

said) in the Book of Esdras, that while yet the people of God journeyed in the wilderness the Almighty prescribed to them the form of the tabernacle, and the materials of which it should be composed. God wished that all should be the voluntary offering of the people. 'Let every one,' said he, 'that is willing and hath the ready heart offer them to the Lord; gold, and silver, and brass.' Such was their zeal that Moses commanded them to cease from offering gifts, because 'the things that were offered did suffice and were too much.' If the great God was so particular in regard to a mere type or figure—for the Tabernacle was only the merest type of the most insignificant Catholic Church—how much more so in regard to the reality—our Catholic Church buildings? And if He in His infinite wisdom, laid on the Jews such weighty obligations in regard to the Tabernacle, and bestowed on them such rich rewards because of their generosity towards its construction, what obligations are there not on us, the children of the Catholic Church, to build up and embellish

The Real True Church

of His Own Divine Son? And what rewards may we not expect to receive in return for any generosity we extend towards its erection? Next, the preacher adduced the example of the holy King David bringing the Ark to Zion—the great jubilation, the sounding of the trumpet, and the holy King dancing before the Ark: his queen (Michol, the daughter of Saul) objecting to the action of her husband because she thought it beneath his royal dignity. But the Holy Spirit marked in a special manner King David's devotion, and inflicted on Queen Michol a curse of sterility in consequence of her indifference and contempt towards the Ark of God. Further on we read (said the preacher) how the holy King wished to build a temple, but the Lord ordained this work should be reserved to King Solomon, who, as the prince of peace, was typical of our Redeemer; and how, under the guidance of the Divine Spirit this magnificent structure was raised; how the riches of the world was made tributary to its erection; how it was dedicated with solemn rites; and how the Lord showed Himself pleased with all this manner of worship by the sensible presence of His glory. And this structure was yet only a type of a Catholic church. Again after the return of the Jews from the Babylonian captivity, the Prophet Aggeus was sent to command them to rebuild the house of God. 'Because,' said the Lord, 'My house is so desolate and you make haste every one to his house. Therefore, the heavens over you were stayed from giving dew, and the earth was hindered from yielding fruits. Build the house so as it shall be acceptable to Me, and I shall be glorified, saith the Lord.' Thus, we see from the whole history of the Jewish people, and from the pages of the Sacred Book, how opposed the Spirit of God is to the dry, cold philosophy of the world—a philosophy which scoffs at the humble efforts we make to give glory to God when we offer Him of our substance for the erection of His churches, and when we perform those solemn and impressive rites connected with His worship. Like the scoffing daughter of neglected Israel this philosophy is cursed by God with eternal barrenness. The holy Prophet Aggeus foretold that the second temple built by the Jews under Zorobabel although from a material point of view far inferior to the first temple built by Solomon, should far surpass the latter because

The 'Desired of Nations'

was to sanctify it by His Presence, and fill it with His Glory. 'The 'Desired of Nations' has come. The Word was made flesh and dwelt amongst us.' The Saviour of the world has promised to abide with us all days even to the consummation of the world. In many ways does He fulfil this promise to His Church, but in a most special manner by His mysterious presence in our church buildings and in our tabernacle in the sacrament of love. For this Incarnate God (said the preacher) present with you in the Eucharist, you have built a house—a house in which the fruits of Redemption may be brought home to each one of you. Here the saving waters of Baptism shall be poured on the head of the unbaptised; here, those already baptised and made Christians shall be made perfect Christians; here you shall be nourished with the Bread of the Strong; here those who may have received wounds in the battle shall be healed in the tribunal of Penance; here the nuptial vow shall be pledged; and when your spirit will have departed from its earthly tabernacle, here in this church shall prayer and sacrifice be offered up for the repose of your soul. The Requiem shall be sung over your remains, and the bidding of eternal rest be imparted to you in the name of her who holds the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven. Truly this is the house of God and the gate of heaven; yea, it is the kingdom of God, let down from heaven to earth—the tabernacle and dwelling-place of God with men. The rev. preacher concluded an able and telling discourse by congratulating Father O'Donnell and the congregation on their beautiful church, and by appealing to them to open it free of debt.

The appeal met with a prompt and generous response. Father O'Donnell made a financial statement, and it was found that of the £250 which the edifice cost, there would be required some £52 to clear off the debt. The pastor and Mr. McNamee then made the collection. At its close only a few pounds were required to comply to the letter with Father Murphy's request. Mr. D. A. Cameron, of Nokomai, generously made up the deficit.

