

"Dearly Beloved Mistress,—On behalf of the girls attending St. Patrick's School, we, the undersigned, affectionately embrace the auspicious occasion of your marriage to manifest our heart-felt gratitude for your untiring zeal and noble exertions in the promotion of our religious and social welfare.

"During the past three years, we have ever looked up to you as our faithful councillor and guardian, and you have endeared yourself to every one of us by many disinterested acts of kindness and affection.

"We now fervently beseech our good God, through the intercession of His Immaculate Mother, to pour down His choicest blessings on yourself and your worthy consort. May you live long and prosper; and if it is the Holy Will of God, may we be spared to prove our gratification for your anxious solicitude in our regard."

Master Frederick Monaghan then read the following address to Mr Wood, in a clear and articulate tone of voice:—
"To Mr John Wood, Principal of St. Patrick's School, Lawrence.

"Dear Sir,—We, the boys of St. Patrick's School, Lawrence, having heard with affectionate joy of your intended happy marriage, take this opportunity of testifying our gratitude for your zealous efforts to promote our spiritual and temporal advancement. We are well aware of the difficulties you have to encounter in our many shortcomings and imperfections; but we trust to your distinguished talents, our own assiduity and cheerful obedience to you, for success in all our studies.

"We entertain a lively sense of the honor we possess in having for our guide a teacher so distinguished.

"We will, therefore, fervently pray that the Almighty may vouchsafe to grant you and your amiable spouse every blessing in this life, and in the life to come everlasting happiness."

Mr Wood acknowledged the kind congratulations of the children in a few well chosen words. He could have expected such expressions from them on behalf of Mrs Wood, who had been so long amongst them; and as for himself, if he did not deserve their attachment to any great extent yet, having been but a short time with them, he was sure they would become greatly attached to each other on more intimate acquaintance, and it would be his constant endeavor to instruct them intellectually and spiritually to the best of his ability.—(Great applause.)

The children were then released to play.

The Rev. Father Larkin afterwards entertained the newly-wedded couple at breakfast at his residence. There were also present the Church and School Committees and a few friends. His reverence certainly did not mock his young friends, as the *déjeuner* was most lavish in its character. "Long life and prosperity to Mr and Mrs Wood" was drank and responded to; and prominent amongst other toasts proposed on the occasion was that of "Success to St. Patrick's School," and the "Health of the Rev. Father Larkin," through whose indomitable energy and perseverance so much had been done for the Catholic religion and the education of the Catholic youth in the Tuapeka and surrounding districts. Shortly after three o'clock, the wedding party proceeded to the Beaumont Ferry, and we are sure that they carried with them the hearty good wishes of many many friends. —Tuapeka Times.

LATEST EUROPEAN, AMERICAN, AND AUSTRALIAN NEWS.

BLUFF, September 26.

THE Albion, with the English mail, left at 6 p.m. on the 21st, and arrived at the Bluff at 8 a.m. this morning. She made the run in four days twelve hours.

London, September 18.—Berkeley's appointment as Governor of Western Australia has been contradicted.

The Queensland mail was delivered on the 17th, and the San Francisco yesterday.

The Turkish loan of seventeen millions has been subscribed at 43½. Considered a great success.

Wool Sales.—The prices continue firm.

Corn market languid.

Arrivals.—Carlisle Castle, from Melbourne; Inverness, Anexe, from South Australia.

Paris, September 18.—The trial of the accomplices in the escape of Bazaine has terminated. The Governor of the fortress has been acquitted. Vilette and Plantin have been sentenced to six months' imprisonment. Two others received slight sentences.

McMahon has returned to Paris. His reception in Northern departments was cordial.

Madrid, September 19.—The Carlists allege that the Czar of Russia has written to Don Carlos, expressing sympathy.

Berlin, September 10.—The Germans have expelled several Danes from Schleswig.

New York, September 16.—There has been a sanguinary disturbance in New Orleans, where the white population ousted General Kellogg, and installed the new Governor. President Grant upheld Kellogg, and ordered rioters to disperse.

The insurgents at New Orleans have submitted.

Governor Kellogg has been reinstated in New Orleans.

LATEST AUSTRALIAN.

MELBOURNE, September 21.

The Tariff has been finally disposed of in committee.

The Assembly have given notice of a Government measure to deal with the larrikin nuisance, and provide whipping in certain cases. William's new steamship Durham arrived in fifty-three days from London.

Members of the German astronomical party for the Auckland Islands have arrived by the Hero.

The trial of George Butchart for forgery is proceeding at the Supreme Court.

Shannon has been committed for trial for the murder of Moriarty at Mornington.

DEATH OF THE PRIMATE ARCHBISHOP OF BAHIA.

