

MISSING PAGE

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Friends at Court

GLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

- December 31, Sunday.—Sunday within the Octave. St. Sylvester I., Pope and Confessor.
- January 1, Monday.—The Circumcision of Our Lord Jesus Christ.
- „ 2, Tuesday.—Octave of the Feast of St. Stephen.
- „ 3, Wednesday.—Octave of the Feast of St. John.
- „ 4, Thursday.—Octave of the Holy Innocents.
- „ 5, Friday.—Vigil of the Epiphany.
- „ 6, Saturday.—The Epiphany.

The Circumcision of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Circumcision was a rite which, in the Old Law, admitted the male descendants of Adam to share in the promises made by God to Abraham, and cleansed them, if necessary, from original sin. The law of circumcision could not regard the sinless Saviour, Who, being by nature Son of God, did not require adoption into the number of His children. He submitted to this painful rite, however, in order to begin from His very cradle those sufferings by which our redemption was accomplished. The feast of the Circumcision dates from very early times. From mention made of it in the Council of Tours, A.D. 567, it appears to have been even then of considerable antiquity.

The Feast of the Epiphany of Our Blessed Lord.

From the fourth century the Epiphany, or Manifestation of Our Lord, has been regarded as one of the greatest of ecclesiastical solemnities. Three events in the life of Our Blessed Saviour are commemorated on this day:—(1) The manifestation of the Infant Redeemer to the wise men from the East. (2) The Baptism of Our Lord at the hands of St. John, when a voice from the heaven was heard declaring: 'This is my beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased.' (3) The changing of the water into wine at the marriage feast of Cana—the first miracle by which Christ showed His Divine power.

GRAINS OF GOLD

THE OLD AND NEW YEARS' BELLS.

Hark! a sound both sad and joyful
On the sacred stillness swells;
Listen to the solemn tolling
Of the Old and New Years' Bells.

'O'er time's river I have drifted,
Now I breathe a fond farewell,
As I join th' Eternal Ocean.'
Thus laments the Old Year's Bell.

'With youth's vigour I am singing,
O'er each mountain, lake and dell:
Come, rejoice, be always hopeful!'
Thus resounds the New Year's Bell.

And as envious time glides onward,
We hear many funeral knells;
Sad and joyful as the blending
Of the Old and New Year's Bells.

—*Austral Light.*

No man can ever travel away from God without doing it at his own expense.

One's personal enjoyment is a very small thing; one's personal usefulness a very important thing.

Many an honorable career has resulted from a kind word spoken in season, or the warm grasp of a friendly hand.

You must try to be good and amiable to everybody, and do not think that Christianity consists in a melancholy and morose life.—*Lacordaire.*

The Storyteller

THE MINNESINGER

The Lady Gertrude's heart had years ago passed from her own maiden keeping. Do what she would, she could not recall it, could not win it back from that gentlest, courtliest of minnesingers, Wolfram von Rosenkranz. As a girl of eighteen she had delighted in his graceful lays, had worshipped his noble, chivalrous nature, had learned to love him ere she knew it. And the knightly minstrel's devotion had been equally taken captive by the innocent grace of Markgraf Karl's daughter; he had fallen a victim to the charms of her maiden sweetness and whiteness long ere she had suspected it.

For months the delicate idyll had lasted. Wolfram and Gertrude were happy, so happy! Each found in the other's nobility, truth, generosity, and beauty of character inexhaustible source of perennially new delight. And in truth each was well worthy of the other. There could scarcely be a better matched couple than the youthful daughter of the house, gracious and beautiful as a saint, and the golden tongued bard von Rosenkranz—so stately and knightly of bearing—who was attached to the Markgraf's court almost as a member of the household. So at least thought more than one of the vassals and retainers in the Markgraf's retinue.

The Markgraf, however, being proud and ambitions, was of an entirely opposite opinion. Gertrude was growing up, he reflected; she was beautiful as the day and his only child. It was therefore befitting that he should find her some suitable partner in life ere very long.

It was then that, making known his plans to Lady Gertrude, the Markgraf had sustained a great shock. Gertrude not only would not consider the advantageous proposition he had laid before her, of wedding her to the eldest son of a neighboring lord, thus to unite the two families and their wide possessions by the strongest of bonds, but she had told him unflinchingly that her heart was irrevocably another's and that to him she had also pledged her hand, to him only she would belong. And that other—oh! the thought!—the 'wandering bard,' the obscure minnesinger of his court, Wolfram von Rosenkranz! It was not to be endured.