Father O'Donnell thanked his true and lasting friend Father Murphy for his kindness in coming to crown their efforts that day in Garston. He also spoke in

most eulogistic terms of the architect and the contractor. I noticed Mr. Kelly's name read out for two guineas towards the building fund. He also thanked all his people for their generosity, and especially Mr. McNamee, in whose house Mass was hitherto celebrated, and who made them a free gift of the site for the new church. I should have said above that Father Murphy thanked the Queenstown choir for having come at such considerable expense and inconvenience to assist at the opening function. He congratulated the pastor on having such kind-hearted and generous people in his Queenstown congregation.

Mr. McCaughan, of the Garston Hotel, would not hear of accepting remuneration from the Queenstown choir, from the altar boys, or from the priests during the three days they stayed with him.

In the evening immediately before Benediction, which was given for the first time in Garston, Father Murphy preached another powerful sermon on the mission of the Holy Ghost. The Benediction was given by the rev. pastor, and thus was brought to a close a memorable day for the Catholic body in Garston.

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

The new Catholic Church at Clyde will be opened by his Lordship Bishop Verdon on Sunday, July 19.

The new convent which is being erected at Winton for the Sisters of Mercy is now completed, and will be opened in a short time.

The devotions of the Forty Hours' Adoration will begin at the Sacred Heart Church, North-East Valley, on to-morrow (Friday) morning, and conclude at Mass on Sunday.

By direction of his Lordship the Bishop the devotions of the Forty Hours' Adoration will begin in the undermentioned churches in the diocese on the following dates:—North-East Valley, June 19; Lawrence, August 14; Cromwell, September 11; St. Joseph's Cathedral, September 25; Bluff, October 4; South Dunedin, October 9; Oamaru, October 16; Invercargill, October 23; Arrowtown, November 6; Queenstown, November 13; Winton, November 20; Balclutha, November 27; Mosgiel, December 1.

The usual weekly meeting of St. Joseph's Men's Club was held on Friday evening, Rev. Father Murphy presided, and the attendance was good. Mr. T. J. Hussey introduced his first number of 'The Spectator,' which was really a revival of the paper which was in existence in the days of the old Literary Society. The paper was very interesting, and consisted of articles on various subjects. The leading article dealt with the preferential tariff and the leaderette with the licensing committee. Then followed sporting news, club notes, and notes referring to the different societies connected with the hall, stories, correspondence. The president warmly complimented Mr. Hussey on the excellent character of his production. Mr. Hussey, in replying, expressed the hope that members would contribute notes, articles, and correspondence, so as to assist in making it really interesting. The next meeting of the Club will be on Friday, June 26, when the evening will be devoted to readings. The gymnastic class was well attended during the week, and members are particularly requested to attend on Tuesday night, as a meeting will be held re the competition.

A general meeting of the congregation of St. Joseph's Cathedral was held in St. Joseph's Hall on Sunday evening for the purpose of hearing the report of the committee appointed to consider the best means of collecting funds for the liquidation of the debt incurred in strengthening the towers of the Cathedral. His Lordship the Bishop presided, and there was a representative attendance. The Rev. Father Murphy, Adm., after having read apologies for non-attendance from Messrs. J. B. Callan, J. Carroll, and O'Connell, said that the committee had decided that the best plan was to make a thorough canvass of the city, Mornington, and Roslyn, and inaugurate a house-to-house weekly collection. It was proposed to appoint three collectors to each ward of the city, and a like number each to Mornington and Roslyn. These collectors would be empowered to appoint assistant collectors in their respective districts, who would be supplied with collecting books, etc. Mr. P. Hally said it was not creditable to the people of the Cathedral parish that this debt should be permitted to be a source of anxiety to his Lordship the Bishop and the clergy and he trusted that with all acting in union it would be quickly liquidated. The proposal of the committee was unanimously adopted. The following collectors were then appointed: Bell ward, Messrs. P. Hally, P. O'Neill, and J. O'Connor; South ward, Messrs. T. Deehan, Fulton, and Lennon; High ward, Messrs. J. Woods, J. Hally, and Murphy; Leith ward, Messrs. J. Casey, P. O'Reilly, W. Dunne; Roslyn, Messrs. C. Columb, junr., J. Forde, and T. Hussey; Mornington, Messrs. P. Carolin and O'Neill. Rev. Father Murphy and Mr. P. O'Neill were appointed joint hon. treasurers, and Mr. Foley hon. secretary. Nearly all the ladies present promised to assist in collecting in their respective districts. A printing committee was set up for the purpose of procuring collecting books, cards, etc., which will be ready for distribution at the meeting of the general committee on Sunday evening. All collecting books will be stamped so as to prevent unauthorised persons canvassing for subscriptions.

In cases of attacks of Colic, Cramp, or Spasms, Evans's WITCH'S OIL will be found invaluable.—**