

GISBORNE

(From an occasional correspondent.)

The funeral of the late Mrs. Neenan, of Ormond, took place on Sunday, April 20, and was one of the largest seen here for a considerable time, which went to show the high esteem in which the deceased lady was held.—R.I.P.

A progressive euchre party and concert were held in the schoolroom on Thursday, April 25, and was largely attended. The Rev. Father Lane, Mr. E. Williams, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. P. Barry, and Miss Buchanan worked very hard to make it a success. Songs were given by Mrs. P. Barry, Miss O'Connor and Mr. Doyle.

PUNGAREHU

We had lately at Pungarehu, on the Taranaki coast (writes an esteemed correspondent) a very successful Maori fair, which has entirely wiped off the debt on St. Martin's pretty new church, built there in 1903. Opened on Monday, April 1st, by Mr. M. Fleming (chairman of the County Council), and continued during the four following nights, the event was brought to a happy close on April 5, when both Rev. Father Cognet and Mr. M. Fleming, speaking on the results achieved, did full justice to the good spirit evinced during the fair by all sections of the community. Three beautiful prizes were then presented to the three best canvassers, namely—Misses M. Barrett, M. Fleming, and Mary McGrath, of Greymouth. The total takings amounted to £272 14s, with about £10 or £12 more to come in—a most gratifying result, quite in proportion to the devotedness of the workers and the prosperity of the district.

MAUKU

(From our travelling correspondent.)

The Mauku Public Hall was recently packed by an exceedingly enthusiastic audience, who assembled to hear the lecture to be delivered by the Very Rev. Dean Hackett, of Paeroa. The gifted lecturer was introduced by Mr. Finlay (chairman), and lectured on 'Irish Wit and Humor.' After a very able and instructive definition of the terms wit and humor, the Dean proceeded to entertain his hearers, and if the laughter which echoed through the building was to be taken as a criterion, then he was eminently successful. From the very first story related right to the conclusion the lecturer, by his gifted eloquence and charm of manner, together with his thorough knowledge of the customs of those whose lives he was portraying, carried his audience with him; in fact, they fairly revelled in the feast of wholesome and intellectual amusement he provided for them. His concluding references to the great virtue of Irish womanhood, and the hope that soon again would the dear old Isle have the management of its own affairs, fairly captured his hearers, and they marked their appreciation by vociferous applause.

The Rev. Father MacMillan moved a hearty vote of thanks to Dean Hackett for his courtesy and kindness in coming that distance to deliver his lecture, and expressed the wish that the Dean would see his way to repeat it at no distant date. The Dean replied in brief and happy terms.

During the evening items were rendered as follows: Songs by Mrs. Buchanan and Mr. Flavell; piano solo, Mrs. Drake; and recitations by J. Moriarty ('Tablet' representative). A vote of thanks to the chair was carried by acclamation.

At the Waituku Hall on the following evening Dean Hackett repeated his address to another large and appreciative audience. Mr. J. Mulloy was in the chair. During the evening various items were contributed by Misses Mulloy, Watkins, and McGovern, and Messrs. Flavell, Watkins, Ingram, and J. Moriarty. The usual votes of thanks closed the proceedings.

PANMURE

(From our travelling correspondent.)

April 24,

On Tuesday evening last the residents of Panmure assembled in large numbers in the local hall to bid farewell to Mr. and Mrs. Cameron, who, for some time past, have, by the great interest displayed by them in all local matters, endeared themselves to the people. The gathering was a very representative one, people of all classes and creeds participating therein. The first part of the proceedings took the form of a progressive euchre party. At an interval, Father O'Hara, on behalf of the residents, asked Mr. Cameron to accept a beautifully-illuminated address, and Mrs. Cameron a handsomely-worked silver-mounted handbag. He referred to the great loss the district would suffer through the departure of their guests. Mr. Cameron had always been to the fore in Church work since his coming to the district, and he was sure that he was only expressing the sentiments of all when he said that their places would be hard to fill. He wished Mr. and Mrs. Cameron every blessing in their new sphere. Mr. Cameron briefly replied. Musical items were then given, the following contributing to the very excellent programme:—Mrs Dunne, Misses Elliott and O'Sullivan, and Messrs. Sorenson, Smith and O'Sullivan, the accompaniments of the evening being played by Misses Porter and Fleming. The winners of the euchre prizes were Mrs. Finlayson and Mr. Smith. The address presented to Mr. Cameron was one of the finest specimens of the illuminator's art your correspondent has yet seen, and reflected the greatest credit on the Panmure Sisters of the Mission, by whom it was executed.

A press association message from Auckland states that the Very Rev. Father Gillan, V.G., met with a serious trap accident on Tuesday. He was driving round a corner in Upper Queen street, when he was thrown out of his trap, and fell on to his head. When picked up he was unconscious. He sustained a very severe wound on the forehead and scalp, with fracture of the skull. His face and lips were also badly cut. He was taken to a private hospital. Dr. Porter, who attended him, does not think the accident will lead to anything of a serious nature.

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