Markgraf Karl was very positive on this point. It was certainly not to be endured that a mere minstrel, well-born though he might declare himself, should aspire to the hand of his master's daughter, and such insolent presumption, such impossible aspirations should not be endured.

So it was that, not long after, the sweet singer of love, of summer hours, of spring birds and flowers, of all manner of charming and beautiful things, was sent forth from the great castle's home-like, happy bounds, a houseless wanderer, to seek his fortune amid other scenes. Ere he went, however, Gertrude had contrived to have speech with him once more.

'O dear, dear Wolfram!' she had wept, in bitterest distress, 'thou art going and I shall never see thee more! O woe, woe, woe is me! And I have prayed our dear Lady so hard, so oft, so long. It surely cannot be that she will neglect my prayer, will forsake me in my distress, no, I cannot think it. And yet, Wolfram, and yet, although, dear love, I am true as knightly steel till death to thee, I cannot see how aught but sorrow and disappointment await us both.'

'Gertrude, mine own sweetheart, the white rose of my life, be comforted. Lady and star of my heart, my lips are sealed as yet by holy vow, I may not tell thee further of myself than what thou dost already know, yet, trust me, dearest lady, all will yet be well. Our Lady hath us in her holy care, what harm, then, can befall the Queen's own company? A bead upon a chain that hath a golden ending ere too long. It is a rosary, beloved, and the rosary of our hopes, our fears, our prayers and our tears is held in that bright Lady's gentle hand! Fear naught, Gertrude, summer blossom of my heart, 'twill all be joy and gladness yet.'

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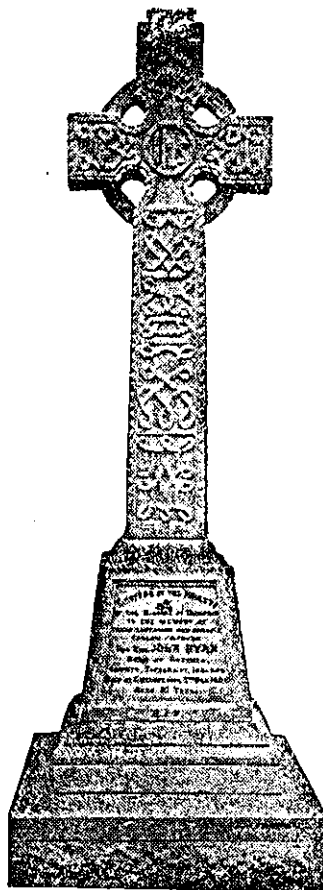
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It was like the silencing of an exquisite chord of music when that silvery singer went away. A beauty had vanished from their lives, like the quenching of a golden sunbeam in a garden shadowed by great trees. At first the Markgraf, sufficiently pleased at having removed the stumbling-block from his daughter's path, pressed none of his new plans upon her. After a year or so had elapsed, however, he judged it time once more to take action.

Therefore negotiations were busily set on foot with the neighboring family with which he had previously been so anxious to secure alliance. Many friendly visits were exchanged, numerous courtesies given and received, and the young knight upon whom the Markgraf had fixed a hopeful gaze fell very deeply in love with Gertrude. Lances without number were broken by him in her honor, knightly feats and chivalrous deeds were undertaken and gallantry executed to the glory of that pale, gentle, and unmoved maiden star that watched the while so pitifully. Not only were acts of prowess done, those valiant combats so eagerly fought for the love of the beautiful Lady Gertrude by her devoted and ardent suitor, young Count Richard; but, seeing that the lady lent him no encouragement, or hope beyond the rest, others had also joined the ranks, entered the lists to compete for her favor. But all in vain.

Nothing could move or touch the maiden's heart. Brave knights, great lords, men of renown, all were at the youthful Graf's feet. Heroisms of chivalry, ardours of devotion—all the best and the richest that noble wooers could lay at her footstool was hers. But the one heart, the one voice, the one face she craved was nowhere, nowhere amid that brilliant, changing throng, and, not having them, she had naught. The Lady Gertrude's heart had passed once and for ever from her own keeping, and she could not, if she would, give aught further than a tender compassion and a sorrowing sympathy to all those eager, pleading suitors. So gentle, so sweet and kind was her manner, that, sorely and bitterly disappointed as many of them were, not one had room in his heart for aught but the kindest, the most grateful and most knightly reverential thoughts of her.

