

WEDDING BELLS

HALL—McGUIRE.

A pretty wedding (writes our Auckland correspondent) was solemnised at St. Patrick's Cathedral on September 7 by the Rev. Father Holbrook, the contracting parties being Miss Rose M. McGuire, second daughter of Mr. P. McGuire, of Pitt street (late of Reefton), and Mr. Oliver Corbet Hall, eldest son of the late Captain Hall, of 1st Royal Dragoons, Cheshire, England. The bride was given away by her brother-in-law, Mr. Claude Fenwick. She looked charming in a lovely grey silk voile, relieved with cream silk trimming, and violet hat. She was attended by her two sisters as bridesmaids, Misses Dolly and Nellie McGuire. The bridegroom was attended by Mr. O. P. McGuire as best man. After the ceremony the wedding party drove to the residence of the bride's parents, where the wedding breakfast was partaken of. The bridegroom's present to the bride was a grand piano, and to the bridesmaids—Miss Dolly McGuire a handsome gold necklet and pendant, and Miss Nellie McGuire a pretty cable bangle. The presents were both numerous and costly, including a handsome silver hot-water kettle and salad bowl from the Telephone exchange. The happy couple left in the afternoon for their future home at Wanganui.

NEW ZEALAND GENERAL

A Roxburgh fruitgrower informs the 'Tuapeka Times' that present indications point to an abundant fruit crop next season. The danger from late frosts is, however, not yet over.

Mr. Frank Cullen, of the Westport Railway Department, son of Sergeant Cullen, has just put up a record in shorthand by passing the test speed for one hundred words per minute (106 was the exact speed) after less than four months' study.

At the recent annual meeting of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (Cathedral Conference), Christchurch, writes a correspondent, the following were elected officers for the ensuing year: President, Bro. E. O'Connor, J.P.; spiritual director, Very Rev. Father Le Menant des Chesnais, V.G.; vice-presidents, Bros. G. C. Hayward, J. McCormick, and W. S. Malaquin; secretary, Bro. E. J. Shanley; treasurer, Bro. P. O'Connell; wardrobe-keeper, Bro. Frank O'Connell.

Sir T. H. Grattan Esmonde, Bart, M.P., senior whip of the Irish party, writing to a friend in Auckland by letter received on Friday, says:—'We have just now come to the end of a long, tiresome mission, in which we have not obtained anything very substantial for Ireland; but all the same the Home Rule cause is progressing slowly, perhaps, but still progressing, and a further instalment of self-government is not far off. This Ministry will remain in until next year, but when the general election comes in the Liberals will have a big majority. I hope it won't be too big a majority. Whatever happens, Ireland will profit undoubtedly.'

The following is a list of pupils of the Convent of Mercy, Greymouth, who passed in the theory of music examination in connection with Trinity College, London, and held in June last:—Senior honors—Kathleen Martin 90, Norabella Trowland 81. Intermediate honors—Myra McLisky 85. Intermediate pass—Kathleen O'Donnell 78. Junior honors—Elsie Williamson 99, Cyril Whitaker 99, Rose Bade 97, Basil Peterson 97, Erin O'Reilly 91, Gladys Hannan 92. Preparatory grade—Mary Mundy 96, Mary Creagh 95, Margaret Troy 95, Lena Higgins 95, Daphne Heaphy 91, Nellie Deere 93, Frank Duffy 90, Ruby Goodman 88.

An excellent result (writes a correspondent) has been secured from the examination in musical knowledge in connection with Trinity College, and held in the Convent school, Kaikoura, on June 10. The pupils of the junior division have obtained honors. In this division Katie Kerr obtained 99 marks, May Mackle 97, and Lena Schrouder 97. In the preparatory division the following secured distinctions: Veronica Brunel 93, Kathleen Burland 93, Ita Stove 93, Elvina Curtain 92. The above information, just received from London, reflects high credit both on the Sisters and the pupils.

