

Just four years ago—Sunday, November 15, 1896—Auckland's fifth Bishop, the Right Rev. Dr. Linnhan, was consecrated. Though young in years, yet in the number of its rulers our diocese is comparatively old.

The Cemetery Board is about to make an appeal to the four city parishes to furnish at least from each twenty volunteers, the whole to set to work to put in order the Symond street Cemetery. The idea is a good one, and I hope a hearty and ready response will be the outcome.

Last Sunday week we had at St. Patrick's fully one hundred representatives of the great French Republic attending Mass, and last Sunday in the same church were to be witnessed a priest and his surrounding countrymen foreign to us in everything, excepting the all-important one of our Holy Faith. We have here an object-lesson of the catholicity of the Church.

'A great battle for the mastery of the South Pacific,' said our *Herald* editor this morning, 'must sooner or later be fought out not with words in Houses of Parliament but with weapons of war upon the high seas.' Again the bellicose editor said, 'France and Germany must be removed from the Pacific.' A simple sum in proportion here suggests itself, 'if it takes over 12 months to subdue the Boers how long would it take to "remove from the Pacific" France and Germany?'

A convalescent home has been opened in the Mount Eden district, a suburb adjacent to the city of Auckland, by the good Sisters of Mercy. The home is beautifully situated and the grounds are exquisitely laid out. It is one of those places where convalescents should mend speedily, and its successful management will add another bright chapter to the glorious annals of the illustrious Order of the Sisters of Mercy. Mother Ignatius is at present in charge of the new undertaking.

The Rev. Father Zainey, an Assyrian priest, is at present on a visit to Auckland where he has a brother in business. He celebrated Mass at 10 o'clock at St. Patrick's last Sunday in the presence of a large number of his countrymen. The ceremony was performed according to the Eastern rite, and was of a most devout and impressive character. Two Assyrians, outside the altar rails throughout the whole service, sang the accompanying sacred music. Father Zainey, after Mass, in his native tongue, addressed his fellow-countrymen, in the course of which he said it gave him great pleasure to meet them far away from their native land, and in the practice of their holy religion and which he enjoined upon them never to forget. They should love and assist each other, and thereby give a living example to those amongst whom they lived of the teachings of Holy Church, and they would also bring credit on themselves and the land of their birth.

A concert was given last night by the children attending the Sacred Heart School, Ponsonby, in the schoolroom attached to the church, and proved in every way most successful. The attendance was large, the Right Rev. Monsignor O'Reilly being amongst those present. The programme was organised by Sister Peter, and consisted of the following items:—Song by infants, 'Pussy's Lullaby'; dance, 'Tommy Atkins'; Misses Blighie Barry and Phyllis Wilson; choruses by the children, 'Ellin Call' and 'Union Jack'; violin solo, 'Mazurka' (Wienawski); Master Gerald Ralph; recitation and song, 'Old Ireland'; Miss Annie Courtney and Eileen Barry; coon dance, Miss B. Barry; action song, 'Japanese Fan'; cantata, 'Gipsies' holiday' (Queen, Miss G. Harkins); duet, 'I don't want to play in your yard'; Misses Murray, song, 'I'm mother's little maid'; Miss Ina Bosworth, tableaux, 'Our Girls' and 'Jacob's Dream'; song (boys), 'Show me your slate'; and drama, 'Gaffer Gray's legacy'. The children showed great proficiency, and the costumes used in the action songs and tableaux were very effective. During the evening Miss Clare Somerville recited an address to Monsignor O'Reilly, on behalf of the children.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

November 19.

Among the numerous visitors to Christchurch during the carnival week festivities many leading Catholics from various parts of the Colony have been noticed. Messrs. D. Sheedy, Hannan, Dongan, and Cloughrey from Greymouth, Mr. J. Donnellan, Nelson Creek, Messrs. P. McArdle and T. Dwan, jr., Wellington, may be included in the list of sightseers.

The priests of the diocese are always to the fore in advocating the claims of the *TABLET* to the support of Catholics generally and their parishioners particularly. The continued interest displayed by the clergy in this regard, notably by the Very Rev. Dean O'Donnell at Rakaia, the Rev. Father Crotty, at Ashburton, and more recently by the Rev. Father Richards at Lincoln, during the periodical visit of the *TABLET* representative to those districts, must indeed be very encouraging, and everyone who has the interests of Catholic literature at heart will fully appreciate the efforts being made to extend the circulation of the paper.