Thus had matters stood for months and long months, till it was now almost five years ago since the Markgraf Karl had expelled the young minnesinger of whom he had known but little and of whom never a word had been since heard. Worn out and wroth at his daughter's unreasonable caprice and her persistent refusal of every single suitor, lord, baron, or simple knight, who presented himself, the Markgraf at last hit upon a plan to which he made up his mind there should be no possible opposition or chance of refusal.

Therefore it was announced far and wide that, on the Feast of St. John's Nativity, there was to be held at Schloss Bergenstein a great and splendid Passage of Arms or tournament in honor of the fair Graf's Gertrude. To this all brave knights of established fame, suitors for her hand, and all lovers of chivalry, of the noble profession of arms and of the love of bright ladies were invited to repair. That there might be an array of such champions as was befitting, that this glorious feat of chivalry might have the additional lustre of the knightliest of incentives, it was further made known that the said Queen of the Tourney would, in reward of his devotion, bestow her hand in marriage upon the brave knight who should merit to win so fair a prize by the prowess of his doughty achievements in the lists.

Great was the acclaim with which this news was received. Over all Suabia the Castles that knew the name and the beauty of the young Graf's—and which one of them did not!—rang with the toasts of Lady Gertrude, the Tournament, and the Laws of Chivalry which allowed so fair a settlement of so widely and intimately interesting a matter. It was, indeed, the most popular device which could, in the circumstances, have been adopted. Everyone was well pleased. Everyone had, or at any rate, could think he had, fair opportunity, it was each fighter's skill, ardor and prayer that must win the day for him. If, indeed, it should chance otherwise, which the saints forbend, at least he would

have had opportunity equally with the fortunate winner and the satisfaction of having essayed his best in true knightly fashion.

Gertrude, even, was pleased with the arrangement. For arrangement of one kind or another would sooner or later have had to be made, and this, at least, afforded some hope, to her also. Surely Our Lady, to whom she had entrusted her happiness, would prove propitious to her and send her the one champion to whom heart as well as hand could be given. Surely her faithful, patient, continual petition would graciously be heard. Wolfram's last words to her, of gladness to come, be fulfilled. She could not doubt it and her prayers rose ceaselessly, night and day almost, to the pitying Virgin Mother whom she loved so tenderly. Ever and anon, too, she would have hours of completest joy and trust, remembering those other words of Wolfram's, 'How shall hurt come to the Queen's own company?'

It was St. John's Day at last. Brilliant and golden, as be seemed midsummer's radiant season, the weather and the crowds of noble visitors the tourney had attracted were alike festive. It was but to last one day—the forenoon to be devoted to the trial of skill by single combat, which was to be restricted to the more celebrated champions, twenty of whom were entered, and the afternoon to the general melee when all the competitors, to the number of eighty or so, were to meet in battle.

Clad all in white from head to foot, rubies at her neck and in her wrought gold girdle, the pale, dark-haired, anxious Queen of the Tournament ascended her throne on the dais prepared for her and her company of lovely ladies. Her appearance was the signal for a prolonged outburst of greeting from that whole gallant assembly, the knights saluting her with lowered lances and the trumpeters filling all the air with silver resonance.

At last,—the cry of the marshals 'Avant!' the the word from the Markgraf who presided, 'Laissez aller!' the fanfare of trumpets sounding the onset. Twenty champions, among the noblest and the best in all the country round, ten on either side, were met in close and deadly contest. The glitter and sheen of their silver panoply as they rushed forward in the sunlight was as lightning, the shock of that tremendous impact as the riders and their horses met impetuously, like thunder. So great was the shock that the opposing forces recoiled again in disorder. Only, however, to rally rapidly and to pursue the fight with greater ardor than before. Swords struck sparks of fire, lances thrust and were dyed ruddy red, broke and were splintered, charger sounded against charger in their mail, swords clanged on shields, on steel breastplates, cries of the heralds, 'Glory of Chivalry, Love of Beauty, Fame to the Brave! Fight on, bold knights' sounded continually. The arena of conflict was a sparkling and animated scene, the spectacle of valor and skill there displayed riveted the eyes and thrilled the hearts of the delighted and excited spectators. It was a great and glorious fight. Never had so well fought and so long sustained a combat taken place within memory. At last, one after another, the wearied warriors fell out of the ranks until it was plainly yon mighty-limbed champion in dark gray armour who must receive the morning's prize—the Chaplet of Honor.

