

A brave little band of juvenile defenders, representing the Catholic portion of Otago and Westland Cadets, now encamped on the Exhibition grounds, marched to the Cathedral for the 11 o'clock Mass and Vespers on Sunday.

Mrs. Arthur Mead, who has been often heard at our best concerts here, whilst in England recently went through a successful course of training under Mr. Charles Santley, the eminent singer and teacher, and has so improved her singing that when heard since her return her friends were most agreeably surprised at the display of artistic development. A local musical critic states:—Those who heard her sing prior to going Home will not recognise her at once, so great is the improvement. She has a light brilliant soprano of great flexibility, and in songs such as 'Should he upbraid,' and music of a similar florid character, sings with much artistic ability. Before leaving England Mr. Santley sent her the following letter:—'Dear Mrs. Mead—I hope you will have a fine voyage and arrive home in good health, and that you may soon get to work and show your fellow-citizens how well you have done in your studies. You ought to make an excellent career, both as singer and teacher. I hope you will often let me hear from you, and that I may have the pleasure of helping you in your studies at some not distant day again.' Mrs. Mead will shortly be heard at the Exhibition concerts in conjunction with the orchestra.

Another quarter of a million has about been added to the attendance at the Exhibition, and the influx of visitors to the city is unabated. With the approaching close of the harvest operations many of the farming community and their attendants will be released from their duties, and pay their deferred visits, so that the daily average attendance is likely to be maintained until the end. The Brass Bands' contests of last week proved one of the greatest attractions up to date. The result was another well-earned victory for the already champion Garrison Band of Wanganui. The performance of many of the bands was of a very high order indeed, and the points which went to decide the supremacy were closely approached by many at those competing. That fine southern band, the Kaikorai, and the champion Australian band, the Newcastle City, were next in order of merit to the victors. The Wanganui Garrison Band won each of the separate contests, viz., 'Own Selection,' 'Contest Selection,' and 'Quick-step Marching.' It is not alone remarkable, but decidedly creditable, that the Colony should possess such splendid musical combinations as those we have had the unique pleasure of listening to this week, and the efficiency displayed by some of the country bands came as a distinct surprise.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(From our own correspondent.)

February 15.

The Right Rev. Mgr. O'Haran, of Sydney, Rev. Father Walsh, Wollongong, and Rev. Father Phelan, who came across from Sydney last week, left last Friday for Rotorua, whence they go south by the Wanganui River.

The Right Rev. Dr. O'Connor, Bishop of Maitland, the Right Rev. Dr. Dunne, Bishop of Bathurst, and the Rev. Fathers Marshall, O'Donoghue, Shanahan, and Dunne, all left for Sydney by the 'Ventura' last Wednesday.

Miss Leahy, who has, for over a quarter of a century, presided at the organ in the Church of the Assumption, Onehunga, was on last Tuesday evening presented with a purse of sovereigns by the Rev. Father Mahoney, parish priest, on behalf of the congregation.

It has been decided that the children of the city parishes will celebrate St. Patrick's Day at the island of Motutapu. The Hibernians, with the visiting southern delegates, are expected to join the main body. The national concert in connection with St. Patrick's parish will be held in the Royal Albert Hall on Friday evening, March 15.

In reference to the beautiful marble tablet recently erected in St. Patrick's Cathedral to the memory of the late lamented Michael Davitt, his Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan has had a photograph taken of it, a copy of which he intends to forward to Mrs. Michael Davitt, Dublin. Visitors to the Cathedral have greatly admired the work. Being in a conspicuous position it at once attracts attention.

A beautiful new stained glass window, the work of Mr. Alex. Booker, of Brussels, erected to the memory of Patrick and Mary Anastasia Dignan, by their sons, was unveiled in St. Patrick's Cathedral last Sunday morning. In the course of a brief address Rev.

