

possibilities in the field of reconstructive surgery, and the restoration of function after injury.

CAPTAIN P. A. ARDAGH, M.C., D.S.O.

Captain P. A. Ardagh, M.C., D.S.O., returns to New Zealand by the Arawa, which is expected to arrive in Lyttelton to-day (Thursday). It now transpires that the doctor referred to in the following paragraph, which appeared in the New Zealand papers of last October, and which, under the heading of "A Medical Hero," was sent out by the official war correspondent, is Captain P. A. Ardagh, M.C., D.S.O., of Carlton Street, Merivale, Christchurch, and who intends resuming his practice about the end of this month. For his action hereunder mentioned, Dr. Ardagh was strongly recommended for the V.C. by Major-General Russell, and keen disappointment was felt by the general and his fellow-officers and men when it was not awarded. Instead, he received the D.S.O.:-

"In most of this fighting both officers and men did so well that it was difficult to single any individuals for special awards, but there is one moving incident that stands out in bold relief—the modest hero being a medical officer attached to an Auckland battalion. He was dressing the wounded in the open while the battle was proceeding. Owing to the exigencies of the situation, there was no better place available for his regimental aid post, and with enemy shells bursting over the position he gallantly continued his merciful work. Casualties were many, and as the medical officers of adjoining units had been unable to get up, he had for 36 hours to dress the wounded men of three battalions as they streamed in to him. Some among the wounded there were killed, and others wounded again while awaiting his aid. One shell blew a wounded man to pieces, bespattering the doctor's uniform; but, to all appearances outwardly calm, he went on dressing the wounded. In the trench close beside him a salvo blew a man's head off while he was dressing a wounded soldier, and he himself was badly shaken. Even this didn't deter him, and English, Scottish, New Zealand, and German wounded continued to claim his attention. He organised stretcher parties, and had the severe cases carried down to a deep German dug-out in the vicinity. His own escapes were miraculous, for he worked continuously in grave danger without sleep for a day and two nights."

OBITUARY

MR. JOHN NOLAN, GRANITY.

Quite a gloom was cast over the district by the death from accident of Mr. John Nolan, which occurred on April 17. Deceased, who had reached the age of 60 years, was still a very active man. At the time of his death, the late Mr. Nolan was a road overseer for the County Council, a position he held for a number of years. A native of Kinvra, Co. Galway, Ireland, he came to the West Coast while a young man, and had resided there since. Of a very quiet and inoffensive disposition, the deceased was held in high esteem by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance. Much sympathy is felt for his widow and two sisters—Mesdames Kennedy and D'Arcy (South Westland). The funeral, which took place at Westport, was very largely attended. Right Rev. Mgr. Walshe officiated at the obsequies.—R.I.P.

Each may choose his patron saint for himself; they are of every sort, so that every sort of man and woman may see in all these mirrors of Christ's perfectness that which may most surely draw him or her to the love of Christ.

Firm must be the will, patient the heart, passionate the aspiration, to secure the fulfilment of some high and lonely purpose, when reverie spreads always its bed of roses on the one side, and practical work summons to its treadmill on the other.—Smiles.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

May 12.

Father J. Eccleton, S.M. (Reefton), was a guest at St. Mary's Presbytery last week, and preached an impressive sermon on Sunday evening at St. Mary's Church.

A church committee has been formed at Woolston, under the supervision of Father Fogarty. Mr. J. E. Doolan has been elected president, and Mr. Fraser secretary.

On Sunday evening after devotions the members of the Cathedral Choir met to bid farewell to Mr. J. S. Foley, one of the choir's most devoted singers, who is leaving Christchurch for the North Island. Father's Murphy and Fogarty attended the function, and after making eulogistic reference to Mr. Foley, wished him and Mrs. Foley, on behalf of the choir and parishioners, a very happy and prosperous future.

The ordinary meeting of St. Patrick's branch of the Hibernian Society was held on Monday evening, May 5. Bro. J. M. Coffey, B.P., presided, there being a full roll of officers and a good attendance of members. Ten nominations were received and two members were initiated. The branch placed on record its appreciation of the assistance given by the clergy towards increasing the membership of the society. As a result of a recent movement in this direction no fewer than 30 nominations have been received at the last three meetings. Sick allowance (£7) and two maternity claims were passed for payment.

The monthly meeting of the Cathedral Altar Society was held on Thursday last. Very Rev. Dr. Kennedy, Adm., presiding. A review of the excellent services rendered by the members was considered, and while all were complimented by the Very Rev. Administrator, special mention was made of the devoted work of Miss Kearney, and also of Mrs. McLaren, whose time is so generously given to the adornment of the High Altar and sanctuary. Mr. W. Brittenden was cordially thanked for his helpfulness in supplying plants and flowers on all festive occasions at the Cathedral.

The annual election of office-bearers in connection with the Cathedral Sodality of the Children of Mary took place on Sunday afternoon, Father Fogarty (spiritual director) presiding. The work of the past year was considered most satisfactory. The members of the sodality are taking charge of a stall at the bazaar to be held in August in aid of the school funds. Thirty-five members were consecrated and 40 aspirants were admitted. These numbers constitute a record in the history of the sodality in Christchurch. Miss Whelan was elected president; Miss Kiely, vice-president; and Miss Dobbin, secretary. It was decided to hold a social on Wednesday, May 28.

The Marist Brothers' Old Boys' Association, with a playing membership of 128, have six teams entered in this year's Rugby competitions. Five of these took part in last Saturday's matches, and four of them secured wins. The Senior Grade team met Christchurch at the Show Grounds, winning handsomely by 14 points to nil, giving, for the first game of the season, a good display all round. The juniors (Second Grade), playing on their own ground, lost to Merivale by 21 points to 8, due chiefly to the fact that the opposing team was much heavier in the forwards. The Third Grade team met and defeated Linwood at Linwood Park by 8 points, all secured by C. Batchelor—two tries, one of which he converted. Playing Albion on No. 2 Polo Ground, the Fourth Grade team gained a victory of 27 points to nil. Fifth Grade won by default.

Sanctity consists in the right performance of every-day duties.—Father Farrell.