

his share of sorrow, as his wife has been seriously ill for many months past.—R.I.P.

DIocese OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

August 15.

In honor of the feast day of the Rev. Mother Prior, of the Monastery of the Sacred Heart, Mother M. St. Philomena, which occurred on Saturday last, the High School pupils are to-day (Monday) to be treated to an outing at Sumner.

In the Pro-Cathedral on Sunday last an appeal was made to the congregation at all the services in aid of the funds of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, and the annual printed report was distributed. The Very Rev. Vicar-General (spiritual director), at the half-past nine o'clock Mass, laid special emphasis on the good work of this admirable Society, and its absolute necessity in all large centres of population. A Missa Cantata was celebrated by the Rev. Father O'Connell, and his Lordship the Bishop preached impressively on the subject of alms-giving, from the text, 'Blessed is he that understandeth concerning the needy and the poor, the Lord will deliver him in the evil day.' At Vespers the Rev. Father S. Mahony was preacher and delivered an earnest appeal on behalf of charitable deeds. During the collection at Vespers the hymn to St. Vincent was sung by the choir, the solo part being taken by Miss Gardiner.

Greymouth

(From a correspondent.)

Tenders are now being called for the completion of St. Patrick's church, and it is expected that the work will be commenced within a few weeks' time. It has ever been the wish of our worthy Dean to see the work completed, and although the total amount of money required is not yet in hand, still there is sufficient collected to date to guarantee its commencement.

The earthquake shock caused quite a sensation all over the Coast, but notwithstanding its severity, there was very little damage to property.

The new club rooms in course of construction for the St. Columba Club should be completed ere these notes are in print. It is the intention of the members to celebrate the opening of the new building with an invitation social to the members of the congregation, after which a bazaar is to be held for the purpose of giving a little monetary aid to the indebtedness incurred in the erection of the building.

The members of the Greymouth Harbor Board are greatly concerned over the state of the bar, which has been in a bad way for some months past. The deviation from Sir John Coode's plan is now beginning, it is said, to make itself very much felt. It seems that in the endeavor to widen the entrance to the channel, the new north mole now being constructed by the Harbor Board is only tending to lessen the depth of water on the bar. During the past few days the condition of the port has been very bad, several steamers have to discharge part of their cargoes in order to safely put to sea.

The Catholic young men of Greymouth following the example of some of the larger centres, have formed a club, having for its object the promotion of the religious, social, and intellectual welfare of its members. It is to be known as the Greymouth St. Columba Club, and a fine large building is now nearing completion for the use of the members as a club room. The Club has already a large membership. The Very Rev. Dean Carew deserves much credit for the valuable assistance he has rendered the Club in many ways, and the same may also be said of the Rev. Father Herbert and the Brothers, who are all working hard for its success. The ladies of Greymouth are also taking a lively interest in the Club, and intend holding a bazaar shortly to aid it financially. The president of the Club is Mr. William McCabe, treasurer, Mr. B. J. Phillips; secretary, Mr. J. J. O'Gorman. It is intended to open the new club rooms in about three weeks' time, when it is proposed to celebrate the occasion by an invitation social to the members of the congregation.

Timaru

(From our own correspondent.)

August 15.

A most successful smoke concert and banquet were tendered by St. Mary's branch of the Hibernians to Bro. T. Donovan, their retiring president, in the boys'

school on last Friday night. The chair was taken by Bro. J. O'Leary, who was supported by the Rev. Father Tubman, chaplain of the branch, and a large gathering of past presidents. The first toast on the list was that of His Holiness the Pope, by the Rev. Father Tubman. The chairman then announced the principal event of the evening, the presentation of a handsome P.P.'s collar to Bro. T. Donovan, their retiring president. The good work of the retiring president during the twelve months he had presided over, the interests of their branch, which term he considered embracing as it did the holding of the triennial movable meeting in their midst, had been the most memorable in the annals of the branch. He concluded by asking Rev. Father Tubman to make the presentation. Rev. Father Tubman, in investing Bro. Donovan with a neatly embroidered collar, agreed with all the president's remarks and wished the recipient many happy years in which to wear the decoration which his fellow Hibernians had bestowed on him. The toast of 'Our Native Land' was proposed by Bro. J. T. Fitzgerald in a fine speech which was frequently punctuated with applause.

Bro. T. O'Connor, V.P., in reply, instanced some of the sufferings and glories of the Old Land, and was also accorded a good reception. The toast 'Irish Patriots' (political) was in the capable hands of Bro. M. F. Denny, who gave an interesting and instructive resume of the great peaceful warriors who have done so much to get for Ireland the concessions she enjoys to-day. The second part of this toast 'Irish Patriots' (military) was dealt with by Bro. M. J. Doyle, who put before his hearers the past glories of their race, from Brian the Brave to Thomas Francis Meagher. The 'Chaplain of the Branch' was neatly proposed by Bro. T. Venning, and was received with musical honors. One of the best toasts of the evening was that of 'The Senior Members of the Branch.' His proposal was in the capable hands of Bro. Mahoney, and it was responded to by Bros. Kane, Denny, Sugrue, and Hartnett.

During the evening songs were rendered by Bros. O'Leary, McDonald, Murphy, Ryan, Mahoney, Doyle, and Whelan, and recitations were contributed by Bros. M. F. Denny and J. P. Fitzgerald. The toasts of the 'Chaplain,' 'Chairman,' and 'Our Guest' were received with musical honors, and the whole company, as the rev. chaplain retired at eleven o'clock, rose to their feet and sang 'Faith of our Fathers.' The gathering dispersed at midnight to the strains of 'God Save Ireland.' The whole arrangements for the evening were well carried out under the direction of the secretary of the entertainment committee, Bro. J. Venning.

One of the old identities of the district passed away peacefully last week in the person of Mr. J. Toner. The deceased, who came out in 1872, was a native of County Armagh, Ireland. He was a fervent and practical Catholic, and died at the ripe old age of 92 years.—R.I.P.

DIocese OF AUCKLAND

(From our own correspondent.)

August 11.

Our schools have undergone successfully the annual examination by the Government Inspectors.

A first collection for the sustenance of the diocesan clergy was partly taken up last Sunday. It is really in the direction of superannuation, and is a very wise and good step.

A Te Deum was sung at St. Patrick's by the choir, under Mr. P. E. Hiscocks, last Sunday morning and evening in honor of the first year of the Pontificate of His Holiness Pope Pius X. After Vespers a procession of the Blessed Sacrament took place.

The district officers of the H.A.C.B. Society have been apprised that new branches of the excellent society are likely to be opened at Stratford and Otāhā, and these, with the new branch at Wanganui, will make four on the West Coast of the North Island. It is likely that the district president, Bro. C. Little, and the district secretary, Bro. Kane, will visit the coast and open the branches in question. It will please the Southern brethren to know that the Waikato branch is going steadily ahead.

The Rev. Father Gillan is about to take steps for the erection of a new church at Avondale, which will be known as that of Our Lady of Avondale. To raise the necessary funds for this undertaking and also for the building of a convent Father Gillan will make a personal call on his parishioners at an early date. He proposes also that a bazaar be held about Christmas time, and Very Rev. Dean Hackett has kindly consented to deliver a lecture at Avondale shortly on behalf of the funds.