THE Bombay *Catholic Examiner* says:—"Intelligence has been received from Brazil by telegraph, the 25th June, of the death of the Most Reverend the Primate Archbishop of Bahia, Don Manuel Joaquim Da Silveira. With deep grief we tell this sad news, because the Church in Brazil can ill afford to be deprived of its head in this hour of darkness, when persecution is raging, and two of the venerable Bishops of the empire are already in prison. No later than the 30th May last we published the splendid Pastoral issued by Don Manuel, protesting against the tyranny the Freemasons were exercising upon the Church of which he was the Primate. There was no doubting the sincerity of his words, for they made the blood tingle in the veins, as did those of the great Saint Cyprian, the Bishop of Carthage, who, exhorting his flock to martyrdom, said, speaking of death, 'No man can be afraid of it but he who is loath to go to Christ; nor can any one be loath to go to Christ but he who hath reason to fear that he shall have no part in his kingdom.' The Bishop of Bahia wrote, on the 2nd March last:—'Let us fearlessly sacrifice ourselves, and stop not, if necessary, at shedding our blood, because on our conscience lies the foundation of our glory, and we must obey God rather than man.' His Master has accepted the sacrifice he then made of his life, and the ardour of his resolve to be faithful to the end has hastened on the stroke of death which would entitle him to the Martyr's crown."

HIBERNIAN AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BENEFIT SOCIETY.

OPENING OF ST. JOHN'S BRANCH, NAPIER.

FOR some considerable time the Catholics of Napier have been endeavoring to establish a Benefit Society; but as is usual with all institutions of the kind here, it must be spoken of at least twelve months before being started, and even then must be a very extraordinary and praiseworthy object if in that time it shows any signs of existence. However, although unsuccessful on previous occasions, this time, through the unremitting exertions of Mr J. A. Rearden, the St. John's Branch of the H.A.C.B.S. was fairly established on the evening of the 9th ult.

As announced by the Rev. F. Rolland, on the previous Tuesday, a meeting was convened in the old school-room, at 7 o'clock on the above evening, for the purpose of opening the Branch. Acting in accordance with instructions received by him from the Executive Directory, Mr J. A. Rearden, as their authorised Deputy, having examined medical certificates, received propositions and entrance fees amounting to £62, proceeded to initiate 43 gentlemen as members of the Branch. Others there are who, having paid their proposition and entrance fees, and procured medical certificates, though unavoidably absent, will undoubtedly be initiated at the next meeting. This infant Branch will consequently commence with considerably over fifty members. Taking into consideration the small number of Catholics, and likewise the number of Friendly Societies at present in Napier, this is considerably over the average of opening numbers, and unquestionably shows that the enthusiasm displayed on its natal day will not fail or become less with the lapse of time, but on the contrary, seeing the unity and determination of its individual members, we may safely predict this will be amongst the largest of the Branches of this Society.

The Deputy having initiated the candidates, proceeded to establish the Branch in the peculiar and expressive form proscribed in the Initiation Book, and having read his authority for opening the Branch, addressing the members, said:—"Brethren,—With the sincerest pleasure I congratulate you that on this evening has been achieved an object which many of us have endeavored to accomplish for many years past,—the establishment of a Catholic Society. This must be a source of very great gratification to each and all of us, not only now, but years hence when we take a retrospective view of this evening's proceedings, and behold all the benefits that will have been conferred on our co-religionists and fellow-townsmen, we will thank a kind and all-wise Providence who, even at this eleventh hour, had given us such facilities for opening the St. John's Branch of the H.A.C.B.S. We must now endeavor by all legitimate means to strengthen our Branch by increasing our number and funds, but above all by our unity, harmony, and example show to the world, a Friendly Benefit Society under the direct supervision of the Catholic Church, can be a financial success."

The following gentlemen were then nominated as office-bearers for the ensuing six months:—President, Alex. Brown; Vice-president, J. Barry, of Taradale; Secretary, J. A. Rearden; Treasurer, J. W. Bowerman; Warden, M. Hayden; Guardian, M. Queenin. The installation took place on the 23rd ult.

It was resolved that the thanks of the Branch be forwarded to the Executive Directory for the promptness with which they replied to the application for the opening of the Branch, and also for having appointed Mr J. A. Rearden as their Deputy, thereby saving considerable preliminary expense in opening the Branch; and also that a vote of thanks be accorded to Bro. J. A. Rearden for the very able and efficient manner in which he conducted the opening of the Branch, as also for his untiring exertions in the cause of the H.A.C.B.S.

This terminated the business of the evening, and the President closed the meeting in the usual form.

The old 'Examiner' newspaper office, Nelson, is to be converted into a Municipal Council Chamber.

Several persons have been fined at the Thames for not having children under their care vaccinated in accordance with the Public Health Act.

Amadeus, ex-King of Spain, and Francis II., ex-King of Naples, met at the Strasbourg railway station one day recently. They were in the waiting-room together twenty minutes, spoke not a word, and looked the other way.