

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

November 20.

Three Sisters of the Good Shepherd, to assist the Community at Mount Magdala, arrived last week from Abbotsford, Melbourne.

At the 9.30 o'clock Mass on Sunday last at St. Mary's Church, Manchester street, about 50 children of the parish made their First Communion, and were afterwards entertained in the adjoining schoolroom at breakfast which was provided by the ladies of the congregation.

The young Catholic vocalist, Mr. Walter Kirby, was greeted by a large attendance at the Choral Hall on last Thursday evening, on the occasion of his first song recital before a Christchurch audience. Mr. Kirby's singing earned numerous recalls, and elicited very favourable Press comments.

His Lordship the Bishop is expected to return from Little River this week.

The devotion of the Forty Hours' Adoration began at St. Mary's, Manchester street, after High Mass on Sunday. In the evening there was renewal of Baptismal vows by the children and sermon by the Rev. Father Crotty. The devotion will conclude on Tuesday morning with Solemn High Mass.

St. Mary's Catholic Schools are to be examined on Saturday next by Mr. Baldwin, ex-Inspector of the Education Board.

On Monday next a variety entertainment is to be given in St. Mary's School Hall by the Riccarton Lilliputian Company in aid of the school funds.

[This letter arrived too late to be put under Diocesan News.]

OBITUARY.

MRS. LOFTUS, WANGANUI.

We regret to have to record the death of Mrs. Loftus, wife of Mr. Peter Loftus, Taupo Quay, Wanganui, which occurred on the morning of the 15th inst. The deceased was a native of Surrey, England, and arrived in New Zealand about 25 years ago, since when she had resided in Wanganui. Mrs. Loftus, who was 48 years of age at the time of her demise, suffered a long and painful illness, which she bore with Christian fortitude, and to her husband and family of eight children, who are left to mourn their loss, the sincerest sympathy is extended.—*R.I.P.*

MR. JOHN CAMPBELL, PONSONBY.

Mr. John Campbell, of Point Erin, Ponsonby (writes our Auckland correspondent), died at his residence on Sunday, November 12. The deceased was ever foremost as a good Catholic and a staunch Irishman in helping the Church and his native land. To both he gave generously and in an unobtrusive manner. Mr. Campbell was born in the County Tyrone, and spent the greater part of his youth on the shores of Lough Neagh. He arrived in New Zealand 40 years ago, and for a time took to farming, subsequently visiting the Otago goldfields during the first rush there. The climate and calling not suiting he returned North, and settled at Mahurangi Heads. In the eighties he represented Mahurangi Riding in the Rodney County Council. He visited Ireland in 1870, and again in 1892. The funeral took place from Point Erin on Tuesday afternoon, fully 50 carriages forming the procession to Panmure, where the interment took place. The chief mourners were Master William Campbell (son of the deceased), Mr. H. Bates (nephew), and Messrs. Tilly and McIlroy (brothers-in-law). The Very Rev. Dean O'Reilly, Very Rev. Dr. Egan, and Rev. Father Golden went out from town. Mr. P. Dignan, ex-Mayor of Auckland, and a number of representative gentlemen also attended, including the officers and members of the Irish National Federation, of which the late Mr. Campbell was vice-president. At Panmure the cortege was met by the Very Rev. Mgr. McDonald and the children from the Catholic school. Mgr. McDonald, from the altar steps, addressed the congregation, and spoke eulogistically of the late Mr. Campbell, and his great love for the Church and for Ireland. His generosity to all deserving causes combined with an overflowing kindness and hospitality endeared him to everybody. In his long and trying illness Mr. Campbell was cared for with untiring assiduity by his good wife and her sister, Mrs. Bates. He leaves a widow, one son, and two daughters to mourn their loss.—*R.I.P.*

The electors of the city are requested to meet Mr. J. F. Arnold at the Mission Hall, Walker Street, on the 23rd, Mission Hall, Russell Street on the 24th, and the Upper Junction Schoolhouse on the 27th inst.—*.*

Mr. A. R. Barclay will address the electors of Dunedin at Jackman's Hall, Ravensbourne, on the 23rd inst.; Council Chambers, Maori Hill, on the 24th inst.; and Union Street School on the 27th inst.—*.*

Mr. J. A. Millar requests the electors of the city to meet him at the Presbyterian Hall, Mornington on the 24th, Pine Hill Schoolhouse on the 27th, Drilled, North Dunedin on the 28th, and Jackman's Hall, Ravensbourne, 29th November.—*.*

Messrs. James Samson and Co. will hold an important sale of freehold hotel property, buildings, stock in trade (consisting of groceries, spirits &c.), furniture, tanks, and mining plant at Nenthorn on Thursday, November 30. The auctioneers have received instructions to sell from Mr. H. S. Wicks, who is giving up business. An advertisement giving details of the property and goods will be found elsewhere in the issue.—*.*

PORT CHALMERS CATHOLIC BAZAAR.

