

The Irish emigrant, Rev. Father Ainsworth; 'Killarney,' Miss Barr; 'Off to Philadelphia,' Mr. P. Lomax; 'Minstrel boy,' Mr. V. Mallow; violin solo. Mr. T. Ki'chen (encored); 'Simon the collarer,' Rev. Father Ainsworth; Irish hornpipe, Mr. John Marley; Miss M. Scannlon and Mr. P. Tomb played the accompaniments.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

March 31.

At the early Mass on Easter Sunday very large numbers approached the Holy Table. Pontifical High Mass was celebrated by his Lordship the Bishop at 11 o'clock. The Very Rev. Father Le Menant des Chesnais was assistant priest, Rev. Fathers Galerne and McDonnell deacon and sub-deacon respectively of the Mass, and Very Rev. Dean Foley assistant in the sanctuary. The sermon was preached by the Bishop on the day's Gospel. The music was Beethoven's 'Mass in C.' Mr. H. H. Loughnan conducted and Miss Funston presided at the organ. In the evening his Lordship preached on the Resurrection. After the sermon Mr. E. McNamara sung the sacred solo 'Calvary.' There were crowded congregations during the day and evening. The church was very effectively decorated with ferns, palms, bannerettes, shields, etc. The adornment of the church and sanctuary was the work of Miss Rose White, who designed and provided most of the material. She was ably assisted by Miss Kearney and ladies of the Altar Society, Mr. F. Geohagan supervising.

The ceremonies of Holy Week were commenced on Wednesday evening in the Pro-Cathedral with the Office of Tenebræ. A number of priests from North and South Canterbury assisted. On Holy Thursday morning after Mass, which was celebrated by his Lordship the Bishop, there was the usual procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the Altar of Repose. After Tenebræ in the evening an eloquent sermon on the Holy Eucharist was preached by Rev. Dr. Kennedy, of Ashburton. On Good Friday the Bishop officiated at the services, being assisted at the altar by the Very Rev. Dean O'Donnell and Rev. Father Richards. The Passion was chanted by Dean O'Donnell and Rev. Father Galerne. Adoration of the Cross was followed by the Mass of the Presanctified. There were Stations of the Cross in the afternoon, and after Tenebræ in the evening a sermon on the Passion of Our Lord was preached by the Rev. Father Price, of Hawarden. Pontifical High Mass was celebrated on Holy Saturday by his Lordship the Bishop. The Very Rev. Dean Foley and Rev. Father Price were deacons at the throne, Rev. Fathers Galerne and Cooney deacon and sub-deacon respectively of the Mass. The choir rendered excellent service in the solemn exercises of Holy Week. On the eve of Good Friday watchers before the tabernacle were provided during the night by the Hibernian Society, the Catholic Club, and sanctuary boys.

A conference of delegates representing the various Catholic Clubs and Literary Associations of the Colony is now being held in Christchurch.

It has been noticed that the local press association agent telegraphed throughout the Colony that the recent St. Patrick's Day celebrations were promoted and carried out by the Hibernian Society. This is incorrect, as, although the local branch of the H.A.C.B. Society rendered valuable assistance the celebrations were promoted by the St. Vincent de Paul Society, and carried out by a representative committee of citizens.

Holy Week services were conducted at St. Mary's, Manchester street, and well attended. Solemn High Mass was celebrated on Easter Sunday by the Rev. Father Marnane who also preached on the Gospel of the day. The music was Gounod's 'Messe Solennelle,' the choir being assisted by an efficient orchestra. Mr. W. H. Corrigan conducted and Miss Katie Young presided at the organ. At Vespers the Rev. Father Gallais preached on the Resurrection.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND.

(From our own correspondent.)

March 27.

The latest accounts from Father Kehoe, of Parnell, from Sydney, are that his health is improving.

The pupils of St. Leo's Academy, Devonport, are actively engaged in rehearsing a concert and drama, which will be given shortly.

Rev. Father Benedict, O.P., is back in town again. He has put in a very busy 12 months giving missions throughout the province.

The tariff for the hire of St. Benedict's Hall has been reduced by Rev. Father Gillan and his committee. It is a fine building, and it is to be hoped that the reductions will be the means of increased revenue.

It is somewhat remarkable that his Lordship the Bishop said first Mass in St. Patrick's for the first time last Sunday since he was curate there over 15 years ago.

Rev. Father Costello has written to me from St. Vincent's Hospital, Melbourne, where he expects to remain for treatment during the next month. He expresses his gratitude to the good Sisters of the institution for the great care and attention bestowed upon him.

