

Intercolonial

The Provincial of the Vincentian Fathers, the Very Rev. Joseph Walshe, C.M., has been visiting the houses of his Order in Australia. Father Walshe returns to Ireland about June 15.

His Lordship Bishop O'Connor visited Tamworth recently, and in response to an appeal for subscriptions to the new Cathedral building fund received contributions amounting to £530.

At 'Dara' recently his Grace Archbishop Dunne officiated at the reception of fifteen young girls into the confraternity of Children of Mary (writes the Brisbane correspondent of the *Freeman's Journal*). As an evidence of how the career of his Grace is bound up with the history of Catholicity in Queensland, I learned that in 1869, when parish priest, he married the grandparents of one of these children, subsequently christened her father, who afterwards served him as an altar boy, and also received two of her aunts into the Order of the good Sisters of Mercy.

A military memorial office for the late King was held in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne, on the afternoon of Sunday, May 22. The cadets marched to the church, accompanied by the St. Augustine and St. Vincent Bands playing the Dead March. Members of the military forces, who wore their uniforms, assembled at the Cathedral, where the nave was reserved for them. The Archbishop delivered the memorial address, and special music was rendered by the choir.

Two Sisters of the Order of St. Joseph passed away recently at Sydney. Sister M. Charles, who died at St. Martha's Home, Leichhardt, on May 18, spent 20 years of her most useful life there. Though suffering from a long illness, she continued to work with the needle for the service of the Church. Of the 52 years of her life 29 were passed in St. Joseph's Convent. Sister M. Alexis died at St. Joseph's Convent, Mount street, North Sydney, on May 21. Deceased had spent over 40 years in the convent, being one of the early members.

The memorial ceremonies for the late King Edward VII. on Friday morning last (says the *Catholic Press* of May 26) attracted an immense number of people. Long before the hour at which the proceedings were to commence, the roadway in front of the western door was literally packed. Thousands also assembled in Hyde Park immediately opposite the Cathedral. From the tower of the Cathedral the bells tolled a muffled peal, while in the Cathedral, the 'Kyrie' from Cherubini's Requiem Mass was played on the organ by Mr. Harry Dawkins. This was rendered as the military filed into the sacred edifice, and the ecclesiastical procession emerged from the presbytery and entered the western door. A panegyric on the late King was delivered by his Eminence Cardinal Moran.

On May 22 the Bishop Murray Memorial Orphanage at Maitland was dedicated and blessed (says the *Freeman's Journal*). It was fitting that his monument should be a living work and one of education and charity. It was fitting, too, that the site selected should be the hill crowned for so many years by the old Sacred Heart College and commanding a view of the last resting-place of the dear old Bishop. The idea of a memorial orphanage was suggested by the Right Rev. Dr. Dwyer, who received loyal support from the priests of the diocese and a generous response to his appeal from his people. The buildings formerly used as the Sacred Heart College were in bad repair, and the property was involved to the extent of about £2000. The repairs and renovations meant an additional amount of £900, so that the Bishop's appeal to the diocese meant a sum of about £3000. In his address at the opening ceremony Dr. Dwyer feelingly expressed his appreciation of the response to his appeal—a response worthy of the people and of their pioneer Bishop. Up to the date of the opening ceremony a sum of close on £2000 had been received.

The news of the sudden death of Mr. George Washington Power, M.A., LL.M., the well-known barrister, which occurred on May 19, came as a shock to the community (says the Brisbane correspondent of the *Freeman's Journal*). For some weeks past he had been ill from the effects of influenza. In the early part of the month, although in indifferent health, he responded to the call of duty, and proceeded to Longreach to act as Deputy-District Court Judge. On his return to Brisbane he was ordered into the Mater Misericordiae Hospital, but his indisposition was not until near the sad end regarded as serious. The late Mr. Power was admittedly one of the most erudite and learned of Australian scholars. He took a prominent part in Catholic matters, and was ever ready to give assistance to members of the Catholic Literary Societies. He was one of the founders of the oldest established Catholic debating societies in Brisbane (the Holy Cross Guild, Woolloowin), in which he was associated in the early days with Mr. E. J. Sydes, now Father Sydes, S.J., of Sydney. When Father Sydes returned to Queensland some months ago, after being ordained, one of the first to welcome him back was his dear old friend, the late Mr. Power, and he was also one of the last to see him off when he left Queensland for Sydney.

