

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

September 16.

The Rev. Father Ainsworth was unfortunately laid up with influenza on his arrival in Sydney. He is now convalescent and feels confident that with rest he will be restored to the full enjoyment of his previous good health.

The Austrian warship, 'Panther,' arrived during the week, and the Admiral has been busy receiving and making the usual official calls. He has already paid his respects to his Grace the Archbishop, and has invited him to dine on board his vessel. All the officers and men with one exception are Catholics. High Mass will be celebrated at the Sacred Heart Basilica on Sunday morning, at which the officers and men will be present.

Mr. Martin Kennedy, who is well known throughout the Colony, was recently created a Knight of the Order of St. Gregory the Great. Mr. Kennedy has for many years taken a very practical interest in Church matters, and has shown himself a generous benefactor to the cause. He thoroughly deserves the honor that has been conferred upon him, and his fellow-Catholics throughout New Zealand will join in offering their congratulations.

The usual weekly meeting of the Catholic Young Men's Literary Society was held on Monday evening. Members discussed the banishment of Napoleon to St. Helena in an interesting and able manner. The majority decided in favor of his banishment. Reference was made to the success achieved in the competition for 'The Plunket' Medal by Messrs. Fitzgibbons and Kelly. The society placed on record their pleasure at and appreciation of the success of these gentlemen, and the secretary was instructed to write them accordingly.

A meeting of the executive of the Catholic Young Men's Federation was held on Thursday evening. The secretary was instructed to write the various parish priests with a view to the formation of affiliated societies at Hawera, Wanganui, Westport, and Palmerston. The executive also decided to give each affiliated society a diploma of merit to be awarded to the best orator in each club. The subject is to be the life of some man or woman of history, and rules to govern the competition are being drawn up by Messrs. Casey, McKeown, and Fitzgibbon.

The gallery of the Town Hall was well filled on Wednesday evening, when a *conversazione* was held in aid of the schools of Te Aro parish. A capital concert programme had been arranged by the Rev. Father Moloney. His Grace the Archbishop and many of the clergy were present. The concert programme was as follows:—Vocal solo, 'A brigand am I,' Mr. J. F. Jones; vocal solo, 'Il Bacio,' Miss Amy Hyde; cornet solo, 'Angels guard thee,' Mr. J. Parker; vocal solo, 'Sunshine and rain,' Miss W. Birch; violin solo, 'Bolero,' Miss Julia Moran; vocal solo, 'I trust you still,' Mrs. R. Ryan; vocal solo, 'Oft in the still night,' Mr. J. F. Carr; vocal solo, 'The Better Land,' Miss Nora North-Barrett; vocal solo, 'In the cathedral,' Miss Amy Hyde, with violin obligato by Mr. J. Woodward; comic song, 'Wait till you see what I leave,' Mr. C. Zachariah. The accompaniments were played by Miss Moloney and Mrs. C. Zachariah. Refreshments were as usual provided by the ladies of the parish.

Otaki

The funeral of the late Hoani Taupe M Heteikia took place on September 17, when a large assemblage of both Maoris and Europeans followed the remains to the Catholic Church and back to the cemetery. The service in church and at the graveside was conducted by the Rev. Father Melu, who referred to the many good qualities of the deceased, especially his fervent and practical faith. As the cortege passed out of church, the Dead March in 'Saul' was played. The ceremony at the graveside was a most impressive one. There were a great many wreaths forwarded, including one from the Tainui Football and Cricket Clubs, and Otaki Golf Club, of which deceased was one of the most popular members.—R.I.P.

The obsequies of the late Sister Cecilia of the Otaki Convent (says the local 'Mail' of September 8) took place last Wednesday afternoon. In the

morning a Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of the deceased religious was celebrated by the Rev. Father O'Sullivan (Wanganui). The altar and church were suitably draped for the solemn occasion. The funeral service was conducted in St Mary's Church by the Rev. Father Melu, assisted by the Rev. Fathers O'Sullivan, De Lach, and Vibaud. The attendance was very large, including a number of Maoris; indeed, the funeral was one of the largest seen at Otaki. The remains were taken to the Catholic cemetery by ten stalwart young natives of the Ngatiraikawa tribe, who wore mats and had a band of greenery round their heads, in token of their mourning. The concluding service was conducted at the graveside. The whole ceremony was a most impressive one, and those present were greatly moved, showing the love and respect towards the departed Sister, who was a great favorite with all. The deceased had resided at Otaki on two different occasions, for a period of some seven years in all, during which time she was greatly beloved. As a teacher of music she was particularly successful, her pupils doing remarkably well at their various examinations.—R.I.P.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

September 18.

His Lordship the Bishop left on Saturday for Darfield, where on Sunday last he conducted a pastoral visitation. From there the Bishop is to go on to Westland to continue his episcopal visitation of the diocese.

Last week a convert of his Lordship the Bishop received at his hands no less than five Sacraments: Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Eucharist, Penance, and Matrimony—a rather unique distinction, and a somewhat uncommon episcopal experience.

As a memento of the temperance pledge administered by his Lordship the Bishop at Confirmations, he now presents a handsome card, cabinet size, a feature first introduced at Rangiora recently. One-half is occupied with a beautiful engraving, 'Ecce Homo,' and neatly printed on the remainder are the words, 'My temperance pledge. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen. I..... solemnly promise, in honor of the Sacred Thirst of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, to abstain from all intoxicating drinks, and to prevent as far as I can the abuse of the same in others. Name. Witness. Date.'

A large audience gathered on Friday evening in the Lyttelton Oddfellows' Hall, where an entertainment was given by the pupils of the Convent school. The young people and their instructors deserve much credit for the very pleasing programme presented. Vocal duets and quartets were sung and instrumental selections were played by the pupils. The farce, 'Cherry Bounce,' a chorus, action and coon songs, floral drill and dance, and a comic cantata, 'Soot and the Fairies,' were very creditably given.

The following pupils of the Sisters of the Missions, Sacred Heart Convent High School, Ashburton, were successful at the Trinity College examination in musical knowledge held on June 10 last:—Preparatory division, pass, Katie Daly, Jane Moreland, Mary McCormack, Monica Muller, Mary Nealan, Kathleen Nealan, and May Walsh. Intermediate division, pass and honors, Madeline Brick, Ellen Cullen, and Hannah Langley. The following pupils of the Sisters of the Missions, Rosary Convent, Leeston, were successful in the Trinity College examination in musical knowledge, held also in June last:—Intermediate grade, B. McCormack, 85. Junior grade, M. Maddock, 97, A. Stapleton, 96, D. Bohan, 94, A. McEvedy, 85. Preparatory grade, M. Duick, 95, M. Coe, 92, M. McCormack, 90.

Mr. J. R. Hayward (vice-president) occupied the chair at the ordinary meeting of the Catholic Club executive committee held on last Tuesday evening. The date of the projected entertainment in aid of the Sunday school prize fund was fixed for Thursday, October 5. Two new members were nominated. A letter of thanks was received from the Rev. Father Marnane for the successful entertainment recently given by the club on behalf of the parish funds of St. Mary's, Manchester street. Regret was expressed that Mr. J. F. Shanly, one of the executive, and a very energetic member of the club, was about to leave for Wellington, to carry on business there for a Christchurch firm. It was decided to give him a send-off on Tuesday evening. It was resolved to hold the annual meeting on September 26. The chairman said as this was the last meeting of the present executive, he wished to thank the members for assisting him generally while acting as chairman.