

DEAF, DUMB, AND BLIND ENTERTAINMENT.

The deaf and dumb and blind entertainers gave a performance in Daly's Hall on Wednesday evening to a poor house, which is a matter for regret, considering the cause for which it was held. It is doubtful if above more than half the audience was composed of adults, and the absence of support accorded by many townspeople was adversely commented on. The programme rendered was an exceptionally good one, and the performers acquitted themselves in a manner which gained the approbation of those present. Mr. Wm. Taylor, deaf and dumb and lightning sketch artist, was enthusiastically applauded for his skill in sketching pictures drawn in chalk upon a large blackboard, which were executed with bewildering rapidity. Mr. A. Solomon was recalled after singing "Fancy Meeting You," and responded by singing three verses of an original contribution by a member of the company upon the trouble in the Transvaal. Mr. J. Irwin gave evidence of much musical ability in the rendering of his horn solo, "The old folks at home," and Messrs. Taylor and Morgan convulsed the audience with the sketch, "The Sympathetic Dentist." The characters were admirably sustained, the acting displayed being of a high order. Messrs. A. Solomon and J. Irwin in their latest hit, "Music on the Brain," was extremely funny but entertaining, and was a feature of the entertainment. Miss A. Woodard gave a very graceful exhibition of club swinging, her evolutions and movements being perfect. Mr. A. Solomon got through two songs

Mr. A. Solomon got through two songs in the second part in his ordinary style, and the tableau, "Britannia" (Miss A. Woodard) was greeted with cheering by the audience. The programme concluded with a humorous sketch, "The Subterraneous Barber," by Messrs. W. Taylor and A. Morgan, and was a fitting conclusion to the evening's entertainment. We learnt from one of the performers that the company has visited Healesville on three occasions, but that they have never yet paid expenses.

We have received the first number of the "Austral Light and the Sword of St. Michael" for January, which has been taken over by new management. It contains 76 pages, of interesting matter. The Catholics of Victoria are to be congratulated that such a magazine should issue from their midst, and we hope that all of them will make their conscience easy regarding its support. Excellent as the paper has been in the past, it is only reasonable to suppose from its accession of strength that it will be much more so in the future. We have no hesitation in recommending it to those who value a good, wholesome, and readable Catholic periodical.

Holiday excursion fares, available for return till 6th February inclusive, will be issued to and from all stations (suburban excepted) on 24th, 25th, and 26th January.