

ful were of gold. Now that full liberty is accorded us, and that to be a Catholic is the proudest title in religion a man can hold, it would be ill-befitting if our life were not in keeping with the honored name we bear, and if as a counterpart to the golden chalice we would find little better than worthless and corrupt alloy in un-faithful hearts.

Again it must not be forgotten that the river of progress runs with a rapid course in our Australian Commonwealth. If we wish religion to continue in its beneficent career of victory, we must not remain stationary on the banks of the swift-flowing stream. We must keep pace with the nation's onward course, thus to sanctify its aspirations, and to set the seal of heaven on its triumphs.

I must not omit to thank you, our fellow-citizens, who are not of the fold, for the uniform courtesy and practical aid with which you have co-operated in many of our works of charity. If there be some who continue to heap obloquy and calumny on the Catholic Church we must compassionate them, dupes as they are of old-time prejudices, or victims of the wiles of evil-designing men. To such prejudices and such wiles must be imputed that the joys and consolations of a truly Christian life and the virtues of the Catholic home, and the ideals and enthusiasms which religion inspires, are too often quite unintelligible to those who are not of the fold. The greatest need of Australia is to maintain

Peace, Charity, and Concord among her Citizens.

To develop her resources and mature her strength she needs the energies of all. Strife, dissension, and discord would be the prelude of her ruin.

Permit me to give expression to one other thought. A few years ago the great Pontiff who guides the barque of St. Peter, addressed to all Christian peoples the grand Encyclical on the Reunion of Christendom. In the English-speaking world it has begun already to produce the happiest results, and many distinguished names have been added to the long roll of those who made the sacrifice of everything that the world holds dear that they might follow the guidance of heavenly light into the one true fold of our Blessed Lord.

Would it be too much to hope that the new century on which we have just entered may witness the realisation of the great Pontiff's hopes, and see all Christendom once more reunited under the one banner of Holy Cross. Such a consummation would be worthy of an enlightened age, and would make this 20th century a truly golden epoch in the world's history. And is it too much to hope that Australia may be privileged to have some part in attaining such a grand result? The yearning of the hearts not only of the faithful children of the Church, but of countless earnest souls outside her communion would thus be realised, and Australia would unquestionably have begun to enter on the marvellous beneficent career which Providence has marked out for her as a centre of renewed Christian civilisation and a beacon of heavenly light to the other nations of the world. Those who now assail the Church would then find realised in the fullest measure the aspirations of their hearts in the sentiments so beautifully expressed by Cardinal Newman:—'Oh, long-sought-after, tardily found, desire of the eyes, joy of the heart, the truth of many shadows, the fulness after many foretastes, the home after many storms; come to her, poor wanderers, for she it is, and she alone, who can unfold the meaning of your being and the secret of your destiny.'

ARRIVAL IN MELBOURNE.

The express by which his Eminence travelled to Melbourne was three-quarters of an hour late in arriving. On alighting the Cardinal was warmly welcomed by a large number of the hierarchy, clergy, and laity. Amongst those on the platform were his Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne, his Lordship the Bishop of Ballarat, his Lordship the Bishop of Bendigo, and his Lordship the Bishop of Sale. No time was lost in getting ready for the drive to Port Melbourne pier, where the R.M.S. Ophir was awaiting the arrival of his Eminence. Two open carriages conveyed the Cardinal, the Archbishop, the Bishops, Dean Phelan, and Archdeacon Davy to Port Melbourne. As the advertised time for the departure of the mail boat had been exceeded, owing to the lateness of the arrival of the express, Captain Kershaw, of the Ophir, was reluctantly compelled to let the steamer go within 15 minutes of the embarkation of the Cardinal.

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON.

(From our own correspondent.)

March 15.

The net proceeds of the carnival held at Masterton amount to £500.

Rev. Father Hearn, of Narrabri, N.S.W., passed through Wellington on his way South last Tuesday.

Mr T. Turnbull, architect, of Wellington, has generously donated to St. Patrick's Church, Masterton, a handsome high altar, which has now been placed in position.

The Hibernian Society holds a picnic at Very Rev. Father Lane's grounds on St. Patrick's Day, and in the evening a national concert will be held at the Skating Rink.

The refreshment stallholders at the coming bazaar have had printed a cookery book containing numerous tried recipes which should prove of great assistance to housekeepers. The book is already having a ready sale.

At the Church of the Sacred Heart on Tuesday last Miss Essie Sheridan, second daughter of Mr P. Sheridan, of the Native Lands

office, was married to Mr Marcus Pimmer, formerly a member of the N.Z. Times staff. Rev. Father Holley performed the ceremony. Mr and Mrs Pimmer left for Gisborne in the afternoon, where it is their intention to reside.

