

DIocese of Dunedin

There was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Joseph's Cathedral on Sunday, from last Mass until Vespers, after which the usual procession took place. The Rev. Father O'Connell, Christchurch, preached an impressive sermon on the Blessed Sacrament in the evening.

A bazaar in aid of the Dominican Convent was opened in Milton on Tuesday evening by the Very Rev. Father O'Neill, when there was a large attendance. The dances and other entertainments were a great success. On the opening night the four stalls netted the handsome sum of £70. The bazaar will be brought to a close on Saturday evening.

The Spanish-Columbian Festival, after a most successful run of a fortnight, was brought to a close on Saturday night, when the attendance was very large. On Thursday the fair was visited by Sir Joseph Ward, who was accompanied by his daughter. The Right Hon. the Premier was received by the Rev. Fathers Coffey and Howard, and Mr. J. J. Marlow, the hon. secretary. The display of goods was very much admired, and Miss Ward extended her patronage to each of the stalls. The takings of the stallholders amount to nearly £800, made up as follows:—Miss Staunton (refreshment stall), £173 1s; Mrs. Marlow (Children of Mary's stall), £140 4s; Mrs. Mee's stall, £130 18s 6d; Mrs. Milne's stall, £92 8s; Miss Mackay's stall, £92 7s 9d; Mrs. Meenan's stall, £92 6s 3d; Miss Heley's (dolls and lollie stall), £79 2s. The art union was drawn on the stage on Saturday night at the conclusion of the programme, under the supervision of Mr. A. R. Barclay, M.H.R., and Mr. W. Burnett, J.P. The result of the bazaar must be very satisfactory to all concerned, especially to the hard-working stallholders and their assistants, the committee, the Rev. Father Howard, and the energetic secretary, Mr. J. J. Marlow, on whom the brunt of the work fell.

THE IRISH ENVOYS

DUNEDIN.

A meeting of the committee appointed to make arrangements for the reception of the Irish envoys, and sympathisers with the Home Rule cause, was held in the Board Room of the Agricultural Hall on Monday evening. There was a very good attendance. The chair was occupied by the Rev. Father Coffey, Adm.

The rev. chairman in his opening remarks explained what had been done at the previous meeting. Since then definite information had been received that Mr. Devlin would arrive at the Bluff on the 10th inst., and that he would deliver an address in Dunedin on the evening of the 12th. There could not be any reception for the reason that he would only get to Dunedin by the first express on December 12, and he would leave for the north on the following day. The principal business of the meeting that evening was to arrange for a hall, and he proposed that a committee, consisting of Messrs. Barclay, M.H.R., Marlow, Shiel, Carolin, Casey, C. Columb, jun., Rev. Father Cleary, and the mover, be appointed to secure a hall. This was agreed to.

The rev. chairman said that the primary object of the visit of the delegates was to explain the demands of Ireland and secure the sympathy of the people of the Colony; and, secondly, to collect funds to aid the Irish Parliamentary Party. Already they had collected £16,500 in Australia, where they had been received with the greatest enthusiasm. On previous occasions Irish delegates were very handsomely treated in Dunedin, and he was sure they would be equally well treated in the present instance.

The motion of Father Cleary with reference to the setting up of a committee to canvass for subscriptions in advance of Mr. Devlin's visit was then agreed to, and the following, with power to add to their number, were appointed:—Messrs. Shiel, Jones, O'Neill, O'Connell, C. Columb, jun., Callan, jun., Nevin, Donlan, Conway, Casey, Salmon, Cotter, Collins, Carolin, Marlow, and Meenan.

The committee then adjourned until next Monday evening.

CHRISTCHURCH.

