

(received into the church on his deathbed), Michael Lynch, Denis Quigley, George O'Neill, Mrs. Coghlan, Mrs. Dawson, Mrs. Heaphy, Philip Bannan, John Gannon. On whose souls sweet Jesus have mercy.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND.

(From our own correspondent.)

December 13.

Three aspirants were received into the Children of Mary Society at St. Patrick's last Saturday morning. The ceremony was performed by the Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly.

The Hon. J. G. Ward attended Mass at St. Patrick's last Sunday accompanied by his son, and subsequently paid his respects at the presbytery to his Lordship the Bishop and Mgr. O'Reilly.

The boys of the Marist Brothers' High School are holding a picnic to day at St. Helier's Bay. The devoted Superior, Rev. Brother Basil, and Brothers Jerome and Edward accompanied the lads who went out in brakes.

His Lordship the Bishop has received the vestments, copes, and church ornaments, etc., which he secured during his recent visit to Ireland. They are all of a very high order of merit, and the churches throughout the diocese will benefit largely through the Bishop's exertions and kind thoughtfulness.

The church at Puhoi has, through the indefatigable exertions of Rev. Father Brodie, been considerably enlarged and improved. The Bishop, at the first favorable opportunity, will journey thither and officiate. Father Brodie, since his advent to his widely scattered parish, has devoted great attention to the improvement of the many churches under his charge.

'The General,' a weekly contributor to the *Herald*, has discovered that the uprising of the Irish peasantry in 1798 has a parallel in the present Boer war, though he graciously admits that the Irish had more justification. He would be a poor student of history who denied the justice of the cause of Ireland's peasant soldiery of '98.

Large tracts of native lands, hitherto locked up, will soon be opened to the public in various parts of the Auckland province. Around about Kawhia, a port on the West Coast likely in the near future to be of importance, some 80,000 to 100,000 acres will be open for selection about March next. Some 4000 acres will be ready next month at Tokatoka, Kaipara, and 15,000 acres at Wharepepa, West Taupo, South Kihikihi. All this should prove to be an inestimable boon up this way.

Great satisfaction was evinced by our people throughout the city and suburbs at the successful termination of the disreputable charges made against Brothers Wybertus and Killian. The Superior, Brother Basil, and his colleagues here were the recipients of many hearty congratulations. Amongst the first of the callers upon our respected Brothers was his Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan.

At St. Patrick's Cathedral last Sunday evening his Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to fully 200 children. The majority of them had received a long course of regular instruction from the Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly as well as from the Sisters and Brothers in their respective schools. First Communion was given on the previous Saturday morning, when Mgr. O'Reilly delivered an appropriate address. Breakfast was provided in St. Patrick's for the children. Next day, Sunday, the Bishop made his annual visitation to the cathedral. Rev. Father O'Carroll celebrated a *Missa Cantata*, Rev. Father Purton, O.S.B., being master of ceremonies. After the first Gospel the Bishop entered the pulpit and explained the object of his annual visitation. Since his last visit many changes had taken place, which were rendered necessary by the scarcity of priests throughout the diocese, consequently the younger priests were drafted into the country. While abroad he had not forgotten them and he had brought back many necessary and useful articles which would adorn their church. In the evening the girls for Confirmation assembled in St. Patrick's Convent Schools under the care of the Sisters of Mercy, and the boys at St. Patrick's Hall under the Marist Brothers. Twenty each from St. Mary's Orphanage, Ponsonby, and St. Leo's Academy, Devonport, also arrived under the care of the Sisters of Mercy. The girls, all dressed in spotless white, occupied the front seats on the right, and the boys in red sashes on the left. The church was thronged. When all were seated the Bishop addressed the children in simple but very effective language, telling them they were about to be enrolled soldiers of Jesus Christ. At the conclusion of the ceremony the Bishop again spoke to the children. They were now, he said, fortified for the battle of the Cross, and around its standard they should ever rally to defend and uphold it; as good children of the Church they should always strive to be a credit to it and to their parents and friends. If they at all times remembered the day upon which they received their first Communion and Confirmation and the instructions and the good intentions then formed depend upon it, they would be good Catholics and good members of society. The Bishop subsequently gave Benediction, assisted by the Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly, Father Corcoran being deacon, Father Carroll subdeacon, and Father Purton master of ceremonies.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

December 17.

His Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Grimes, accompanied by the Very Rev. Dean Foley, visited Timaru during last week to be present at the centennial celebration of the establishment of the Sacred Heart Order.

Sunday last, the 16th inst., was the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of Canterbury, and the event was observed in an especial manner in the Pro-Cathedral. At 11 o'clock Pontifical High Mass was celebrated by his Lordship the Right Rev. Bishop Grimes, the Very Rev. Father Le Menant des Chesnais was assistant priest, Rev. Fathers McDonnell and Leen deacon and subdeacon respectively, the Very Rev. Dean Foley assistant priest at the throne, and Rev. Father Gallais master of ceremonies. The music was Weber's Mass in G, the soprano solos being sung by Miss Ross, of Wellington, Miss Bryant (alto), Mr. D. Roche (bass), and Mr. McKay (tenor). Schmidt's 'Ave Maria' was sung at the offertory. Miss Funston presided at the organ, and Mr. H. H. Loughnan conducted. His Lordship the Bishop preached, his remarks having reference to the Jubilee with reminiscences of early missionary efforts and the progress of the Church during the comparatively brief period of the history of the province. In the evening the 'Te Deum' was sung in thanksgiving for blessings so bountifully bestowed.