On Palm Sunday his Lordship the Bishop attended the whole day at St. Patrick's, where he celebrated first Mass and blessed the palms. The last Mass was celebrated by Rev. Father Patterson, and the Bishop, from the pulpit, explained the Passion, while the celebrant was reading it at the altar. After Vespers his Lordship referred to the St. Patrick's Day celebration, and said how pleased he was with the manner in which the proceedings were carried out, and he heartily thanked the members of the Hiber-

nian Society and all those who worked so well to make it the great success it undoubtedly was. His Lordship then detailed the ceremonies of Holy Week, and explained their meaning.

GISBORNE.

(From a correspondent.)

March 19.

On the 6th, 7th, 8th, and 10th February a fancy fair was held in the Theatre Royal, Gisborne, in aid of the funds of St. Mary's Church. A strong committee of the ladies of the parish had charge of the fair, and its success was due to the enthusiasm and harmony with which they worked. The theatre was crowded each evening (sometimes inconveniently so), and the ladies were kept very busy in their work of relieving the audience of their surplus cash. The committees handed over to the church fund, as the result of the fair, the sum of £405.

On March 15 the annual sports in honor of St. Patrick were held in the Gisborne Park, and passed off most successfully. The weather was exceptionally fine, and large crowds attended. The sports were carried out by a committee composed of all classes in the community, with the Rev. Father Mulvihill as president, Messrs. J. H. Martin and Williams joint secretaries, and Mr. W. O'Connor vice-president. One of the most popular events during the day was the hospital fund race, for which there were 206 entries. The finish was very exciting, Mr. Elliot, manager of Dalgety and Co., being the winner. The sum of £75 was distributed in prizes. The theatre in the evening was crowded for the social. The committee, with Mrs. Hayward as president and Miss McCabe as secretary, provided an excellent supper and made things comfortable for all.

On St. Patrick's night a branch of the H.A.C.B.S. was opened in Gisborne. Mr. William Kane, district secretary, attended as delegate to open the branch. Over 25 were initiated, and many more would have joined but the time for preparation being short proper notice could not be given. There is every prospect of a strong branch being established here. The following officers were elected: Bro. H. Mulvihill, president; Bro. Thos. Walls, vice-president; Bro. E. Williams, secretary; Bro. Thos. Hassinan, treasurer; Bros. Martin, McCorville, and O'Meara, trustees; Bro. T. Hackett, warden; Bro. J. Devitt, guardian; Bros. T. Walls and G. Reid, sick visitors.

A 'Dug-out' Canoe.

ANOTHER evidence of the habits of the early colonists of Ireland was afforded by the discovery of a large 'dug-out' canoe in a bog about eight miles from Tuum, in County Galway recently. This interesting find (says the *Freeman's Journal*) was purchased by the Royal Irish Academy, and has reached the Dublin Museum. It is an unusually fine specimen, measuring 52ft long by 4ft wide at the prow end. It has been hollowed out of a single oak tree. This gives some idea of the size of the oaks which grew in Ireland in former times. The condition of this canoe is very good, and the construction is ingenious. A strengthening piece left in the solid runs from bow to stern on the inside. There are five small holes on each side to attach the paddles to. The moving of this interesting antiquity has been one of great difficulty on account of its great weight and length. It had to be conveyed across the fields to the road, and thence some six miles to Milltown Station, where it was placed on four railway trucks for carriage to Dublin. It is impossible to place a date on this boat, but judging from its construction and the size of the tree from which it was hollowed, it must be of very great antiquity. It will be necessary to keep this canoe for some months in a dry place before it can be placed in the museum and shown to visitors.

There has been a canoe of this description in the museum for a long time, and, until the discovery of the present one, it was the largest that had ever been found. It was 43 feet long, and it may be interesting to note the expedient to which its finders resorted to have it conveyed to Dublin. The people who found it were put into communication with the Royal Irish Academy, and, this body being anxious to have the specimen exhibited in the museum as soon as possible, telegraphed to have it sent on by rail at once. The people down the country had it cut transversely, packed carefully, and sent on by train to Dublin. It was one of the old war canoes used by the inhabitants of the 'crannoga' or lake dwellings, and that it was a formidable piece of naval equipment for the remote time may be gathered from the fact that it was capable of accommodating 35 fighting men and 20 rowers. Provision was made for paddles at both ends of the boat, and the fighting body occupied the centre, while there was a look-out man at each end. The existing of the receptacles for paddles at the ends of the boat point to the fact that the canoe must have been used as a war vessel; but it is probable that it was also used as a means of communication with the surrounding country. The 'crannoga,' or lake dwellings, were erected on stockades in the lakes, and, although they were sometimes approached by causeways, access to them was generally secured by the aid of boats of the description of those now in the Dublin Museum.

One of the hardest weeds to uproot is selfishness. Nothing can do this but 'the expulsive power of a new affliction.'

A man without some sort of religion is at best a poor reprobate, the football of destiny, with no tie linking him to infinity and the wondrous eternity that is begun with him; but a woman without it is even worse—a flame without heat, a rainbow without color, a flower without perfume.