A public meeting in connection with the approaching visit of the Irish envoys (writes our Christchurch correspondent) was held on last Thursday evening in the Alexandra Hall. There was a large and representative attendance, including several ladies. Among those present were the Very Rev. Vicar-General,

Rev. Fathers Price, Cooney, and O'Connell. Mr. M. Nolan presided. Mr. E. O'Connor read correspondence and letters received since the first meeting, containing information available concerning the intended, or probable movements of the envoys in this Colony, also an apology for the absence of the Rev. Father Hickson. He also explained the object of the present meeting was to set up a reception committee to meet the envoys on their arrival, and generally to make arrangements for their visit. Also to confirm the appointment of the general committee previously formed at a provisional meeting, and to add thereto. The speaker had written to all the parish priests in Canterbury offering, if they desired, to help them in arranging meetings. Nearly all the priests had replied to the effect that they would be glad to do what they could to assist the work of the delegates, but by reason of their scattered districts, most of them added that they would be unable to hold meetings.

Mr. Nolan spoke as follows:—The two gentlemen for whose reception we are arranging to-night will, I have no doubt, inform you on the subject of Irish grievances. They will tell you what those grievances are, and how they should be remedied. Therefore, I have no desire whatever to forestall them. To tell you this, and to enlist your sympathies in their cause, and to obtain your support in their campaign of freedom, are the objects of their mission to this city, and I trust that that mission will be as prolific in good results here as it has been everywhere throughout the Australian colonies and in America. They will ask nothing for their country which, if that country had justice done to it, it would not have had long ago, and have had without the asking. They will ask nothing from England that England has not already given to the most remote and insignificant of her dependencies. As you all know, she had given Home Rule to the Bahamas, a place which you might easily hide away from the view of the world with a good sized pocket-knife, and the colonists of Western Australia, whom, with all their flocks and herds, we might comfortably stow away in a corner of this province, had only to make a request for Home Rule a few years ago, when a constitution was given to them. But what is still more astonishing, more singular, more extraordinary than this, is the action of the present Government in freely, and of its own motion, granting autonomy to the Boers. When travelling recently through England and Ireland I could not help contrasting the overwhelming, I might say the almost appalling, difference between the comfort, the happiness, and the prosperity of the country that made its own laws with the misery, the want, and the destitution of the country, the laws of which were made for it by another. The country with Home Rule, and the country without it.

The meeting resolved to approve the appointment of the general committee previously named by the secretary, and added others. The following were afterwards appointed as a reception committee:—Very Rev. Father Le Menant des Cheneaux, Rev. Fathers Hickson, Cooney, and O'Connell, Messrs. E. O'Connor, J. Barrett, W. F. Roche, W. W. Collins, T. Gaffney, P. Burke, A. J. Malley, M. Nolan, T. O'Connell, and G. J. Sellars. Details were arranged for the conduct of the meetings. Mr. O'Connor was appointed permanent secretary and Mr. P. Burke, treasurer. The meeting then adjourned until Thursday, December 6, after fixing the price of admission to the envoys' meeting at two shillings and one shilling, the matter of printing and advertising being left in the hands of the chairman and secretary.

INVERCARGILL.

(From our own correspondent.)

A meeting of those in sympathy with the Home Rule movement was held in the Victoria Hall on Monday night, for the purpose of making arrangements for the reception of the delegates next Monday evening, when Mr. Devlin, M.P., will deliver a lecture on the Home Rule question. A committee of management was elected, and everything points to a fitting reception and a very successful meeting.

TIMARU.

A meeting was held in the Foresters' Hall, Timaru, on Monday evening to make arrangements for the visit of Mr. Devlin, M.P. The meeting was convened by the Rev. Father Bowden, who explained its object. Mr. Mullin occupied the chair, and Mr. M. F. Denny was elected secretary.

The following were elected a committee with power to add to their number:—Messrs. M. Mullin, T. L. Harney, T. Lynch, W. Angland, E. Ward, D. Mahoney, M. Mahoney, J. L. Conlon, E. O'Connor, J. O'Rourke, J. Irwin, J. Venning, jun., T. Quinn, and T. O'Connor.