

membered that he had not paid his newspaper subscription. He declared this made him feel so small that he crawled out of the log through a knot hole without the least difficulty.

The Wellington Board and Scholarships Question

The original resolution on the St. Patrick's College application submitted to the Wellington Board by the chairman, Mr. Robert Lee, was as given below. We have printed in italics the portions which have been omitted from the amended version. 'That as this Education Board is administering a State *secular* system of education, and as free places and scholarships are awarded *irrespective of religious beliefs*, and in this education district are now tenable in two Wellington colleges (one for boys and one for girls) and in a technical school and district high schools, *non-sectarian in their teaching* and wholly or in part built and largely maintained by the State, this Education Board would not be justified in allowing scholarship holders to attend *sectarian* colleges.' The word 'private' has been substituted for the word 'sectarian' in the last line. The principal difference between the two motions is that in the original version the Board showed their hand a little more plainly, and indicated more clearly that their real ground of refusal was opposition to the 'sectarian colleges.'

Irish Repartee

We take the following entertaining incident, illustrative of Irish readiness in retort, from our esteemed Anglican contemporary, the *Sydney Church Standard*. 'Canon Shore, in his *Recollections*, tells a pleasant story of Mr. S. C. Hall, who has often been said to be the original of Dickens's Pecksniff. "Mr. Hall told us one day at dinner that when walking down Church street, Kensington, he had stopped to look at a new building then being erected. He asked one of the workmen what sort of building it was to be. The man replied in a rich Irish brogue, 'A church, your honor.' 'What sort of a church, my good man?' asked Mr. Hall, who was a strong Protestant. 'A Catholic church, sur.' 'I am sorry to hear it,' said Mr. Hall. 'So is the devil,' replied the man.'"

Another excellent illustration of Irish quickness of wit is to be found in the study of Sir William Butler contributed to the current number of the *Cornhill Magazine* by Sir Hugh Clifford. As is generally known, Sir William was very ready, and sometimes caustic, in repartee. On one occasion, when a militant Protestant lady asked him, during a pause in the conversation at a crowded dinner table, whether there was any truth in the report that an unhappy lady, whose mysterious disappearance was at that moment exciting the interest of the whole of England, had, as alleged by some organs of the press, been abducted by the Jesuits, Sir William's answer, without a moment's hesitation, was: 'No, madam. I am in a position positively to contradict that rumor. Perhaps you are not aware that we Catholics maintain a religious Order specially for such services—the Order of Trappists.'

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Ireland and the flag question—Mr. John Redmond on the subject. Page 13.

A Liverpool Church Census and its lessons—how the Catholic Church stands. Page 22.

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

A meeting will be held in St. Joseph's Hall on Sunday at 2.30 p.m. for the purpose of inaugurating a branch of the Catholic Federation in Dunedin.

The annual St. Patrick's Day concert will be held this year in the Garrison Hall on the evening of March 17. The committee of management have already secured the services of some of the leading vocalists in the city, and when the programme is completed, it will be found to be equal if not superior to any presented on similar occasions in the past.

ANTARCTIC EXPLORATION

DEATH OF CAPTAIN SCOTT AND FOUR COMPANIONS

The Antarctic exploration vessel, the *Terra Nova*, called at Oamaru on Monday morning and landed two of its officers, who cabled home a report of Captain Scott's expedition. On Tuesday forenoon came the sad news that Captain Scott had reached the Pole, but that on the return journey the leader of the expedition and four of his companions had perished in a blizzard.

The *Terra Nova* arrived at Cape Evans on January 18 this year, and obtained the following information from the shore party there:—

Captain Scott reached the South Pole on January 18, 1912, and found Captain Amundsen's tent and his records. On the return journey the whole of the southern party perished. Captain Scott, Dr. Wilson, and Lieut. Bowers died from exposure during a blizzard about March 29, 1912, at the last camp, 11 miles south of the one ton depot, or 155 miles from the hut at Cape Evans. Captain Oates died from exposure on March 17, and a seaman named Edgar Evans died from concussion of the brain on February 17.

It appears that a search party left Cape Evans after the winter on October 30, organised by Dr. Atkinson, and consisting of two divisions, Dr. Atkinson taking the dog team with Mr. Garrard and Mr. Demetri, and Mr. Wright being in charge of the other party, including Messrs. Nelson, Gran, Lashley, Crean, Williamson, Keohane, and Hooper, with seven Indian mules. They were provisioned for three months, expecting an extended search. One Ton Camp was found in order and well provisioned. Proceeding along the old southern route, on November 12 Mr. Wright's party sighted Captain Scott's tent. Within it were

Found the Bodies

of Captain R. F. Scott (Royal Navy), Dr. E. A. Wilson (chief of the scientific staff), and Lieut. H. R. Bowers (Royal Indian Marine). From their records the following information was gleaned:—The first death was that of Seaman Edgar Evans, a petty officer in the Royal Navy, official number 160,225, who died on February 17 at the foot of the Beardmore Glacier. His death was accelerated by concussion of the brain sustained while travelling over rough ice some time before.

Captain L. E. G. Oates (6th Inniskilling Dragoons) was next lost. His feet and hands were badly frost-bitten, and although he struggled on heroically, on March 16 his comrades knew his end was approaching. He had borne intense suffering for a week without complaint, and he did not give up hope until the very end. Captain Scott writes:—'He was a brave soul.' He slept through the night, hoping not to wake, but he awoke in the morning. It was blowing a blizzard. Captain Oates said, 'I am just going outside, and may be some time.' He went out into the blizzard, and we have not seen him since.' Captain Scott adds: 'We knew that Oates was walking to his death, but though we tried to dissuade him we knew it was the act of a brave man and an English gentleman.'



J. T. COOPER DENTAL SURGEON,

CNR. MANSE & PRINCES STS., DUNEDIN.

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