

Visiting Clergy,' Father Clune said that the Redemptorists wherever they had gone in New Zealand had met with the greatest kindness from the priests. He felt honored at seeing so many distinguished visitors present. The toast was responded to by the Right Rev. Mgr. Mackay (Oamaru), the Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly (Thames), the Very Rev. Dean Carew (Grey-mouth), and the Very Rev. Father Tigar (Auckland). Other toasts honored were 'The clergy, secular and regular, of the Archdiocese of Wellington,' responded to by the Very Rev. Father O'Shea (Vicar-General) and the Very Rev. Dean Regnault (Provincial) for the Marist Fathers, and Very Rev. Father Lane (Hutt) and the Very Rev. Dean McKenna (New Plymouth) for the secular clergy; 'The laity,' responded to by Messrs. M. Kennedy and W. Clifford; 'The architect, contractors, and clerk of works,' responded to by Mr. Burke; 'The collectors,' responded to by Mr. E. J. Fitzgibbon; and 'The Redemptorist Fathers,' proposed by the Very Rev. Father Keogh, and responded to by the Very Rev. Father Clune.

During the luncheon it was announced that the morning collection and further donations received had brought the total contributions (in money and kind) up to £4100.

## Diocesan News

### DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(By Telegraph from our own correspondent.)

November 23.

The St. Benedict's Young Men's Club is steadily progressing, and will, it is understood, soon add a billiard table to its assets.

The Vicar-General wishes it stated that the amount cleared off the Cathedral debt was under £2000.

The bazaar just brought to a close at Devonport in aid of the debt on All Souls parish proved eminently successful. Rev. Father Furlong and a committee of ladies and gentlemen worked energetically for this object.

The annual school entertainments are now in progress. The pupils of the Marist Brothers' School, Pitt street, hold theirs to-morrow evening. St. Patrick's Convent schools held their on last Friday evening in the Federal Hall. Rev. Fathers Meagher, Murphy, Wright, Brennan, and Williams, and a large audience of ladies and gentlemen were present. It was an admirable entertainment, reflecting great credit alike on the good Sisters of Mercy and the pupils. The first part consisted of vocal and instrumental items (in which Misses Fowley, McDonnell, McGarry, Credin, Pearse, Wilson, Nicholson, Williams, and Dias 2 took part), four choruses, and a musical sketch, all of which were greatly appreciated. An Irish jig in costume was loudly encored. The second part consisted of a cantata, the 'May Queen,' in which Misses Foley (2), Owens, Coutts, Tobin, Nicholson, Fitzgerald, Molloy, McNamara, McGarry, and Woods took part. The cantata contained several taking solos, duets, and choruses. The dresses were nice and appropriate. The accompanists were Misses Rist and Derry, and Mrs. Harry Hiscocks rendered excellent service with the violin. The chorus 'God defend New Zealand' brought the entertainment to a close.

### Thames

The number present at last night's 'At home,' tendered to the Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly and Rev. Father Carran (says the *Thames Star* of November 13), bore overwhelming testimony to the loyalty of Catholics of Thames to their Church and their love for their pastor. The proceedings opened with a pianoforte duet, played in their best style by the Misses Dunbar, which was followed by a number of choicely selected items by well-known local singers. Mrs. W. Clark, Misses Gibson, T. Mellett, and V. Twohill gave a very pleasing rendition of 'Four modest quakeresses,' and were very loudly applauded, each one playing her part most creditably. Solos were rendered by Mrs. Johnston, who as usual was persistently encored, Misses Gill and McPike, Messrs. J. Kenny (encored), and W. Johnston (encored). A quartette was played by Williams's orchestra, and Mr. Lewis (who is on a visit to Thames) contributed a comic song, and was accorded a double encore. The Very Rev. Dean Hackett, of Paeroa, who was present, expressed pleasure on behalf of Ohinemuri, and the priests of the diocese, that the Monsignore was once more able to resume his duties at Thames, and extended a very hearty welcome to the new curate,

Father Carran, concluding his address with samples of a few brilliant flashes of Irish wit. Mr. McInteer, on behalf of the parishioners of St. Francis' Church, also spoke a few words of welcome, to which Monsignor O'Reilly feelingly replied, thanking them all for the many messages of sympathy he had received during his recent illness, which he affirmed, though bad, was not so serious as was reported. Father Carran also spoke, expressing pleasure at being once more in his native land. A pleasant item of the evening, and one, moreover, that is always appreciated, was the supper, which was handed round by a ladies' committee and done ample justice to.

