

possibilities for interesting complications in the rushing onward sweep of Japanese colonisation under the American flag in the Hawaiian group. And perhaps those who live some thirty or fifty years more will read of wild times in the mid-Pacific paradise that circles round about from Honolulu, when the feet of the writer will be pointing to the roots of the daisies.

The various histories of the Hawaiians—I have come across some three or four—have a world of things to say about

'The Missionaries'

(by which term is always locally meant the Protestant missionaries). On our voyage from Honolulu to Vancouver I fell in with many white non-Catholic natives and residents of the Hawaiians, and was surprised to find the extent to which 'the missionaries' were spontaneously introduced into their conversation. The social, commercial, and political positions achieved by them and their sons—who are the dollar-aristocracy of Honolulu—sufficiently account for this. From 1820 and for many years onwards missionaries had the religious and political destinies of the Hawaiian Islands in their hands. But they sadly failed to rise to the level of their opportunities. They were at first allowed to open schools and erect churches. But they gradually got possession of the land and rose to positions of high power and influence in the civil administration of the group. One of them became Prime Minister, and clambered to the highest post of the treasury, another held the administration of justice in his hand, and, 'tickled with good success,' they ruled the islands in a way that has been aptly described as more ministerial than missionary, and more calculated to pile up shakels than to make converts. When the Pious Fathers (Congregation of the SS. Heart) were sent to the Islands their kind manners and unselfish ways greatly attracted the natives. The ruling powers, however, soon interfered, at first by harassing enactments. The Pious Fathers were after a time placed in a small vessel with two bottles of water and some biscuit. Only two of them reached the shores of California alive. It is only fair to state that 'the missionaries' protested their blamelessness in connection with this bad business and threw the blame of it upon the native Government. The native Catholic converts were treated with great inhumanity, but they held fast by the faith that was in them. A French war frigate finally righted matters. It dropped into Honolulu harbor one sunny morning. The commander talked some 'plain English'—or French, as the case may be; at any rate it was plain and forcible and to the point. The persecution dropped; the Pious Fathers returned to the Islands and performed their sacred duties in peace. And there they remain to the present day. The *Statesman's Year Book* for 1899—the only one that I find at hand as I pen these hurried lines—sets down the Catholics in the Hawaiian group at 26,363, and all the various Protestant denominations collectively at 23,773. 'The missionaries,' however, had—in 'rare Ben Jonson's' words—abundant scope to applaud themselves with joy 'to see how plump their bags were and their barns.' They had seized the best that was in the islands and made it their heritage and while the native race melted miserably away and their missions became—as one of their clergy lately described them—'a disgraceful failure,' they and their sons waxed fat and rich and became the nabobs of the central Pacific seas. The non-Catholic Professor W. C. Stubbs, of New Orleans, who lately made an extensive tour through the Hawaiian group, spoke as follows, on his return, to the students of Tulane University:—'The charge was made at the time and diligently spread over Europe that selfish motives actuated the missionaries in going to Hawaii. This charge is seemingly sustained by subsequent events. Their influence has been exerted in modifying the form of government favorable to their own control and personal aggrandizement. So well have they succeeded that to-day their sons are the rulers of the islands, politically, financially, religiously and socially; and many of them are millionaires many times over, owning most of the land. . . . Once on the islands, they shaped and directed affairs according to their ideas of what was right to themselves and to the heathen; and, true Yankees as they were, they lost no opportunity of acquiring and retaining everything of value.'

When our vessel (the *Moana*) left Honolulu there were a considerable number of local passengers on board bound for Vancouver. They were gaily decorated by their friends, in the native fashion, by leis or long wreaths of beautiful flowers. We were soon in easy view of the island of death—Molokai of the lepers. But thereby hangs another tale.

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON.

(From our own correspondent.)

June 7.

The Vev. Archdeacon Devoy, Provincial, returned to Wellington on Friday.

Special services will be held at the three churches to-morrow to commemorate the declaration of peace.

Rev. Father Costello arrived from Auckland on Saturday last. He is at present the guest of his Grace Archbishop Redwood.

The feast of Corpus Christi was celebrated in a special manner at the Church of the Sacred Heart on Sunday last. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament was held during the day, and the choir was ably assisted by a full orchestra at Mass and at Vespers.

Very deep sympathy is expressed on all sides for the Rev. Father Ainsworth in the great loss he has sustained through the death of his mother.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament was held at St. Mary of the Angels' on Sunday last. Rev. Father Herbert sang the 11 o'clock Mass. A large number attended for Adoration during the day.

