

the parade, returned to their rooms, and their representatives in dignified and temperate terms made a protest which was published in the local and metropolitan papers. In the meantime the offending tableau was proceeding gaily through the streets. On arrival at the show grounds (the scene of the principal demonstration of the day) the various sections in the parade passed with all their colored bravery through the gates. But the marshal barred the way to the Alliance and its decorated car. 'The mayor,' said he, 'may have control over the road, but his authority ends at these gates.' So the Alliance and all its flappery had to return crestfallen to its lodge-room. It is safe to predict that their offence will not be repeated.

DIocese OF DUNEDIN

The annual meeting of St. Joseph's Men's Club takes place in St. Joseph's Hall on Friday evening.

The opening run of the St. Joseph's Harriers was held from the residence of the Hon. J. B. Callan, Roslyn. There was a large muster, including several new members. The 'hares' (Messrs. Callan, jun., and Swanson) laid a trail into the Kaikorai and up Fraser's Gully towards Whare Kait road, a turn being then taken to the left, where some splendid harrier country was traversed. After travelling about five miles home was reached. The harriers were then entertained by the Hon. Mr. Callan and Mrs. Callan. The Captain, in returning thanks, on behalf of the club, spoke of Mr. Callan as being a keen and enthusiastic sportsman, and displaying great interest in harrier clubs.

Silver Jubilee of Very Rev. J. O'Neill

(From our Special Reporter)

On Tuesday last the Very Rev. Father O'Neill (Milton) celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. Father O'Neill is a native of the city of Limerick (Ireland). He had a distinguished course in the Limerick diocesan college and St. John's, Waterford. Being too young for ordination to the priesthood, he came to Dunedin as subdeacon, and was later on raised to the sacerdotal dignity by Bishop Moran in old St. Joseph's Cathedral on Low Sunday (April 16), 1882. He was the first priest ordained south of Cook's Straits. After his ordination he served in St. Joseph's Cathedral, next in Queenstown for two years, after which he was appointed (in 1884) to the pastoral charge of Milton, a position which he has held for the past 23 years.

On Tuesday last a solemn Mass of thanksgiving was offered in Milton in connection with the Very Rev. Father's silver jubilee. There was a large congregation present. The celebrant was the jubilarian; deacon, Very Rev. P. O'Donnell (Gore); subdeacon, Rev. M. Howard (South Dunedin); master of ceremonies, Rev. J. Coffey, Adm. There were also present the Very Rev. Mgr. O'Leary, Rev. P. Hearn, Rev. J. O'Reilly, Rev. J. Geary, and Rev. H. W. Cleary. A stirring sermon on the dignity of the priesthood was preached by the Very Rev. Mgr. O'Leary from the text Matt. xxviii, 18-20. In congratulating the jubilarian at the close of his discourse, the preacher spoke in terms of cordial appreciation of the personal qualities and the missionary work of Father O'Neill. At the time of his (Father O'Neill's) appointment to Milton the parish embraced three counties and had only one small church and a shanty for a presbytery. With the generous aid of his people, Father O'Neill purchased valuable ground and built a church, presbytery, and convent at Milton; he also erected churches in Mosgiel, Allanton, Waiholo, Balclutha, Owaka, and Kaitangata, and opened and carried on a school under circumstances of great discouragement at Mosgiel. This was, however, the least part of his work. Having dealt with this part of his subject in further detail, the preacher concluded by tendering to the jubilarian the congratulations and good wishes of his fellow-priests of the diocese of Dunedin.

The altar and sanctuary were beautifully decorated. The music of the Mass was nicely rendered by the choir, Miss Woods presiding at the organ.

In the afternoon an entertainment was given by the children of the Catholic school in honor of Father O'Neill. The school was handsomely decorated, and the

children, in gay attire, greeted the jubilarian's entrance with a welcome in Irish, followed by the chorus 'Vivat.' Two other choruses were also nicely rendered—'The meeting of the waters' and 'A jubilee wish,' the latter an appropriate and sparkling original composition. A recitation, 'Do I remember Ireland,' was given with spirit by one of the boys, and Miss Woods (Lawrence) contributed a piano solo in a brilliant manner. An address was read on behalf of the pupils, and Father O'Neill replied in touching terms. Monsignor O'Leary also spoke. During the day messages of congratulation reached Father O'Neill from the Bishop and from clergy and laity in every part of New Zealand.

The Social Celebration

In connection with Father O'Neill's sacerdotal silver jubilee took place in the Catholic school on last Tuesday evening. The school was densely packed by people representing every creed and class in the community. The local Anglican clergyman (the Rev. J. C. Small)



The Very Rev. J. O'Neill

was present, in the midst of a group of the jubilarian's ecclesiastical confreres. The Mayor (Mr. Reid) presided. He was (he said) pleased to see such a splendid gathering of all classes and shades of religious belief assembled together to honor Father O'Neill (applause). He (the speaker) had known the guest of the evening for the past 23 years; a close friendship existed between them; he bore testimony to the Father's worth as a citizen, and hoped they would all be present at his diamond jubilee (applause).

Mr. Moroney (secretary) read and presented a beautiful illuminated and framed address, which runs as follows:—

Address.

To the Very Rev. Father O'Neill, P.P., Milton, on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee of his Priesthood.

Soggarth Arocn.—We heartily congratulate you that you have attained the silver jubilee of your years in the priesthood. Twenty-three years ago, you came to preside over Milton parish, when the sacred anointing was still fresh upon you, and around you shone the radiance of a youth nurtured amid the hallowing influences of the Old Land, giving clear promise of the grand record that is yours to-day. No more youthful parish priest was ever set over a parish, but you are a scion of the 'princely O'Neills,' and it was a foregone conclusion that you would prove equal to your responsibilities. A true father you have been to your