

by the same vocalist, as was also the encore number, 'Believe me if all those endearing young charms.' Miss Connell's voice shows great cultivation, and this fact speaks well for the tuition she received at St. Mary's Convent. Madame Eveleen Carlton sang, in her usual finished style, 'Rory O'More,' and when recalled contributed 'Barney O'Hea.' On being recalled for Killarney she replied with the last verse. The songs of Miss Violet Mount were well received, 'The minstrel boy' and 'Kate O'Shane' were both given with good judgment. Miss Beatrice Vartha displayed her wonderful power as an executionist in her pianoforte solo, an arrangement of Irish airs. Miss Julia Moran effectively rendered on the violin Farmer's setting of 'The last rose of summer,' and gave a skilful exhibition of double stopping in 'The meeting of the waters.' The instrumental item by Mrs. Walter Murdoch showed how delightfully Irish music can be rendered on that favorite instrument, the harp. Her encore was indeed well merited. Mr. E. J. Hill sang in the first part 'Doreen,' but in the 'Dear little shamrock,' that same vocalist, who is always so popular with the Wellington public, excelled himself. Clear enunciation is always a marked feature of Mr. Hill's singing. Mr. W. B. Cadzow was heard to advantage in 'Molly Bawn,' and more particularly in 'The wearin' of the green.' This latter contribution took the audience by storm, and Mr. Cadzow was recalled thrice. Mr. G. D. Cronin sang 'Off to Philadelphia,' and Miss Lucy Fraser and Mr. Martyn Hagan contributed a comic duet. Mr. F. J. Oake's orchestra played several choice selections of Irish music during the evening. Mr. Geo. Fisher, M.H.R., in congratulating the Hibernian Society on the success which had attended its sports gathering and concert, referred to the fact that the winner of the cup had to leave that same evening for Blenheim, and consequently the presentation could not be made.

### WANGANUI.

(From our own correspondent.)

March 21.

The annual concert in celebration of the feast day of Ireland's patron saint was held in the Oddfellows' Hall on March 18. The splendid programme of national music, songs, etc., which was gone through by the leading amateurs in Wanganui, was worthy of a larger audience, but the indifferent attendance may be explained by the strong opposition at the Opera House, and by the fact that lately Wanganui has had a surfeit of amusement. The following programme was submitted:—Instrumental, 'Gems of Ireland,' orchestra; song, 'Dear little shamrock,' Mr. Lennard; song, 'Has sorrow thy young days shaded,' Miss Hyde; cornet solo, Mr. Buckley; song, Mrs. Hoult; song, 'Rory O'More,' Mr. Reade; Scotch reel, four convent pupils; song, Mr. O'Connor; recitation, Mr. Swan; chorus, 'Hail, St. Patrick,' choir; song, 'The Irish emigrant,' Miss Moroney; quartette, 'Farewell, but remember the hour,' Mesdames Meehan and Le Batt and Messrs. Aves and Reade; song, 'Cruiskeen lawn,' Mr. Blennerhasset; song, Mrs. Hoult; musical drill, young men; song, 'Killarney,' Miss Aberne; glee, 'Where art thou, beam of light,' choir; song, Miss Dempsey; step dance, Mr. Murphy.

At the conclusion of the concert Very Rev. Dean Kirk appeared on the platform and thanked all those who had contributed towards the success of the concert. The gathering was brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem.

### DENNISTON.

(From an occasional correspondent.)

St. Patrick's Day was observed in Denniston in an unostentatious yet fervid manner. At an early hour that air, dear to the Celtic heart, 'St. Patrick's Day in the morning' was heard. In the hamlet on the hill were to be seen men, women, and children wearing the trefoil sprig, or bit of green ribbon. By a fortunate circumstance it was Denniston's turn to have Mass on this Sunday, St. Patrick's Day. The Ven. Archpriest Walshe was the celebrant, and to the little church at the back of the village the whole Catholic population flocked. Glancing over the congregation I was struck with the fact that three generations—the aged, middle-aged, and youthful—wore the Irish national emblem. A race with such virility is indestructible. During Mass, Archpriest Walshe addressed the congregation, taking for his text—'Obey your prelates who have spoken the word of God to you.' These words reminded them all very forcibly of the great day they were celebrating. Their illustrious apostle, St. Patrick, had been led captive to the shores of Ireland, and sold as a slave to a petty prince in the north, by whom he was ordered to herd cattle. The pious teaching and exhortations of good parents ever remained with Patrick. When, some years after, he was restored to his father's home and country, he always yearned and thought of the Western Isle. A voice constantly reigned with him urging his return. He hearkened to it, and, forsaking his home, kind parents, friends, and country, he hurried to Ireland. His bloodless conversion of Ireland following his signal victory at Tara, culminated in making a pagan people thoroughly Christian. Ireland was, however, subsequently destined to shed rivers of blood in defence of the faith of Patrick in the invasions of Dane, Norman, and Saxon. A country, which had shed renown through its piety and learning, was devastated by the cruel invaders who passed restrictive laws, which were a disgrace to mankind. Above all persecution arose the sons of St. Patrick proud and triumphant. From the days of their glorious Apostle to the present they were the propagators of the Faith, the builders of churches, schools, and convents. St. Patrick's fervent prayer that his faithful Irish children would ever prove true to the Faith had been, thank God, fully

granted. Let them continue to be worthy sons of Patrick, worthy of the name of Catholic and Irishman, when, with St. Paul, they would join and say: 'I have fought the good fight; I have finished my course, I have kept the faith, and for the rest there remaineth for me that crown of glory which the Lord, the just Judge, will render to me on that day.'