Father Holbrook gave a sketch of the lives of St. Patrick and St. Anastasia, and pointed out the lessons of Faith and Hope taught us by the lives of those saints, and also paid a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Mr. and Mrs. Dignan.

As a result of Mr. Joseph Devlin's meeting in Auckland City, Messrs. F. Moore (hon. treasurer) and M. J. Sheahan (hon. sec.) forwarded last Tuesday to Mr. Martin Kennedy, central treasurer, Wellington, a cheque for £550, as a first instalment. The gross receipts so far amount to £580. If one of our two theatres could have been secured, better financial results would have been attained. Mr. John Dillon's great meeting here in 1889 resulted in a gross profit of £600. When it is taken into account that Sir George Grey spoke there, and that six subscribers contributed over £100 on that occasion, it will be seen that Mr. Devlin has practically reached that high standard, as he had but three large contributors, viz., his Lordship Dr. Lenihan £15, Mr. Maurice O'Connor and Mr. J. J. O'Brien each £25.

At the conclusion of the Auckland meeting the following cable was directed to be sent to Mr. John E. Redmond, M.P., Dublin:—'Devlin addressed farewell meeting Auckland last night. Mission here magnificent success. Over £5000 raised New Zealand.—Sheahan, Moore.'

In Memory of a Brave Boy

On Friday evening a meeting was held in St. Joseph's Hall for the purpose of taking steps to perpetuate the memory of William Ernest Mullaney, who lost his life by drowning at Lake Waiholo while endeavoring to save that of a schoolmate. Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., occupied the chair, and Mr. T. J. Hussey was appointed secretary. Letters of apology for unavoidable absence were read from Mr. J. F. M. Fraser and Mr. J. B. Callan, jun., subscriptions being in both cases enclosed. The rev. chairman, in opening the proceedings, said it was not necessary for him to say much about the object of the meeting, which was to take steps to perpetuate the memory of young Mullaney, who displayed such remarkable courage on the sad occasion. His heroism was not the result of an impulsive action, for when he failed in his first attempt he made another, and then it was that he lost his life. The boys of the Christian Brothers' School had already decided to perpetuate the memory of their schoolmate's heroism by putting up a brass tablet in the school, but in addition to this it was desirable that some more public memorial of the boy's brave deed should be got up. His idea was that the amount collected be invested in the names of trustees, and the interest thereon be given annually as prizes for the encouragement of swimming among the pupils of all the schools—public and private—in Dunedin. Another suggestion was that a swimming bath be constructed at the Christian Brothers' School. He made these suggestions, not with the object of leading the meeting, but merely to open the way for others present to place their ideas before the meeting. Before concluding he paid a tribute to the kindness and sympathy of the people of Waiholo on the sad occasion, and also to the generous assistance given by those who assisted in recovering the bodies. He desired also to thank Mr. Hayward for his sympathy and assistance.

Rev. Brother Brady approved of the suggestion as to the erection of swimming baths, where the boys would be taught how to act on such an occasion as that which occurred at Waiholo. To be a good swimmer was not all that was required in such an emergency.

Mr. G. Haydon expressed his approval of the suggestion for the erection of swimming baths, and Messrs. J. J. Marlow and T. J. Hussey spoke in favor of establishing a scholarship at the Christian Brothers' School, to be called the 'Mullaney Scholarship.' Eventually it was decided to erect a brass tablet in the Christian Brothers' School, and that the interest of the money subscribed be devoted to the granting of swimming prizes, the same to be competed for annually by boys attending all the schools in Dunedin.

The following committee, with Rev. Father Coffey as treasurer and Mr. T. J. Hussey as secretary, was set up to give effect to the decision of the meeting: Messrs. J. F. M. Fraser, E. B. Hayward, G. Haydon, T. Deehan, and Rev. Brother Brady.

It was decided to have subscription cards printed and distributed, and to forward circulars to the various schools referring to the method of perpetuating the boy's memory that had been decided on, and inviting subscriptions.