

additional mile 3d. Provision will also be made for 'expressed' articles and stamped telegrams being collected by letter carriers and telegraph messengers. In the case of telegrams this should be a decided convenience to people living some distance from telegraph offices. Another proposal is to have a uniform parcels rate for all parts of the Empire. The present rate to London for the first pound is 1s, and for each additional pound 6d. The rate to be proposed will be—Three pounds, 1s; seven pounds, 2s; eleven pounds, 3s. In addition to this, I also propose to establish a telegraph messenger service in connection with telephone exchanges to enable subscribers to ring for a messenger to run an errand, order a cab, etc., and to charge the same as for 'express' letter delivery up to three miles. Messages will be delivered up to five miles on payment of cab hire or tram fare. I may say a system something similar to this was tried by Sir Julius Vogel, and confined to the City of Wellington only. At that time it was ahead of the public requirements of the Colony, and in the interval the rapidity with which it is necessary to do business and the conveniences required to-day have so greatly changed that I have every confidence that a success can be made of such a system as I have indicated.

THE SHAUGHRAUN.

We desire to remind our readers of the dramatic entertainment which is to be given in the Princess Theatre, Dunedin, on Wednesday evening in aid of the orphanage of the Sisters of Mercy, South Dunedin. 'The Shaughraun' which will be staged on the occasion is one of the best of our Irish dramas, and as it has been in active rehearsal for a considerable time there is every reason to expect that patrons will have an excellent evening's enjoyment, especially as the cast comprises some of the best amateurs in Dunedin. We are informed that the scenery will be very fine and the costumes most appropriate, nothing having been left undone in this direction to make the performance thoroughly realistic of time and place. Incidental music will be given by a full orchestra under the direction of Mr. Robertshaw. Everything points to a successful performance, and apart from that the audience, which we hope will be commensurate with the efforts of the organisers and the worthiness of the object, will have the satisfaction of knowing that while they are receiving value for their money in the shape of a couple of hours of legitimate amusement they are at the same time assisting the good Sisters in providing for the homeless and the orphan.

WEDDING BELLS.

O'SULLIVAN—M'COLL.

A very pretty wedding was celebrated at Rakaiia on Thursday, November 22 (writes our Christchurch correspondent), the ceremony being performed by the Very Rev. Dean O'Donnell. The contracting parties were Mr John O'Sullivan, youngest son of Mr Eugene O'Sullivan, County Kerry, Ireland, and Miss Annie Mary M'Coll, eldest daughter of the late Mr Hugh M'Coll, Reefton. The bride was attired in white silk, with the customary wreath and veil, and was attended by three bridesmaids—Misses Katie O'Sullivan, Maggie and Katie Frost, who wore white dresses with green sashes, and hats to match. The duties of best man were performed by Mr Denis O'Sullivan, brother of the bridegroom. The bridegroom's present to the bride was a valuable cable bangle, and to the bridesmaids each a gold brooch set with pearls. The wedding breakfast was held at the residence of Mr Craighead, brother-in-law of the bridegroom. The health of the newly-wedded couple was proposed by the Very Rev. Dean O'Donnell, that of the host and hostess by Mr Frost. The presents were numerous and costly, and during the day the happy couple were the recipients of many congratulatory telegrams from friends in various parts of the Colony. Mr and Mrs O'Sullivan left Rakaiia by the evening's express for Christchurch, where a few days were to be spent prior to their departure for Auckland, where they intend residing.

RYAN—BROOKES.

St. Joseph's Cathedral, Dunedin was the scene of a pretty wedding on Wednesday morning, when Mr. John Ryan, of Ranfurly, eldest son of Mr. Patrick Ryan, of Kokonga, was married to Miss Anne Brookes, second daughter of the late Mr. Michael Brookes, Naseby. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Father Murphy. The bridesmaids were Miss Brookes (sister of the bride), Miss M. Ryan (sister of the bridegroom), and Miss Downes, the duties of best man being performed by Mr. James Ryan (brother of the bridegroom). After the ceremony an adjournment was made to the residence of the bride's mother at Clyde Avenue, North Dunedin, where the wedding breakfast was laid and partaken of by a large number of guests.

Tussicura.—The most wonderful remedy of the age for coughs, colds, bronchitis, influenza, and all other affections of the throat and lungs. Those suffering should obtain it at once. Give it a trial.—*.*

A shipment of the beautiful Sterling Bicycles—chain, chainless, and free wheels—has just been received. They are more beautiful, if possible, than ever. Intending purchasers of bicycles should certainly see the Sterlings before deciding on any other. Morrow, Bassett and Co., Christchurch, Ashburton, and Dunedin, sole agents.—*.*

You often hear salesmen of Reapers and Binders say 'Just as good as McCormick' but you never hear a McCormick salesman say 'Just as good.' The reputation and sales of McCormick machines are the greatest in the world.—*.*

INTERCOLONIAL.

The Right Rev. Dr. Doyle, Bishop of Lismore, who is at present in Europe, is expected to be back in his diocese by Christmas.

Arrangements are being made for the building of a new presbytery in Cowwar, in the diocese of Sale, at a cost of about £800. Half the amount has been already subscribed, and the work will be commenced at an early date.

