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his great pleasure at presiding over so large and so thoroughly representative a gathering of the Hibernians of this Colony. He would continue to do all in his power to further the interests of the Society. He urged the members to pay strict attention to the rule which ordered quarterly Communion. Short speeches were given by the Hon. Mr. Heydon, Bro. P. J. Nerheny, P.D.P., Very Rev. Dean Hackett, and on behalf of the visitors by Bro. G. J. Sellars, P.D.P., and Bros. Marlow (Dunedin) and Dennehy (Timaru), P.D.P's. The Bishop, at the conclusion of breakfast, invited the delegates to visit Bishop's House, when the whole set out on foot with the bishop in their midst. On arrival they were entertained by the Bishop and shown over the beautiful house and taken to the tower, whence they obtained a charming view of the city. They were loud in their praises of what they saw. The Bishop was heartily thanked for his kind hospitality, and assured how deeply grateful to him the delegates were. In the afternoon Bros. McLean (Palmerston North), Tymons (Greymouth), and Hickey (Waimate) left Onehunga, and were accompanied out by the local members and visiting delegates. On Sunday evening all met in St. Patrick's Hall and marched in regalia to St. Patrick's Cathedral, where Dean Hackett delivered an eloquent, stirring, and deeply impressive panegyric on St. Patrick. The Dean dealt with the early missionary labors of St. Patrick, and his long connection with Ireland and the lasting character of his work, which Irishmen and Irishwomen had received, treasured, and propagated from the days of Patrick to the present day. Much was heard of Imperialists just now, but the Irish race were in the true sense 'Christian Imperialists,' because they bore the Cross of Christ and the banner of Patrick to every remote corner of the earth. The Dean kept the close attention of the crowded congregation during the whole of his sermon. Every word of his splendid discourse was eagerly caught up, and during several passages there were few dry eyes, particularly when he pictured the departing emigrant ship leaving the shores of Erin. He concluded by earnestly urging all to join the sodalities and societies connected with the Church, by which means they could best perpetuate the memory and work of St. Patrick. Organisation was absolutely necessary in this age to combat the organised forces fighting against the Church and the grand old Faith of St. Patrick. This sermon of Dean Hackett's ranks amongst the best ever heard in this city. At the conclusion of Benediction the choir sang very spiritedly 'All praise to St. Patrick,' the congregation standing while it was sung.

Afterwards the Hibernians assembled and the district president, Bro. Corbett, and P.D.P. Bro. Nerheny heartily thanked Dean Hackett on behalf of the society for his great sermon, and for his vindication of the H.A.C.B. Society from the unjust aspersions lately cast upon it in Auckland. The Dean thanked the members, after which three hearty cheers were given for him, and the members dispersed.

Three entertainments in connection with St. Patrick's Day celebrations were held. The first was held on Friday evening in the Royal Albert Hall. His Lordship the Bishop, a number of the local clergy, and a vast audience attended. The greatest enthusiasm was shown, every item on the following programme being encored:—Part 1.—Overture, 'Emerald Isle,' orchestra; chorus, 'The last glimpse of Erin,' Orphan children; song, 'The exile,' Mr. J. P. Lonergan; song, 'The minstrel boy,' Madame Cecilia Staunton; song, 'Mavourneen,' Mr. R. Rogers; quartet, 'The dear little shamrock,' Messrs. C. Clegg, A. Asbury, A. Wordley, H. B. Harris; chorus, pupils of St. Patrick's Convent School. Part 2.—Fantasia, 'Humors of Blarney' (H. Hiscocks), orchestra; chorus, 'I saw from the beach,' Orphan children; song, 'Irish emigrant,' Mr. O. Pritchard; song, 'Kathleen Mavourneen,' Madame Cecilia Staunton; quartet, 'Oft in the still night,' Messrs. Clegg, Asbury, Wordley, and Harris; chorus, 'Has sorrow thy young days shaded,' Orphan children; chorus, 'God save Ireland,' Mr. P. F. Hiscocks ably conducted, while Mr. H. Hiscocks accompanied.

