

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND.

From our own correspondent.)

March 13.

Our morning paper has briefly noticed the figures given by the TABLET of the inadequate proportion of Catholics in the Civil Service in Christchurch.

The new church at Waihi is expected to be blessed and opened by Bishop Lenihan on the third Sunday after Easter. Rev. Father Brodie, backed by his people and many of those outside of his flock, is strenuously at work to make the occasion a memorable one in the annals of this rising town in the Auckland province.

The hand of death has been laid heavily upon the members of the Auckland branch of the H.A.C.B. Society lately. No less than three were stricken down within a fortnight—Bros. M. McKenna, James Ryan, and T. Neville, all of whom were old and respected members.—R.T.P.

St. Patrick's Day will be celebrated with much enthusiasm. The prizes for the Art Union, thanks to the efforts of Father Patterson, are numerous and valuable. He also secured a number of prizes for the sports. People from all the parishes are to assemble at the Cathedral about 10 o'clock, and from there go in processional order, headed by the Hibernian Society, to the Domain. In the evening a national concert will be held in St. Benedict's Hall. The committee has worked long and assiduously to ensure success, and to win this, fine weather, proverbial here on St. Patrick's Day, is all that is required.

District Secretary, Bro. W. Kane, has been deputed by the District Executive to proceed to Gisborne next Saturday to open there a new branch of the H.A.C.B. Society on St. Patrick's Day. Hibernians throughout the New Zealand district will heartily welcome into their ranks this new branch of their Order. It is just possible the District Secretary may visit other branches in the North Island.

His Lordship Bishop Lenihan returned from the Bay of Plenty district last Monday afternoon, where he had been on a diocesan visit and to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation. On last Sunday week at Opoitiki the mission conducted by the Rev. Father Benedict, O.P., was concluded in the presence of his Lordship, who expressed himself as greatly pleased with the good results. He also eulogised the good work of the parish priest, Rev. Father O'Gallagher. With the order and neatness of the church, presbytery, and convent the Bishop was particularly struck. Confirmation was administered to nearly 50 candidates. At Whakatane last Wednesday week 20 were confirmed. Tauranga was to have been visited last Sunday, but owing to the detention of the steamer, which arrived there at 11 p.m. that day, his Lordship's programme was altered. It is now intended that the Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan will go there about three weeks after Easter and administer Confirmation. The Bishop speaks in high terms of the treatment accorded him by Mr. Ranson, manager of the Northern S.S. Co., and his officers, who did all in their power to suit his convenience, thus enabling him to perform his widely-scattered visitations.

Cardinal Moran and the Hibernian SOCIETY.

HIS EMINENCE CARDINAL MORAN, his Grace Archbishop Kelly and his Lordship the Bishop of Wilcannia, accompanied by a number of the clergy, were present at the annual meeting of the H.A.C.B. Society, (New South Wales district). Among the laity present were Hon. E. W. O'Sullivan, Minister for Works; Mr. D. O'Connor, M.L.A.; Mr. James Gormly, M.L.A.; Mr. A. J. Kelly, M.L.A.

The District President, Bro. A. Meaney, acting on behalf of the Australasian branches of the Society, presented an address to the Cardinal on the eve of his departure for Rome.

His Eminence, in replying, said he had always taken the deepest interest in the welfare of their society, and wished it a continuance of success. On its banner was the motto 'Australia, Religion, and Ireland.' He considered that a grand motto, and he would like to see every earnest Catholic in Australia enrolled under that banner. The motto 'Australia, Religion, and Ireland' would yield to none, no matter how grand their traditions might be. They had there under that banner the name of Australia, which had a glorious destiny before it, and that destiny would largely rest in the hands of such men as members of this society. This country had resources which could not be surpassed, and their States were so rich in everything that it pointed to the promise of future greatness. The earnestness and devotedness of the sons of Australia, he felt sure, would achieve a grand and a glorious destiny. There was no other country which had so many triumphs in national life as that of the democracy of Australia. It was not only the citizens of Australia, but the Catholic Church throughout the world who looked upon democracy to achieve these earnest triumphs. Genuine democracy was inspired by religion. Here, in the vast Australian States, democracy had grown to a wonderful extent, and he felt sure that in the future the citizens of Australia would rejoice in the abundance and richness of the fruit that genuine democracy would bear. However, it would depend precisely on the earnestness and devotion of Australia's sons to achieve further triumphs in the lines of democracy. He was always pleased to come among members of the Hibernian Society, because of their earnestness and devotion in connection with anything they might undertake. There was a benefit society in the true sense of the term. It was a society in which not only Australians but the sons of Ireland were united under the same banner of religion. Their aim at all times should be to promote a spirit of true Christian democracy in order