A Solmn Requiem Mass will be celebrated at St. Joseph's Church on Tuesday next for those who fell in the late war. Mass will also be celebrated at the Church of the Sacred Heart for the same object at an early date.

At St. Joseph's Church on Thursday a very quiet wedding was celebrated by the Rev. Father O'Shea. The contracting parties were Mr. J. V. Lawes, of the Telegraph Department, Christchurch, and Miss E. Collin, of Wellington. A Nuptial Mass was celebrated at nine o'clock. The happy couple left for their future home in Christchurch the same evening.

The announcement of the joyful news that peace had been proclaimed in South Africa was received in Wellington with marked enthusiasm. The first indication of the fact was the booming of guns, which was followed by the changing of all the bells in the city and the hoisting of flags and bunting. In a very short time a dense throng of people assembled in front of the General Post Office, where the Mayor announced that the proclamation of peace between the British and the Boers had come at last. The Acting-Premier, Sir Joseph Ward, was soon on the scene, and confirmed the statement made by the Mayor, and also read an urgent message sent by Lord Kitchener to his Excellency the Governor. The people at this stage were intensely enthusiastic, and cheers were given over and over again for those men who played a prominent part in the history of the campaign.

NELSON.

(From our own correspondent.)

June 4.

On Tuesday, June 3, the children of St. Mary's Convent schools held their annual picnic. During the afternoon sports were held for the children in Mr. Bashford's paddock, that gentleman having kindly lent it for the occasion, and for whom hearty cheers were given before leaving. The whole of the afternoon was spent by the children in keenly contesting the various events on the programme. Later on an adjournment was made to the school hall, where a generous spread had been provided by a committee of ladies of the congregation of St. Mary's. After full justice had been done to the good things, the distribution of prizes which had been won during the afternoon took place. The Rev. Father Clancy distributed the prizes, and in so doing complimented the several winners. Before dispersing the children gave hearty cheers for Father Clancy and all those who had so kindly contributed towards the day's pleasure. The Very Rev. Dean Mahoney was not forgotten by the children, for whom they also gave hearty cheers.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

June 9th.

Mr. John Barrett of Kirwee, is announced as a candidate for the Selwyn Electorate at the forthcoming general election.

The Choral Hall has been engaged for Thursday, July 3rd, when an original drawing-room entertainment is to be given in aid of the school funds of the Pro-Cathedral parish.

Feeling reference was made in the churches on Sunday to the sad accident which caused the death of Mrs. Ainsworth at Grey-mouth. Sincere sympathy is extended to the Rev. Father Ainsworth and the bereaved relatives.

The quarterly conference of the clergy of North Canterbury was held on Tuesday last at the Lyttelton Presbytery. His Lordship the Bishop presided, and there were 13 priests present. Bishop Grimes directed the clergy to have a *Te Deum* sung on the Sunday following as an act of thanksgiving for the declaration of peace.

The second monthly meeting of the Pro-Cathedral collectors in connection with the lately organised sixpence a week subscription in aid of the new Cathedral building fund was held on Thursday evening last, his Lordship the Bishop presiding. Upwards of £33 was handed in as representing the past four weeks' operations; a result deemed highly satisfactory, as these sums are entirely new donations and quite apart from the promises made at any previous time, which promises are expected to be redeemed when opportunity offers.

The Coronation Carnival recently held realised a net profit of £500, a result deemed highly satisfactory in view of the number of counter attractions. The Rector of St. Mary's, Rev. Father Mar-nane, expresses warm approval of the way his people labored, and desires to sincerely thank all who in any way assisted to make the event such a conspicuous success. This amount is exclusive of the art union, which is still open, and will be drawn at a favorable opportunity.

Speaking at one of the earlier Masses on Sunday on the happy termination of the war in South Africa and the declaration of peace, the Very Rev. Vicar-General said the recent prolonged strife had been glorious to New Zealand, whose soldiers had accomplished many acts of valor on the battle-field, glorious to the vanquished Boers, who had fought bravely for their independence, and glorious for Great Britain, which had exhibited remarkable forbearance during hostilities, and was now displaying honorable magnanimity and most just treatment in the hour of victory. At Vespers at the Pro-Cathedral, St. Mary's (Manchester street) and at the Catholic Church (Lyttelton) a *Te Deum* was sung in thanksgiving for peace.