

in Ireland. The names of Graves, Stokes, and Corrigan are household words wherever medicine is taught, and to these may be added, from amongst many others, the names of Abraham Colles, Joliffe Tufnell, Shackleton, and Robert Adams; while last, but by no means least, we must not forget that Oliver Goldsmith and Charles Lever were both products of the Irish medical schools. Professor James Lindsay, Belfast, said the history of Irish medicine was one of the few pages of Irish history which all Irishmen might contemplate with pride and satisfaction.

Amongst the many claims to their regard which that ancient city of Dublin possessed few, he thought, were stronger and better founded than the fact that she had during many generations given so freely of her wealth and her brain power to the science and art of medicine. She had added many honorable names to the roll of medicine and she had been the Mecca to which many pilgrims had directed their steps.

Had Irish medicine any special characteristics? He thought that if they referred to the lectures of Graves and the works of Stokes as models they might fairly say that Irish medicine had always been distinguished for a distinctly practical tendency, a leaning to the teachings of experience, and a preference for clinical observation rather than pathology. If he were to claim for Irishmen that they were noted for their practical tendency, their adhesion to fact, their reliance on experience, he might be suspected of irony. But these claims might be put forward for Irish medicine without exaggeration and without paradox.

## NEW YORK SKYSCRAPERS

Mr. William Bulfin, editor and proprietor of the Buenos Aires *Southern Cross*, whose death was recently reported in the *Tablet*, spent a few weeks in New York on his last trip to Europe. He was much impressed with the many changes that had taken place in that city since his previous visit five years before. New York (he wrote) is changing, growing year by year, day by day. During the five years that have gone by since my first visit it has soared skyward some hundreds of feet and spread out for miles. New skyscrapers pierced the clouds and deep canyons of brick and mortar opened in bewildering vistas through the murk of the winter's evening as our ship steamed to her berth. The spire of Trinity Church has ceased to be a feature of the scene. We caught a glimpse of it hidden away between two immense cliffs of tawny building which overtopped it by several storeys. Amongst the monsters that have reared their heads into the clouds since my first visit the new Singer Building stands conspicuously out. It is over 600ft high. Step off a length of 200 yards on roadway of sidewalk and imagine it standing on end straight up into the sky! It is a triumph of engineering, and it is also a triumph for two Italian masters who lived 600 years ago. One of them was Giotto di Bondone, the other Andrea Pisano. One designed the Florentine Campanile, the other finished its construction. The Singer Building is a glorified Campanile. It is very graceful and symmetrical, like the Florentine structure after which it was designed. But Giotto's Campanile is only 275½ft high. The Singer Building is 612ft above the sidewalk. It has no fewer than 49 storeys or floors. It has 9½ acres of floor space, 15 miles of steam and water piping, and 15,000 electric lamps.

But there is another Campanile higher still. It is the new Metropolitan Life Building, on Madison square. Its height above the sidewalk is 658ft. It is not so handsome in design as the Singer tower, but it is more imposing. The building of which it is the main feature occupies the entire block between Madison and Fourth avenues, and Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth streets. This building has a floor area of 25 acres, all told. It is all occupied by offices.

The skyscraper is not a mere freak. It is born of sheer necessity. The business centre of New York is geographically circumscribed as to ground space by the water which surrounds Manhattan Island, and as the architects found no room upon which to erect new office buildings to meet an ever-increasing demand for premises they were obliged to go skyward. Hence the evolution of the skyscraper. In the ordinary course of things an average office building, erected on the site of a skyscraper, would accommodate three or four hundred people. A skyscraper accommodates as many thousand.

Engineers hold that the limit of the skyscraping building has not yet been reached. They see no mechanical difficulty in the way of running up a hundred storeys. There are two important reasons for supposing they are right; and these are the two reasons that have made the building of 50 storeys possible. Both are mechanical. One is the system of steel cage construction. The other is the passenger elevator, which renders access to the highest floors quite easy.