Mr. J. J. Devine received a cable yesterday afternoon from Maritzburg stating that his son Private Albert Devine died from enteric fever. The deceased was a member of the seventh contingent and was for some years a pupil of St. Patrick's College. —R.I.P.

Last Sunday afternoon the inmates of the Home for Incurables were treated to some delightful music kindly provided by the members of Minifie's orchestra, and several gentlemen who rendered vocal items. Many friends of the Sisters were also present. The inmates thoroughly appreciated the programme. The Sisters return thanks to these performers for their thoughtfulness in affording an afternoon's pleasure to those under their charge.

The Sisters of Compassion have now under their supervision 10 wards accommodating at the present time 24 patients. A large balcony, enclosed with glass at both ends, runs the whole length of the recently-acquired buildings, and is used by the men as a smoking room. A delightful outlook adds to the pleasant surroundings. The women have a large recreation room overlooking the Basin Reserve.

Mr. H. Redmond has been promoted from the Tax to the Defence Department, and will now hold the rank of Sergeant-Major and drill instructor to the Wellington district. Mr. Redmond held, since the formation of the corps, the position of color-sergeant in the Civil Service Rifles Corps, and acted as drill instructor to the eighth contingent at Trentham and to the ninth contingent at Auckland.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

March 17.

The members of the St. Patrick's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society received Holy Communion at the seven o'clock Mass in the Pro-Cathedral on Sunday in honor of the feast of Ireland's patron saint. After Mass an adjournment was made to the neighboring hall of the Order, where breakfast was partaken of. As guests of the occasion were his Lordship the Bishop and several of the clergy.

I am told that at a conference of the clergy held on Tuesday last at Leeston two priests of the diocese offered to go to South Africa as chaplains, in the interests of our troopers. His Lordship the Bishop, who presided, was understood to explain, whilst sincerely thanking them for the zeal and devotion to duty which promoted the offer, that the necessity of such a course did not exist, as our Catholic troops were well cared for at the various mobilization camps and ports of embarkation, and that at the seat of war a number of Catholic army chaplains were on duty, so that the spiritual welfare of our Catholic soldiers would be well attended to.

The Pro-Cathedral was crowded to excess on Sunday evening last when Vespers were commenced half an hour earlier. A very fine panegyric of St. Patrick, Apostle of Ireland, was preached by Rev. Father J. O'Connell, of Waimate, after which Rossini's 'Stabat Mater', in its entirety, was rendered in a very praiseworthy manner by the choir under the conductorship of Mr. H. H. Loughnan, Miss Funston presiding at the organ. The soloists were:—Soprano, Miss J. Moir; tenor, Mr. Dossiter; bass, Messrs. McNamara, and Whitworth (late of Hobart). Quartets were sung by Meadames Mead and H. H. Loughnan, and Messrs. Schwartz and McNamara. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was given by his Lordship the Bishop, assisted by the Rev. Fathers O'Connell and Galerne.

Owing to the inclemency of the weather the gathering open for inspection of the works of the new Cathedral announced for March 9 was postponed until last Sunday. After three o'clock a large number of people availed themselves of the opportunity afforded and assembled on the site to view the immense work that has so far been accomplished. His Lordship the Bishop and several of the clergy were present, and a number of collectors busied themselves receiving contributions to the building fund, about £70 being thus received. The plans by Mr W. F. Petre, architect of the Cathedral, were hung up at the eastern end of the building, and were explained by Mr Jamieson and Mr Hickmoth, clerk of works. His Lordship Bishop Grimes gave a short address. He expressed his great gratification at meeting so large a concourse for the first time within the walls of the Cathedral. He could not but refer in terms of praise to the admirable manner in which the work was being carried out by the contractors. They had imported a good deal of machinery, some of which had not been before used in the Colony, and the work was progressing in a most satisfactory manner. As regarded the plans which had been prepared by Mr Petre, who had won a high reputation as an ecclesiastical architect, they had been the subject of admiration by several architects who had seen them. As to the all-essential item of money, they had now some £24,000 in cash and promises. Of this they had £15,000 in cash. It was just about a year ago since the foundation-stone was laid, so the work both of collection and of carrying on the building had been pushed on as rapidly as possible. He urged that as the system of collecting cards now adopted simply meant the payment of sixpence per week, that all who were in receipt of wages should endeavor to subscribe that amount. If this were done they would have the whole amount of £40,000 collected in two years.

Messrs Duthie Bros., drapers and outfitters, George street, Dunedin, make a specialty of undressed white shirts. Any purchaser can see at a glance that these are good value for the money, as there is no make-up to hide the material....