

February 10 in the Te Aro Baths. Dean Regnault introduced Mr Shields to the school in befitting terms, and complimented the boys on the enthusiastic spirit they displayed, causing them to keep up the good name of the school in sports as well as in study. In presenting the cup Mr Shields warmly congratulated the boys on their success in a competition in which so many teams of different schools entered; he encouraged them to continue to take a great interest in such a clean and healthy sport as swimming, and promised to give them all the assistance in his power. Rev. Brother Louis thanked the visitors, and three hearty cheers were given by the boys.

At St. Anne's Church, Wellington South, there were the usual devotions on Holy Thursday. Solemn High Mass was celebrated, and there was a procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the Altar of Repose. In the evening the Rev. Father O'Connor preached, and a watch was maintained by the members of St. Vincent de Paul Society right through the night. On Good Friday the Mass of the Presanctified was celebrated by the Rev. Father Peoples, S.M., Very Rev. Father Taylor, S.M., being deacon, Rev. Father McCarthy subdeacon, and Ven. Archdeacon Devoy, S.M., master of ceremonies. In the evening the Rev. Father McCarthy preached an eloquent sermon on the Passion.

It was notified to the congregation at St. Gerard's Church last Sunday that the Redemptorist Fathers in Wellington had received advice from Europe that although there are many members of the Order in the firing line there have been only eight killed, and none of those are priests. One Brother was captured by the Russians in Galicia, but was released and allowed to go home and perform his daily duties, an action which is referred to as a very generous one. Among those held as prisoners by the Germans are three priests of the Order. They were well treated, and are allowed to minister to the members of their Church who are among the prisoners. It is said that the Catholic soldiers held as prisoners where these three priests are number 14,000. The Order has been very fortunate in that churches owned by it in towns which have experienced fighting have suffered very little damage.

Palmerston North

(From our own correspondent.)

The ceremonies of Holy Week were attended by large congregations, the number of communicants on Holy Thursday being an edifying sight.

The Rev. Father Forrester, who underwent an operation in a local hospital last week, has sufficiently recovered to attend to his duties.

Last week I chronicled the death of Miss Winifred Drury, and this week I have to record the passing away of her father. Mr. Drury had been an invalid for many years, and death came as a happy release to a life of suffering. Much sympathy will be felt for Mrs. Drury in her double bereavement. R.T.P.

A monster Belgian relief fete was held on the local showgrounds on Wednesday last, and as a result of the magnificent work done by a large body of helpers the splendid sum of £3000 was netted. This will probably carry with it a Government subsidy of pound for pound, so that the townspeople have reason to be proud of their great effort on behalf of this admirable object.

Napier

(From an occasional correspondent.)

The following pupils of the Sisters of the Missions' Sacred Heart High School, Napier, were successful in public examinations recently:—Senior Board scholarship and senior free place, Annie Murray. Junior free place—Ellie Dineen, Ruby Woodcock, Mary Ahern, Winnie Ryan, Katie Hourigan, Leah Cassin, Isabel Barry, and Annie Hourigan obtained certificates of pro-

ficiency, while Kathy Strachan, Doris Collison, Connie Lynch, and Eileen Culling received competency.

Muriel Northcroft and Rawera Hunt, pupils of the Sisters of the Missions, were successful in passing the examination in art of teaching and rudiments of music held in December last in connection with Trinity College, London, thereby gaining the associate (A.T.C.L.) diploma.

Wanganui

(From an occasional correspondent.)

Despite the inclemency of the weather, there was a large and enthusiastic audience in the Opera House on the occasion of the St. Patrick's Night concert. Owing to the great crowd the sale of two-shilling tickets had to be stopped before the hour for commencing the concert. The Garrison Band, under the conductorship of Mr Wade, gave a splendid rendering of the test selection ('Les Huguenots') and 'Mother Machree,' which were well received. Mr Charles Spillane was heard to advantage in his splendid rendering of 'On the road to Tipperary,' and for a well-deserved encore he sang 'The wearing of the green' (new version), which was received with pronounced approval. Mr T. P. Souter in his recitation 'The Highland Brigade' showed clearly that many sons of the Green Isle were members of this brigade. He was heartily encored. Mr Claude Suisted sang 'Oft in the stilly night,' for which he was recalled, and in the second part gave a pleasing rendering of 'Believe me,' which was also encored. Mrs Ivo Symes' songs, 'Green isle of Erin' and 'My own land,' were given in that lady's best style. Mr James McGrath gave a cornet solo, 'Kathleen Mavourneen,' and on being recalled bowed his acknowledgments. Miss Alice Woods sang with taste and feeling 'The last rose of summer,' and was honored with a recall. Mr A. O. Dawson sang 'Father O'Flynn' in good style, and his encore was well deserved. Miss Belle McLean was very successful in her item, 'Killarney,' for which she was encored. Rev. Father Moloney was heard to advantage in 'The Irish volunteer,' and for an encore he gave 'A nation once again.' Mr A. G. McLean sang in good style 'Mountain lovers.' The Wanganui quartet (Messrs J. D. McBeth, C. G. McCarthy, A. G. McLean, and Claude Suisted) contributed 'The dear little shamrock' and 'Absence.' Mr Geo. Swan, in his recitation 'The midnight charge,' made a decided impression, and was recalled. Mr W. Bolton danced an Irish jig, and was enthusiastically encored. Special mention must be made of Mr Joseph Kearsley, who acted as accompanist, and opened the second part of the programme with a pianoforte selection of Irish airs. Mr C. M. Morgan discharged the duties of stage manager with much success. It was admitted by all that this year's concert was fully up to the standard of similar ones in the past.

The fortnightly meeting of St. Mary's branch of the Hibernian Society was well attended, and a report of the business done at the district meeting was explained by the branch delegate (Bro. A. McWilliams, P.P.). Two candidates were proposed. A very large number of the members received Holy Communion on Sunday, March 14. The quarterly meeting of the branch was held on March 24, when there was a fair attendance. Bro. President D. Dwyer presided. One new member was initiated, and a candidate was proposed. Accounts amounting to £37 7s 6d were passed for payment. The members congratulated Bro. E. G. Harker, who has just received his LL.B. degree.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

April 5.

The solemn observances of Holy Week were commenced in the Cathedral on last Wednesday evening with the office of Tenebrae, in which the resident clergy