

McCarthy, it is in the same sense in which he is interesting because he is a man. That is, he will be interesting whether poor or rich, whether eminent or insignificant. But if he is interesting because he is Lord FitzArthur and lives at FitzArthur House, he will be interesting when he has merely bought the house, or when he has merely bought the title. To maintain a squirearchy, it is necessary to admire the new squire; and therefore to forget the old squire. The sense of family is like a dog and follows the family; the sense of oligarchy is like a cat and continues to haunt the house. The snob, that very tame and very treacherous cat, is unfortunately in this respect the modern degeneration of the lion or the leopard of England. The snob keeps his eye on one patch of the sunshine of success; he is ignorant of all that happens to people before or after they pass across it; therefore he is more ignorant of the varieties of mankind than the narrowest partisan of a clan or a name. Aristocracy as it has existed in modern England is built up of broken and desecrated bones. It has to destroy a hundred poor relations to keep up a family. It has to destroy a hundred families to keep up a class.

This fact of the family alone constitutes a difficulty which makes it flatly impossible for the English plutocracy to govern the Irish peasantry, or even to help to govern it. To do it justice, it has never really tried; and it certainly is not really trying now. The English, free and happy people, are at present being governed by plutocracy; the Irish are being governed by mere militarism. They might again be governed, as we have often governed them, by mere massacre. We had come very near it when the end of the war apparently saved us from the appalling tomfoolery of applying conscription to Ireland. But though our rulers might apply massacre to Ireland, even our rulers do not go so far as to apply social reform to Ireland. Madmen may yet let loose in that island all the horrors of reaction; but even a madman does not dream of imposing the horrors of progress. Laws will still be passed for England that do not apply to Ireland; laws will still be framed specially for Ireland that are not needed in England. It would be impossible for a ruler to recognise more definitely the difference between two nations than by always subjecting them to two quite different kinds of tyranny.

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

April 17.

The ceremonies of Holy Week are being solemnly observed in the principal Catholic churches of the city. Large numbers approached the Holy Table on Holy Thursday.

Last Tuesday week some very fine lantern slides depicting Jerusalem and the holy places connected with the life of our Lord were shown at St. Joseph's. There was a large attendance. The descriptive lecture given by Father Hurley was most interesting.

At a recent meeting of the St. Anne's Parish Committee it was decided to promote an entertainment for May 7, in aid of the Sisters of Mercy of that parish.

The Thomas Moore Anniversary Musical Festival Committee held a meeting on last Friday evening, when business in connection with the competitions and annual concert was discussed. Entries for the competitions close on April 30.

Mr. D. J. Leahy, of the Railway Department, Woodville, and a prominent worker in Catholic affairs in that district as secretary of the Catholic Federation and Hibernian Society, has received an appointment on the staff of the National Provident Fund, and transferred to this city.

The sum of £50 has been cabled by the Dominion Executive of the N.Z. Catholic Federation to the treasurer of the committee in England which is arranging the visits of Catholic soldiers to Lourdes. A large number of New Zealand Catholic soldiers have already made the pilgrimage.

The following donations have been received by the Dominion treasurer of the N.Z. Catholic Federation towards the Lourdes pilgrimage fund:—"A well-wisher," Hastings, 10s; Mrs. M. F. Egan, Maungahau Road, Newmarket, 5s; S. G. D. K., Aramoho, 10s; Lieut. John Duggan, Wellington, £1 1s; Mrs. G. Fraser, Northcote (per *N.Z. Tablet*), 7s 6d; Mrs. D. Tynan Fahey, Riverton, £1; "Octagon," Dunedin, 10s; V. Twohill, Box 40, Thames, 10s;—total, £4 13s 6d.

Wanganui

(From our own correspondent.)

April 17.

Lent is almost over, and how quickly it has gone. As I write, we are all preparing, spiritually and temporally, for Easter. On Holy Thursday morning at High Mass, the children's choir did the singing. They sang the Mass for the first time, also the "Pange Lingua" and other incidentals. The young voices are very sweet, and the little girls very interested in their choir work, as they quite realise that to be the faithful servants their mothers, older sisters, aunts, and friends have been, there is something like twenty, thirty, or even more years of solid devotion ahead of them. Meantime, they have started well and are happy in their work, for virtue is surely its own reward.

The welcome to the returned Maoris last week was a wonderful celebration. Crowds of Natives, somewhere about 900, assembled at the Putiki Pah, and occasion was taken to have Mass over there, two Masses being necessary to accommodate the visitors and residents. Among the number of notable chiefs working hard to make things go well was Tanginoa Tapa, of Parakino, up-river member of the Maori Council, and a well-known Catholic. His son, Private Robert Tapa, is one of the returned men, and the following are also Catholic soldiers—Privates R. Tamakehu, P. Kahukura, H. Paitaka, and S. Tapa, from Parakino; and Lance-Corporal E. Erneti, Privates C. King, D. Tonihi, P. Katene, and Rangi, from Jerusalem.

A social was held during the week at Fordell, to gather in funds for some vestments. As this was the first Catholic social out there, great interest was taken by all the settlers, and the six Catholic families living at Fordell worked absolutely 100 per cent. strong—surely a record the best parish in New Zealand would do well to imitate. The hall was lent free of charge by Mr. McGovern. Mesdames McGovern, Sheehan, Corkery, Crafer, O'Leary, and Carroll, with whatever help they could get, decorating it out of all recognition. These good ladies also provided the supper, and in such generous quantity that quite a lot of left-over cakes were sent in to the Children's Orphanage in town. A concert was arranged in which the Misses McGovern, O'Leary, and Turnbull (Fordell) took part, and some friends went out from Wanganui, the Misses Koorey, Boyle, Kenny, and Mrs. Ahern contributing items also. Mr. Harper (Fordell) very generously supplied the music for the social, and altogether something over 100 happy people spent an enjoyable night, and helped to make vestments for Fordell possible.

Rev. J. Kelly, Ph.D., Dunedin, who has been for a short holiday in the Taranaki district, called at Wanganui on his way home.

Word was received to-day by Father O'Connell, that his youngest brother, Lance-Corporal T. O'Connell, died at sea a day or two ago. The sad news was not altogether unexpected, as Father O'Connell knew that his brother was dangerously ill, but everyone hoped for the best. We all extend our deep sympathy

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