In connection with the appointment of the Rev. J. V. Carran, an old Thames boy, to be assistant priest at St. Francis' Church, the following complimentary paragraphs (says the *Thames Star*) are taken from Dublin papers:—'Previous to his departure for New Zealand, the many Dublin friends of Rev. J. V. Carran assembled at 95 Haddington road on Thursday evening last to bid farewell and a safe voyage to his native home. During the short time he has been in Ireland, Father Carran made many friends, and his excellent qualities have been fully realised by all.' 'Previous to his departure for Auckland, the Wicklow friends of the Rev. J. V. Carran assembled at Goulde, to bid him farewell, and presented him with an illuminated address and purse of sovereigns, in testimony of the esteem and respect in which he is held. Three years ago Father Carran came to Ireland to complete his studies for the priesthood, and by his simplicity and kindness of heart made many friends, who unite in the best wishes for his future welfare and happiness. Father Carran possesses fine intellectual ability, and Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan is to be congratulated on the acquisition of such a talented young priest.'

### Waitara

The Waitara Thespian Society (writes the Waitara correspondent of the *Taranaki Herald*) staged the farcical comedy 'Jane' on the evening of November 12, in aid of the funds of St. Patrick's Church. The piece was presented in a highly creditable manner. Dr. Claridge, as Charles Shackleton, filled a difficult role in an admirable manner. Mr. A. E. Hawkins, as Mr. Kershaw, had a difficult part as an elderly gentleman, and gained great kudos for his efforts. His by-play in the interview with Mrs. Chadwick was highly diverting. Mr. R. Farmer, as William Tipson, was convincing, and put in some good work. His business, particularly at the dinner scene, roused much merriment. Miss Badley, as Jane, the pert housemaid, scored a signal success. Mrs. H. M. Lund, as Mrs. Chadwick, created a very favorable impression. Her self-possession in the scene with Kershaw was also excellent. The minor parts of Claude (Mr. J. G. Russell), Pixton (Mr. H. M. Lund), Mrs. Pixton (Mr. W. J. Lonergan), and Lucy Norton (Miss M. Jensen) were all excellently filled. During the first act 'Wait till the honeymoon's over' was nicely rendered by Miss Badley and Mr. Farmer, an encore being demanded. The takings amounted to £18 15s. During the evening incidental music was well rendered by the Waitara Orchestra. Dr. Claridge acted as coach, and is to be congratulated on the result of his work. Mr. C. M. Townsend was an energetic secretary.

### Napier

(By Telegraph from our own correspondent.)

November 23.

The Catholic Club has opened a tennis court in conjunction with the club. The opening ceremony took place on Saturday, there being a large attendance. It is the intention of the committee to prepare three courts for play, the work being already in hand.

The Catholic Club tendered a reception to Mr. J. C. Gleeson, ex-secretary of the club, who has just returned from the United Kingdom and America. The early part of the evening was devoted to euchre, interspersed with musical items, after which light refreshments were handed round by the committee. During the evening songs were given by Miss V. Higgins, Mrs. Treston, and Mr. T. Liddle. Messrs. Collins and Langford danced an Irish jig and reel. Mr. A. Mullaney won the euchre prize, and Miss Murphy was presented with a prize won at the previous tournament. An oratorical contest was held by the members of the club for the New Zealand diploma, and a watch presented by one of the members. Mr. J. W. Coe was successful in winning the contest, and took as his subject 'Napoleon.' Mr. R. P. Clarkson, M.A., acted as judge.

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