An old and highly esteemed resident of Oamaru, in the person of Mrs. William Bee, passed away on the 26th ult. in her 64th year. Mrs. Bee was one of the oldest residents of Oamaru, and arrived in Oamaru from Scotland, to be married, close on forty years

ago. She and her husband lived for the first few years of their married life in Ure street, and later on removed to their present residence in Wansbeck street, where they have lived ever since without a break. The deceased lady had been in delicate health for several years, and had failed fast in the last twelve months, but death came very suddenly at the end. Mrs. Bee, who was of a most lovable and charitable disposition, and was widely and sincerely liked and respected for her good qualities, bore five children—two daughters and three sons. Of these all except one girl (Mrs. R. M'Dowell) survive their mother. Mr. Bee and family had the sincere sympathy of the whole community in their bereavement.

The following are the results obtained by the pupils of the Sisters of Mercy, Hokitika, at the examination in the theory of music, held by the representative of Trinity College in June last:—Senior division—Aileen Daly (Hokitika) 85 (honors). Intermediate division—May Sullivan (Hokitika) 82 (honors); May Moloney (Hokitika), 60. Junior division—Margaret Burger (Kumara), 97 (honors); Mammie Kennedy (Kumara), 97 (honors); Elizabeth Burger (Kumara), 93 (honors); Violet Wright (Hokitika), 89 (honors); Cecile Lloyd (Hokitika), 88 (honors); Aileen Frank (Kumara), 87 (honors); Kathleen Foster (Hokitika), 78; Maggie Mahoney (Hokitika), 71; Kathleen St. George (Hokitika), 69; Mary Flaherty (Hokitika), 60. Preparatory division—Elfrida Kennedy (Kumara), 96; May McDonald (Kumara), 94; Nora Donnellan (Hokitika), 90; Katie M'Manus (Hokitika), 90; Aileen Kennedy (Kumara), 89; Maude Rooney (Hokitika), 85; Annie Martini (Hokitika), 76; Emma Shroder (Hokitika), 61.

The following are the results of the practical examination, held by Mr. Alfred Mistowski, in vocal and instrumental music, at 'Villa Maria,' Sacred Heart Convent, Wanganui, on September 12:—Professional examination, Dora Carroll, certificated teacher. Senior division—Singing, Dora Carroll 72; pianoforte, Ruby Perrett 71. Intermediate division—Pianoforte, Mabel Mahony 71, Annie Sullivan 68. Junior division—Singing, Clarice Gower 71, Annie Sullivan 70, Josephine Lloyd 65; pianoforte, Winnie Naylor 77, Annie O'Sullivan 71, Olive Olberg 68, Mabel Dickson 68. Preparatory division—Pianoforte, Nellie Bennett 87, Lena Sullivan 82, Eileen Sullivan 75, Eileen Carvell 67. The above results are highly satisfactory and reflect great credit on teachers and pupils alike.

His Excellency the Governor has received the following cable from the High Commissioner for South Africa:—'About 500 horses will be required for the South African Constabulary between now and February. Can you forward by telegraph a tender to supply? The conditions are as follow: To be landed at Durban. Inspection and selection of horses to be made by a representative of the South African Constabulary not later than the fifteenth day after disembarkation. South African Constabulary to have full powers of rejecting all or any of them on the following grounds: Unsoundness, unsuitability for work, want of condition, faulty conformation. Size to be 14.2 to 15.1 hands; five to seven years of age. Must be geldings or mares. The latter will be given preference; conformation for riding only, not for draught. Stamp required is that for rural constabulary. Horses should be stout, thick-set, but with quality, and should be about three-quarter thoroughbred. Good market for horses in South Africa at present.'

Ever since its institution Victoria College has been considerably hampered in its operations owing to the absence of a suitable building. This defect, however, will soon be remedied (writes our Wellington correspondent), for the new building at Kelburne should be ready for use next year. The students of the College, who have throughout displayed an admirable spirit, some time ago contributed a substantial sum to the building fund. Quite recently it was found that three or four tennis courts could be laid down in the grounds attached to the new building by the application of a little energy. The finances of the institution were too slender to admit of any present expenditure in this direction, so the students, resolving to help themselves, formed a working bee, and, armed with the necessary implements, commenced operations, in which the professors and lecturers gallantly lent a hand. The first sod was turned by the Premier, who, recognising the fine spirit displayed by all connected with the College, and deeming them worthy of assistance, informed the assemblage that Parliament would be asked to provide on the Public Works Estimates an additional £6000 for the College. The announcement was received with applause, and the Premier having wheeled the first barrow, departed amidst cheers. Each Saturday afternoon is now devoted to the work of excavation.