

Oxford

(From an occasional correspondent.)

His Lordship Dr. Grimes, accompanied by Rev. Father Hyland, visited Oxford on Monday, August 28, for the purpose of administering the Sacrament of Confirmation. At the conclusion of Mass Mr. McCormack read and presented the following illuminated address to the Bishop:—

'May it please your Lordship,—We have been vouchsafed, another opportunity of welcoming you to this part of your diocese on the occasion of the administering of the holy Sacrament of Confirmation, and on behalf of all the Catholics of Oxford and surrounding district tender you our respectful greetings and most cordial welcome. We are thankful to Almighty God that, as we prayed in our last address, your Lordship has been spared to witness the completion of our grand Cathedral Church, an undertaking which greatly weighed you down and frequently induced ill-health; and now that the burden of anxiety has been greatly diminished, we deeply rejoice in your much improved state of health. Need we mention, especially those of us who had the privilege of being present, the grand spectacle presented at the dedication of the Cathedral, when the beautiful ceremonies were graced by the presence of the highest ecclesiastical and civil authorities of New Zealand and Australia. What a token of esteem, approval, and sympathy! We shared your pride deeply that day of renown, and join again now in congratulating your Lordship, and wishing you very many years to reign in that mother church and in the hearts of your devoted people. Wishing you every blessing, we remain, on behalf of the congregation, your humble and dutiful children, Jas. McCormack, J. P. Rodgers, John McGrath.'

His Lordship was much pleased, and replied at great length. The public examination of the candidates for Confirmation then proceeded, and great satisfaction was expressed at the good answering by the nineteen candidates, after which the Sacrament was administered. The Baptismal vows were renewed, and the newly-confirmed took the total abstinence pledge.

The Bishop and Fathers Hyland and McDonnell were entertained at luncheon by Mr. and Mrs. McCormack, Oxford, and they returned to Rangiora by the afternoon train.

GISBORNE

(From an occasional correspondent.)

September 2.

The local branch of the Hibernian Society has benefited notably as the result of the mission lately conducted here by the Very Rev. Father Clune, C.S.S.R., and the Rev. Father McDermott, C.S.S.R.

The members of the local branch of the Hibernian Society held their annual social recently in His Majesty's Theatre. The function (says the local paper) was a great success in every way, and the Society must feel gratified with their yearly gathering. Over 200 persons were present, and a pleasant time was spent by one and all. It was only three years ago since the local branch (St. Patrick's 373) of the Hibernian Society was formed, but it has made big strides in strength of membership and popularity. Its annual social is recognised as one of the chief events in local social life, and the young lodge yields place to none in the excellence and completeness of the arrangements for the gathering. The good-fellowship between the various lodges was shown by the large number of representatives present from kindred societies. A hearty welcome was accorded them by Mr. G. Gratz, who, in a happy speech, assured the representatives of the pleasure felt by the Hibernian Society at their attendance, and expressed the cordial goodwill of his Society to brother organisations. The representatives of the visiting societies suitably acknowledged Mr. Gratz's courtesy. During the early part of the evening the Rev. Father Mulvihill was present, and took much interest in the well-being of the social. The various members of the committee were tireless in their efforts to promote the success of the gathering, and the result of their united efforts ensured to the full the comfort and convenience of those present. The officials of the Society were the recipients of warm congratulations on the excellent manner in which the arrangements for the gathering were carried out. No detail was left unattended to, and the secretary and committee thoroughly deserved the thanks of all for their assiduous efforts. The committee to whom the credit of the success of the social is due comprised Messrs. W. Hackett, T. Walls, G. Gratz, T.

Hackett, J. Chambers, P. Barry, P. Muldoon, M. O'Connor, F. Maher, G. Petersen, M. Hagan, M. Mahoney, J. Lindsay, H. Martin, and J. Muhlleson. To the secretary, Mr. Gratz, special recognition is due for the indefatigable way in which he worked in ensuring the comfort and pleasure of patrons.

OBITUARY

MISS MARY McMULLAN, ARTHUR'S POINT.

Sincere regret was felt in the Queenstown district when it became known that Miss Mary McMullan, eldest and beloved daughter of Mr. James McMullan, had passed away on August 9. The deceased, who was 28 years of age, was extremely popular among her many friends and acquaintances, and the circumstances of her death were extremely sad, inasmuch as she was a victim of consumption—a disease which had already claimed three other members of the family within a brief period. It is needless to say that this affliction, coming so quickly after the others, has aroused the keenest sympathy for the sorrowing parents and relatives. The funeral left St. Joseph's Church on August 11 for the local cemetery, where the interment took place in the presence of a large concourse of mourners. The Rev. Father O'Donnell officiated at the church and graveside.—R.I.P.

MR. PATRICK O'SULLIVAN, HAWERA.

The many friends of Mr. Patrick O'Sullivan, late of Hawera, learned with sincere regret of his death, which took place at the residence of his brother, Mr. Michael O'Sullivan, Mangahiri, on August 22. The deceased, who was unmarried, came out to Australia in the early sixties, and after a few years' residence in Victoria was attracted to New Zealand by the West Coast diggings. He worked in Charleston for many years, where by his honesty and sterling worth he made a large number of friends. Later on he was engaged in business in Westport, from whence he went to Hawera. About a year ago his health began to fail, and notwithstanding medical skill grew worse. A few weeks prior to his death he went to reside with his brother, where he passed away at the age of 69 years. The interment took place at the Patea Cemetery, and was very largely attended. The Rev. Father McGrath, who attended the deceased at his last moments, officiated at the graveside. We extend to his brother and sorrowing friends our sincere sympathy.—R.I.P.

MR. W. H. HAYDON, DUNEDIN.

On Tuesday morning of last week there passed away at the Central Hotel, Dunedin, a well known and highly esteemed resident of the city in the person of Mr. W. H. Haydon, at the age of 72 years. The deceased was a native of London and came out to Victoria when he was nineteen years of age. After spending about a dozen years on the Victorian goldfields he came to this Colony, where he was first engaged as a gold buyer at Dunstan for one of the banks. Later on he became manager of the old Port Chalmers Hotel. After a time he commenced business on his own account, since when he had been engaged in conducting hotels in various parts of Dunedin—for a period of 36 years. The late Mr. Haydon was a very well read man, but being of a retiring disposition, he did not take an active part in public affairs. Over a year ago his health began to fail, and from that time until his death he was practically an invalid. A widow and one son—Mr. George Haydon—are left to mourn their loss. On Thursday morning a Solemn Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of the deceased was celebrated in St. Joseph's Cathedral, Rev. Father Cleary being celebrant, Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., deacon, and Rev. Father O'Malley subdeacon. The solemn music of the Mass was rendered by the choir of the Dominican nuns. The interment, which was private, took place in the Northern Cemetery, where the Rev. Father Coffey officiated.—R.I.P.

Messrs Paterson and Burk, Venetian and Holland blind makers, Moray Place, Dunedin, are prepared to fit shop and office windows with latest and improved patterns of Holland blinds and patent spring rollers. They repaint and repair old blinds, and make them almost equal to new, and keep in stock tapes, cords, and other requisites....