that it might achieve permanent triumphs. There were persons who sneered at religion and everything pertaining to religion, but they should remember that the men of the platform, the men of the press, and other leaders owed their success and power to the principles of religion. Religion had achieved victories in the past, and every day it perpetuated those glorious triumphs. This was a reason that they should be proud of the names which were emblazoned on their banner under which he trusted they would achieve many victories. Religion, like the glorious sunshine, was ever imparting new vigor and life, and instead of religion diminishing in any way it was always enhanced and strengthened. They had also in large letters the name of Ireland on their banner, and of this name they had every reason to be proud. No other country had won the admiration of the civilised world to the same extent as Ireland had. She had been illustrious among the civilised nations of the world for centuries. Some people were heard to remark that Irishmen were too fond of speaking of the glories of Ireland, but when they remembered those glories they had no reason to feel other than justly proud of them. He would remind them of the prophecy of St. Malachi on his deathbed in the year 1200, when he said that after seven centuries Ireland would rise once more and shine with her pristine glory. That prophecy had been verified, for not only was the land of Ireland to-day smiling with the dawn of prosperity, but the influence of the Irish race was being extended throughout the world. In conclusion he would again thank them for their welcome, and for the beautiful address with which they had presented him. He hoped that his remarks would tend to encourage them to go forward with increased earnestness. Let their motto remain 'Australia, Religion, and Ireland,' a triple bond which no power on earth could break.

Addresses were also delivered by the Most Rev. Dr. Kelly, the Right Rev. Dr. Dunne, and the Hon. E. W. O'Sullivan, Minister for Public Works.

RETURNING TO THE FOLD.

Mr. Irving J. Keyes, of Milford, Connecticut, son of a former well known Protestant clergyman in Buffalo and Brooklyn, has been received into the Catholic Church.

Miss Abigail Campbell, who was recently married in San Francisco to Prince Kawanakoa of Hawaii by Archbishop Riordan, is a graduate of the College of Notre Dame, where she became a convert to the Catholic faith.

Mr. Francis Gildart Ruffin, who died recently at Mobile, Ala., was a descendant of Thomas Jefferson, President of the United States. He married the Catholic writer of the South, Mary E. Henry of Mobile, and became a convert to the faith about four years ago.

Mr. Egbert Roberts, the well-known conductor of the choir at the Italian Church, Hatton Garden, has been received into the Catholic Church by the Rector, the Very Rev. Father Bannon. Mr. Roberts has appeared frequently as the principal baritone of the Carl Rosa Opera Company.

The London *Tablet* states that the Rev. Arthur Whitcombe Taylor, B.A., Worcester College, Oxon., lately chaplain to the Anglican Bishop of Rangoon, was received into the Catholic Church recently at Rome. Mr. Taylor had also held curacies at Grantham and St. Saviour's, Ealing.

Mr. J. P. Paley, for the last three years attached to St. Philip's mission, Plainstow, London, E., under Brother James, of the Society of the Divine Compassion, has been received into the Catholic Church by Father Brown S.J., of the Holy Name, Manchester.

The Rev. John Davis Ewing (says an American Episcopalian newspaper) has abandoned his church for the Catholic Communion. Mr. Ewing is a graduate of St. Stephen's College, and was ordained by the late Bishop Williams, of Connecticut, as deacon, in 1895, and as priest in 1896. He was rector of St. James's Church, Woodstock, Vt., until quite recently.

The many friends of the Albury Convent of Mercy will regret to learn (says the *Sydney Catholic Press*) that Miss Aileen Margaret Mary de Vere Pery, daughter of Mr. Edmond A. T. Pery, P.M., Kemptsey, died on Friday, February 14, at the convent, after a few days' illness, of pneumonia. The deceased young lady was being educated by the Sisters of Mercy, and had been with them for the past two years, and, by her admirable qualities and amiable disposition, had endeared herself to both her teachers and companions. Her death is deeply lamented by all who know her. At her own request, and with the sanction of her father, the deceased was received into the Catholic Church during her short illness by the Rev. Father D. Griffin, and her holy joy, piety and resignation were truly edifying.

Pointed Paragraphs.

A FULL purse is the best pocket companion.

The dull man bores you and the sharp one skins you.

A matchless story is a novel that ends without a wedding.

About the only force some people have is the force of habit.

Knife wounds heal quicker than those caused by a sharp tongue.

When a man offers you something for nothing it will pay you to walk around it by the furthest possible route.

It is far better to have large feet than a small understanding.

The house of a tidy woman and a motion to adjourn are always in order.