day 100,000 casks of poor and inferior quality Siberian in cold store, for which there is little demand at the present time.

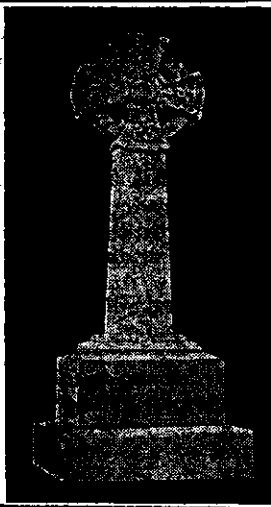
These factors have also been of great assistance in developing the margarine trade, because necessity has broken down the prejudice that existed in the minds of many people with respect to margarine, and by whom it is now preferred as an article of diet when compared with high-priced and inferior-quality butters. So long as these conditions exist, the greater, in my opinion, will be the development of the margarine industry.

In reviewing the butter situation to-day, while it is admitted that there is the probability that there will always be a market for good-quality butter, yet it has now to be recognised as a fact that the use of margarine is becoming more firmly established, and this must necessarily displace a proportionate amount of butter from the usual trade requirements.

SYMPATHY.

If there is one person who deserves sympathy it is surely he who suffers from chronic colds. A sudden change in the weather or going out into the night air from a heated room, is quite enough to bring on the trouble. Usually the tendency to catch cold is due to a generally run-down condition, and the treatment should take the form of a tonic like BAXTER'S LUNG PRESERVER. It is pleasant to take, gives sure results, and is quite harmless; for children and adults you cannot find a better cough or cold remedy. 1/10 a bottle from all chemists and stores, or by post direct.

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JUDGE NOT.

Judge not with haste thy fellow man,
Amid the swelling strife,
Nor with uncertain vision scan
The fabric of his life.
For none may know the hidden wells
Of worth that lie within;
Where undiscovered virtue dwells
And nothing base has been.

Judge not, for error often holds
Its sway o'er mortal mind,
'Till truth with magic power controls
Our hearts, to make us kind.
For oft, with our perverted sight,
The faults by others shown
Become, when opened to the light,
Reflections of our own.

A HAIR-BREADTH ESCAPE.

Several years ago, when the winter quarters of Barnum's Menagerie at Bridgeport, Conn., were burned, many of the confined animals were loosed and some escaped into the country. Miss Fay, a woman who was then a very young girl, tells of her thrilling experience with one of the wild wanderers.

'One Sunday night,' she writes, 'I was walking home from church by a long, lonely route, partly on the Westfield dyke, which is an embankment parallel to the Westfield River, built to hold the overflow in the springtime. The snow was deep nearly everywhere except at the top of the dike, where it had been blown away.

'I was walking rapidly when I was startled by hearing a cry as of a child in distress, at which I stopped and listened a moment. Hearing nothing, I started again, but had taken but a few steps when I heard the sound again, this time from behind me.

'I turned and at first saw nothing, for I was looking on the top of the dike, but in a moment my eyes rested on what looked like a large dog with a long, shaggy tail at the foot of the dike not far behind me. I was thoroughly frightened, for I knew in a moment that the animal was a wild one, as no dog or other domesticated animal would make such a cry.

'A few days earlier I had visited my grandfather, who lived some ten miles away, and he had declared that he had heard a "painter" for some two or three nights previous. As he was an old hunter, all except one of his neighbors had heeded his warning and carefully housed their stock.

'The one who laughed at him lost a young calf. Tracks of a strange animal and marks of blood showed that some beast had taken it away. The neighbors then decided that grandfather had really heard a panther and that it was one which had escaped from Barnum's show.

'Remembering all this, I wondered what I ought to do. I knew enough to walk slowly, for I had been told that a wild animal would be more apt to attack a person who appeared to fear it.

'Still I heard that cry every few steps, and every time I turned I found the strange animal had come nearer to me.

'I was getting more and more frightened.

'"What shall I do?" I asked myself in agony. Suddenly the thought flashed through my mind—try singing!

'I could get no help by screaming, for there were no houses within hearing distance, nor any person except myself on the dike, which I could see for nearly a quarter of a mile in each direction. It would be useless for me to run, as the creature was certainly swifter than I.

'Try singing! At the thought I began, "Jesus, Lover of my soul," very softly at first, for the sound of

my own voice frightened me. But I soon gained confidence when I saw that the panther was attentive to my voice. Its cry ceased. I began to take courage and walked more quickly.