As briefly announced in our last issue, the bazaar in aid of the Catholic church funds, Port Chalmers, was opened in the Garrison Hall, on Wednesday evening, by the Mayor of the marine borough. The bazaar (or carnival, as it is termed) was for the double purpose of paying off the balance of the parochial debt and providing the nucleus of a fund for building a suitable convent for the Sisters of St. Joseph, whose present accommodation is not what it should be. The ladies of the congregation had been for a long time making preparations for the carnival, and the result was that on the opening night everybody present admitted that it was the best of its kind ever held at the Port. The interior of the hall had undergone a complete transformation. The committee had performed splendid work in the short time at their disposal, and the artistic and appropriate decorations, and the beautiful stage-scenery, the work of Mr. Anthony Anderson, were very much admired. The effective decorations, the prettily fitted up stalls, with their extensive stock of splendid goods, the moving throng, and the crowd of gaily-dressed children on the stage made the scene, on the opening night, an exceedingly animated one, and the attendance of friends and sympathisers in such numbers must have been a source of great satisfaction to the Rev. Father McMillan, the bazaar committee (consisting of Messrs. Justi, A. Smith, Heller, Meade, Andrew Anderson, Hart, Galvin, Anthony Anderson, and W. Miller, hon. sec.), and the ladies who had worked so hard for months previous. Four large stalls were devoted to the display of a varied and valuable stock of goods, which the fair stallholders had made, or collected, figuratively speaking, from the four quarters of the globe. No. 1 stall was presided over, and contributed to, with one exception, by Dunedin ladies. This was devoted to things Spanish, and was draped in yellow and red. The ladies were Miss Staunton (in charge) assisted by Misses Louise Morkane, Crawford, Amy Woods, and Bush, with Miss Mulqueen (Port Chalmers). No. 2 stall—the English—was draped in the colours of the Queen of the Seas—red, white, and blue. The presiding ladies were Mesdames Meade and Mackie (Port Chalmers) with Miss Nellie Colehan (Waitati), the assistants being Mrs. Hanniffen and Miss Harriet McKay (Port Chalmers), with Misses K. Daley and Wall (Dunedin). No. 3 was resplendent with the colours of Italy, and was presided over by Mesdames Heller, Anthony Anderson, and Hart, assisted by Misses Coughan, Mullaney, Penny, and Docherty. Irish green was the hue of stall No. 4, which was in charge of Mrs. Giasti, Mrs. Andrew Anderson (Port Chalmers), Miss Emily Miller (Sawyers' Bay), assisted by Misses Carrie Morkane (Dunedin), Fitzpatrick (St. Leonards), Maggie Miller and Felicia Azzaritti (Port Chalmers). The tri-color of France was displayed on the excellently arranged and generously laden refreshment stall presided over by Mesdames Charles Anderson, Gustafsen, and McCann (Port Chalmers), assisted by Miss Swanson (Dunedin). Besides the various useful articles to be found at such fairs there was a fine display of artistic work, among which was a superior collection of hand-painted mirrors and panels, and oil and water colours contributed by the Sisters of St. Joseph of the local Convent. Prior to the opening ceremony the Port Chalmers Band, under Mr. T. McConnell played a number of selections outside the hall. During the course of the evening an excellent programme of vocal and instrumental music was given by the local Convent pupils. The items consisted of action songs, vocal duets and quartets, and a pianoforte piece, in all of which the children acquitted themselves admirably, and gave unmistakable evidence of the excellent education imparted to them by the good Sisters.

The attendance on the second evening was good, and excellent business was done by the stallholders. A first class entertainment was provided for visitors, the children's performance again proving a great attraction. Visitors on Friday evening were disappointed at the non-appearance of Miss Moloney and Signor Squarise, who were booked for the programme, but having fallen victims to the influenza epidemic were unable to keep their engagement. The pupils of the Sisters of St. Joseph were again equal to the occasion, and gave a very pleasing entertainment, consisting mainly of action songs and dances. The stallholders plied their trade with vigour and success, the fish pond, under Mr. Cecil Delaney, being the centre of attraction for the youthful visitors. The matinee on Saturday drew a large crowd, when the Convent pupils again provided the programme, and also in the evening; when they were assisted by Misses Staunton and Crawford and Mr. J. Fottrell, whose vocal contributions were warmly applauded.

On Monday the pupils of the Christian Brothers' School Dunedin, gave an entertainment, consisting of recitations, songs, a gymnastic exhibition, and the mirth-provoking farce, 'Fun and Fury.' It is needless to remark that the boys acquitted themselves in a very creditable manner, and that the performance met with the warm appreciation of the audience. A brisk business was done at the stalls, the attendance being again large.

Notwithstanding the inclement weather the attendance on Tuesday night was very fair, and a programme of vocal and instrumental music was submitted, which met with the approval of the audience. Mr. Cecil Delaney's fish pond was again the centre of attraction for the younger portion of the visitors.

MR. P. LUNDON, Phoenix Chambers, Wanganui, is still busy

putting people on the soil. He has also hotels in town and country For Sale and To Lease Write to him.—*.*

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