

The second class of this order is awarded for brilliant daring and initiative. It was won, for example, by General Baron von Hauser, who in the war with Italy in 1849 held at bay with a handful of men at Volta the whole Italian army for eighteen hours. In this exploit General von Hauser disobeyed orders, he having been ordered to retreat with the rest of the Austrian army. But he found the position of Volta so favorable for defence that he made a stand with his regiment, and the brief respite thus given to the retreating Austrians turned the tide of the war.

The Order of Leopold.

The principal military order of Belgium is the order of Leopold. It was founded on July 11, 1832. The cross bears the motto of the nation, 'Union constitutes power.' This order is conferred as a personal decoration of merit. It may be won for valorous deeds on the field of battle, but it essentially has been a badge of distinction in the occupations of peace. It is awarded to inventors, writers, statesmen, and others who render notable service to the State or society. It is open to men of all ranks and also to women.

Belgium has another medal for deeds of self-devotion and sacrifice. It was inaugurated in 1825 by a private society in one of the Netherlands provinces, and was adopted by the Belgian Government after the revolution. It bears the effigy of King Leopold I.

WEDDING BELLS

CAVANAGH- RYAN.

At the Sacred Heart Church, Ponsonby, on January 29 a quiet wedding took place, the contracting parties being Miss May Ryan, daughter of the late Mr. M. Ryan and Mrs. Ryan, Remuera, and Mr. John Cavanagh, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cavanagh, Ngaurua-wahia. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Father Cahill. The bride, who was given away by her brother (Mr. M. Ryan), was charmingly attired in ivory duchess satin with corsage of old lace, and train finished with true lovers' knots. Her handsome embroidered veil was arranged beneath a circlet of orange blossoms. The bridesmaids were Miss Eileen Ryan (sister of the bride) and Miss Maura Cavanagh (sister of the bridegroom), both of whom wore frocks of ivory crepe de chine. Mr. Lionel Rogers acted as best man. After the ceremony the guests were entertained at the residence of the bride's mother, Remuera.

LENNOX FALLON.

A pretty wedding took place at St. Patrick's Basilica, Oamaru, on January 20, when Miss Bina Fallon, youngest daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. W. Fallon, was married to Mr. Patrick Lennox. The bride, who was given away by her brother (Mr. J. Fallon), wore a beautiful dress of embroidered voile. The veil of embroidered Brussels tulle fell over a coronal of orange blossoms; a handsome shower bouquet set off this charming toilet. The bridesmaid, Miss Mary Fallon (niece of the bride) wore white muslin with pretty hat and sash of floral crepe de chine. The bridegroom was attended by Mr. C. F. Herbert as best man. A large number of wedding guests from Airdgowan and the surrounding districts attended the ceremony, which was performed by the Rev. Father Aubry (Waimate), assisted by the Very Rev. Dean Hyland (Rangiora), and the Rev. Father Fanning (Darfield). The bridegroom's present to the bride was a handsome gold pendant and chain, and to the bridesmaid a gold bangle. The bride's present to the bridegroom was a pair of gold sleeve-links. After the ceremony, Mr. and Mrs. J. Fallon held a reception at their residence, Airdgowan, where a large number of friends sat down to the wedding breakfast. The tables, which had been tastefully laid in a large marquee, were occupied by friends from far and near, the bride, who had spent most of her life in the district, being very popular. After the various toasts had been honored the happy couple left for the North Island, where the honeymoon is to be spent. The bride's travelling dress was a saxe blue with pretty hat to

match. The bride and gridegroom were the recipients of a large number of useful presents, including many cheques. In the evening Mr. and Mrs. Fallon entertained a large number of friends, when quite an enjoyable time was spent.

OLD-GLEESON.

(From a Palmerston North correspondent.)

A pretty wedding was celebrated at St. Patrick's Church, on February 10, when Miss Kathleen Agnes Gleeson, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gleeson, of Palmerston North, was married to Mr. John Malcolm Old, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Old, of Feilding. The Rev. Father Kelly performed the ceremony. The bride, who was given away by her father, was attired in a pretty white voile dress, trimmed with lace, pearls, and orange blossoms. She wore the usual wreath and veil, and carried a shower bouquet. The bridesmaids were Miss Dorothy Gleeson (sister), who was attired in a white silk dress with lace hat, little Miss Molly Gleeson (niece), and Miss Doris Old (sister of the bridegroom), both of whom wore white silk dresses and hats to match. The bridegroom was attended by his brother (Mr. Harold Old) as best man. The bridegroom's present to the bride was a handsome gold bangle and to the bridesmaids a gold bangle and gold brooches respectively. The bride's present to the bridegroom was a suit case. After the ceremony a reception was held at the Empire Hall, where the wedding breakfast was partaken of by a large number of guests. The bride's travelling dress was a biscuit-colored costume, with a large black hat trimmed with tulle and lancel plume. The happy couple, who were the recipients of numerous presents, left for Napier, where the honeymoon was to be spent.

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