

Malo, the peasantry, under the direction of the parish priest, reverently collected the dead that were washed ashore, and interred them with marks of honor that won a special and gracious act of recognition from the British Government. But the Bretons take high rank among the most devoted children of the Church. And one naturally expects from them the gentle humanity and the deep charity which they displayed towards the victims of the wrecks of the 'Drummond Castle' and the 'Hilda.' Well, 'Christ save us all from a wreck like this!' And peace to the souls of those who went to their death when the ship went to her doom!

'The Church and the World'

The Very Rev. Father Le Menant des Chesnais, V.G., Christchurch, has received the following letter from the Right Rev. Dr. Gallagher, Bishop of Goulburn:—

Bishop's House, Goulburn,

December 20, 1905.

Very Rev. and Dear Father des Chesnais,—

I owe you an apology for not having written sooner to acknowledge receipt of and thank you sincerely for the copy of your excellent book, 'The Church and the World,' which you were so good as to send me. I have read it through and through with pleasure and profit. 'It is truly a mine of information for our own Catholic people first of all, and perhaps especially for those who, anxious to become Catholics, would wish to have all their difficulties briefly, clearly, and satisfactorily answered. It will be also most useful for our hard-worked priests as a handy book of reference on subjects most necessary to be explained to the people. I doubt whether any more opportune and useful little book of instruction has hitherto been given by any of our clergy to our young Church of Australasia. Hence it will be a source of pride and pleasure for me to call the attention of our Goulburn priests to it when they assemble for our annual Retreat at St. Patrick's College on the 23rd of January.

With renewed thanks and good warm greetings of the holy Christmas season, I am, dear Father des Chesnais,

Gratefully and sincerely yours,

✠ JOHN GALLAGHER.

Australian Catholic Truth Society

The latest publications of the Australian Catholic Truth Society are of a varied character, and will be found instructive reading. In his 'Veneration for our Dead' the Rev. M. Watson, S.J., deals, among other matters, with the religious ceremonies which precede burial, and also gives some good advice regarding the incurring of needless expense, especially by those not in a position to do so. In his second booklet under the title, 'Christian Self-sacrifice and Father Damien,' the same writer tells in a sympathetic and appreciative manner of the labors and noble devotion of the heroic priest of Molokai. For those who desire to be prepared to refute the oft-repeated and untruthful statements regarding the prevalence of crime in Catholic countries Mr. Benjamin Hoare's 'Catholics and Crime' will be found a most useful little pamphlet. In 'Indifference in Religion' Rev. J. J. Malone traces the cause of this evil, and shows that the only effective remedies to arouse the masses from that fatal lethargy of the soul are the essentially dogmatic character of our religion and the jealously conservative character of our progressive but infallible Church. In the limited space at his disposal the same writer gives an interesting outline of the life and work of St. Francis Xavier, the Apostle of the Indies. Under the title of 'Catholicism in Japan,' Mr. R. Stewart tells of the introduction of Christianity in the middle of the sixteenth century by St. Francis Xavier, the success of the missionaries who came after him, the persecution which followed later on, and the position to-day. In his little work on 'Socialism' the Rev. Dr. Kelly treats of the subject from various points of view, and shows how some of its principles are in harmony with, whilst others are antagonistic to the teaching of the Catholic Church. He feels that the future belongs to some sort of Socialism, and in conclusion thinks it is the duty of the clergy to study the movement, and guide it.

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

January 6.

Very Rev. Dean McKenna, after closing a successful bazaar in New Plymouth, is in Wellington for a few days' rest.

Rev. Father Murray, C.S.S.R., is to conduct the annual retreat of the priests of the archdiocese, which begins at St. Patrick's College on February 7.

Mr. A. H. Casey, chairman of the Wellington C.Y.M. Club and a member of the federated executive, successfully established during the holidays a branch club in New Plymouth.

The Rector of St. Ignatius' College, Riverview, Sydney (Rev. Father Gartlan), passed through Wellington last Wednesday on his way to the West Coast, where he intends preaching a retreat to the Sisters of Mercy at the Westport Convent.

A cottage chapel has been opened by the Rector of St. Patrick's College (Very Rev. Father Keogh) at Rona Bay, a popular resort across the harbor. No fewer than fifty persons attended Mass on Christmas Day.

The Sisters of Compassion were the glad recipients of the amount of £22 8s 3d, being one-half of the net proceeds of the political debate between Messrs. Fisher and O'Regan during the election for the Wellington Central Seat.

A very nice property has been acquired in Washington Avenue, Brooklyn, and it is hoped shortly to build a church there. The electric tramway rails are being laid, and as soon as the trams run there will be great increase of population in this elevated suburb. The church when built will be on the highest situation in or around Wellington.

This morning, in the presence of a number of relatives and friends, Miss Herring (Palmerston North) and Miss T. Rowe (Wellington) made their religious profession, Misses Blake and A. McDonald (Wellington) and Miss Minogue (Palmerston North) were received into the Sisterhood of Mercy by his Grace Archbishop Redwood at the Sisters of Mercy's chapel in Hill street.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

January 8.

His Lordship the Bishop was at Cheviot on Sunday, where he administered the Sacrament of Confirmation.

St. Mary's Church, Manchester street, was very effectively decorated for the Christmas festival. There were the usual early Masses. The Rev. Father Mar-nane celebrated the 11 o'clock Mass and also officiated at Vespers. The music was selected from the Masses of Mozart and Gounod, the choir being conducted by Mr. A. H. Blake.

On New Year's eve members of the Hayward family and a few friends entertained the inmates of Nazareth House at a musical afternoon. The dining room of the institution was utilised as a concert hall. Young and old were gathered together, and for some hours were delighted with a programme of music, songs, and gramophone selections. His Lordship the Bishop was present, and on behalf of the Sisters and their charges cordially thanked those who had so thoughtfully planned and contributed to the enjoyable event. He wished the Sisters continued success in their noble mission, and to the old people health, happiness, and length of years.

The appearance of the Catholic Club rooms on last Wednesday evening must have favorably impressed the casual visitor with the excellent tone prevailing, and proved encouraging to those whose efforts are directed in making the club useful and attractive to the members. Although scarcely through the holidays, quite a number were in attendance and engaged in various favorite pursuits. Some were comfortably ensconced behind the latest number of the 'Tablet' and other Catholic papers and magazines, others found relaxation at billiards, ping-pong, draughts, and the piano. Good-humored banter and seasonable greetings were passed to some coming or going member, whilst those not inclined for recreation stood in groups chatting and enjoying the social pipe. The newly-formed tennis club was a theme of general discussion. All around the fun was pure and plentiful, and the club as a place of entertainment for our Catholic men and boys after their

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