Sick at heart and with a trembling hand the Queen of the Passage at Arms placed on the olive brow of the renowned Markgraf Johan of Hanau the dainty wreath of flowers that seemed such a mockery to her.

The afternoon's combat came and went. Gertrude scarce saw a flash or a glimmer of it, her heart was in her oratory at the foot of her white statue. Johan of Hanau was again acclaimed the victor.

How Gertrude performed all the duties required of her, how she passed the intervening hours, how again she came forth, magnificently robed for the great banquet of the evening, she never knew. She was stunned, could realise nothing. As in a dream she entered the great hall on the arm of the champion who had so nobly won her, as in a dream she listened to the gay conversation, the laughter and music around her. Then John of Hanau rose to speak and of a sudden her

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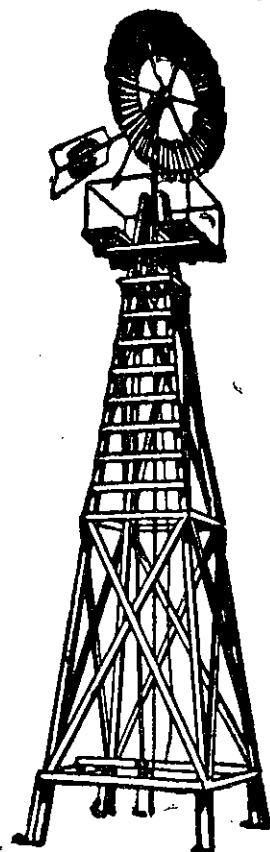
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senses were freed, that benumbing misery that had frozen her melted.

What was he saying? She had lost his first words.

'I am a widower,' he was continuing, 'bound by holy vow, to go immediately on crusade to the Holy Land. Yet ere I went I came hither to fight, not for my own hand, yet for mine own flesh and blood. My son Wolfram von Hanau hath long loved the Lady Gertrude, but he, under vow to wander for seven years as Our Lady's minstrel under assumed name, and then for two years more to battle for the Holy Sepulchre in Palestine, had not smallest opportunity of winning her. Now, returned but recently from the East, sore wounded so that he could not hold lance in rest, he heard of this knightly tournament to be held in honor of so bright and fair a prize. Forthwith I was entreated so hardly that, to save my son's life, I agreed to take his place, in lawful essoine of his weak body, and to be his champion. For this, I think, none of you bright ladies and true knights, will hold me aught but full assoilzied.'

A murmur ran through the lighted hall. Markgraf Karl's face was a study, and the Lady Gertrude, to whom life itself seemed to have been restored, clasped tremblingly the jewelled balls and golden chain of her rich rosary.

'Yet, not to permit of the shadow of discourtesy towards so fair and sweet a lady,' Markgraf John bowed low to the Lady Gertrude as he spoke. 'I have decided thus to settle the matter, if so be the Queen of the Tourney hath nor hand nor heart for me. Waiving the claim she hath vouchsafed to me I would propose a sweeter tourney for her hand, and one wherof all here are peculiarly fitted to judge.

'Wolfram hath great skill upon the harp and can sing lays of love and chivalry with any minnesinger, an art wherein many a brave knight in these halls is master. Then, if the Lady Gertrude permit her devoted

servant to suggest it, let Wolfram and the other good knights and true, suitors for her hand, now stand forth and raise some lay of beauty and of love to her praise. She and Markgraf Karl together with Counts Paul and Richard Fernhof shall then adjudge their merits and the Grafin's lovely hand shall be his prize who singeth best his lady love.'

The suggestion, so akin to the generous and poetic spirit of that chivalrous age, was received with applause and delight. And late into the evening the majestic hall echoed and re-echoed to the melody of manly voices mingling with the deep throbbing of the harp. One after another the brave and accomplished singers retired amidst the acclamations and the praise their art had justly evoked. And as yet the judges found it very hard indeed to agree upon one more than another.

Last of all came Wolfram who had but newly arrived. Pale with excitement and from his sickroom confinement, but with eyes glittering and heart a-thrill, in his rich crimson robes he was yet statelier and nobler even than of old. A tense silence prevailed. Then the silence was broken. Such a gushing of purest melody! It was an exquisitely plaintive ballad of a lover separated from his love, comparing his sorrow to that of the earth winter-widowed of the sun; the final theme, that of new-budding hope, was like the fresh breathing of a sweet spring wind. It was the revelation of a human soul.

