

spirit of self-sacrifice, conscientiousness, and devotion to duty which wrought so much good in our parish. In conclusion we ask you to accept the accompanying purse of sovereigns, as a slight token of our good will and esteem which on this occasion we feel we may safely express without any appearance of mere adulation.

On behalf of St. Canice's congregation, we beg to sign ourselves Jas. Scanlan, Jas. Power, Jas. Lawson, Jas. Slowey, Jas. Moloney, M. Reidy, Hy. Pain, A. Sharkey, E. McMahon.

At the conclusion of the reading of the address, his Worship the Mayor (Mr. Jas. Scanlan) handed to the worthy recipient a well filled purse of sovereigns. He said that Father Costello had been a zealous worker, and at all times was at the disposal of his people. He regretted to say that the chances of Father Costello's return to their midst were remote, but he felt sure that wherever he intended to labor he would shed renown upon his high order.

Mr. Driscoll, town councillor, also eulogised the good work of their guest, whose departure would leave a blank not easily filled.

Mr. M. J. Sheahan, J.P., Auckland, as an old friend of Ven. Archpriest Walshe and Father Costello, addressed those present. As an altar boy he had assisted at the ordination in Auckland of the former, and had answered his first Mass, and at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Auckland, he had known Father Costello, and he (speaker) bore testimony to the good work done there by him. His services there were appreciated by Bishop Lenihan, his priests, and people as highly as they evidently were in Westport. This union of priests and people, so characteristic of the sons and daughters of Ireland, was ever a worthy and promising feature of our Holy Faith. It afforded him genuine pleasure to be present at this function tendered to a good and worthy priest like Father Costello.

Rev. Father Costello, who, on rising to return thanks, was greeted with rounds of applause, said that it was both encouraging and consoling to be surrounded by so many kind and generous friends. He could not in language express to them his gratefulness. He felt that they, in their generosity, had valued too highly whatever little services he had rendered them in the exercise of his duties. The address, so well read to him just now, if he were permitted to fault find, was too flattering, but he would overlook that because he knew that in their fulness of heart they had always before them, not his many shortcomings, but the many excellencies which they too kindly attributed to him. For this and the very practical token of their esteem manifested by them to-night he from his heart thanked them. He desired also to thank the Ven. Archpriest Walshe than whom no truer friend and adviser he possessed. In every possible way he had assisted, even with his purse, during his labors in this parish. In him they had a good, pious parish priest. He thanked them all from his heart, those who had contributed so spontaneously and generously, those who had collected and put forth so much energy, and to the speakers to-night who had said so many kind things of him. He would not say good-bye to them yet, as he was to remain with them for a few weeks longer. He was about to visit the dear land of Ireland. The gathering that night reminded him forcibly of that binding force which always united the priests and people of Ireland. Their joys and sorrows were alike shared, and he felt assured that that indissoluble bond was as firmly implanted as ever. To the people of Westport he would always feel bound, and no matter where his lot may be cast for them he would ever hold a place in his affections. Rev. Father Costello resumed his seat amidst loud applause from the large assemblage.

The sum collected is expected to total £200 or over—a truly significant testimony of the people's feeling. The following ladies and gentlemen contributed vocal and instrumental items during the evening: Misses Flynn, Slowey, Lempfert, Ryan, Slowey (2), Collins, Sontgen, Pain, Mrs. Sontgen, and Mr. Kirk. Miss Pain and Miss Slowey played efficiently the piano accompaniments. A hearty vote of thanks to the Ven. Archpriest Walshe brought one of the most successful Catholic gatherings in Westport to a close.

DIocese of AUCKLAND.

(From our own correspondent.)

March 14.

The Very Rev. Father Augustine left on Tuesday for Gisborne. After remaining there a week he will return to Auckland and give a mission at Newmarket.

The delegates of the Auckland branch of the H.A.C.B. Society speak in glowing terms of the treatment they received at the hands of their brother members in the South.

Next Sunday (St. Patrick's Day) his Lordship Bishop Lenihan will celebrate Pontifical High Mass at the cathedral at eleven o'clock. In the evening the mission will be brought to a close, and on the following Monday the Rev. Fathers will leave for Sydney.

The impressive ceremony of closing the mission, which had been conducted by the Rev. Fathers Augustine and Gregory at St. Benedict's, took place on Sunday night, when a sermon on 'perseverance' was preached by the former to a very large congregation. After the sermon a renewal of baptismal vows took place. At the conclusion of the service his Lordship Bishop Lenihan expressed his thanks, on behalf of himself, and of the priests and people of St. Benedict's to the zealous missionaries for the great and good work they had done in the parish.

On Monday evening St. Benedict's Hall was filled to overflowing by an audience which had assembled to hear the Rev. Father Augustine discourse on 'Ireland, the land of music and song.' The proceeds of the concert will be devoted to furnishing the new convent school which has just been built. The entertainment was opened by a pianoforte overture by the Rev. Father Patterson; and a patriotic action song by the convent pupils, three of whom were fittingly chosen to represent England, Ireland, and Scotland.