'Ahead of me was the railroad track, which crossed the dike and the river. Near that was the gashouse, and my home was only a short distance farther on. But would I ever reach it?

'I kept singing, first one hymn and then another, until I reached the railroad. Then the panther was exactly opposite me at the foot of the dike. As he passed under the railroad bridge I stopped both singing and walking, hoping he would go on and leave me, but no—he stopped, looked at me fixedly and again raised that awful cry.

'I began another hymn and walked quickly on, hoping against hope for help. Every step seemed a mile, every moment an hour. I was nearly home, and yet I was too far away to make a call for help heard by my friends. Even in the short distance that lay before me I might be killed by the beast.

'Still I sang, though even as I saw the light in the window at home I found the panther was stealthily creeping to the top of the dike. My voice faltered and I was ready to despair when, almost behind me, sounded the shriek of a locomotive whistle.

'For a moment the panther stood still, then with another of those awful cries he bounded away over the ice-covered river and disappeared among the trees at the foot of Mount Tom, while I, too thankful for my escape, was soon at home with mother.

'Some weeks afterwards a panther, gaunt and hungry, was captured on the north side of the mountain, and I have always believed it to be the beast which followed me.'

MISS KNOW-IT-ALL.

A great many people who flatter themselves that they are judges of coffee or other beverages may learn a lesson of caution from the experiments carried on by Sir Hiram Maxim when he was trying to find a palatable preparation of wheat and coffee.

It occurred to me (says Sir Hiram) that very few people knew much about coffee. One Sunday I brought out from the Maxim lamp works about thirty young men and women. My stenographer was also present; she was one of those young ladies that know all—from whose decisions there is no appeal.

I had cleared off a long bench and arranged on it a large number of cups, milk, sugar, cream, much coffee, and plenty of apparatus for making coffee. I got from the army and navy stores various kinds of coffee that were supposed to be the very best in the world, such as Mocha, Java, and so forth, and I also got from a dealer in coffee some of the sweepings and siftings of his shop—small, imperfect and broken kernels. These I freed from dust and dirt, roasted and ground, and mixed with three times their weight of chicory. I was ready for the test.

My shorthand writer came, tasted the Mocha, the Java, the Costa Rica, and pronounced them all very bad. She then tried some of my wheat coffee, and some of what was half wheat and half coffee, which, she said, were also bad, but not so bad as the others. But when she reached the mixture of siftings and chicory she was delighted.

'That is coffee!' she said, with an air of finality. 'That's it! That's the right stuff!'

In all probability the young lady had never tasted a cup of genuine coffee in her life until that Sunday morning.

HOW TO KEEP THE FLIES OUT.

The late Cardinal Manning once told a story which is topical now that flies are plaguing us so badly. When visiting Cambridge he noticed in the common room of Trinity College a fine portrait by Sir Joshua Reynolds of the Duke of Gloucester, the cousin and son-in-law of George III.

YOUR BOY IS AWAY!

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'They used to call him Silly Billy,' remarked the Cardinal, 'and he well deserved his name. One very hot day the Duke was taking part in a review, and remarked plaintively to his equerry: "I can't keep the flies out of my mouth:"

'Has it ever occurred to your Royal Highness to shut your mouth?' asked the equerry.'

THE BUSINESS END.

The two British sailors had secured tickets for the dog show and were gazing at a Skye terrier which had so much hair that it looked more like a woollen rug than a dog.

'Which end is 'is ead, Bill?' asked one.

'Blowed if I know,' was the reply. 'But 'ere, I'll stick a pin in 'im, and you look which end barks.'

QUITE ENOUGH.

A class of recruits were being put through a preliminary examination in first aid work.

Finally it came to Pat O'Flynn's turn to answer. The sergeant asked him the following question:—

'Now, Pat, supposing a man were to fall in a drunken fit, how would you treat him?'

'Faith, sergeant,' replied Pat, 'I wouldn't treat him at all. I'd consider he had had enough.'

WAITING FOR THE PRESENT.

'Well, Johnny, how did you like school?'

'I didn't like it a bit. The teacher put me on a chair and told me to sit there for the present. And I sat and sat, and she never gave me the present.'

MUNICIPAL INTELLIGENCE.

First Councillor: 'Here's a fine-looking street.'

Second Ditto: 'You're right. What's the best thing to do with it?'

'Let's have it dug up for a drain.'

'But wouldn't it be proper to pave it first?'

'Of course; I thought you would understand that. Then, after it is paved and a drain put in, we'll have it repaved.'

