

no less than eleven columns of the London *Tablet*, but nobody who once begins to read it will find it a line too long. Nor will anybody who has read it wonder that the German authorities imprisoned the writer and did their best to suppress his letter. The only wonder is that, with his beloved country in the grip of the most ruthless of invaders, the Cardinal should have had the courage to publish such an exposure of their misdeeds, such an appeal to their victims for patience and courage and hope, such a confident assurance that a mightier power than any earthly potentate would rout the armies of the Kaiser, heal the wounds of stricken Belgium, and restore her to peace, freedom, and prosperity.'

In concluding its eulogy of the Pastoral, the *Post* makes a suggestion which we heartily endorse, and which is well worth the attention of the various committees organised for the purpose of raising funds for the distressed Belgians. 'Patriotism and endurance,' says our contemporary, 'are the keynotes of the Cardinal's discourse, and magnificently does he work out both themes. . . . What the Cardinal means by the need of a lesson in patriotism is "that there were Belgians, and many such, who wasted their time and their talents in futile quarrels of class with class, of race with race, of passion with personal passion." Yet when the call came on 2nd August, and "a mighty foreign Power, confident in its own strength and defiant of the faith of treaties, dared to threaten us in our independence, then did all Belgians, without difference of party or of condition or of origin, rise up as one man, close-ranged about their own King and their own Government, and cried to the invader, "Thou shalt not go through!"' The ailment of little Belgium was also the ailment of the great British Empire, and let us be thankful that we have learnt our lesson in patriotism at a much lower price, and that it is largely through her heroism that our own efforts are likely to succeed. But whatever the outcome of the war, Belgium has provided the world with an object lesson in patriotism which must last as long as human history. We can say nothing better for Cardinal Mercier's Pastoral than that the very spirit of Belgium seems to breathe from its pages. The trustees of the various Belgian funds, or of any other patriotic movement, could hardly do our benevolence or our patriotism better service than by printing Cardinal Mercier's letter and scattering it far and wide.'

DIocese OF DUNEDIN

Rev. Father S. Mahony, S.M., of Wanganui, was on a brief visit to Dunedin in the early part of the week.

A general Communion of the members of St. Joseph's and St. Patrick's branches of the Hibernian Society takes place at the 9 o'clock Mass on Sunday at St. Patrick's Basilica, South Dunedin.

At St. Joseph's Cathedral on Sunday there was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from the last Mass until after Vespers, when the usual procession, followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, took place.

Solemn High Mass, *Corum Episcopo*, will be celebrated in St. Patrick's Basilica, South Dunedin, at 9.30 o'clock on St. Patrick's Day. Rev. Father Liston (Rector of Holy Cross College, Mosgiel), will be celebrant, and the Very Rev. Father O'Donnell (Gore) is to preach the panegyric of Ireland's National Apostle.

The following students of St. Dominic's College, in addition to those whose name were published in our last issue, were successful in the teachers' certificate examination in the classes indicated:—Passed in four subjects in Class C, Mary T. Wall; first section in Class D and partial pass in second section, Mary Gertrude Carolan.

The national concert in the Garrison Hall on the evening of St. Patrick's Day is sure to attract a very large audience, and it would be well for intending pat-

rons to secure their tickets at once so as to avoid disappointment. Apart from the sentiments associated with the day, there is a further reason why the support extended to the concert this year should be more than usually generous, and it is this, the proceeds are to be devoted to the building fund of the Christian Brothers' School. Among those who have promised to contribute to the programme are Mrs. R. A. Power, Miss Dennehy (Timaru), Messrs. T. J. Hussey, J. Leech, and J. A. McGrath, the Christian Brothers' Boys' Choir, and the Kaikorai Band. To add to the attractiveness of the entertainment there will be an unique exhibition of step-dancing, including a four-handed reel.

CATHOLIC SEWING GUILD.

There was a very good attendance at the Catholic Sewing Guild for Belgian relief on Wednesday at St. Joseph's Hall, and much good work was done. The following donations were received:—A friend £3, Mrs. Bartholomew £1, Mrs. Roche £1, Mrs. Duncan 5s, Mrs. Bandy 5s, Mrs. Broad 5s. The following sent material and clothing:—Mrs. Ailum, Mrs. Bartholomew, Miss Cameron, Miss Cotter, Mrs. Callan, Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Cornish, Miss Garstang, Mrs. Graham, Mrs. Hogan, Mrs. Hussey, Miss Livingstone, Miss Lynch, Mrs. Mowat, Mrs. Mills, Miss Murphy, Mrs. Meenan, Mrs. Nicol, Mrs. Stone, Mrs. O'Brien, Mrs. Power, Mrs. O'Sullivan, Mrs. Turner, Mrs. Woods, Miss Wheelan.

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

March 6.

His Grace Archbishop O'Shea left on Friday on a visit to Hawke's Bay and Wairoa.

A garden fete at Mrs. Putnam's grounds, Northland, is being held this afternoon in aid of the local church-school.

Mr. Geo. Girling-Butcher (general secretary and organiser of the Catholic Federation) will commence his organising tour of the diocese of Christchurch at Akaroa on March 17.

The monthly meeting of the executive of the Marist Brothers' Old Boys' Cricket Club was held at the Tasman Street School on March 2. Brother Donatus presided over a good attendance of members. It was decided to send a boys' team to play the Marist Brothers' School at Wanganui at Easter. Mr. O'Donnell was appointed manager of the team, and it was left to him to make the necessary arrangements.

Everything is well in hand for the celebration of St. Patrick's Day. The Irish Hurling Club will make its first appearance. Numerous side-shows will be on the grounds, and a special programme of sports and dancing has been arranged. A singing competition for the boys and girls attending the Catholic schools will be held. The concert promises to be very successful, the principal contributors to the programme being Misses Mildred Wrighton, Teresa McEnroe, Agnes M. Segrief, and Messrs. W. Farquhar Young, and J. Jago.

That the Rev. Father Gondringer's Lenten sermons in St. Joseph's Church are being appreciated was evidenced by the very large congregation present on the occasion of his discourse on 'The Church and Personal Liberty.' The sermon was a masterpiece of eloquence and irresistible logic. He dwelt on the uplifting of the poor, the Church preaching the equality of man and the nobility of labor. He emphasised every point with facts, figures, or dates. His treatment of the question of slavery was very clear and convincing, and finally, he showed how the Church had exalted woman, and decreed that she was worthy of all respect. After the sermon, the choir, which has made great progress under the able