The annual distribution of prizes, exhibition of work, and entertainment prior to the Christmas vacation of the pupils attending the High School of the Sacred Heart Convent, Barbadoes street, conducted by the religious of Our Lady of Missions, took place on Friday last. His Lordship the Bishop presided and presented the prizes, eulogising in a short address the good work accomplished each succeeding year by the Sisters, complimenting the pupils on their success in qualifying for prizes, and wished those present all the joys of a happy Christmas tide. There was a very large attendance, among those present being the Very Rev. Father Le Menant des Chesnais, V.G., the Very Rev. Dean Foley, the Rev. Fathers McDonnell and Leen. The space of two large class rooms was occupied in the display of art needlework, plain sewing, paintings, modelling, etc., the whole being quite up to the standard of previous years and eliciting the praise and admiration of the numerous visitors. The entertainment consisted of the following programme, which was remarkably well given:—Duet (four pianos), Misses Picken, E. Lieske, M. Lieske, North, Brick, Restell, Bourke, and Wasbourne; trio (vocal), Misses Bourke, North, and Picken; instrumental selection (pianos), Misses I. Arenas, N. O'Malley, M. Irvine, H. Round, (violins) Misses M. O'Malley and M. Picken, (harp) Miss I. Thomas, (organ) Miss Coakley; duet (four pianos), Misses R. Young, E. O'Malley, Bell, Smith, Rich, Holmes, Worthington, and Gardiner. In the operetta, 'The White Garland,' the following took part:—Misses K. and M. Dicken, M. and N. O'Malley, K. Bourke, M. O'Connor, G. Bell, W. Harrington, E. Perkin, Hatfield, and M. O'Callaghan. The following items concluded the entertainment: Quartette (violins), Misses Mullin and Picken, (organ) Miss Brick, (piano) Miss Picken; chorus, with instrumental accompaniment, (harp) Miss N. O'Malley, (organ) Miss Coakley, (piano) L. Brick; instrumental selection, (pianos) Misses Dunn, Stratz, Perkin, O'Connor, Parsonson, Young, O'Malley, and Coakley, (violins) Misses Picken and Mullin, (organ) Miss Brick.

The following is the prize list:—

Good conduct (presented by his Lordship Dr. Grimes)—Prizes awarded to Katie Gill and Cissie Cassidy.

Christian Doctrine—Prizes awarded to Mary O'Callaghan, Mary O'Connor, Lily Donohue, May Pope, Agnes Nelson, Cissie Cassidy, and Margaret Hay.

Diligence (to be drawn for)—Katie Gill, Lizzie Brick, Mary O'Callaghan, Maggie Coakley, Gussie Smith, Mary O'Connor, Lily Donohue.

English—Matriculation class, Agnes Ryan; Civil Service class, Gertie Adams and May O'Halloran; sixth class: Clara Morkane, Madge O'Malley, Katie Guiney, and Mary O'Connor; fifth class: Elsie Perkin, Vernie Young, and Cissie Cassidy; fourth class: Gladys Bell, Irene Arenas, Lily Kennet, and M. Hay.

Reading and Recitation—Sixth class: Phena Stratz, Mary O'Connor, Mary O'Callaghan, and Agnes Nelson; fifth class: May Gardiner, Cissie Cassidy, Vernie Young, and Norrie O'Malley; fourth class: Gladys Bell, Madge Donohue, Winnie Harrington, and Nina Carroll.

Writing—Seventh class, Clara Schumacher; sixth class: Mary O'Callaghan, Phena Stratz, Madge O'Malley, Mary O'Connor, and Katie Guiney; fifth class: Lily Donohue, Elsie Perkin, Norrie O'Malley; fourth class: May Pope and Maggie Bourke; third class: Josephine Geoghegan, Irene Arenas, Gladys Bell.

Arithmetic—Matriculation class, Agnes Ryan; Civil service class, Gertie Adams; seventh class, Lizzie Brick and Katie Gill; sixth class: Mary O'Callaghan, Clara Morkane, and Maggie Coakley; fifth class: Maggie Tasker, Lily Donohue, Vernie Young, and Nellie Dunn; fourth class: Gladys Bell, Madge Donohue, Irene Arenas, and Lily Kennet.

Algebra—Matriculation class, Agnes Ryan; Civil Service class, May Byrne and May O'Halloran; seventh class: Lizzie Brick, Katie Gill, and Nellie Murphy; sixth class: May O'Callaghan and Mary O'Connor.

Geography—Matriculation class, Agnes Ryan; Civil Service class, May Byrne; seventh class, Katie Jones; sixth class: Hilda Round, Mary O'Connor, Mary O'Callaghan, and M. Coakley; fifth class: Lily Donohue, Norrie O'Malley, Frances Evans, and M. Bourke; fourth class: Mabel Harrington, May Wrenn, Irene Arenas, and Violet Hall.

History—Sixth class: Hilda Round, Clara Morkane, Maggie Coakley, and M. O'Callaghan; fifth class: Elsie Perkin, Lily Donohue, Cissie Cassidy; fourth class: Mabel Harrington, Margaret Hay, and Gladys Bell.

Science—Matriculation class, Agnes Ryan; Civil service class, May Byrne; seventh class, Lizzie Brick and Katie Jones; sixth class: Mary O'Callaghan, Mary O'Connor, Hilda Round, Maggie Coakley; fifth class: Lily Donohue, Cissie Cassidy, Vernie Young, and Frances Evans; fourth class: Mabel Harrington, Gladys Bell, Madge Donohue.

Drawing—Seventh class: Clara Schumacher and Mary Kirkpatrick; sixth class: Phena Stratz, Maggie Coakley, and Mary