

'Catholic Education,' referred to the great sacrifices made by Catholics in this connection. He paid a warm tribute to the splendid services rendered to the community by the religious Orders, who had raised the standard of our educational system to such a high place. He expressed the great pleasure it gave him to be present that evening to take part in the ceremony of entertaining the Brothers. The toast was acknowledged in a brief and forcible speech by the Rev. Father Kimbell. Several other toasts were duly honored during the evening. Musical items were given by Messrs. C. Gamble, P. J. McGovern, Cobolet, Foote, R. Sievers, A. Searle, and T. Lawless. The accompaniments throughout were played by Mr. T. Lawlor.

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

Rev. Father McDermott, C.S.S.R., reached Dunedin on the 26th inst., to conduct a retreat. He proceeds to Invercargill on January 4 and later on to Oamaru.

About eighty members of the Hibernian Society in regalia approached the Holy Table at the nine o'clock Mass at St. Joseph's Cathedral on Sunday.

At St. Patrick's Basilica, South Dunedin, on Christmas Day Masses were celebrated at 7, 8, 9, and 11 o'clock. There was a very large number of communicants at the early Masses, about five hundred having approached the Holy Table. The Rev. Father Howard preached at the last Mass on the day's festival. The music, which was Gounod's, was efficiently rendered by the choir under the conductorship of Mr. Bush, Mr. Eagar presiding at the organ.

The Rev. J. Slattery, C.M., of St. Stanislaus' College, Bathurst (N.S.W.), is at present the guest of his Lordship the Bishop in Dunedin. The Rev. Father is well known throughout Australia for his acquirements in various branches of science, and especially for his researches in electricity, in which he has made a mark for himself and for his college. He is brother of Mother M. Peter, O.S.D. (Dunedin), and has taken advantage of his midsummer holidays to see her after a separation of many years.

On last Sunday afternoon a presentation, consisting of a number of handsome toilet articles, was made to Miss Purton by the Mornington Sunday school. The function took place at the residence of Mr. P. Carolin, the presentation being made by Rev. Father O'Malley at the close of a happy speech, in which he paid a well-merited tribute to the admirable work done by Miss Purton in connection with the Mornington Sunday school. Mr. J. O'Neill replied on behalf of Miss Purton, and the function terminated with votes of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Carolin.

Masses were celebrated at 6, 7, 8, and 9 o'clock at St. Joseph's Cathedral on Christmas Day, and Solemn High Mass at 11 o'clock, at which his Lordship the Bishop presided, Rev. Father Cleary being celebrant, Rev. Father Slattery, C.M., deacon, Rev. Father D. O'Neill subdeacon, and Rev. Father O'Malley Master of ceremonies. The Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., preached on the feast of the day. The music of the Mass was Gounod's 'Messe Solennelle,' which was rendered in a finished and devotional manner by the choir, under the conductorship of Mr. W. T. Ward. Mr. A. Vallis presided at the organ, and as an outgoing voluntary played Guilmant's 'Sur deux Noels.' After Mass the choir was entertained by his Lordship the Bishop in St. Joseph's Hall. The Rev. Father Coffey, who in the unavoidable absence of his Lordship presided, thanked the members for the very finished manner in which the music was rendered, and in particular Mr. Vallis for the interest he was taking in the training of the new members. In the evening the sermon was preached by the Rev. Father Slattery.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

December 23.

The various committees in connection with the combined Catholic railway excursion to, and picnic at, the Riccarton racecourse on Boxing Day have devoted a great deal of energy, time, and hard work to the details, and there is every anticipation that the event will prove a success.

Miss Katie Young, organist of the Cathedral, and honorary pianiste and accompanist of the Christchurch Musical Union, was on last Tuesday evening presented by Mr. A. Kaye, president, with a very substantial purse of sovereigns, on behalf of many admiring friends. Mr. Kaye spoke eulogistically of Miss Young's work. The secretary, Mr. T. Garrard, also acknow-

ledged, in enthusiastic terms, the splendid services rendered by this accomplished musician. Dr. Bradshaw, organist of the Anglican Cathedral and conductor for the Union, responded on behalf of Miss Young, and thanked the members for the marked expression of appreciation which was to her quite unexpected.

Waimate

(From our own correspondent.)

December 26.

The Rev. Father Lezer, of Meanee, is at present staying at the presbytery, being the guest of Father Regnault.

At the evening devotions on Sunday the Rev. Father Regnault made feeling reference to the death of the late Dean Foley.

A movement is on foot to present Sir W. J. Steward with a purse of sovereigns, he having represented the electorate in the 'House' for the past 24 years.

On Christmas Day Masses were celebrated at 7, 9, and 11. At the last Mass, which was celebrated by the Rev. Father Regnault, the choir rendered special music for the occasion. The Rev. Father Lezer preached in the evening on the feast of the day. There were large congregations at all the services. After the evening devotions the choir were entertained at the presbytery by the Rev. Father Regnault. At the same time a presentation was made of a dinner service and tea service to Misses Lucy and Dolly Kent, in connection with their approaching marriages. The Rev. Father Regnault and Mr. G. J. Goldstone made reference to the great loss the choir was about to sustain, Miss L. Kent having been one of the foremost members for the past twelve years.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(From our own correspondent.)

December 19.

Rev. Father Murray, C.S.S.R., arrived here on Sunday from Sydney, and will at once commence the retreat of the religious.

On Friday afternoon the bazaar in aid of the Sacred Heart parish and St. Mary's convent will be opened by his Lordship the Bishop, his Worship the Mayor and the Right Hon. the Premier are expected to be present.

Very Rev. Dean Foley passed away last Sunday. Rev. Father Kerley, of Temuka, arrived from the South a few hours before the Dean's death. After Mass at the Cathedral, the organist, Mr. Harry Hiscocks, played the Dead March from 'Saul,' both morning and evening. At 9 o'clock on Monday a Solemn Requiem Mass was sung at St. Patrick's by the Rev. Father Kerley, assisted by the Very Rev. Father Murray, C.S.S.R., Very Rev. Dean Egan, and Rev. Fathers Holbrook, Buckley, Cahill, Edge, McMillan, Dignan, and Furlong. His Lordship the Bishop was also present. The body lay in state at the Cathedral during Monday, and was afterwards taken South to be buried.

Death of the Bishop of Port Augusta

The death is reported of the Right Rev. Dr. Maher, Bishop of Port Augusta. Dr. Maher was born in the parish of Ballyneil, Tipperary, about 63 years ago, and studied classics at Mount Melleray, and philosophy and theology at St. John's, Waterford. In 1868 he was ordained priest at Maynooth, and landed in South Australia in the December of the same year. After laboring at Kadina, Mount Barker, Adelaide, and Kapunda, he was appointed to Pekina. When Dr. O'Reilly took charge of the newly created diocese of Port Augusta in 1887 he appointed the deceased his Vicar-General. On Bishop O'Reilly being transferred from the episcopal charge of the diocese of Port Augusta to the Archiepiscopal See of Adelaide, in 1895, the administratorship of the vacant diocese fell upon the Vicar-General. Dr. Maher was appointed Bishop, and was consecrated in St. Francis Xavier's Cathedral, Adelaide, on April 26, 1896. There are in the diocese 36 churches, 11 priests, 1 boarding school (girls), 1 superior school, 11 primary schools with over 800 pupils, and a Catholic population of nearly 12,000.—R.I.P.

The Railway authorities have a notice in this issue with regard to the train arrangements during the New Year holidays.

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