

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

August 5.

Very Rev. Dean Regnault left for the south on July 28.

The Marist Brothers' boys were again successful in Association football matches on last Saturday. One team defeated St. David's by 16 goals to nil, and the second team defeated the Rangers by 3 goals to 1.

It is with regret that I have to record the death of Mr. Thomas Finucane, son of Mrs. Finucane, of Willis street, after a short but painful illness. The funeral took place on Friday. The Rev. Father Venning, S.M., officiated at the church and at the grave, Mount street.—R.I.P.

Last Sunday being the Sunday selected for the monthly devotions to the Blessed Virgin in connection with the Arch-confraternity of the Rosary at St. Anne's, Wellington South, special devotions were held. The Rev. Father Herring, S.M., preached an eloquent sermon on 'Sin,' and afterwards enrolled a large number in the confraternity.

When the Ladies' Particular Council of the St. Vincent de Paul Society was formed, the men's society helped the ladies financially and otherwise, and now that the funds of the male society are at a low ebb the ladies at their last meeting very generously donated £5 from their funds, thus showing their gratitude in a practical way.

A gentleman of the fine old age of 92 years was received into the Church on last Thursday, and received his First Communion on Friday. His faculties are excellent, and the old gentleman feels quite happy now that he has made the change. It is not often one of that age is received into the Church, and probably this case constitutes a record at any rate for New Zealand.

Parents and guardians are reminded of their duty in respect to their boys who, under the new Defence Act, have to register. In this city as well as others Catholic Senior Defence Companies have been formed for the express purpose of keeping our boys in Catholic associations, and at the same time of complying with the law of the land. Parents and guardians should therefore see that the boys under their control join these companies and no others.

Yesterday being the first Friday of the month, the meetings of the Women's Confraternity of the Sacred Heart were held in the following parish churches:—Sacred Heart Basilica, addressed by Rev. Father Peoples, Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament being given by his Grace the Archbishop; St. Joseph's, Buckle street, addressed by Rev. Father Venning, S.M., who exhorted those present to join the ladies' branch of the Hibernian Society; St. Anne's, Wellington South, addressed by the Rev. Father Eccleton, of St. Patrick's College, on 'Father Damien.' There were good attendances at all of the meetings.

The illuminated address presented to the Irish envoys by the Hibernian Society has been on view at Beadnall's Picture Gallery, Willis street, and has been very much admired. The address contains the emblem of the society, a miniature painting of St. Patrick, views of the Lakes of Killarney, Mount Egmont, Mitre Peak, Milford Sound, and figures of the kiwi, the whole being entwined with plants and flowers, including the shamrock and the fernleaf. The address is a perfect work of art, reflecting great credit on the Rev. Mothers Smith and Dillon, of the Convent of the Sacred Heart, Island Bay.

On Wednesday evening last the recently formed St. Anne's Cadet Drum and Fife Band held a concert in aid of the band fund at St. Thomas' Hall. There was a large attendance, including the Ven. Archdeacon Devoy, S.M., and Rev. Fathers Mahony and Herring. An excellent programme was presented and much ap-

preciated by the large audience. The principal events of the evening were the selections played by the band for the first time in public. The boys have only been practising for three or four months, and their playing on last Wednesday night reflects great credit on Bandmaster F. L. Dean, their instructor. The boys were assisted by Misses M. Murray and Davis, Messrs. J. F. Carr, P. Leo Minifie, C. McErlean (whose comic items were much enjoyed), J. McCarthy, and others.

The Hibernian ladies' debating society met last Monday at St. Mary's presbytery, under the presidency of Sister F. O'Flaherty, when a very interesting subject, 'Monarchy versus Republicanism,' was ably debated. The republic champions easily defeated the monarchists by 15 to 4. Sisters Gregory, Griffin, and Carmody spoke for the monarchy, whilst Sisters D. McGrath, G. O'Flaherty, and K. Robinson upheld republicanism.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

August 7.

There was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from the 11 o'clock Mass in the Cathedral on Sunday last. Included in the usual procession in the evening was the St. Alphonsus (Men's) division of the Arch-Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament. Over four hundred members of the women's division of the Arch-Confraternity approached the Holy Table at the Cathedral and various churches of the parish for the monthly Communion at the early Masses.

Writing on board the Atua, under date July 21, his Lordship Bishop Grimes says that since leaving Auckland they had not experienced very fine weather until that day, and once again the Pacific Ocean had belied its name for tranquillity. 'We are now,' writes the Bishop, 'within 70 or 80 miles of Nukuolofa, one of the group of Friendly Islands, our first stopping place, where I believe the Bishop, Dr. Olier, S.M., is lying dangerously ill.'

There was a crowded audience in St. Mary's Schoolroom, Manchester street, on last Friday evening at an excellent entertainment given by the pupils of St. Mary's Schools, and promoted to provide funds for furnishing the new convent chapel of the Sisters of Mercy with appropriate seating accommodation. Several of the clergy were among those present. The following excellent programme was presented, and met with great acceptance, the young performers acquitting themselves admirably:—Chorus, 'Violets,' pupils; piano-forte duet, 'Spring,' Misses M. Young, L. Moraghan, L. and N. Sunley, F. Gerity, Masters B. Kingan, H. Moody, and D. Morrison; national flag march, pupils; comic duet, Masters C. and L. Lawrence; piano solo, 'Study,' Misses B. Nicholson, H. Ryan, J. Donnelly, and M. Simpson; dialogue, 'Be truthful but courteous,' Misses M. Hayward, M. Young, T. Ward, A. Ryan, V. Haigh, and M. Petre; vocal solo, 'A little child lead them,' Master M. Lawrence; solo and duet, 'Simple Aveu,' Misses L. Young, M. Wood, G. Couzins, V. Wilson, M. Young, and Master Alan Payling; violins: Misses L. Burrow, O. Westerberg, and Master C. Morrison; vocal trio, 'Mermaid's song,' Misses M. Riordan, A. Geaney, L. Wormald. In the operetta, 'The Midshipmite,' the characters were sustained by Masters S. Lawrence, B. Kingan, P. Riordan, L. Dobbs, M. Lawrence, C. Kingan, Misses K. Haughey, E. McDavitt, N. Goggan, M. Shaw, G. Burns. Pianoforte duet, 'May queen,' Misses H. Ryan, J. Donnelly, F. McDonald, W. Barcock, G. Harding, M. Simpson, G. Burns, and D. Goggan; chorus, 'Out with the tide,' pupils.

After the general Communion of members of the Marist Brothers' Old Boys' Association, the Senior Cadet Corps and Marist Brothers' School Cadets, on last Sunday week at the Cathedral, marched to the boys' schoolroom, where breakfast was laid and dispensed by a number of young lady friends. The Very Rev. Father Price, Adm. (spiritual director), presided, and, in the course of an address, said he was proud and