

a man could reconcile the Ten Commandments with success in business. In achieving the prosperity he now enjoyed, Mr. Kennedy never departed one inch from the principles of a Christian gentleman. He had received sound advice and much practical sympathy from Mr. Kennedy in the exercise of his duties as parish priest.

Mr. Casey, on behalf of the young men, spoke of Mr. Kennedy's generosity, especially in granting £500 for a new club room, and securing two other grants of £500 each.

Mr. Kennedy, in reply, said that it was quite an exaggeration to give him credit for the organisation of the visit of Messrs. Donovan and Devlin. The Rev. Father Cleary was responsible for the organisation of the visit in Otago and Southland, and the Hon. Mr. Tole and others co-operated in Auckland. Moreover, the success of the visit was largely made by the envoys themselves. With reference to Home Rule he considered that one of its greatest blessings would be that the Irish people would have the opportunity of University education to a more liberal extent. They knew that the Irish people, valuing their faith above all else, had refused to attend the present existing universities. Irish people had no desire to separate. They were delighted to be part of the British Empire. They did not object to the constitution, but to its administration in Ireland. He thanked those present for the great honor they had done him.

The toast of 'The Irish Parliamentary Party' was proposed by Mr. J. Carey-Fitzgerald.

The Very Rev. Father Keogh, in a fine reply, dealt with the disadvantages under which the Irish members labored. He spoke of their untiring zeal and independence.

The toast of the 'Chairman' was given by Mr. Kennedy. Mr. C. P. Skerrett, on being called, added a few words of eulogy to those already expressed with regard to Mr. Kennedy.

During the evening musical items were rendered by Miss Nina Caldwell and Messrs. Leihy, Carr, Moschini, and Hendry. The accompaniments were played by Miss Ivy McLaughlin. The orchestra was under Mr. Wm. McLaughlin. The gathering concluded with a spirited rendering of 'God Save Ireland.'

STRATFORD

(From our travelling reporter.)

February 25.

The postponed distribution of prizes took place at the Convent High School on last Thursday. Special and commendable care was exercised so that only carefully selected Catholic works were distributed on the occasion—an example which deserves the flattery of extended imitation. There are now 25 children in the High School and 120 children in the parochial primary school. Many of the children in the latter school are of foreign, chiefly Polish, extraction. At the last examination of the school by Inspector Ballantyne there was in the Second Standard only one child born of parents who were British subjects. The convent has been greatly enlarged since the last visit of the writer eight years ago; a new school has been built on a site that was formerly occupied by an eel-swamp; a handsome new presbytery has been erected; and the town and district have made a marvellous advance. Catholic progress has more than kept up with the general progress of the district. The parish is almost entirely free from debt.

NEW PLYMOUTH

(From our travelling reporter.)

February 23.

The local branch of the H.A.C.B. Society is making steady progress, new members being added at a satisfactory rate. At a meeting that took place on last Tuesday, the Rev. Father McManus was elected to represent the branch at the triennial District meeting to be held shortly in Auckland.

A new church will shortly be erected at Waifara. The Rev. Father McManus is pushing on the matter very actively, and a bazaar that was organised by him and brought to a successful issue a few weeks ago realised a sum of about £150 net.

The new convent and parochial school that was erected twelve months ago are meeting with gratifying success. The school opened with an attendance of twenty children. There are now ninety children in attendance, and the number keeps steadily increasing. The school is well staffed with three Sisters and one

pupil teacher. One of the best evidences of the excellence of the training imparted by them is furnished by the fact that a large percentage of the pupils in attendance are children who have been entrusted to the religious by non-Catholic parents.

'Things are moving in Taranaki,' said the Very Rev. Dean McKenna in the course of a conversation with your representative. 'Twenty years ago, for instance, there were only three priests in the province—two in Hawera and one in New Plymouth. Out of those two parishes several others have been formed; and there are now two priests in Hawera, two in New Plymouth, two in Okato, one in Patea, one in Stratford, one in Kaponga, and one in Opunake—ten in all. Twenty years ago there were only two Catholic schools in Taranaki—one in Hawera, and one in New Plymouth. Now there are convents and schools also at Manaia, Kaponga, Stratford, Inglewood, and Opunake, and in most of the centres named there is a high school as well as a parochial primary school.'

ROTORUA

(From our travelling reporter.)

There recently passed away at Rotorua a noted Arawa chief in the person of Pirimi Mataiawhea. The deceased chief was native assessor in the Land Court, and was highly respected both by natives and by Europeans. A great tangi was held which lasted an entire week. Representatives of numerous tribes came from far and near—some from 100 miles away—to do the last honors to the deceased. The interment took place at Rotorua on February 11. The remains were taken to the pretty church (which has been enlarged by Father Kreymborg and Father Wientjes), and a Requiem Mass was celebrated. At 3 p.m. the funeral took place. A procession was formed, and along the road to the cemetery the Maoris sang various appropriate hymns. There was an immense concourse both of the white and the native population. The service at the grave was read by the Rev. Father Wientjes (Father Kreymborg being at the time absent at the great gathering of Catholic Maoris at Otaki). The responses were given by the Right Rev. Mgr. O'Haran and Fathers Carey, Murphy, Hearn, Walsh, and Phelan, visitors from Australia. A panegyric of the deceased was preached in Maori and afterwards in English by Father Wientjes.—R.I.P.

MASTERTON

(From our own correspondent.)

February 22.

A meeting was held on Sunday afternoon for the purpose of forming a Children of Mary Society. Rev. Father McDermott addressed the meeting, and thirty-two were received on Monday evening.

The twentieth annual Show of the A. and P. Association was held on Tuesday and Wednesday. The weather was all that could be desired, and the attendance eclipsed that of previous years.

The mission conducted by the Very Rev. Father Clune and Rev. Father McDermott, which was most successful, was brought to a close on Tuesday evening. On Sunday the Hibernian Society approached the Holy Table in a body.

At the conclusion of the mission on Tuesday night a meeting of the Hibernian Society was held, at which a large number of members were in attendance. President Bro. O'Sullivan occupied the chair. The president spoke of the great help the Very Rev. Father Clune gave the society in advocating its cause with the young men of the parish of Masterton. Six candidates were proposed for membership, and one for honorary membership.

We have received a copy of 'Blue and White,' the annual issued from St. Patrick's College, Wellington. The magazine is mainly devoted to a record of the work of the students during the past year. It is well printed and illustrated.

The Catholic colleges and schools of Victoria stand well in the University lists of successes at the Senior, Junior, Matriculation, and Commercial examinations.

'The publication of an advertisement in a Catholic paper shows that the advertiser not only desires the patronage of Catholics, but pays them the compliment of seeking it through the medium of their own religious journal.' So says an esteemed and wide-awake American contemporary. A word to the wise is sufficient...