

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON.

(From our own correspondent.)

June 20.

The Very Rev. Father Lewis, V.G., left on a collecting tour for the Cathedral fund in the Otaki district on Friday last.

The fellow-students throughout New Zealand of the late Rev. Father Malone intend erecting a monument to his memory at Hawera.

Sunday last, being within the Octave of Corpus Christi, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament took place at the Church of the Sacred Heart. At Vespers his Grace the Archbishop preached on the Blessed Sacrament, after which a procession was held. Large numbers of worshippers visited the church during the course of the day.

The appearance of St. Patrick's Hall has been greatly improved within the last month, carpenters, plumbers, and painters having been busily engaged in repairing and renovating it. In the lower part of the building the stairs have been removed, thus dividing this portion from the main building and leaving space for a shop with an entrance from Boulcott street.

It is with pleasure I have to record the continued success in the insurance profession of Mr. Charles McDonald, an ex-student of St. Patrick's College. The gentleman named has just received advice from the local secretary of the London Institute of Actuaries of his passing the examination for the first section of the Institute of Actuaries. Mr. McDonald is engaged on the staff of the A.M.P. Society, and his success will be gratifying to his friends throughout the Colony.

A popular member of the Church of the Sacred Heart choir, Miss Maud Corrigan, youngest daughter of Mr. J. Corrigan, of this city, was married on Wednesday last to Mr. Ivan Levy, of the reporting staff of the 'New Zealand Times.' The ceremony took place at St. Mary of the Angels' and was performed by the Rev. Father O'Shea. The bride was attended by her sister, Miss E. Corrigan, as bridesmaid, while Mr. A. B. Corrigan acted as best man. Among the wedding presents was one from Mr. Levy's associates on the 'Times' staff.

There was a large number of communicants at the churches in the three parishes on the Feast of the Sacred Heart. At St. Joseph's, Buckle street, on Friday evening a meeting of both branches of the Sacred Heart Association was held, when his Grace the Archbishop preached a sermon suitable to the occasion. Pontifical Benediction was given and a solemn Act of Consecration was read by Father O'Shea. Rev. Father Kimbell presided at the organ.

The Marist Brothers' Old Boys' Association is to be congratulated on the financial result of the productions of the 'Colleen Bawn' in the Opera House on Monday and Tuesday evenings in aid of necessary repairs to the Brothers' school. The drama was excellently staged, and great care and taste were bestowed on the dressing of the various characters, but in other respects the performance generally was below the standard set on previous occasions by the association's dramatic club. The selection of plays suitable for amateur production is no doubt a somewhat difficult matter, but the association would do well to exercise greater discretion in the choice or in the use of the scissors in scenes wherefrom entirely erroneous impressions on doctrinal subjects are sought to be conveyed.

Wellington South

(From an occasional correspondent.)

The progress of this parish since the Rev. Father Ainsworth took charge is something to be marvelled at. No sooner is one improvement effected than another is commenced, and with each it can be said the people work with their priest in such a whole-hearted manner and so willingly that his great responsibilities are considerably lightened thereby. The new school, which is now finished, is the largest Catholic school in the archdiocese, and is to be formally opened and blessed at an early date. The builders are now busy adding a new sanctuary to the church, which, when completed, will give much needed extra seating accommodation in the body of the sacred edifice. New seats are now being made for the old church, the old ones are to be removed to the school. If further evidence were needed of the progress which is being made it may be mentioned that prior to Father Ainsworth's advent to the parish, one Mass on Sunday was not attended by a full congregation, while now the two Masses are hardly sufficient for the numerous congregation which attends; in fact, at the second Mass extra forms have had to be used for some Sundays past. The church is always crowded at Vespers, no matter what kind of weather prevails. As soon as the sanctuary is completed, it is intended to widen the church on both sides, and it is anticipated that this will give sufficient accommodation for some years to come. Father Ainsworth's appeals for money with which to effect these improvements have met with a ready and generous response from his people. Monthly socials are to be held, and, judging from the success of the first of these, which took place last month, and resulted in a profit of £42, there will be no difficulty

about raising the necessary funds. A collection was made at the church doors on Sunday week last in aid of the new school, and the handsome sum of £130 was handed in to the collectors. The second social was held on Wednesday night last, and took the form of an 'At Home' in the school. The affair was entirely in the hands of the ladies, and proved most enjoyable, and will add another £30 or £40 to the church funds.

