

COMMERCIAL

Messrs. Stronach, Morris, and Co., Ltd., report for week ended Tuesday, June 8, as follows:—Rabbit-skins.—We held our fortnightly sale yesterday and offered a medium catalogue to a full attendance of buyers. Competition was keen and last sale's rates were fully maintained. Best winters, 13d to 14d; bucks, 12d to 12½d; incoming winters, 10d to 11½d; autumn, 9½d to 10½d; racks, 6½d to 7½d; runners and suckers, to 2½d; prime winter blacks, 24d to 26½d; autumn blacks, 12d to 15d; fawns, to 12½d; horsehair, 17d to 20d per lb. Catskins, 1d to 3d each. Sheepskins.—Our next sale will be held on Tuesday, 15th inst. Hides.—We held our fortnightly sale on the 4th inst., and offered a full catalogue to the usual attendance of buyers. Competition was good and prices were much the same as at last sale. Best ox hides, 9½d to 10½d; medium, 8½d to 9½d; light, 8d to 9d; best cow hides, to 8½d; light to medium, 8d to 8½d; cut and slippy, 6d to 7½d; calfskins, 9½d to 10½d; medium, 8d to 9½d; yearlings, 8d to 8½d per lb. Oats.—Offerings are light. There was a strong demand during last week and prime quality met with a ready sale at quotations. Prime milling, 4s 3d to 4s 4d; good to best feed, 4s to 4s 2d; inferior to medium, 3s 9d to 3s 11d per bushel (sacks extra). Wheat.—There is a good inquiry for prime samples, which meet with a ready sale at quotations. Prime milling velvet, to 7s; Tuscan and red wheats, 6s 9d to 6s 11d; best whole fowl wheat, 6s 6d to 6s 8d per bushel (sacks extra). Chaff.—There is a keen demand, more especially for prime quality which meets with ready sale at quotations. Inferior and light chaff, however, is not so much sought after. Prime oaten sheaf, £6 15s to £7; medium to good, £5 to £6 10s; straw chaff, £3 to £3 10s per ton (sacks extra). Potatoes.—There is a better inquiry from shippers for good shipping lines, also the local demand continues good. Best tables, £5 10s to £5 12s 6d; medium, £4 15s to £5 5s per ton (sacks included).

CATHOLIC FEDERATION

WELLINGTON DIOCESAN COUNCIL.

The monthly meeting of the executive committee was held at St. Patrick's Hall, Wellington, on June 2. Mr. F. W. Crombie was in the chair, and Messrs. Corry, Parsonage, and Johnson (hon. secretary) were present. Apologies were received from the Right Rev. Mgr. McKenna and Mr. B. Ellis. The Railway Department wrote granting the usual concession fares for delegates attending the meeting of the Diocesan Council on July 15, and the necessary certificates, together with the order paper, etc., will be sent out to parish committees in the course of a few days. The question of offering prizes to pupils in the Catholic primary schools for the best essays on the subject of the Federation was referred to the Council for consideration. The committee further considered the question of holding a general Communion breakfast of the combined city branches at some central place on Federation Sunday, July 4, and it was agreed that while such a function would be desirable in every way, considerable difficulty would be found in carrying it out successfully. The committee therefore recommended that each branch be advised to make its own arrangements.

Parish committees are reminded that the quarterly returns and remittances are due on the 30th inst., and should be forwarded before July 5, in order that they may appear in the accounts for the current half year.

AUCKLAND LITERATURE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the literature committee of the Auckland Diocesan Council of the Catholic Federation was held on June 2. There were present Rev. Father Doyle (president), Misses V. A. Jacobsen, M.A., and Boylan, Messrs. O'Malley and Temun. An apology was received from the Right Rev. Mgr. Brodie, V.G.

The president welcomed the new member, Miss Boylan, to the committee. A letter was received from the proprietor of a certain bookstall, to whom a letter had been sent, *re* his having on sale an anti-Catholic and generally indecent and objectionable book. The letter was considered very satisfactory, the writer stating that he had none of the books in question now in stock, and that he did not intend to sell any in future. A letter was also received from Mr. J. T. Fitzgerald (secretary of the Ponsonby branch of the Federation), making certain suggestions to the committee with regard to another matter. It was decided that the action already taken would cover the matter for the present. Rev. Father Doyle reported to the committee information he had received with regard to what he thought might be a breach of the Education Act with regard to sectarian teaching in the schools. After a general discussion it was decided that as no documentary evidence was available nothing could be done meantime.

ADDINGTON.

(From our Christchurch correspondent.)

The June quarterly meeting of the Addington branch was held on Wednesday evening last in the schoolroom, when the president (Mr. Geo. Getson) presided over a good attendance of members. The balance sheet, which was read and adopted, showed the branch to be in a very flourishing condition. Commenting on the progress of the branch, the president referred to the able manner in which Mr. Leo Courtney carried out the duty of secretary, also to the way in which the lady members had worked to extend the Federation in Addington. It was decided to donate a silver medal to the pupils of the Addington school, and also one to the Halswell pupils, as prizes for the best essay on Catholic Federation.

OBITUARY

MRS. ANNE PACKER, STUDHOLME JUNCTION.

On June 4 there passed away at her residence, Studholme Junction, Mrs. Anne Packer, relict of the late Worthy Packer, and one of the oldest and most respected residents of the district, in her 59th year. The deceased was the daughter of the late Patrick and Kate O'Holloran, of Newcastle, Aghirea, County Galway. She came to New Zealand about the year 1877, arriving at Port Chalmers in the ship Invercargill, and about two years later was married at Waimate by the Rev. Father Goutenoire. She had a family of eight sons and three daughters. Four sons predeceased her, and her husband died in 1901. She leaves four sons and three daughters to mourn their loss—Rev. Father W. J. Packer, C.S.S.R. (Australia), Mr. Joseph Packer (Greymouth), Mrs. A. Brown (Woolston), Constable Packer (Christchurch), Mrs. M. Leonard (Woodbury), Miss Annie, and Mr. James Packer (Studholme Junction). Mrs. Packer and her husband were among the first to settle at Studholme Junction in the year 1884. The deceased was a fond mother, and brought up her family in the fear and love of God, and to do this she had many obstacles in her path, but in the end she succeeded, and passed away on the 4th inst., knowing that she had done her duty faithfully and well, and fortified by the last rites of the Church. A Requiem Mass was celebrated at St. Patrick's Church, Waimate, on Tuesday on arrival of the remains from Studholme, and the interment took place at the Waimate Cemetery. —R.I.P.

MR. JAMES O'MALLEY, IKAMATUA.

I regret (writes a correspondent) to record the death of Mr. James O'Malley, who passed away at his residence, Ikamatua, on May 28. Deceased was a native of County Mayo, and 79 years of age. He arrived in Melbourne in 1859, in the sailing ship Royal Charter, and was a prominent figure in the early gold rushes