

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

August 29.

His Grace the Archbishop will open the convent and presbytery at Opunake on October 7, and on October 11 will open the Pungarehu Church.

On Monday evening a meeting of the Marist Brothers' Old Boys' Association was held in St. Patrick's Hall. Rev. Father Kimbell occupied the chair. A debate on the question, 'Is novel reading beneficial or not?' was held, and a vote being taken it was decided in the affirmative.

The third annual dance of the Marist Brothers' Old Boys' Association was held at the Druids' Hall on Wednesday evening last and proved a most successful gathering. Miss Hawthorn's string band supplied the dance music. Messrs. Eller and Healy acted as M.C.s, and the duties of secretary were carried out by Mr. McKeown.

Notwithstanding the softness of the ground the display given in the annual inter-college football match on last Saturday was the best exposition of Rugby seen on the Athletic Park this season. The play of both the Wellington College and St. Patrick's boys was first-class throughout and at times brilliant. The result of the game, a win for St. Patrick's College by six points—two tries gained by Twomey, fairly indicates the merits of the teams.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

August 31.

Two pupils of the Sisters of Mercy attending the Lyttelton Convent High School, Misses Hilda Carpenter, and May Gardiner, have just received Sir Isaac Pitman's certificate for shorthand (theory).

There was a crowded and select audience at the Alexandra Hall on last Tuesday evening, the occasion of a social gathering organised by the St. Mary's Church committee in aid of parochial requirements. It was hoped that the Very Rev. Father Marnane would have been present, and the intention was to extend him a suitable reception, in which event he will, no doubt, accept the will for the deed. The Rev. Fathers Gallais and O'Connell were among the company part of the evening, local matters preventing the attendance of others of the clergy. A most pleasant evening was passed with a varied and attractive programme.

His Lordship the Bishop, who is expected to reach Christchurch on Wednesday evening next, after an arduous visitation to Westland, will, on his return, observe a marked difference in the aspect of the Cathedral. Outwardly the walls have been raised considerably, and a vast amount of work has been done in the interior. The beautifully carved arches of the sanctuary are in place with a gradual inclination towards the rising of the great dome. With the present rate of progress it may reasonably be assumed that before many months are over a commencement will be made with the roof. Already the Cathedral is one of the most conspicuous objects in the city and universally admired. Hopes are freely expressed that the one thing necessary—funds for its completion—will not be lacking, and that within the period predicted we will have in our midst an architectural triumph, a perpetual joy to the Catholics of the diocese, and a pride to the whole Colony.

Waimate

(From our own correspondent.)

August 31.

A well known and respected farmer of the district, Mr. Peter Bourke, of Morven, was accidentally killed on Saturday evening, August 22, whilst crossing the Waihao river. The horse, which was of a restless nature, ran on to a bank and overturned the vehicle, the deceased being thrown on his head and having his skull badly fractured. His body was not found until the following morning, but there would have been no hopes for his recovery even if found sooner. The funeral, which took place on Tuesday, was one of the largest seen in the district, the cortege being a mile in length. The service at the cemetery was conducted by the Rev. Fathers Regnault and Aubry. A widow and a grown-up family of three sons and two daughters are left to mourn their loss—R.I.P.

At both Masses on Sunday the Rev. Father Aubry emphasised the necessity of the upkeeping of our schools, both from a religious and up-to-date educational point of view. Religious and secular education must go hand in hand, and not only must a schoolroom be provided, but also everything which helps to keep the children at least on the same footing as in other schools.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND.

(From our own correspondent.)

August 27.

Rev. Father Buckley, recently ordained in Rome, arrived in Auckland, en route to Dunedin, last Sunday night from Sydney by the Mararoa. He was the guest of the Bishop on Monday.

Mr. Harry Martin, Gisborne, has collected and forwarded to the secretary of the Irish National Federation, Auckland, the sum of seven guineas for the Irish Parliamentary Fund.

The annual ball given by the ladies of St. Patrick's parish took place in the Federal Hall last evening and was a great success. The hall was handsomely decorated and reflected the greatest credit upon the committee, Mesdames Lonergan, Middleton, Tobin, Kearns, Foley, Bacon, Corley, and Misses Gough, McDermott, Tobin, Corley, Brett, and Harkins. Mrs. Leonnardo, hon. sec. acted most indefatigably in arranging details.

The examinations of the Catholic schools in the city and suburbs by the Government Inspectors are in progress. Those finished have shown excellent results. In the schools under the Sisters of Mercy in St. Patrick's parish only seven failures occurred. The examiner gave unstinted praise to the Sisters' system of teaching. The parochial school of the Marist Brothers also showed excellent results. The Sisters of St. Joseph's schools at St. Benedict's and Newmarket and Surry Hills were likewise eminently successful, this being also the case with the Sacred Heart School, Ponsonby, under the Sisters of Mercy. Parents of children who deery our schools and send them elsewhere should note this.

At St. Benedict's and at the Auxiliary church at Surry Hills last Sunday the Rev. Father Furlong spoke in very complimentary terms regarding the 'Tablet,' and urged upon parents and others to have it in their homes. He quoted the apostolic blessing bestowed upon the Catholic press of the world by the late lamented and illustrious Pope Leo XIII., and said too much importance could not be placed upon the value of a paper like the 'Tablet.' The money wasted upon questionable literature, now too prevalent in Catholic families, should be expended upon good wholesome Catholic newspapers.

On Sunday last at St. Patrick's at the 11 o'clock Mass a 'Te Deum' was sung by the choir in honor of the 73rd anniversary of the birth of his Majesty Francis Joseph, Emperor of Austro-Hungary. The Austrian and German Consuls and a large body of Austrians were present. His Lordship the Bishop in the course of his sermon said that his Majesty, who was crowned in 1848, was now the oldest reigning monarch in the world. Though past the age of 73, yet he still retained his faculties, and throughout his mighty dominions and in whatever part of the world Austrians were they would come to the Catholic Church to offer up their prayers of thanksgiving, and he (the Bishop) felt sure that in this they would have the unanimous co-operation of their co-religionists. The Bishop referred to the trials and vicissitudes which beset the King when he ascended the throne, then a young man of 18, and how he had done his share to suppress the spirit of revolution which prevailed over the whole of Europe. He asked the congregation to remain after Mass while the 'Te Deum' was being sung. In the course of his sermon his Lordship paid a high tribute to those Austrians who have settled in the northern part of our province. He said that on his recent tour of the inland districts the priests everywhere spoke of their unswerving devotion to religious duty, and he had been told that the tradespeople regarded them as being very honest in their dealings, and in this respect the Austrians set a fine example to a great number of their British colonists.

His Lordship then unveiled the new stained glass window donated to the church by Mr. Michael Walsh. The window, which cost something like £120, has been erected as a memorial to the deceased parents of Mr. Walsh. The main features of the window are pictures of St. Edward and St. Ann, the patron saints of the donor's deceased parents. The Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan said he had been told by those best able to judge that it was the finest window in the city of Auckland. He would venture to say it was the finest in New Zealand.

In the most obstinate cases of coughs and colds TUSSICURA can be relied upon to afford immediate and permanent relief.—***