

diction of the Blessed Sacrament. There was a crowded congregation.

At St. Joseph's Cathedral on Ash Wednesday the ashes were blessed prior to the 6.30 a.m. Mass, and distributed at the various Masses that followed.

The following pupils of the Christian Brothers' School, Dunedin, were successful in the recent examinations:—Senior Scholarships—John Smith, Raymond Marlow. Senior Free Places—Ivan Hjorring, Francis Moloney, Joseph Hally, Francis Sligo, Paul Vallis, Callan Drumm, Roderick Culling, Maurice Wakelin, Anthony Dowling, Gerald Shiel. Public Service Entrance—Henry O'Reilly, Frederick Sadler, Reginald King.

There was a large attendance of members of St. Joseph's Parish Committee of the Catholic Federation at the ordinary monthly meeting, held after devotions on last Sunday evening. Very Rev. J. Coffey, Diocesan Administrator, presided. Members of the Diocesan Council Executive and of the sub-committee having in hand the arrangements for the public gathering to be held in His Majesty's Theatre to-night (Thursday) were also in attendance. All the reports indicated the satisfactory accomplishment of much preparatory work for the series of important Federation events to be held this week in Dunedin, and which will mark a distinct advance step in the activities of this useful Catholic organisation in the diocese of Dunedin.

The programme sub-committee of the National Concert in celebration of St. Patrick's Day has been successful in securing a number of well-known and favorite artists for the occasion. These include Mesdames R. A. Power, Fraher, Coventry, Misses E. Murphy and M. Lemon, Messrs. J. Leech, T. J. Hussey, W. Atwill, and D. Fogarty. Mr. Colin Mackenzie, the accomplished dancer, will give an Irish jig, and the Kaikorai Band will contribute a couple of overtures. Tickets of admission have been widely circulated, and nothing is being left undone to ensure the event being an outstanding success.

BOOK NOTICES

Wrack and Other Stories, by Dermot O'Byrne (Talbot Press, Dublin. 3s 6d.)

Since we read Seumas O'Kelly's volume of stories we have not come upon a better collection of Irish tales than this book in which Mr. O'Byrne enhances the reputation made by his earlier publications. It is a real Gaelic book. The stories are drenched with the poetry and pain of Ireland. Moreover they reveal great dramatic power and a very keen observation of men and things. There are old and new stories—stories about the Ireland of the past and about the Ireland of to-day; each in itself a little work of art. Mr. O'Byrne can write, and no mistake. One is as forcibly struck by his intense realism as by his tender imagination and broad sympathy. The book is surely a promise of even greater things to come from the same pen.

James Fintan Lalor: Patriot and Political Essayist, (Talbot Press. 5s net.)

Miss L. Fogarty, B.A., has done good service in collecting in one volume the writings of Lalor, who had such an influence in his own day over the minds of his countrymen. Miss Fogarty regards him as "the dominant mind inspiring his age." Mr. Arthur Griffith, who writes the preface, holds that Lalor was essentially a land reformer rather than a Nationalist. At any rate he belongs to the immortal group of men who have striven in the past and present for the freedom of Ireland, and it is not too much to say that the doctrines he preached laid the foundations of the victory of the Irish tenants over the bad landlords. Griffith is right in holding that it is rather to Davis we must turn for the true apostle of Irish freedom; but what Davis did for the nation, Lalor did for the

peasants and farmers—teaching them to fight for their own and to assert their rights to hold the land of their own country. The book is one that ought to have a place in an Irishman's library beside the works of Davis.

By-Ways of Study, by Darrell Figgis. (Talbot Press.)

Those who have read *Children of the Earth* will realise that a new book by this writer is an important event in Irish Ireland. The present book was finished while the revolvers of his captors were pointing at his head, and he tells us that at his present address (in an English gaol, whither he was transported without trial or without evidence in the Brithunnish fashion) he had small opportunity to make any changes or corrections. The last essay, thus finished, has appeared in *Studies*, and aroused much attention on account of its scholarship and research. The essay dealing with Parnell is good reading. Figgis, who, like Parnell, is an Irish Protestant, scarifies the brutal and treacherous Government that plotted Parnell's downfall, employing even the forger as a tool to bring about that end, just as in our day they had recourse to perjurers and bogus plots to put the author himself in gaol because he loved a small nation. After General Butler's lecture we know no better sketch of Parnell than this. The essays on Francis Thompson and George Meredith are fine pieces of writing. The critic handles his themes with a distinction of style and an intuition worthy of those two masters of English Letters.

Some Irish Vincentians in China in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries, by Rev. Patrick Boyle, C.M. (Brown and Nolan, Ltd., Dublin.)

An important and up-to-date contribution to the history of the missionaries of the Island of Saints and Scholars. It is especially opportune now in view of the wonderful zeal with which Maynooth has taken up the task of preaching the Gospel in China.

Our Alma Mater. (Riverview College.)

This annual is on the high level of its predecessors and is an artistic souvenir of the great Jesuit college.

PRESIDENT WILSON EPIGRAMS.

Epigrams come readily to President Wilson. Here are a few:—

"The way to stop financial 'joy-riding' is to arrest the chauffeur, not the automobile."

"Publicity is the great antiseptic against the germs of some of the worst political methods."

"A conservative man is a man who just sits and thinks, mostly sits."

And here is one which throws a whole flood of light upon his attitude during that very trying time which preceded America's entry into the world war—"You do not settle things quickly by taking what seems to be the quickest way to settle them."

When viewed in the light of faith, sacrifices, often more than consolations, help us to advance in the path of holy love.—*Mother M. of the Sacred Heart*.

Attention is directed to the announcement of Misses Hanna, millinery specialists, now appearing in the *Tablet*. This enterprising firm, after establishing a successful business in Christchurch, open a branch at Timaru, and have now extended business to Dunedin, opening at 180 George Street....

FATHER DORE MEMORIAL CHURCH, FOXTON

ADDITIONAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Already acknowledged, £660 19s 11d; Sisters of St. Brigid, Masterton, £3 3s; Mrs. Mullin, Tasman Street, Wellington (for her son, David, killed in action), £5; Mr. and Mrs. P. Lenihan, £10; total, £679 2s 11d.

J. FORRESTAL.

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