Not the judges alone, but the whole hall, after the first hushed silence that supervened, were unanimous in the decision of the musical contest. There was room neither for doubt nor for the faintest feeling of jealousy.

'Our Lady had us in her care,' said Wolfram to Gertrude, simply.

'And she touched thy harp and lent an echo of her voice to thine, fair lord,' said the oldest knight there. And he voiced the thought that was in the hearts of all.—*San Francisco Monitor*.

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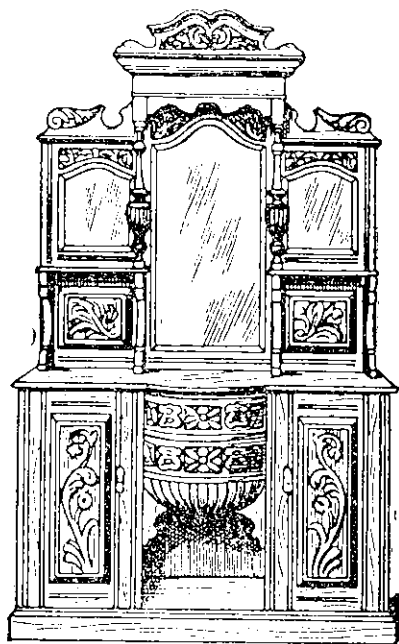
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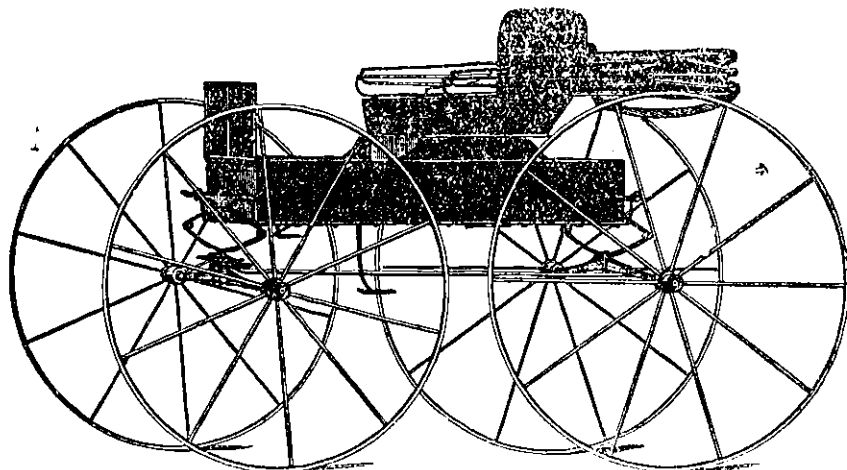
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LIBELLING IRISH CATHOLICS

Mr. James H. Campbell, Town Clerk of Queenstown, sent the following letter, under date September 9, to the *Dundee Courier*, on behalf of the Queenstown Urban District Council. It explains the cause of the action brought by the Bishop of Cloyne and clergy against the *Courier*, as reported in a cable message received last Friday:—

Dear Sir,—I have been requested by the Queenstown Urban District Council to inform you that at the last meeting of that body, Sir James Long, J.P., a member of the Council, directed the attention of the members to an article headed 'Sinister Side-lights on Home Rule,' which was published in your issue of the 15th ultimo, in which statements are made considered to be slanderous, and therefore seriously affecting the Most Rev. Dr. Browne, Catholic Bishop of Cloyne (who resides at Queenstown), together with the entire Catholic clergy of Queenstown.

The reading of the allegations in the article created a most painful impression, amongst the members of the Council, Catholic and Protestant alike, who were filled with feelings of indignation, at the grossly untrue and cruel accusations made, and a resolution was passed

Unanimously Protesting

against the wanton insult offered to the bishop and clergy, who are falsely charged in the article in question, not only with religious intolerance, but with the crime—as crime it would be were the accusation true—of being the authors of a propaganda to have Protestant shop assistants in Catholic establishments in Queenstown deprived of employment. In seconding the resolution Mr. M. Ambrose, J.P., a Protestant member of the Council—who, in passing, I may observe, has been several times placed at the head of the poll by his

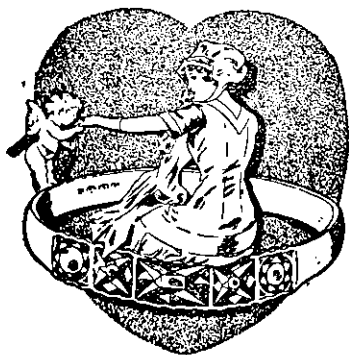
Catholic townsmen, and made Chairman of the Council—said that he deplored and deprecated such allegations being made, as he was proud to acknowledge that his success in life was due to the generous support accorded to him in business by his Catholic fellow-townsmen of Queenstown.