For some time past the members of the St. Benedict's Advanced School of Acting Society have been rehearsing the melodrama, 'Conn the Shaughraun' under the direction of Mr. P. Walsh, and the fruits of their labors were evidenced when the company selected for the reproduction presented the drama before a large and enthusiastic audience at St. Benedict's Hall on the evening of March 18. A feature of the production was the mounting and dressing, which was all that could be desired. The majority of the characters were

well portrayed, reflecting credit on Mr. Walsh, who had charge of all the arrangements. In the name part Mr. Walsh made a great hit, whilst Mr. W. Moylan made the most of the character of Comy Kinchela. As the police agent Mr. J. McKenna displayed a good deal of one necessary cunning and villainy required of the part, while Mr. J. Lonergan acted the part of the priest. Mr. J. Gallagher had the role of Captain Molineaux, a young English officer, and Mr. R. Cronin that of a young Irish Fenian. Miss Vera Foley displayed some originality in the role of Conn's mother, Misses L. and Phyllis Beehan did credit to their respective parts of Arte O'Neil and Moya, while Miss Lena Foley well portrayed the part of a Sligo lady. The other characters were well sustained, and the whole performance was well received. An orchestra, under Mrs. W. S. Jackson, provided capital music.

On Wednesday evening last an Irish national concert was held at the Public Hall, Onehunga. There was a large audience, and the following programme was submitted:—Overture, 'Gems of Ireland,' Miss Mulkefe; song, 'The Irish emigrant,' Mr. O. Pritchard; recitation, 'Robert Emmet's dock speech,' Mr. H. Herbert; song, 'Erin, my country,' Miss Madeline Knight; song, 'Off to Philadelphia,' Mr. J. Park; Irish jig and song, Miss Brightie Barry; overture, 'Faust,' Misses Mulkefe and Cutts; song, 'Mavourneen,' Mr. R. Rogers; song, Miss Glanfield; song, 'Exile of Erin,' Mr. J. Lonergan; recitation, 'Uncle Josh's Visit to New York,' Mr. McElwain; song, 'The lost chord,' Mr. J. Park; coon song and dance, Miss Brightie Barry. At the conclusion of the concert the Rev. Father Mahoney, parish priest, heartily thanked the performers for their valuable aid, and Mr. J. J. Shaldrick for his untiring efforts in organising the programme and carrying out the details. The proceeds of the entertainment will be devoted towards the presbytery fund.

Paeroa

A special train (says the 'Paeroa Gazette' of March 20) left Waikato and Karangahake for Paeroa at 7.30 a.m., bringing in a great number of little pleasure-seekers full of anticipation for a good day's recreation. The children from Waikato were under the care of Mesdames Odium, Rohan, and Heffron, while Mesdames Connelly and Wilkinson undertook the guardianship of the Karangahake children. Although in the early morning the weather looked rather threatening for a picnic, as the hour for assembling drew near, the sky showed signs of clearance, and finally the day proved to be most favorable for promoting the children's enjoyment.

The Very Rev. Dean Hackett celebrated nine o'clock Mass, after which he gave a short address to the children on the great saint whose memory they were then celebrating.

At 10 a.m. the children formed a procession and marched to the picnic grounds, accompanied by the Very Rev. Dean Hackett, their guardians, and a considerable number of adults from Paeroa, Karangahake, and Waikato.

Throughout the day races and sports of various kinds were held. Master Manus McGeehin was the recipient of the silver medal presented by Mr. Harris for the boys' half-mile handicap. Prizes were also won by a large number of other children.

The boys' wheelbarrow and sack races caused much amusement to both competitors and onlookers.

About 5 p.m. the children prepared to leave the grounds; but, before doing so, cheers were given for the Very Rev. Dean Hackett, the Sisters, the ladies who assisted, and for Mr. Barrett, who so kindly gave the use of his grounds.

It is better to do with less than you can use than to want more than you need.

The following is a list of the pupils from the Convent, Patea, who were successful at the music examinations (theoretical) held on December 8 by the representative of Trinity College, London:—Preparatory grade—Elizabeth McCormisky 98, Beatrice Dickson 96, Clara Hogan 94, Maggie Casey 93, Florence Lister 69. At the examination held at the Wanganui centre in September under the auspices of the Royal Academy of Music and Royal College of Music, London, the following were successful in the elementary grade (practical):—Nellie Bennett, 134 (honors); Nancy McKirdy, 130 (honors). These two pupils secured the only honors given in that centre, though the candidates numbered nearly sixty.