

Death of Rev. John Geary

Profound regret will be felt by the clergy of the diocese of Dunedin to learn that their confrère of many years, the Rev. John Geary, met his death, by drowning, at Tramore, on August 27. A brief cable message in the daily papers of August 28 announced that 'a Catholic priest from Australia was drowned while bathing at Tramore.' Private communications received on Tuesday morning of this week made it clear that the 'Catholic priest from Australia' was the Rev. John Geary, a priest of the diocese of Waterford, who, by permission of his Bishop, served for a number of years in the diocese of Dunedin, doing parochial work in Lawrence, Gore, and Dunedin until shattered health rendered it necessary for him to return to his native land at the close of 1907. The accounts of the melancholy accident to Father Geary, received up to the moment of going to press, are very meagre. In a private communication received on Tuesday morning, it was stated that he got into difficulties while bathing, and that, although a strong swimmer, he went under. Help was available as speedily as possible and he was brought ashore, but he never rallied. The deepest regret was felt by Father Geary's clerical confrères in Dunedin on receipt of the sad and unexpected news. A solemn Dirge and Requiem will be celebrated, for the repose of his soul, in St. Joseph's Cathedral, Dunedin, at nine o'clock on Thursday morning of this week.—R.I.P.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(By Telegraph from our own correspondent.)

October 12.

A meeting will shortly be held to make arrangements for a suitable reception to his Lordship Dr. Lenihan on his return from Europe.

Very Rev. Dean Gillan, V.G., opened a new church at Taumarunui yesterday. He was assisted by the Rev. Father Molloy, pastor of the district.

An Irish national concert, organised by Rev. Fathers Brennan and Williams, in aid of St. Benedict's Church debt, will take place in St. Benedict's Hall to-morrow night.

His Lordship Bishop Lenihan recently attended a meeting of the National Directory in Dublin, and urged unity at Home and abroad. He deprecated divisions of Irishmen.

At Waihi on next Sunday the devotion of the Forty Hours' Adoration will commence. It will be conducted by the Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly, assisted by the Very Rev. Father Brodie.

The Guard of Honor Confraternity held a most successful social in the Royal Albert Hall on last Friday evening. The proceeds were in aid of the society's funds. Rev. Fathers Murphy and Wright were present, together with large numbers of ladies and gentlemen.

Advices by mail report that a great reception was tendered in Belfast to his Lordship Dr. Lenihan and Mr. Kidston, the Premier of Queensland. Mr. Joseph Devlin, several members of Parliament, and leading citizens delivered addresses. The Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan and the Hon. Mr. Kidston, in replying, voiced Ireland's claim for autonomy. The utmost enthusiasm prevailed.

Ensign Robert Emmet, of the United States warship Connecticut, writing to a friend here, stated he was overwhelmed with the receptions accorded to him by the Irish citizens of Sydney and Melbourne. The enthusiasm and depth of feeling displayed quite overcame him. All his life he will retain memories of the Irish men and women of Australasia. He forwarded photographs of himself to his Auckland friends.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

October 12.

The Very Rev. Dr. Kennedy is on a brief visit to Hanmer for health purposes. The Rev. Father Hoare, S.M., of St. Mary's, Christchurch North, assisted at the Cathedral on Sunday.

Permission has been kindly granted to the promoters of the combined Catholic excursion and outing on December 26 for the use of the Riccarton racecourse and properties of the Canterbury Jockey Club for the occasion. The committee, of which the Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., is chairman, are busily engaged in arranging details, and a meeting of ladies willing to assist is convened for this week.

The devotions for the month of the Holy Rosary are being observed in the customary manner, and with the edifying co-operation of the faithful. Addressing the congregation in the Cathedral on Sunday, the Very Rev. Father Price spoke of the devotion of the Rosary as a sublime and beautiful practice of our religion. He instanced how the faith was preserved in the penal days in Ireland, for after everything else was taken from the persecuted people, the Rosary still remained, and was handed down from generation to generation.

The mention of the Month of the Holy Rosary reminds us that it was on Rosary Sunday, 1860, that the first Catholic Church erected in Canterbury was opened. Thus, the first Sunday of October, 1910, will be the jubilee of this historical occasion.

The tenth annual meeting of the Ashburton Catholic Club (states the *Lyttelton Times*) was held on Tuesday evening, Mr. D. McDonald, in the chair. The balance sheet showed that the receipts had exceeded the expenditure by £9 11s 7d, and the assets exceeded the liabilities by £66 19s 7d. Officers were elected as follows:—President, Mr. T. Brophy; vice-president, Mr. J. Murphy; secretary, Mr. J. A. Lennon; treasurer, Mr. E. Hanrahan; librarian, Mr. W. Lennon; committee—Messrs. D. McDonald, S. Madden, Brophy, F. Pritchard, and J. Hannigan.

Invercargill

(From our own correspondent.)

October 12.

The Hibernian Band gave a sacred concert at West Plains on Sunday, October 4.

Mr. J. Moriarty is now in the district putting forward the claims of the *N.Z. Tablet*.

The pupils of St. Catherine's Convent entertained their parents and friends to a very enjoyable musical treat on Friday evening.

The Invercargill Catholic Club concluded the session on Tuesday evening, when they presented to the large number of friends and supporters present a very enjoyable musical programme. Mr. H. Gallagher received a volume of Dickens' works as first prize in the recent oratorical competition.

The fortnightly meeting of St. Mary's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society was held on Wednesday evening last. The branch, which was opened on October 7, 1907, has every reason to be proud of the position it now holds. Although it is the youngest branch in the Dominion, its membership is now well over three figures, as are also the funds.

St. Patrick's College Scholarships

An important announcement with reference to scholarships at St. Patrick's College, Wellington, appears in this issue. Four scholarships of the yearly value of £25 each, tenable for four years, will be offered for competition in December next. These scholarships are open to all Catholic boys attending the parochial schools of the Dominion. Candidates must be under the age of fourteen on January 1, 1908. Applications to be examined should be forwarded to the Very Rev. Rector before November 10. Further particulars will be found in our advertising columns.

The fourth session of the sixteenth Parliament came to an end at three minutes before midnight on Saturday.

The Hon. W. Hall-Jones has been appointed High Commissioner for the Dominion in London in succession to the Hon. W. P. Reeves.

A special feature of the September issue of the *C.Y.M.*, the organ of the Adelaide Catholic Club, is the parody of a scene from Shakespeare, in which the writer, 'Plautus,' gives notes of an alleged conversation between two notorious religious firebrands. The sketch is too good to have only the limited publicity of a society magazine.

The October number of the *Triad* just to hand has been enlarged to 74 pages by the addition of a music supplement containing 18 songs and pieces by such composers as Wagner, Schumann, Lassen, Grieg, Dessauer, Gluck, Weber, and Gounod. There is something in this supplement to please every taste and to suit every voice. The letterpress is, as usual, marked by personality and grip, and entire freedom from dullness, and as the price of the issue remains unaltered, it should have a very large sale indeed.

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