Science Siftings

BY 'VOLT'

Birth of the Tinplate.

Tinplate making was introduced into England from Saxony in 1665, and the first tinplate factory in France was established in 1714. Tinplates were first made on a commercial basis in the United States at Pittsburg in 1872.

A New Method of Electroplating.

A new method of electroplating which dispenses with the plating bath and all expensive sources of electricity has been developed by A. Rosenberg, a chemist in England. Magnesium finely powdered is mixed with a salt of the plating metal or with the powdered metal itself, and ammonium sulphate. The mixture moistened with water is then spread over surface to be plated. The magnesium, strongly electro-positive, reacting with the moist electrolyte, goes into solution, while the metal is deposited.

The Underground Ocean.

Recent investigations by officers of the geological survey have brought to light facts about the enormous quantity of underground water contained in the crust of the globe which are calculated to astonish the lay mind. Below a depth of six miles it is believed that no water can exist in the rocks, because the tremendous pressure probably closes all pores; but above that level the quantity of underground water is estimated to be equal to one-third of all the water contained in the oceans. If poured over the land surface of the globe the underground water would, it is averred, be sufficient to cover it to a uniform depth of from 3000ft to 3500ft.

Sound from Electric Lamp.

Experiments in electricity by students of the Texas University engineering department have resulted in the production of articulate sound from a common arc lamp, the feeding wire of which is connected with a telephone. Dr. A. C. Scott has interested himself in the experiment, and says the result is due to the fact that the vibrations in the carbon of the lamp correspond exactly to those of an ordinary telephone receiver. The talking lamp is located in a room some distance from the 'phone in the engineering building, and students standing directly under it are able to hear conversations over the 'phone with perfect distinctiveness. Noises or conversations in the 'phone room cannot be heard at that distance when communication with the 'phone is cut off.

Monorail.

Civil engineers are not of one mind regarding the value of Brennan's monorail. One writer in the *London Times* points out that while ordinary tramway rails weigh 130lb a yard, that is 260lb a yard for the two, the monorail will probably have to be at least 300lb a yard. Moreover, as the whole weight is concentrated on that rail, the ties and roadbed will have to be heavier than when the weight is distributed over two rails. He adds that the strain on the roadbed is greater as the speed increases, and dwells on the difficulty the Germans had to keep it in order during the experiments of a few years ago with electric motors, when a speed of 120 miles an hour was attained. Finally, he says that as yet the monorail car has hardly reached a speed of 60 miles an hour, and that were he to design a road for speeds from 150 to 200 miles an hour, he would be more inclined to use three rails, or even four.

The Sahara.

It is surprising to find throughout the Sahara grass lands tenanted with animal life, but more remarkable to know that it was formerly populous. Gautier found absolute proof that long before the present age of rainfall, in what is known as the Neolithic or later Stone Age, a very large population inhabited part of the Sahara. He found their graves scattered over the grassy plain; he found many hundreds of their drawings on the rocks, where they had pictured animal forms and other objects; he discovered the flattened stones which they had used for grinding grain. These mill-stones show that agriculture was then developed in that region, and the grinding of grain into flour indicates considerable advance of civilisation. Here and there were many arrow-points, axes of polished stone, and other implements. It was many hundreds of years ago that human beings inhabited this region, but as time is reckoned in geological epochs, thousands of farmers were tilling this part of the Sahara at a comparatively recent period. They were finally driven back into the Sudan by the increasing drought, and the world forgot that this region had ever been inhabited by man.

My "joints are all cold," said the cook;
The back of my "ytongue" is quite "raw."
I'm just "overdone," I feel terribly crook,
With a pain like a boil on my jaw.
My "flesh" is quite "chilled"; it's the "flu."
I'll not take "pot" luck, said this stewer;
I'll get what is best, old or new,
That's Woods' Great Peppermint Cure.