The Rev. Father Augustine then began his lecture. He did not claim that greatness and grandeur for Irish poetry which marked the efforts of the masters of other nations, but lauded it on account of its simplicity, and the manner in which it stirred the hearts of all. Vocal items were contributed by the Misses Lorrigan (2), and Messrs. Hamilton, Hodges, and A. L. Edwards. Mrs. Wree played the accompaniments, and greatly contributed to the success of the entertainment. During an interval an address was read and a presentation made by the convent pupils to the Rev. Father Augustine.

At the last weekly meeting of the St. Patrick's Old Boys' Club an entertainment was given in honor of a visit from the Rev. Fathers Gregory, Hilary and Benedict, who are engaged in mission work in the diocese. There were also present the Rev. Fathers Corcoran and Croke. Before the entertainment commenced the visitors and members of the club were photographed in the cathedral grounds, after which an adjournment was made to the hall where Mr. J. Duffin, on behalf of the members, welcomed the rev. visitors, to whom an address was presented. The Rev. Father Hilary responded. Encouraging addresses were delivered by Fathers Croke and Corcoran. The Rev. Father Hilary presented each member of the club with a beautiful silver cross. Light refreshments were handed round, and musical items were contributed by the members of the club and others. Before the meeting closed Mr. G. Rice thanked Father Hilary for his presents, which he was sure would be preserved as a souvenir of his visit.

[Our Auckland letter arrived too late for publication in our last issue.]

WAIHI NOTES.

(From our own correspondent.)

March 6.

On Monday last the *Waihi Miner*, the bi-weekly paper published in Waihi for the last five years ceased to exist, being merged into the *Waihi Daily Telegraph* which was born on that day.

In my last I mentioned that the Miners' Union were endeavoring to get the men employed about the mines an increase of pay. A scale of wages was drawn up and submitted to the managers, and immediately afterwards all officials of the union were dismissed from the employment of the Waihi Company. On Saturday night last Mr. Jackson Palmer, M.H.R., addressed the men on the matter, and a telegram has since been received from Mr. Seidon that Mr. Tregear, of the Labor Department, is on his way to Waihi to make enquiries.

Last night a most successful meeting of parishioners was held in the church, when the Very Rev. Dean Hackett took farewell of the Catholics of Waihi and introduced the Rev. Father Brodie. The Very Rev. Dean Hackett stated that he left with regret the people who had appreciated his labors so well, but he would not be far from them, and was pleased to know the parish would have the services of so able a man as Father Brodie. He then read the balance sheet showing that during the five years since the erection of the church in Waihi that from voluntary contributions, sports and socials, enough funds had been raised to leave the church entirely free of debt, so that Father Brodie could start with a clean sheet. The Rev. Father Brodie said that he was pleased to know that he could start with a clean sheet, as he could foresee a lot of work. There must be at least a thousand Catholics in Waihi, and the present building was far from suitable even for the present congregation. He would ask the meeting to elect a committee and then he would put his plan of campaign before them. A committee of 18 was then elected, of which Mr. E. J. Drumm was chosen secretary. Father Brodie then stated that it was absolutely necessary to have a new church, and asked the meeting to empower the committee to take the necessary steps to procure one. A resolution was then passed empowering the committee to do so. Mr. Lees offered to donate £5 provided each member of the committee would also do the same, and £75 was promised right away. Mr. Jackson Palmer, M.H.R., member for the district was also present, and spoke a few words of encouragement, and stated that he had stood up for the Catholics' rights in Parliament re the Stoke case, and would always do his best for them. The Rev. Dean Hackett proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the outgoing committee, specially mentioning the secretary, Mr. Collins, who could always be depended on to advance the best interests of the church. The meeting then closed.

DIocese of CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

March 18.

Sunday last, St. Patrick's Day, was celebrated in Christchurch with especial solemnity. Prior to the seven o'clock Mass the members of the St. John the Baptist (ladies) and St. Patrick's branches of the H.A.C.B. Society assembled at their hall, and in full regalia marched to the Pro-Cathedral in procession. The Mass was celebrated by his Lordship the Bishop, and the members of the society in very large numbers, including those resident in the adjoining parish of St. Mary's, approached the Holy Table in a body, presenting a sight most edifying to the congregation, a great proportion of whom also received Holy Communion. After Mass the members of the society, numbering upwards of 100, adjourned to the Marist Brothers' Schoolroom, where breakfast on an elaborate scale was laid. His Lordship the Bishop presided, having on his right the president, Bro. P. Shannon, Brother Arthur (Director of the Marist Brothers), and Bro. A. J. Malley, P.P., and on his left Sister Harrington (president of the ladies' branch) and the Very Rev. Dean Foley (chaplain). As supporters were Sister Smith (treasurer, ladies' branch) and Bro. J. McCormick, P.P. (treasurer). The vice-

A. J. MALLEY,

SOLICITOR, corner Cashel and Manchester Streets, CHRISTCHURCH, has MONEY TO LEND at current rates, repayable on easy terms.