

## West's Pictures and the Brescians

West's Pictures and the Brescians inaugurated a season at His Majesty's Theatre on Tuesday night, when a very fine programme was presented, included in which were sights and scenes from the International Exhibition. This unique series of pictures were specially cinematographed by Mr. T. J. West by express permission of the Government, and will, no doubt, prove a source of great attraction to those who have not had the opportunity of seeing this splendid display of arts and industries. The Brescians will also delight their patrons with a new programme of delightful music, consisting of new songs, new concerted music, and new comedy sketches. On the whole, the entertainment, provided by this talented combination gives the opportunity of spending a most enjoyable evening.

## Miss Marie Narelle

As an interpreter of Irish songs Miss Narelle stands unrivalled, and therefore it was not to be wondered at that her brief farewell season in Dunedin, which commenced on Monday night, was most successful. Those who had heard the 'Queen of Irish Song' on her first visit were determined to renew the pleasant impressions then created, whilst many who had not had that pleasure, took the opportunity of hearing her on this occasion. That the reception accorded to her was flattering in the highest degree may be inferred from the fact, that every item, on the programme for which she was responsible was enthusiastically encored. It is difficult to say in what particular kind of ballad she excels, for she seems equally at home in the simple love song, the pathetic melody, and the patriotic war song. Added to a well cultivated voice the gifted singer is the possessor of rare dramatic talent, which she uses to the highest possible advantage. In 'Father O'Flynn' we saw her in a humorous mood, with the quaint drollery of the Irish peasant, whilst in the war song of the clans of Tyrconnell, we were, as it were, transported to a far-off time, and heard the clang and clamor of martial strife. In these typical instances we had convincing evidence of her versatility as a singer and an actress. Miss Narelle was ably assisted by Mr. Chester Pentress, the talented tenor of the company, who was also recalled several times, his finished rendering of such items as 'The wind that shakes the barley' and 'Cruiskeen Lawn' being specially appreciated. Miss Brandon-Usher, the pianist of the company, contributed the piano solos, 'Wedding Day' and 'Caprice Espagnol' in a highly artistic manner. On Tuesday evening the final concert of the season was given, when an enthusiastic reception was again accorded Miss Narelle and her talented company.

One of the most interesting of school annuals received at this office is 'The Xaverian', from Xavier College, Kew, Melbourne. The greater part of the issue before us is devoted to records of the work of the college during the year. The original articles in prose and verse will be perused with interest even by those who have no connection with the college. There is a four-page supplement, consisting of a school song set to music which adds to the value of the magazine. A feature which will increase its popularity among former students of the college is an old boys' column, which gives a brief account of the careers of those who were students during the period 1885-7. The magazine is copiously illustrated, there being a dozen full-page pictures. It is carefully compiled, nicely printed, and altogether very creditable to all concerned in its production.

## PALMERSTON NORTH

(From our own correspondent.)

February 10.

The mission conducted by Rev. Father Francis during the past fortnight was brought to a close to-night. The Zealandia Hall was filled by a very large congregation. Father Francis in his final sermon chose as his subject the Transfiguration of Our Lord on the Mount. The ceremonies closed with renewal of the Baptismal vows and the imparting of the Papal blessing.

St. Patrick's Church was again crowded at all the Masses this morning, the whole of the sodalities approaching the Holy Table.

Rev. Father Francis proceeds to Ashhurst on Monday to preach a short mission, returning to Palmerston on Thursday, when he will bless the large mission cross, which will be placed in suitable position in the church. It may not be generally known, save to a few of the older parishioners, that this cross was presented to St. Patrick's Church by the young men of the congregation some ten years ago.

## OBITUARY

MRS. BROSNAHAN, WASHDYKE.

(From our Timaru correspondent.)

There passed away at her residence, Washdyke, on Wednesday, February 6, a true type of Catholic womanhood in the person of Mrs. Eliza Brosnahan, wife of Mr. Timothy H. Brosnahan. The deceased, who was a native of Ballygolt, Kerry, arrived in the Colony in 1864, and during her long and useful life was a staunch supporter of the Church and the cause of Catholic education. She leaves a husband and a family of six children—two boys and four girls—to mourn their loss. One of her daughters is a religious in the Convent of Mercy, South Dunedin. She was attended during her long illness by Rev. Father Finerty, and her death was a most happy one. The funeral, which took place on Friday at the Temuka Cemetery, was a very large one, Rev. Father Hoare officiating at the graveside.—R.I.P.

The number of brick, stone, and concrete dwelling-houses in the Colony increased between the last two censuses from 7517 to 8359, a rate of 11 per cent. Houses built of wood and iron increased from 153,945 to 178,551, the rate, 16 per cent., being somewhat higher than that which obtained for brick and stone dwellings. These figures do not include huts.

The cultivation of ramie fibre, which is now much spoken of as a competitor with flax, has been going on at the Momohaki Experimental Farm since 1897. The manager of the farm in a letter to the 'Wanganui Herald,' states that several thousands of plants have been distributed all over the Colony. So far, he is not aware of anyone having followed up its cultivation to any extent. This, he considered, was due to the amount of attention required for its cultivation, and to the absence of local demand for the fibre. The need of a fair amount of attention was no reason why ramie growing should not be given a fair trial on a commercial scale.

Messrs. Holmes and Sons, bedstead, bedding, and wire mattress manufacturers, Tuam street, Christchurch, were awarded a silver medal at the Canterbury Agricultural and Pastoral Association's International Show for their display of bedsteads. They are now selling direct to the public at wholesale prices...

BY WARRANT



OF APPOINTMENT

**W. SEY.**

Painter and . . .  
. . . . Decorator

Wholesale and Retail Paperhangings, Oil,  
Colour and Glass Warehouse

107—COLOMBO STREET, CHRISTCHURCH—107

NEW SEASON'S WALL PAPERS, beautiful designs, rich colourings, at reasonable prices, carefully selected from the best British manufacturers. Also a large selection of other artistic decorative materials—Linostrata, Anaglypta, Lignomur, Cordelova, Fabrilona, Ceilings, Friezes and Dadoes, for interior decoration. Samples sent free on application to any part of the colony.

"Bon Accord" Sanitary Paint, "Bon Accord" Metallo Paint, Oils, Varnishes, Brushwares, Plate Glass, Mirror Plate Glass, &c., &c.,

ROBERT EWING | THOMAS A. FRASER, Junr

**EWING, FRASER, AND CO.,**  
GENERAL COMMISSION

And  
ESTATE AGENTS,  
PROPERTY SALESMEN, SHARE-  
BROKERS and FINANCIAL AGENTS.

Bills Discounted, and Advances Made on  
Freehold and Leasehold Properties, Bond  
Warrants, and Trade Securities.

QUEEN'S ROOMS,  
CRAWFORD STREET, DUNEDIN.