The Jubilee Imperial Carnival now entering upon the third week of the season has succeeded in attracting good audiences with a satisfactory amount of business. During the past week Signor Borzoni introduced some additional novelties by way of a change in the programme, thus again proving his ability in the art of entertaining, and the aptitude of his young performers. A company of Maoris, under the direction of Mr. Hastings, native teacher at Rapaki, gave a performance of dances, etc., on one evening, much to the delight of the onlookers. The Right Hon. the Premier, accompanied by Mrs. and Miss Seddon and the Hon. J. G. Ward, paid a second visit to the carnival, and expressed themselves in most favorable terms of the entertainments and general arrangements. Further donations to the stalls have come to hand, including a very handsome picture from the nuns of the Dominican Convent,

Dunedin, and valuable gifts from the Convent of Mercy, Hokitika, and Convent of the Sacred Heart, Timaru, which his Lordship the Bishop desires to gratefully acknowledge.

R O S S.

(From an occasional correspondent.)

The recent concert in aid of St. Patrick's Convent School was the most successful yet held for the purpose—in fact, as far as your correspondent's knowledge goes, it easily the best held here during the past two years. The good Sisters are noted for the thoroughness of the training they impart to those coming under their charge, and the result of the concert under notice prove that their efforts have borne fruit in a most marked manner. Last year a departure was taken in putting a Mock Parliamentary Debate on the programme, and it proved such a success that it was decided to include one in the present year's. That it was an even greater success than last year will be apparent when I tell you that a certain business gentleman here conversing with me the morning after the concert remarked that the Mock Parliamentary Debate 'was an eye-opener to him,' and I have no doubt it was an eye-opener to many more, too. On this occasion assistance was rendered by Misses Murphy, Burke, Arnat, and Master McDonald (Hokitika), and Mr. D. Clarke as stage manager proved the right man in the right place.

The Church Committee having decided on having the weatherboarding of St. Patrick's renewed, I am pleased to inform you that when the contractor has finished the work the church will be as good as the day it was built.

SOUTHLAND NEWS NOTES.

(From our own correspondent.)

November 19.

The Catholics of Limehills (near Winton) are taking steps to erect a church on a very suitable site.

The Government have agreed to send the Southland Pipe Band to the Commonwealth demonstration. The recognition thus given to the band has evoked widespread satisfaction.

The Southland Education Board's inspector has just completed the examination of the Invercargill and Gore Convent schools, the results in each case being very satisfactory.

Nearly 100 men are already employed on the Orepuki-Waiau Extension Railway, and more are to be put on at once, a further sum of £12,000 having been voted by Parliament for the work.

Last Sunday evening a sacred concert was given in the Catholic Church at Orepuki by members of the choir, when the attendance was satisfactory notwithstanding the boisterous weather prevailing. It is the intention of the choir to repeat the programme at an early date.

The latest 'bone of contention' locally is, where are the Southland Railway Workshops to be built? Besides various places in the vicinity of Invercargill, Riverton, Otautau, and Gore are each agitating in its own particular interest, but the choice certainly lies between Invercargill and Riverton.

During his visit to Southland the Hon. J. G. Ward is to be banqueted at Winton, when a pair of carriage horses will be presented to Mrs. Ward by the electors of the Awarua constituency. The horses are intended for the landau which was presented to Mrs. Ward by friends in England. Mr. Ward will also be tendered a banquet at the Bluff, the occasion being the opening of the new post and telegraph offices.

His Excellency the Governor arrived in Invercargill on Thursday and proceeded thence to the Aparima, where a day's fishing was indulged in. He also visited Orepuki and followed his favorite sport in the Waiau waters, taking time, of course, to visit the Shale Works now in course of erection. The coming of His Excellency caused little or no interest; in fact, some of the railway officials along the line were unaware of the Vice-regal party having passed through until the information appeared in the papers.

The Catholic choir in Gore sustained a severe loss lately by the departure of Mrs. Neave for Dunedin. This talented lady acted gratuitously as leader for a number of years and brought the choir to a great degree of perfection, consequently her place will not be easily filled. Prior to her departure she was the recipient of a presentation which marked the congregation's appreciation of her services and the goodwill existing between herself and the other members of the choir.

Extensive buildings have been commenced in Gore, all of which are business premises. Messrs. McGibbon and Sons are erecting three-storied structures with a seven feet cellar at Main street corner, opposite the Post Office, Mr. Hartley being the contractor. Mr. James Holland is about to erect an arcade of modern design on the site of the recent fire, which is expected to be the best of its kind in the Colony. Mr. Owen Kelly has begun the erection of three two-storied buildings in Mersey street for the *Mataura Ensign* proprietary.

The enormous output of McCormick machines defies the mental grasp of man. If the machines they manufacture were to issue from the gate of their works (the largest in the world), the spectators would see throughout the working day a McCormick machine emerging at full gallop every thirty seconds.—*.*

A little wonder is the Broadcast Patent Seed-sower sold by Morrow, Bassett, and Co. For sowing turnip, rape, grass, and clover seed it has no equal, while for oats, wheat, and barley you have only to see it to know its value. A boy can work it. Sow four acres per hour, and any quantity up to six bushels per acre. Price only 20s.—*.*