

their boys. He wanted to see every Catholic child well trained to run his course in life. He did not want them to be second to those of any other denomination. He wanted to see his boys and girls in the lead. As he was leaving Perth he had a few notes placed in his hand, which served to show the success the Brothers had achieved there. During the past seven years their record at examinations was:—University—Primary or preliminary, 56 passes; junior examination, 79 passes; senior examination, 31 passes; higher (four years only), 17 passes, honors, 138 passes. First place in South Australia and West Australia, 6 times; second place, 8 times; third place, 4 times. Fifteen University prizes, amounting to £101 10s; 21 Government exhibitions (£15 each), £315; 11 Government exhibitions (£25 each), £275; four University exhibitions (£450 each), £1800; the Rhodes scholarship for 1905, £900; total amount won, £3391 10s. They could thus see that the money they expended in educating their children might be won back, and besides they would be trained to take the first place in the land. The best men in Parliament had been educated by the Christian Brothers—though he did not wish to mention names. He expected the Brothers to be equally successful in Kalgoorlie, and that they might achieve that success he expected the parents to co-operate with the teachers, for young Australians appeared to want to devote three days a week to fun and play.

The amount collected at the opening was nearly £200.

The Value of Pictures

The splendid collection of pictures which has been got together for the Christchurch International Exhibition reminds us that pictures have always been a profitable investment either for the individual or the nation; for, if good, they invariably increase in value with age. As a general rule an artist must have been dead for many years before his work is appreciated at its true worth. At a recent sale at Christie's, London, some of the canvases brought double what they were purchased for a few years ago. Two portraits by the Dutch artist, Nicholas Elias, which had been purchased originally for £1200, were knocked down for £3100 guineas; a landscape by Constable realised £1000 more than was paid for it; while Gainsborough's 'Viscountess Tracy' was sold for 6000 guineas, or, roughly, twice the sum for which its late owner purchased it.

Similar cases of pictures doubling and trebling their value might be multiplied indefinitely, but more interesting are the cases in which the increase in value has been fifty and a hundredfold. Thus, Reynolds asked but 150 guineas for his famous canvas, 'Mrs. Siddons as the Tragic Muse.' Not long ago this picture was secured for £17,000 by a dealer, who within a week had parted with it at a profit of £5000, or approximately £7 for every shilling of its original cost.

In 1863 Gainsborough's portrait of Frederick Duke of York was acquired at the Bicknell sale for sixty-six guineas, to find a purchaser at Christie's forty years later for 2500 guineas. At the same sale two landscapes by 'Old Chrome' realised 2,050 guineas, or considerably more than a guinea for every shilling which the ex-errand boy of Norwich received for them; and four Gainsboroughs were bought for 8900 guineas, for which the artist would have been delighted to receive anything like £100 apiece.

At another recent sale a portrait of Georgiana, wife of Lord J. Townshend, which Romney painted for forty guineas, was sold for £3,207 10s, or nearly eighty times its original cost; and more remarkable still, Millet's world-famous 'Angelus,' which it is said the great artist sold forty-seven years ago for less than five pounds (the exact sum paid for it does not appear to be known), was bought at the Secretan sale thirty years later, for the enormous sum of £23,266, each shilling of the original investment having thus grown to more than £232. Compared with such an appreciation as this, the case of Romney's 'Sensibility,' which grew in value from 100 guineas to £3045, seems scarcely worth mentioning, although the same cannot be said of many of Chrome's beautiful landscapes, for which, it is said, the artist received less than a shilling for every five-pound note they would fetch to-day.

Some very dramatic examples of lucky investments are furnished by the cases in which Old Masters have been picked up for little more than the money equivalent of an 'old song.' Thus, a dealer in the Rue St. Lazare, Paris, paid a carpenter 50 francs for an old canvas, which proved to be a variant of one of Raphael's works, known as the 'Vatican Adam and Eve,'

and which he promptly sold for 80,000 francs. The original of Raphael's 'La Belle Jardiniere,' a picture worth several thousands of pounds, was picked up at a second-hand shop in Paris for 44 francs; half a franc purchased Raphael's original design for his famous picture, 'La Disputa del Sacramento,' now in the Vatican, the sketch being valued at 10,000 francs; and at a sale in Carnarvonshire not many years ago a Rubens worth £7000 was knocked down for a five-pound note.

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

October 27.

The Catholic students at the local University College have done remarkably well in the terms examinations. The results, which are not yet quite complete, will appear next week.

His Grace the Archbishop returned on Thursday from a visit to the West Coast. His Grace, who was away nearly three weeks, visited Westport, where he administered Confirmation, Greymouth, and Hokitika.

Advice was received here during the week that the Irish envoys, Messrs. Devlin and Donovan, intend leaving Australia for Wellington at the end of November. After speaking in this city they will visit the south, and return by way of Westland to Wellington, proceeding thence to Auckland, where they will embark for San Francisco.

The men's mission at Buckle street has been splendidly attended during the week, and is to be brought to a close on Sunday, when the young men and the members of the Hibernian Society are to approach the Holy Table in a body. On Thursday, in the course of his sermon, Very Rev. Father Clune made a stirring appeal to the men on behalf of the Young Men's Club and the Hibernian Society. Father Clune left for Hastings this morning.

To the question placed on the Order Paper by Hon. Mr. Guinness, the member for Grey, asking if the Premier would move a motion during the session with regard to Home Rule for Ireland, Sir Joseph Ward made the following reply: 'It is unfortunate the hon. member should have deferred so important a question as this, upon which the majority of members would have desired to speak, until the dying hours of the session, when it would not be possible for justice to be done to it. This is the more to be regretted as a private member moved the motion referred to in the Commonwealth Parliament, and a similar course has been open to the hon. gentleman all the session to follow here had he so desired. The matter is one that should certainly receive attention early in the next session, and care should be taken to see that the question is brought before the House.'

Wanganui

(From our own correspondent.)

October 27.

Rev. Mother Aubert, of Wellington, has been in Wanganui during the past week on business concerning the Home at Jerusalem.

The St. Mary's Catholic Club are forming an athletic branch, which will have for its object running and cycling competitions during the season. Already about 30 members have given in their names.

The Government have decided to start a State Coal Depot in Wanganui. The depot will be situated at the railway end of Ridgway street, and will be open to the public on February 1.

Another of our old parishioners, Francis Williams, died in the Hospital on last Monday at the ripe old age of 74 years. He was a devoted member of the Sacred Heart League, led an exemplary life, and was highly respected by all who knew him.—R.I.P.

At the military tournament held last night in the Drill Hall, a squad from the Marist Brothers' School gave a very fine exhibition of dumb-bell exercises. They were greatly applauded by the large audience present.

The following are the marks awarded to the pupils of the convent at the recent practical musical examination held under the auspices of the Associated Board of the R.A.M. and R.C.M. (maximum marks 150; distinction 130; pass 103):—Intermediate grade—Dora Carroll (singing), 112; Lucy Shanley (piano), 111; Annie Sullivan (piano), 106. School examination (maximum 150; distinction 130; pass 100):—Higher division—Josephine Lloyd (singing), 116; Clarice Gower (singing), 106.

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