

GREYMOUTH.

(From our own correspondent.)

January 13.

It is announced that Rev. Father Costello, of Westport, is about to visit Europe. He has been in indifferent health for some time past, and complete change of scene and rest have been ordered.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin Kennedy and family, of Wellington, have been spending a few days here revisiting old scenes and acquaintances. Time deals gently with Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy, who are as hale and as active as ever.

The dredges are again in full swing. The wharves are now frequently blocked with the large shipments of dredging machinery arriving from Melbourne and Dunedin, Wellington and Christchurch. Of course several claims are 'highly spoken' of. People are flocking here and houses cannot be had at any price.

The ceremonies of the Forty Hours Adoration commenced on Sunday morning, when High Mass was celebrated by Rev. Father Cooney, of Kumara. Rev. Father Ainsworth being deacon and Rev. Father Malone sub-deacon. At the evening devotions Father Cooney preached an appropriate discourse to a crowded congregation. On Monday night the church was packed, the sermon being preached by Rev. Father King, of Ahsara. The ceremonies closed on Tuesday morning with Solemn High Mass and procession of the Blessed Sacrament. Rev. Father Hickson, of Reefton, was celebrant, Rev. Father O'Hallohan, of Kumara, deacon, and Rev. Father Bogue, of Ross, sub-deacon. Eight priests were present—Fathers Malone, Kimbell, Ainsworth, Hickson, O'Hallohan, King, Cooney, and Bogue. Altogether the ceremonies—the first of the kind ever held here—were very well attended, and large numbers received Holy Communion. The members of the choir attended in full strength, rendering the music of the Mass in a finished and devotional manner.

In response to an invitation (says the *Argus*) a large number of ladies and gentlemen, including all the members of St. Patrick's choir, assembled at the residence of Mr. Guthrie, Greymouth, for the purpose of according the Misses Hannan and Guthrie a musical evening on the occasion of their approaching departure from Greymouth. Among the guests were Mesdames Hertslet and Doogan, Misses Galloway Phillips, Mulvihill, Beresford, Kemple Kerr, Drumm, Griffen, Dougherty, and Burke, the Rev. Fathers Malone and Kimbell, and Messrs. Moss, Burke, Doogan, Hannan, Fogarty, Hobday, Phillips, Sheedy, Harley, and Daniel. Although deep regret is experienced at the loss sustained by the departure of the two popular and talented young ladies every one present entered with right good will into the spirit of the genial host, and songs, rounds, and glees interspersed with instrumental numbers contributed to make a most enjoyable social evening. Later in the evening the Rev. Father Malone, speaking for himself personally and for the clergy, choir, and laity of Greymouth, warmly thanked the Misses Hannan and Guthrie for their valuable services during the past three years, and referred in eulogistic terms to their talent and popularity. He wished them every happiness in their new conditions of life. Mr. Guthrie, on behalf of St. Patrick's choir, then presented Miss Hannan with a handsome gold chain and pendant suitably inscribed. He spoke in feeling terms of the kindness and help given him and the choir during Miss Hannan's term of office as organist, and said that her loss would be greatly felt. The presentation was suitably acknowledged by Mr. Denis Hannan. The Rev. Father Malone said that his pleasant duties were not yet finished, and on behalf of the choir he presented Miss Guthrie with a handsome silver cake basket appropriately inscribed. He regretted that when in Ireland he had not kissed the Blarney Stone more than once, so that he could express in suitable language his opinion of both young ladies, but he would only echo the voice of the community by saying that they had deserved the respect, esteem, and good wishes of all. Mr. Guthrie replied for his sister in feeling terms, and thanked the choir and ladies and gentlemen to whom he was so greatly indebted in connection with the musical services of the church and the Organ Fund.

TIMARU.

(From our own correspondent.)

January 22.

The Rev. Father Herbert, of St. Patrick's College, is staying at present at the Priory.

The boys' school will re-open on next Monday, the 28th inst. The Convent High School re-opens on February 12.

The news that the Imperial and Indian troops are to honor Timaru by breaking the journey here for an hour or so has caused some excitement in local military circles.

At a meeting of the Waimate Cemetery Board on Thursday last a motion was passed expressing regret at the loss of the late Mr. Nicholas Wall, who represented the Catholic body on the Board during the past 15 years, and expressing the Board's appreciation of his services. The meeting directed that a letter of condolence be forwarded to Mrs. Wall, also that the Rev. Father Regnault be requested to nominate a successor.

The Rev. Father Tubman has received from the collectors towards the Marist Brothers' Fund the sum of £22, which has been forwarded to Brother Mark, Wellington, by the hon. sec., Mr. M. F. Dennehy. Of the amount named the Hibernian Society subscribed £8 13s, the parishioners £9 18s 6d, and St. Andrews subscribers £1 5s 6d. The collectors—Mrs. Mullally and Messrs. J. Dunne and P. Kane, who are to be complimented on the result of their labors—state that they had no difficulty in obtaining subscriptions, the people being only glad of the opportunity to do so. The Hibernian Society augmented the subscriptions of its members by a donation from the funds.