'All in readiness to be dug up again for the gas-pipe? I see you understand the principles of municipal economy. And after we have had it repaved for the second time, then what?'

'Well, then it will be ready for widening. There's nothing I admire so much as system in the care and improvement of our roadways.'

VILLAGE CUSTOM.

It was the kindly custom in the village for the well-to-do inhabitants to make good any loss which the villagers might sustain through the death of any live stock. The retired manufacturer who had only recently settled in the village was ignorant of this laudable proceeding, and so was considerably puzzled by the visit of a laborer's wife, who explained that she had lost a pig.

'Well, I ain't got it,' explained the bewildered new-comer.

'What I mean, sir, is, of course, the pig died,' nervously explained the woman.

'Well, what do you want me to do?' cried the thoroughly exasperated man. 'Send a wreath?'

WANTED WATCHING.

'During the match,' ran the bills of the village cricket club, 'a collection will be made for the benefit of the groundsman.' And that worthy, who was something of a batsman, thought fit on the occasion of this red-letter day in his career to give the spectators a taste of his quality. Never within memory had a batsman scored 100 on the ground, but the beneficiary had

reached ninety, and was going strong and well when, after giving anxious glances round the ropes, he remarked that he'd "'ad enough of it," and started walking briskly tentwards.

'Don't you know you're within ten of your 100?' inquired the batsman at the other end.

'Yes, I do,' came the reply. 'And I know Bill 'Uggins who's startin' round with the collection box. I'm goin' n round with him for fear of accidents.'

HE WAS READY.

A recruiting sergeant one evening, while partaking of refreshment in a public-house, overheard one of a small card-party in an adjoining room exclaim, as he apparently laid down his last few pence:—

'If I don't pull this off, I'm going to enlist.'

The recruiting sergeant was quickly alive to the prospect of pulling off his little commission if he could pass the man; and, judging from appearances, everything was in favor of his doing so. So, drawing near to the table, he awaited the finish of the hand, which ended in a loss for the prospective recruit. Noticing the recruiting sergeant standing by, the man said to him:

'You're a sergeant, ain't you? Well, if you'll lend me a florin on the next deal, and I don't pull it off, I'll be ready to follow you.'

The sergeant, knowing that, if the fellow lost, he himself would not be out of pocket, lent him the money. This time the man lost again, and getting up immediately, exclaimed:

'I'm ready, sergeant!'

And amidst the roars of the whole party the disgraced officer found the man had a wooden leg.

A BOY'S VIEW OF TEMPERANCE.

The following (says the *Taranaki Herald*) is an essay on 'Temperance,' written by a New Plymouth boy:—

'Temperance means moderation in all things. If the mind dwells unduly on any one subject, it is apt to become somewhat bigoted in its views. Therefore, be temperate in all things, even to the too-frequent request of writing a composition on another man's opinion. This is the fourth time I have been commanded to write on this subject, and it appears to me that, if temperance was practised as much as it is preached, I might have escaped the essay by this time.'

THE DOG DIED.

'Halloa, Pat! I hear your dog is dead?'

'It is.'

'Was it a lap dog?'

'Yes, it would lap anything.'

'What did it die of?'

'It died of a Tuesday.'

'I mean, how did it die?'

'It died on its back.'

'I mean, how did the dog meet its death?'

'It didn't meet its death. Its death overtook it.'

'I want to know what was the complaint.'

'No complaint; everyone for miles round appeared to be satisfied.'

'I wish to know how did it occur?'

'The dog was no cur; he was a thoroughbred animal.'

'Tell me what disease did the dog die of.'

'He went to fight a motor car.'

'What was the result?'

'The dog only lasted one round.'

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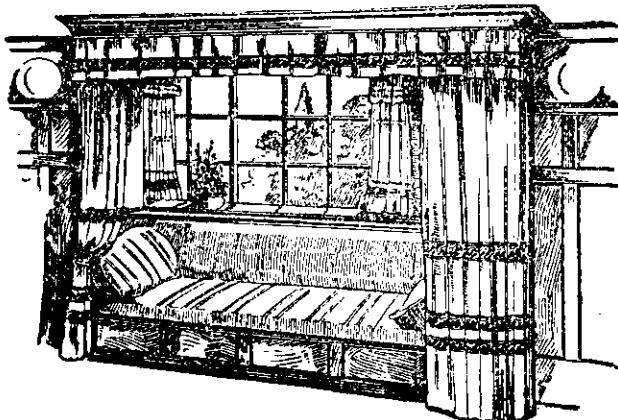
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