

function. Contrary to expectation nearly all the exhibits were in place, and there was an appearance of completeness about the various bays which contrasted very favorably with similar undertakings on the opening day in other countries.

During the opening day 36,000 persons visited the Exhibition, and the amount taken for admission was over £1000.

The total cost of the Exhibition was about £90,000. The amount received from exhibitors for space rent is about £30,000.

Sir J. G. Ward, says that the exhibits in the picture gallery are worth a quarter of a million sterling.

The total floor space of the main building and machinery hall, with the galleries, is 476,500 square feet, or about 11 acres.

Nearly fifty tons of nails were used in the erection of the building, which has over two miles of guttering, and 70 tons of paint were used on the outside of the building. The skylights on the roof have an area of nearly 2½ acres.

The concert hall is capable of seating 1600 persons, and an organ has been erected at a cost of £3235.

The Exhibition is the largest that has ever been held in the Southern Hemisphere.

As was observed by his Excellency the Governor in his speech at the opening ceremony, the Exhibition would be more appropriately called an Empire than an International one, for foreign nations were noticeable by their absence. This is not considered a very serious drawback, as the main purpose underlying the original plan of the late Premier was to show what New Zealand, with little over half a century behind it, could accomplish, and compare her progress, as represented in her productions, arts, and industries, with those of other parts of the Empire, such as the United Kingdom, Canada, and the States of the Commonwealth.

The art gallery is a special feature of the Exhibition. The British exhibit is one of the finest and most complete collection ever sent out of the country, and certainly the best ever shown in any of the Australasian Colonies. Every school of British painting is represented, and if our local artists do not benefit by a study of the specimens exhibited, it must not be set down to any want of the best models.

The weather was beautifully fine for the second day of the Exhibition, enormous crowds thronged the streets, and fully 12,000 found their way in the evening to it.

A magnificent gift has indeed been made to the citizens of Christchurch in the presentation to them by the Government of the great organ about which so much has been written and spoken—a gift which they owe to the generous enterprise of the late Mr. Seddon. Possessing, as it will at the close of the Exhibition, the largest organ of its class in the world, with the exception of the gigantic instrument which now stands in the Melbourne Town Hall, and the second electrical organ in Australasia, Christchurch may indeed consider itself fortunate.

On Thursday evening his Excellency the Governor gave a dinner, at which there was a large and influential gathering, including representatives from Great Britain, Canada, and Australia. In addition to the usual loyal toasts, the only others proposed were 'Success to the New Zealand International Exhibition,' by Sir J. G. Ward, and responded to by Sir John Gorst, the representative of Great Britain; and 'Our Guests from over the Seas,' proposed by his Excellency, and responded to by Sir Richard Baker, representing the Commonwealth.

New Books

'A Manual of Bible History. Volume I. The Old Testament.' By Charles Hart, B.A.—In the author's preface to this excellent publication, he states that 'the main object aimed at in compiling this work has been to supply a want, much felt in Catholic secondary schools and colleges for a text-book of Scripture History which may serve not only for class and examination purposes, but as an introduction to the study of the Bible.' We may add that this is a book which cannot be praised too highly. The letterpress leaves nothing to be desired. Interspersed with numerous specially-printed colored maps, with names according to the Vulgate spelling, it becomes a most useful aid to the study of the Bible. It will be a treasure to both teacher and advanced student. Written in an attractive style, it fascinates the reader, while at the same time it enables him from the very commencement to become familiar with the beautiful words of the Sacred Text—a thing specially to be re-

commended in the teaching of Scripture History. We heartily recommend this excellent publication, and look forward with pleasure to the speedy appearance of Volume II. on the New Testament. (R. & T. Washbourne, Ltd., 1, 2, and 4, Paternoster Row, London. Cloth, 3s 6d net.)

Seumas MacManus—poet, novelist, and folklorist—is well known to many of our readers. At latest advices it was announced that he was soon to proceed to America for a lecturing tour. A new and cheap edition of his 'A Lad of the O'Friel's' (recently noticed in our columns) has been brought out by M. H. Gill and Son, of Dublin. (Cloth, 2s 6d; paper cover, 2s. From the publishers, or through any bookseller).

'The Religion of Our Forefathers.' By the Rev. Vincent Hornoyd, S.J.—Father Hornoyd is the author of 'The Faith of Old England,' and 'The Old Religion,' of which 18,000 copies were sold within a short time. The present and more complete publication runs into more than 200 pages, demy 8vo., and, on its lines, is an excellent and compendious work for the use of the laity and the schools. An idea of its scope and purpose may be gained by the following summary statement of its chief divisions: Part I. The Church of the First Four Centuries (four chapters). Part II. The Early British Church One with the Church of Rome (one chapter). Part III. The Church of England till the Schism in 1534 (three chapters). Part IV. How the Church of England Became Protestant (four chapters). Part V. The Up-rooting of the Old Religion in England (two chapters). Part VI. The Sacraments of the Catholic Church (one chapter). Part VII. Catholic Doctrines and Practices (nine chapters). Parts VIII. and IX. (The Church in England Past and Present, and Catholic Orders and Anglican Orders) are sold separately at 2d each. 'The Religion of Our Forefathers' is neatly bound in cloth, gold-lettered, and is cheap at the published price, 1s 3d. (Gille & Co., Liverpool, street, Sydney).

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

November 3.

The Rev. Father MacDermott, C.S.S.R., who has been indisposed of late owing to the severe strain of mission work, is now, I am pleased to report, almost quite well.

The St. Patrick's College Cadets are at present in camp at Trentham. The boys are in charge of the Rector, Very Rev. Father Keogh, S.M., B.A. The camp is to be open to visitors on Saturday and Sunday.

The devotion of the Forty Hours in St. Joseph's Church, Buckle street, began on Sunday morning. On Monday evening a special sermon was preached by Rev. Father Lowham, C.S.S.R. The mission was concluded on Sunday evening last in the presence of a congregation that filled every part of the spacious church. A powerful discourse was preached by the Rev. Father Lowham, C.S.S.R. On Sunday morning great numbers received Holy Communion.

At the meeting of the Miramar Borough Council on Thursday evening the Mayor made reference to the death of Mr. M. T. McGrath, a former member of the Council. His Worship spoke of the zeal and ability displayed by deceased in the discharge of his public duties, and instanced in particular the Seatoun tunnel scheme, by which he had saved the borough a considerable sum. On the Mayor's motion it was decided to send a letter of condolence to the widow and family.

Miss Marie Narelle, the distinguished vocalist, arrived in Wellington by the 'Maheno' on Thursday. She was entertained in the afternoon by the Hibernian Society at the Kiosk, Kelburne, where Mr. J. W. Callaghan extended a hearty welcome to the famous singer on behalf of the Irish people of the Empire City. Miss Narelle's first concert was given in the Town Hall on Thursday night; her second last night, and the final concert is to be given to-night. Regarding herself and the other two artists with her the 'Evening Post' report has the following:—"It is rare that three artists of the first rank appear on a single platform, yet this may be said without exaggeration of the company now in Wellington. Miss Narelle is a singer of commanding presence, superb physique, and great dramatic power. Her voice is a pure and sweet soprano of great power and compass and rare flexibility; her singing is unaffected, sympathetic, and artistic in a high degree. There are singers of as high culture and

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