[This letter arrived too late for insertion in our last issue.]

January 28.

The Rev. Father McInerney, S.J., occupied the pulpit on Sunday at the 11 o'clock Mass, and preached an eloquent sermon on the feast of the day, the Holy Family. At Vespers the Rev. Father referred to the death of the late Queen Victoria, and pointed out the marvellous spread of Christian faith and Catholic truth during her reign. A graphic allusion was made to Carlyle's mocking reference to the Catholic Faith (or as he called it 'Popery') 60 years ago. Carlyle compared Popery to the ebbing tide which in half a century would ebb never to return. Carlyle had gone with the ebbing tide, the half century had passed away and 61 years of Queen Victoria's reign, during all these years the Catholic Church far from ebbing has flowed in like a mighty tide from Lands End to Berwick on Tweed, and from end to end of the British Empire. After a long night of three and a half centuries of persecution, when the fruits of Catholic Emancipation became evident to the outer world, the Catholic Faith came forth as it were from the Catacombs and spread throughout the British Isles. The emancipated subjects of Queen Victoria became the apostles of the American Continent from the Atlantic to Pacific, and of the Antipodes. A rapid survey of the progress of the Church in Australia was made, also of the progress of physical science, literature, and arts, and the rev. preacher concluded by saying that Catholics yielded to none in their loyalty to the throne, as the latest war of the Queen's reign had proved to the world. The church was crowded morning and evening. The Dead March in 'Saul' was played at the conclusion of the Mass.

Father McInerney is a brother to Dr. McInerney, a captain of the first Victorian Contingent. Captain McInerney was shot through the body in an engagement with the Boers, but recovered and is now Military Chief Justice in Pretoria.

The proclamation of Edward VII. as King of the British Empire took place at 12.30 to-day (Monday) before a vast concourse of people, including all the local dignitaries, the clergymen of the various churches, etc., and a two hours' holiday was kept in the town.

WEDDING BELLS.

CARROLL—HESLIN.

A VERY pretty wedding (writes a correspondent) took place at St. Laurence's Church, Maitaura, on the 19th inst., when Miss Annie Heslin, eldest daughter of Mr John Heslin, was married to Mr Thomas Carroll, second son of Mr Robert Carroll. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. P. O'Donnell, who celebrated a Nuptial Mass. The wedding breakfast was laid at the residence of the bride's parents, when a large number of guests were present. Several toasts were duly honored. If good wishes count for anything, Mr and Mrs Carroll should be extremely happy and successful in life. In the evening the parents of the bridegroom entertained a number of friends of both parties. The presents were of an ornamental and useful character, and their number showed the esteem in which the newly-wedded couple are held by a large circle of friends.

Not alone was the death of the Right Rev. Dr. Byrne, Bishop of Bathurst, the cause of deep sorrow to his own flock, but the sad event was looked upon as a public calamity by all denominations. The Anglican Bishop of Bathurst, in the course of a sermon delivered on the Sunday following Bishop Byrne's death, referred in feeling terms to the loss sustained by the Catholic community. 'During the 18 years of their acquaintance,' he said, 'no difficulties had ever arisen between them. They were constantly meeting in the days of Bishop Byrne's good health, and though both were strong believers in their respective communions, yet their friendship had never a break in it. He sincerely sympathized with the members of the Catholic Church in their sad bereavement, and he was confident that in so saying he voiced the feeling of every Anglican in the diocese.' The Rev. James Kinghorn, of St. Stephen's (Presbyterian) Church, said: 'The whole community joins with our brethren of the Catholic Church this day in their sorrow; but while we condole with them on their great loss, we congratulate them on having had so long as their chief pastor such a man as Dr. Byrne, whose gentle, faithful, unselfish life, and whose peaceful and triumphant death have been, and will be, a lesson and inspiration to them and to us all. I was not long resident in Bathurst before I learnt that Bishop Byrne was respected and beloved by all classes of the community; and when I got to know him for myself, and became acquainted with many of his people, I did not wonder at the great esteem in which he was held. What he was in his Episcopal and ministerial relations we can judge from the proceedings of last Sunday, and still more from our observations of our Catholic friends and acquaintances. During this week I have seen not only gentle women, but strong men grow dim-eyed, and gulp down their tears as they answered my enquiries about their good Bishop. I shall say no more. His modest spirit would have deprecated the words I have already uttered. It is not mere eulogy, but simply truth, to sum up by saying that Bathurst has lost a good citizen, a true man, a faithful friend, and devoted minister of Jesus Christ, in the passing of Joseph Byrne.'

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Ashburton Residents

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