Miss Morris, who is severing her connection with the local school, was recently entertained at a social in Parker's Hall, Denniston. The proceedings were marked with great enthusiasm. The hall on the occasion was thronged by the parents, pupils, and friends of Miss Morris, all of whom vied with each other to do her honor. During the evening Mr. John Dent, chairman of the school committee, attended by all of his colleagues, presented to Miss Morris a very flattering address, in which they expressed their keen regret at the great loss which the district was about to suffer through her severance from the teaching staff, a position which for eight years she had filled with credit to herself and with satisfaction to everyone interested in the advancement of the school. A presentation of a silver teapot, suitably inscribed, and gold double bar brooch, studded with rubies and sapphires, was handed to Miss Morris by Mr. Dent, who, in a few well-chosen words, informed her that these handsome gifts were from her pupils, past and present, and in a small measure testified their high appreciation of all she had done for them. Mr. N. Milligan said he could heartily endorse the kindly remarks of the chairman. Mr. Dencker, headmaster, on behalf of Miss Morris, thanked the children, the school committee, and her many friends for their valuable presents and kindly expressions.

When it was made known that Miss Morris was about to temporarily sever her connection with Denniston, in view of her approaching marriage, the local Catholic residents deemed it necessary and opportune to mark, in some slight manner, their high appreciation of her unremitting and lengthened services, ungrudgingly given Sunday after Sunday to the education of the Catholic youth of Denniston. A committee was formed, and an active canvass for subscriptions was made with great success. On the evening of March 13, a large meeting of the Catholic residents of Denniston was held, over which Mr. Nicholas Milligan presided. Miss Morris was invited to attend. The chairman expressed his great pleasure, a pleasure in which they all shared, in testifying to the good work carried on for so many years in their midst by Miss Morris. He spoke as a father of a family with a full knowledge of all the benefits which his children had derived from Miss Morris's labors, and in saying that, he had but re-echoed the feelings and gratitude of every Catholic parent in Denniston. He hoped her future course through life would be happy and prosperous, and on behalf of his co-religionists he had the greatest pleasure in handing her this beautiful gold curb chain bracelet with locket attached, which bore the inscription 'Miss M. J. Morris, from her Denniston Catholic friends, 1901,' and a nice lizard skin purse, silver mounted, which was well filled with sovereigns. Miss Morris gratefully received the handsome presents. Mr. Michael Connolly, on behalf of Miss Morris, in very suitable terms returned thanks to the generous donors for their beautiful and costly presents, which she would ever treasure with fond remembrance. To Misses Milligan and Edwards was due in great measure the success of the whole affair.

### DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND.

(From our own correspondent.)

March 23.

An Irish national concert was held in the Opera House on Monday night. Long before the curtain was raised the house was practically filled, in fact the stall doors had to be closed. The audience was the largest and most attentive that had ever attended one of these gatherings. Items were contributed by the following: Misses Lily Thomson, Lena Conway, Madoline Knight, B. Barry, Messrs. Dobbs, and Harking, and Dr. Egan. Among those present were his Grace Archbishop Redwood and his Lordship Bishop Lenihan. A sum of £40 was taken at the doors, and when the returns of the tickets given out for sale come to hand it is thought by the committee that something near £60 will be realised by the concert.

On Sunday evening, at St. Patrick's, the Passionist Fathers brought their mission, which lasted a fortnight, to a close. The Rev. Father Hilary devoted his closing sermon to the life of St. Patrick. He compared the life and labors of the saint to those of his Divine Master. Before leaving the pulpit the Rev. Father requested all present to stand up to make a renewal of their baptismal vows. After this ceremony was over his Lordship the Bishop thanked the missionaries for the great work they had been doing, and he hoped that all present would live up to the good advice that had been given them by the good Fathers, for by so doing they would surely obtain the crown of immortal glory. At Benediction his Lordship pontificated, being assisted by the Rev. Fathers Benedict and Corcoran.

The annual picnic of the Catholic school children of the various parishes and orphanages, and the sports gathering in connection with the local branch of the H.A.C.B. Society were held in the Domain Cricket Ground on Saturday, March 16. At nine o'clock the children of St. Patrick's parish and the members of the H.A.C.B. Society assembled in the Cathedral and assisted at Mass. After Mass the Rev. Father Corcoran delivered a panegyric on St. Patrick. The children, together with the Hibernians, now filed out of the church into St. Patrick's square, where they were joined by children from the Sacred Heart, St. Benedict's and St. John's parishes. All were quickly in their places, and the procession, headed by the Hibernians, moved immediately for the Domain. The Rev. Father Croke acted as marshal. The procession was a very large one, the numerous banners and bannerettes carried by the children and the green rosettes and sashes worn by them pre-