The Right Rev. Dr. Reville, Coadjutor Bishop of Sandhurst (writes a Melbourne correspondent), is at present in Sir Thomas Fitzgerald's private hospital. His Lordship has just undergone an operation for the removal of a growth on one of his shoulders. The growth had wound itself round the muscles, rendering them useless. Dr. Reville is not a strong man, but the operation was only a minor one, and the patient is progressing well.

The death is reported of Councillor Thomas Fogarty, an old colonist, and a much respected citizen of North Melbourne. The deceased had been in business in Melbourne for over 40 years. He was elected a member of the local council in 1865, and had occupied the seat continuously ever since. He had also represented that body on the Metropolitan Board of Works since its inception. The deceased gentleman was the first President of the Irish National Land League in Melbourne, 1882. He was a native of Tipperary, Ireland, and at the time of his death was 64 years of age.

A well-educated man named G. H. Devlin, aged 60, a graduate of Dublin University, was found dead in his house in Brooke street, Inglewood, Victoria, on November 14th. He had been in the habit of being visited by some youths, to whom he taught various subjects, and at the end of the week he complained of illness to some of them, but refused to allow them to send for a doctor. One of the youths visited his place on Sunday, and found Devlin lying dead on the floor. Deceased, according to his own account, had a 'history.' He claimed to have been connected with the late Cardinal Newman, and stated that through the death of an unmarried aunt he came into, upon attaining the age of 60 only a short time back, a sum of about £70,000. This money had not come to hand, but in anticipation deceased had made a will bequeathing large amounts to local charitable institutions, etc.

Mr. Charles O'Neill, M.I.C.E., died in St. Vincent's Hospital, Sydney, recently. Mr. O'Neill (says the *Freeman's Journal*) was well known in Sydney and suburbs in connection with the Third Order of St. Francis and other religious organisations, but the society with which his name is most prominently associated is the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, which he established first in New Zealand, and afterwards (on July 24, 1881) in Sydney, under powers conferred upon him by the President-General of the society, and with the approbation and blessing of the illustrious Archbishop Vaughan. The deceased was a native of Scotland, and was 72 years of age at the time of his death. Had he lived till August next year he would have completed his Golden Jubilee as a brother of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Forty years ago Mr. O'Neill was president of the Provincial Council of the Western Districts of Scotland, president of the Particular Council of Glasgow, and president of the Conference of St. Andrew's, Glasgow.

One of the most successful gatherings held here for Catholic purposes (writes the Melbourne correspondent of the *Catholic Press*) was that at Abbotsford on Sunday, November 11. The function of laying the foundation-stone was favored by the most delightful weather, and most that is distinguished in the cause of Melbourne charity assembled. The non-sectarian character of the work done by the Good Shepherd nuns was recognised by the presence of prominent citizens of every creed, who were proud to testify to the great influence for good the institution at Abbotsford exercised. The nuns have solved, and that on no small scale, a problem which perplexes the State—the art of reforming by loving kindness and sacrifice, and citizens of the State showed their appreciation by their presence and munificent gifts. Thousands were present at the ceremony, the following being, amongst others, upon the platform:—His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor and Lady Madden, Right Rev. Dr. Moore (Bishop of Ballarat), Lady Janet Clarke, the Mayor of Melbourne (Councillor Gillott), Sir Malcolm M'Eacharn, Sir Arthur Snowden, Mr. Fitzgerald, M.L.C., and Messrs. Peacock, Duffy, Beazley, Wilkins, Anderson, and Hennessy, M.L.A. Having previously blessed the foundation, his Grace the Archbishop declared it laid in a short address, in which he briefly sketched the work done by the Sisters. The Lieutenant-Governor, Sir John Madden, paid an eloquent tribute to the Abbotsford Convent, and a stirring appeal for funds. The Mayor of Melbourne followed; and then Mr. Peacock, M.L.A., provoked enthusiastic applause by declaring that he was 'proud that his native land possessed such a noble institution.' As a public man he was glad to bear testimony to the noble work done by the nuns, and as a Protestant he heartily wished them God-speed. Dr. Moore, Bishop of Ballarat, Mr. Fitzgerald, M.L.C., Rev. Father T. O'Farrell, C.S.S.R., also spoke. Sir Malcolm M'Eacharn conveyed the thanks of the nuns to the Lieutenant-Governor for attending, and said that while Mayor of Melbourne he had inquired into the working of the various public charities. None were conducted better than that of Abbotsford. The collection realised the fine sum of £3315. Two anonymous donors gave £500 each, another gave £200, and another £100. Archbishop Carr, £100; Mr. M. Moylan, £100; Sir J. Madden, £10; Lady Madden, £10; Mayor of Melbourne, £50; Sir Malcolm M'Eacharn, £50; M'Llraith, M'Eacharn and Co., £25; Bishop Moore, £20; Dr. Reville, Coadjutor-Bishop of Sandhurst, £10.

Wanted, everyone who has proved the worth of Tussicura to recommend it to their friend.—*.*

Witches Oil cures pains and aches, neuralgia, headache, sciatica, rheumatism. Price, 2s 6d. Try it.—*.*

SIMSON & CO. (Late Denningham and Co.), THE AUCKLAND RECEIVING, FORWARDING, AND PARCEL DELIVERY AGENCY, No. 4, COMMERCIAL STREET, AUCKLAND. Baggage Agents for Thomas Cook and Sons. Telephone, 354. Latest Delivery for Town and Suburbs, 5 p.m.; Saturday, 1 p.m. Parcels should be ready 30 min. before above time. Agents throughout N.Z.