

equal technique who lack "soul," but this incommunicable quality is one of Miss Narelle's finest endowments. The simplest ditty, as interpreted by Miss Narelle is elevated into the region of the higher music, and, given a dignified theme, she raises ballad music to its highest power. And it is noteworthy that with a vocal organ of such tremendous power and capacity, there is never a harsh note, while the piano passages are rendered with an indescribable sweetness and delicacy. Mr. Chester Fentress, an American singer, who also made his first appearance before a Wellington audience, possesses a rich, powerful, and well cultivated tenor voice, and sings with fine taste and effect. His voice is under the most complete control, and the most difficult vocal passages are given apparently without effort and with fine sympathy with words and music. Miss Constance Brandon Usher, the pianist, combines extraordinary powers of execution with high musical taste, and is free from every kind of trick or affectation.

Wanganui

(From our own correspondent.)

November 2.

At the Masses and evening devotions on All Saints' and All Souls' Days—the attendances at St. Mary's Church were very large.

St. Mary's Dramatic Club intended producing 'Jane' at Waverley on the 9th inst in the local Town Hall, but owing to the destruction of the building by fire during the week the performance will not take place.

Among the successful candidates in the recent examination of Victoria College, Wellington, Miss Ella Mahoney, a pupil of the local Convent High School, passed her first terms. Miss M. C. Robson (now a student at the Training College, Wellington) has passed her second terms. She passed her first terms last year, whilst a pupil at the convent here.

St. Mary's Dramatic Club is making rapid strides in our midst, and we are looking forward to their next production with keen interest. The local Opera House has been engaged for December 3, when they will stage the 'Ticket of Leave Man.' The cast has been carefully selected, and the scenery will be on a very elaborate scale, being specially painted for the production by a well known artist. Being amateurs, the members of the club at their rehearsals have made a very favorable impression on the few who have been privileged to witness them, and an excellent performance is assured.

Napier

(From our own correspondent.)

October 30.

The Napier Dramatic Students intend staging their recent Napier success, 'A Pair of Spectacles,' in Christchurch during the first week in December. Several of our Catholic young men are taking part in the performance.

A meeting of the members of St. John's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society was held in the Marist Brothers' schoolroom last Wednesday week. The president (Bro. W. P. Tyne) occupied the chair, Bro. John Sheehan being in the vice-chair. There was a large attendance of members present in consequence of it being a summoned meeting for the election of trustees. Bros. P. Barry, D. Murnane, and M. F. O'Rourke were unanimously elected trustees. Subscriptions amounting to £40 were received.

Matters in connection with the visit of the Irish delegates are progressing satisfactorily. A general meeting is called for to-morrow night in St. Patrick's Hall, when most of the preliminary details in connection with the visit will be disposed of. The writer has received a letter from the Speaker of the House, the Hon. A. R. Guinness, in which he states that he is confident that an overwhelming majority of the members of the House will vote for any proposal which has for its object the granting of Home Rule to Ireland.

The devotion of the Forty Hours' Adoration commenced in St. Patrick's Church on Sunday last. Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Father O'Connell, of Christchurch, when there was a large congregation present. After Mass there was a procession of the Blessed Sacrament around the church grounds, the whole congregation taking part. In the evening the Rev. Father O'Connell preached a very impressive sermon on the Blessed Eucharist. The choir, under the leadership of Mr. Frank O'Connor, rendered appropriate music both morning and evening. On Monday evening the Very Rev. Dr. Kennedy, of Meane, preached an eloquent sermon on 'Faith.'

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

November 5.

It was decided at the meeting of the Lyttelton Harbor Board last week by the casting vote of the chairman to obtain a report from Messrs. Coope, Son, and Matthews, London, on the scheme to connect Christchurch by canal with the sea.

The Very Rev. Father Le Menant des Chesnais, S.M., V.G., was among the invited guests at a complimentary banquet given by his Excellency the Governor in connection with the opening of the International Exhibition on the evening following that important event.

His Grace the Archbishop of Wellington, the Ven. Archdeacon Devoy, S.M. (Provincial), and Very Rev. Father Le Menant des Chesnais, S.M., V.G., were among those present by invitation at the opening ceremony of the Exhibition, and on the following day at the garden party at Cashmere, given by his Worship the Mayor of Christchurch, Sir John Hall.

The foundation stone of the Seddon Memorial Technical College was laid on last Friday afternoon by the Hon. G. Fowlds, Minister of Education, when speeches on the subject were delivered by Sir John Gorst, the Hon. C. C. Bowen, the Hon. G. Fowlds, and others. The site of the new building is on the corner of Barbadoes street and Moorhouse Avenue, and nearly opposite the Catholic Cathedral. The college, when erected, promises to be a handsome structure, and will decidedly improve the appearance of the locality.

A visitor to that splendid charitable institution, Nazareth House, would be deeply impressed with the extent of duties occupying the time and attention of the devoted Sisters, and now that so many who are keenly interested in the institution may be visiting Christchurch a call at Nazareth House will well repay one, with the assurance that a kindly reception will be given by the Rev. Mother and her co-workers. The number of inmates, including the Sisters, total at the present time seventy-five, and it may thus be assumed that the cost of maintenance is very considerable. The two Sisters, who are travelling the diocese, collecting funds, will be in the parish of Hawarden, North Canterbury district, this week, and the success of their mission is the sincere wish of the pastor, the Rev. Father Price.

Owing in a large measure to the large influx of visitors, very large congregations were present at the Cathedral on Sunday. There was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from the eleven o'clock Mass, with adoration throughout the afternoon. At Vespers the Cathedral was greatly crowded, when an impressive discourse was preached by his Grace Archbishop Redwood. Selecting a subject for the occasion (said the Most Rev. preacher) and one appropriate to the feast of All Saints, which was observed as one of the most glorious offices of the Church, such would necessarily form a meditation on the Heavenly Kingdom, so wonderfully described by the Apostle St. Paul, that heavenly state made perfect by the exclusion of all evil and the possession of every good. There was no satisfaction to the craving of the soul in this world. Joy for all eternity in the company of Jesus Christ, of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the heavenly host, cannot be compared even to all that has been truly excellent in the world. The attainment of this alone fills the soul with ineffable joy. Such reward is worthy of every effort. Sorely tempted though we be, with our sorrows and trials we should suffer everything, dare everything, to secure a happy ultimate existence. His Grace pontificated at Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The Very Rev. Vicar-General was assistant priest, whilst the Archbishop was attended by the Rev. Fathers O'Dwyer and Peoples.

The opening of the New Zealand International Exhibition on last Thursday afternoon was the entire success its most ardent and enthusiastic well-wisher could have possibly desired. Not a hitch, however trifling, appeared to occur, and the whole spectacle was such as to inspire a great regard for our bright little country, and a confidence in the ultimate successful results of the huge undertaking. Described by Sir Joseph Ward in his address at the opening, as 'the greatest exhibition yet organised south of the line,' we have something to be proud of. The afternoon of the ceremonial day was bright, fresh, and lovely, the previous wet day and night just putting things in decent order after a month or so of heat and dust. Although thirty-seven thousand persons passed through the turnstiles, such is the extent of the exhibition, its park, enclosures, side-shows, etc., that never was there at any time the least approach to a crush. On the two following days there was an attendance of 11,000 and 14,000 respectively, so that there seems little