The steel cage construction is a great frame work of steel girders bolted together and riveted with hot rivets hammered by pneumatic strikers. The frame goes up first and the walls are put in afterwards. There are stairways, but they are rarely used. An average skyscraper has four or five elevators, and they are constantly on the run up and down. There are express elevators which go without

stopping to the upper floors, and then there are 'locals,' which stop at each floor as desired. One of these colossal office buildings is a little world in itself. It has a manager who is governor. It has its own uniformed police, and an army of sweepers and cleaners. It has also its own post office, its telephone service, its barber's shop, restaurant, its own electric power and light plant, its own heating plant. The basement storeys of these monster buildings are filled with machinery, boilers, furniture, power, light, and heat generators; and if there is any spare room it is generally rented out as a safe deposit for valuables. In 20 or 30 seconds you can ascend by an express elevator from the basement story to the utmost floor; and here is a list of the professions, arts, crafts, trades, etc., which you may pass en route. I take it at random from two or three ascents I happened to make. First a restaurant, then a bank, next an insurance company. Then there are several lawyers, a magazine, a weekly newspaper, various stock brokers, a tailor, a wholesale fur dealer, a doctor, a dentist, a detective agency, a piano teacher, an express agency, a lawyer again, a stenographic and typist bureau, a firm of mining engineers, a soap maker, a paper manufacturer, and an advertising agency.

Office rent in Central New York is not charged by the set of rooms, nor by the single room. It is charged at the rate of so much per square foot. For chambers on lower floors rent runs as high as 11 dollars and 12 dollars per square foot per year. On the upper floors rents run to about 2 dollars per square foot per year. At the rate of 12 dollars per square foot a room 15ft x 12ft would cost 2160 dollars per year, or 180 dollars per month. The rent includes light, heat, sweeping and cleaning, and the service of the elevator. It does not include the telephone. Roughly speaking, I should say that office rent in New York costs as much per month in gold as it costs in Buenos Aires in paper currency.

## Illness of Two Australian Prelates

A cable message under date April 20 reports the illness at Rome of the Right Rev. Dr. Corbett, Bishop of Sale, and the Right Rev. Dr. Reville, Bishop of Sandhurst. Bishop Reville was reported to be suffering from pneumonia, and his condition was considered critical. His Holiness the Pope sent both prelates his apostolic blessing. Their Lordships left Melbourne for Europe on January 25, and were joined at Adelaide by the Right Rev. Dr. Dunne, Bishop of Wilcannia. Their itinerary was to include a tour through Palestine and Egypt, and after the visit *ad limina* were to spend some time in Germany and Spain. Prior to returning to Australia they were to visit Ireland, and then go to Canada in order to take part in the Eucharistic Congress.

Bishop Reville, who is sixty-six years of age, is a native of Wexford, and a member of the Augustinian Order. He has been forty-two years a priest, and in March last was twenty-five years a Bishop. He was appointed coadjutor to the first Bishop of Sandhurst, Dr. Crane, in 1885, and succeeded to the See on his death on October 21, 1901.

The diocese of Sale was erected in 1887, and the Right Rev. James F. Corbett was appointed its first Bishop. He was born in Limerick in 1840, and at the invitation of Dr. Goold, the first Archbishop of Melbourne, he volunteered for service in the archdiocese.

The Chrysanthemum Fair in aid of the Dominican Convent, Bluff, opens on May 4, and will be continued until May 7. Ticket holders are requested to return blocks at the earliest possible date...

Messrs. Davis and Clater, mercers, hatters, and hosiers, shirt makers, and general outfitters, Lambton quay, Wellington, pay special attention to clerical orders and make ladies' blouses and skirts to order...

## THINGS THAT PROLONG LIFE.

Among those beneficial agencies that tend to prolong life, and to sweeten until its sun finally sinks behind the hills of Time, are Good Digestion, Sleep, Contentment, Joy, Cleanliness, Cheerfulness, Laughter, Hope, Serenity, Good Food. All those things, in fact, that we usually associate with perfect health. In other words, if you want to prolong life try to keep as close to the Goddess of Hygiene as possible. Don't neglect the least disturbance of the processes that lead to good health, of which digestion is by far the most important. Dr. Ensor's Tamer Fruit Pills will keep your stomach and digestive machinery in A1 condition. They are purely vegetable, and are both a laxative and tonic. To live long and live well try ENSOR'S TAMER FRUIT PILLS. They cure Constipation, Pains in the Back, Sleeplessness, Biliousness, Palpitation, Heartburn, Flatulence, Anæmia, Nervous Disorders, Dyspepsia, Neuralgia, Acidity, Sick Headaches, Stomach, Liver, and Kidney Complaints. Procurable from all chemists and medicine vendors throughout the Dominion. Price, 1s 6d and 3s 6d per box.