

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

The Cathedral debt was reduced by £1250 by the late Dominion fair, while the residue of the Cardinal's reception contributed its quota.

On last Tuesday evening a large number of club members assembled in the club rooms for the purpose of tendering a farewell to Mr. James Lonergan, who is about to take his departure for Sydney for the purpose of prosecuting his musical studies in that city. The tables were very tastefully decorated, and the whole arrangements reflected the greatest credit on the organising ability of Mr. P. Clarke, the musical director. The president of the club occupied the chair, and after the toast of the Pope and King had been duly honored he presented Mr. Lonergan with a handsome pocket-book, suitably inscribed. He referred to the great esteem in which Mr. Lonergan was held by his fellow-members and the sterling qualities by which he endeared himself to them, and expressed the assurance he felt that the energy which had been displayed by their guest in the past would infallibly lead him to success. Mr. Lonergan's health was then proposed by Mr. Clarke and enthusiastically honored. In replying, Mr. Lonergan spoke of the many happy days he had spent among the old boys, and said he would always treasure the token of their appreciation and esteem. Mr. Lonergan, sen., also spoke, thanking the Old Boys' Club for the honor it was that evening conferring upon his son, and emphasising very forcibly the great advantages to be derived from membership in a Catholic Club. A splendid musical programme was provided, Mr. Lonergan himself being in exceptionally good voice, and he was ably assisted by artists of such high standing as Messrs. T. Gussotto, Pritchard, Fred Rowe, F. Adeane, L. O'Malley, and last, but not least, Mr. Allan McElwain, whose humorous recitals were greeted with much laughter and prolonged applause.

The fourth annual general meeting of the Marist Brothers' Old Boys' Club was held on last Thursday evening. There was an excellent attendance of members, and the proceedings were marked by the greatest enthusiasm. The secretary read the annual report, which showed the great progress that had been made by the club during the past year, as evidenced by the increased activity in all the branches. Notwithstanding the heavy outlay occasioned by the alterations to the premises, the balance sheet showed that the finances of the club were in a particularly sound condition. The splendid work done by the social committee in this connection and by its energetic secretary, Mr. R. O'Brien, in particular, received special commendation. The election of officers resulted as follows:—General secretary, Mr. C. J. Mahon (re-elected); vice-president, Mr. F. Carrington; auditor, Mr. W. Kemble. A vote of thanks to the retiring vice-president (Mr. J. J. Furlong) was unanimously carried on the motion of Brother Borgia. A vote of thanks was accorded to the editors of the *Catholic Magazine* for the noble work they are doing in the cause of Catholic clubs and Catholic literature. Speaking to this motion, the Rev. Father Murphy, who was present with the Rev. Father Wright, spoke of the difficulties encountered in the publication of the local periodical, *The Catholic Monthly*, and solicited the support of all club members for this little magazine, which he felt was destined to do much good among the Catholics of the Auckland diocese. Father Murphy also proffered the valuable suggestion that there should be printed cards showing the objects of the club, etc., and that these cards should be distributed among the hotels and boarding-houses, so that visitors from the country might have an opportunity of knowing of the existence of the club and enjoying its benefits during their sojourn in the city. After some routine business had been gone through, and about fifteen new members had been enrolled, the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chair.

The oratorical competition promulgated by the Federal Executive took place in the club rooms on Saturday, the 14th inst. Mr. W. E. Hackett was appointed sole judge out of ten nominations. A 'field' of seven faced the 'starter,' and the winner was Mr. T. O'Shea, who spoke on Daniel O'Connell; Mr. J. McKenna, on Napoleon, being a close second. The other speakers were Messrs. C. Mahon, P. Sheehan, F. Adeane, B. Cottrell, and H. Vanderspeck. In giving his decision, Mr. Hackett congratulated the speakers on the high order of excellence maintained by them, and promised to donate annually for five years a gold medal of the value of five guineas, to be competed for under conditions to be drawn up by the committee. To the Sacred Heart College Debating Club, the members of which were present, Mr. Hackett further promised a donation under similar conditions of a gold medal, valued at two guineas. A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Hackett was carried by acclamation.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

November 16.

Canterbury's great annual event, 'People's day' of the Metropolitan Show, on Friday last proved yet another breaker of records. The weather was almost everything to be desired, which, together with the splendid display itself, was the means of attracting the enormous attendance of about 35,000 patrons, whilst the day's financial takings considerably exceeded those of any previous year. All this goes to prove the prosperous condition of the country.

Mass was celebrated at the church of Our Lady Star of the Sea at Sumner at eleven o'clock on last Sunday in the presence of a fair congregation of residents and visitors. The Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., who was celebrant, directed attention to the improvements recently effected in the church grounds and enclosures, and other matters of interest relating thereto.

OBITUARY

MR. W. H. McKEAY, DUNEDIN.

There passed away on November 5, at his son's residence, St. Clair, at the age of 91 years, one of the oldest members of the legal profession in Dunedin in the person of Mr. W. H. McKeay. The deceased was born in London, but spent many years of his early manhood in France, where he was engaged in business. He came out to Victoria in 1850, and, after spending some time on the diggings, went to England, returning to Victoria a little later. In 1862 he came to Dunedin and studied the law, starting in business with Mr. G. E. Barton, and subsequently entering into partnership with Mr. John Mouat. Afterwards he practised on his own account. About fifteen years ago he accepted the position of Supreme Court librarian. For the last two or three years his health had been unsatisfactory, and during the last eighteen months the assistant librarian, Miss Bentham, relieved him of much of his duty. Towards the end a carbuncular boil at the back of his head caused trouble, but he really died of old age. Mr. McKeay was known to the profession as a skilful conveyancer, and he was a critical French scholar. Being of a retiring disposition, given more to study than to talk, Mr. McKeay was not a man to form sudden friendships, but those who had the privilege of his acquaintance enjoyed his ripened views on public and national questions. He leaves one son and four grandchildren.—R.I.P.

MR. W. G. RAINES, WELLINGTON.

A very old and respected resident of Wellington in the person of Mr. William George Raines, passed away on November 5 at the residence of his son-in-law, Mr. E. Sullivan, of Pahiatua. Deceased had been in the Dominion for over 45 years, and had been in the employment of the New Zealand Shipping Company for 28 years. He was in bad health for the last twelve months, and thinking that a change would do him good went to England and Ireland for a trip six months ago, and had only been back five weeks at the time of his death. The funeral took place on Sunday, November 7, at Karori, and was attended by a large number of friends, the cortege being over half a mile long, which showed the great respect in which he was held. The Rev. Father Schaefer officiated at the church of St. Mary of the Angels and at the graveside. He leaves a family of four sons and two daughters to mourn their loss.—R.I.P.

WEDDING BELLS

(From our Hawera correspondent.)

DONNELLY-BIGGINS.

A popular wedding was solemnised at St. Joseph's Church on October 21, when Mr. Peter Donnelly, of the firm of Messrs. Cole and Donnelly, and fourth son of the late Mr. P. Donnelly, was married to Miss Mary Biggins, sister of Mr. J. Biggins, Hawera. Rev. Father O'Dwyer officiated. The bride, who wore a dress of cream silk voile, with silk insertion, and hat to match, was given away by her brother. Mr. George Maingay acted as best man. The bridesmaid was Miss Evelyn Lynsky, cousin of the bride. A large number of friends of the bride and bridegroom were present at the subsequent wedding breakfast, at the Shamrock Hotel, when the health of the newly-married couple was honored. Mr. and Mrs. Donnelly went up the Wanganui River on their honeymoon trip, taking with them the best wishes of a large circle of friends.

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