Another step, which shows the progress the new parish is making, is the establishment of a branch of the Hibernian Society here. This branch is to be opened on Sunday, 28th inst., by Bro. Bohan, P.P. of the Wellington branch, and perhaps the oldest Hibernian in New Zealand. The name of the branch will be St. Aloysius. The members of the city branch and intending members of the new branch are to approach the Holy Table at the early Mass, after which a breakfast will be partaken of in the schoolroom, and Father Ainsworth has kindly promised to preach a special sermon at the 10 o'clock Mass on the benefits of the Society.

Carterton

Notwithstanding the unfavorable weather there was a large attendance at the Victoria Hall, Carterton, on Thursday evening, June 11, when a concert and social in connection with the Catholic Church affairs were held. Two singers (says the 'Observer') whose appearance had been looked forward to with pleasant anticipation—Misses Sullivan and Toohill—were both unable to be present. The Carterton Orchestra—Miss Petersen, and Messrs Dawson and F. Perrin, violins, Miss A. Amith, piano, and Mr. Berrill, cornet (conductor), opened proceedings with a well played fantasia on Irish airs, carrying the music from grave to gay with fine expression and lively execution, also playing an overture to the second part. Mrs. Day, an old Greytown favorite, sang 'Remember me no more' very sweetly and was well applauded. 'In the shade of the palms,' a somewhat difficult song, was well rendered by Mr. Sherriff, and he was followed by Miss O'Brien, of Martinborough, who has a very nice sympathetic voice and sang 'Kathleen Maureen' delightfully. An encore was demanded and she responded with 'If all the stars were mine.' Mr. Rapley, who had come from Stratford to contribute to the entertainment, supplied the humorous element, and in both his appearances was vociferously encored, in fact, a large section of the audience seemed inclined to keep him going all the evening. Mr. James Curtayne, of Martinborough, rendered 'The deep cold sea' in good style, and also sang with Miss O'Brien in the pleasant duet 'Oh that we two were maying.' Miss Evans, of Greytown, contributed three songs, being enthusiastically encored for the first and second items, she sang the 'Slave song,' 'By the fountain,' and 'Auntie.' Another tumultuous encore was gained by Miss Annie Gallagher, of Greytown, for her spirited singing of 'Soldiers in the park.' The Irish maidens' dance was also encored, the following clever little girls taking part in it:—Misses G. Berrill, L. Shelley, E. Stevens, L. Davison, L. Berrill, D. McDermid, M. Skelley, and O. Hughtan. A humorous sketch by the Messrs. Webb closed the concert.

The Rev. Father Cahill took the opportunity of thanking all those who had assisted, especially those who came from a distance, and the Carterton Orchestra. He thought the large number present indicated a considerable amount of courage in leaving their homes on such a wretched night. He alluded to the good feeling existing among all denominations in Carterton, which he hoped would continue, and which he would do his best to promote. He thanked the audience for their support, and hoped they would enjoy the entertainment and the social which was now to follow. The floor was quickly cleared and dancing indulged in, while all were invited to partake of the abundance of excellent refreshments prepared by the ladies of the congregation, the result being that a very sociable and pleasant time was spent.

Amongst those who assisted to make the affair a success were Mr. James Gilhes, the capable hon. secretary, Mr. J. A. Dudson, who took charge of the stage, and the following committee:—Messrs. Molloy, Berrill, J. Daly, O'Reilly, Grengor, and Lepinsky; Mesdames Monaghan, Dudson, Daly, Molloy, Skelley, Berrill, and Misses Gorman and Daly, with many other willing helpers.

The accompaniments were played by Misses Gallagher O'Brien, Roudhouse, and Dupre.

Westport

(From our own correspondent.)

At Vespers on Pentecost Sunday, Mrs. F. Songten, the popular local soprano vocalist, sang an 'O Salutaris' in splendid style, and with great devotional feeling.

The members of St. Canice's branch of the Hibernian Society have decided to forward a donation to the Stoke Orphanage fund. Subscriptions are now being collected for this praiseworthy object.

Master P. F. Cullen, the second eldest son of Sergeant Cullen, in charge of the Westport Police Station, has been appointed to a cadetship in the Railway Department at Westport. Master Cullen received the principal portion of his education at the Marist Brothers' school in Wellington.

The Rev. Father Malloy was the celebrant at the 11 o'clock Mass on Pentecost Sunday. In the evening he commenced a series of sermons on the Church. Apart