Astonishment, too, was expressed by the Council that a responsible and widely-read journal like the *Dundee Courier* should publish such statements, without in some way first testing their credibility.

Now, Sir, you may put forward the plea that no charge of religious intolerance was made against the Bishop and priests of Queenstown, but to do so would be a mere quibble, inasmuch as your anonymous scribe distinctly states 'that instructions were issued by the Roman Catholic Religious Authorities that all Protestant Shop Assistants were to be discharged. One shopkeeper, a Roman Catholic, refused to discharge an assistant he had had for a number of years. The consequence was that his shop was proclaimed, and in three months he had to close and sell out, his stock being sold for next to nothing.' The italics in the quotation are mine.

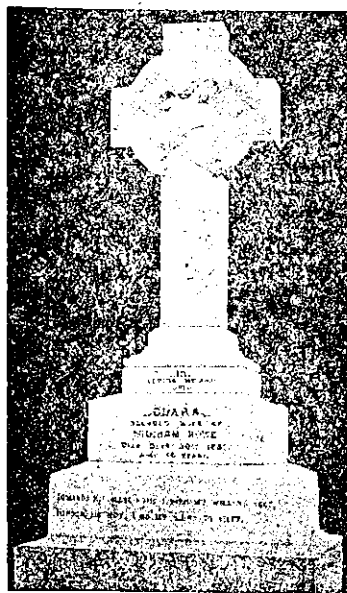
Surely to a person of ordinary intelligence it must be clear beyond all cavil that when 'the Roman Catholic Religious Authorities' are referred to, the writer who penned the words meant the Bishop and clergy of the Catholic Church in Queenstown, and it is equally clear that the stigma and odium which he endeavoured to cast upon 'the Roman Catholic Religious Authorities' of being guilty of persecuting the Protestant shop assistants in Queenstown, was mud flung at

The Catholic Bishop and Clergy of Queenstown, which was intended to stick. The political party that hopes to profit by the manufacture of slanderous stories clumsily put together such as you published, and which bear the very impress of incredulity, of wanton invention and of malice, cannot be congratulated on the unscrupulous methods employed by its agents and advo-

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CHEMIST, THAMES,

cates, but on the contrary its methods must merit for it the condemnation of honorable men. For the information of your readers I may state that I have conversed with many prominent Protestants citizens of Queenstown, who have read extracts from the article entitled 'Sinister Side-lights on Home Rule' which appeared in our local newspapers, and one and all denounced the charge levelled against 'the Roman Catholic Religious Authorities' at Queenstown as a shameless attack, without a shred of truth to warrant it.

The most perfect harmony and friendship have always marked the relations between Protestants and Catholics in Queenstown and the former therefore very naturally resent the charge that at any time the Protestant shop assistants were the object of intolerant treatment by 'the Roman Catholic Religious Authorities' at Queenstown.

I shall now, Sir, ask you for space to allow me to point out to your readers the line of action adopted by the intolerant Catholic Bishop of Queenstown towards one of the Creed which he has been charged with persecuting by your veracious correspondent. The facts which I am about to give I know of my own knowledge, and as one ounce of truth is worth a ton of fiction, I hope that any of your readers, be they Conservative or Liberal, whose minds may have been poisoned by the dissemination of the falsehoods contained in the article, will in future hesitate to accept as gospel the

Dishonest Statements

which sometimes appear in the press and which, alas! politicians also give utterance to concerning Irish affairs, and especially where the object in view is to malign the Catholic priesthood of Ireland. Not long since it became necessary for the Joint Technical Instruction Committee for County of Cork, of which the Most Rev. Dr. Browne is chairman, to appoint a teacher of engineering subjects for the Queenstown Technical School. There were two candidates out of a number left to choose from—viz., a Protestant Englishman and a

Catholic Irishman, and will it be believed that this maligned Catholic Bishop, whom your correspondent accuses of having ordered the discharge of Protestant shop assistants, actually voted for the Protestant Englishman, thus securing his appointment? He did so, no doubt, on the ground that the Protestant candidate (Mr. Ward) was the more qualified of the two candidates, and therefore in the opinion of the Bishop better entitled to his vote and support.

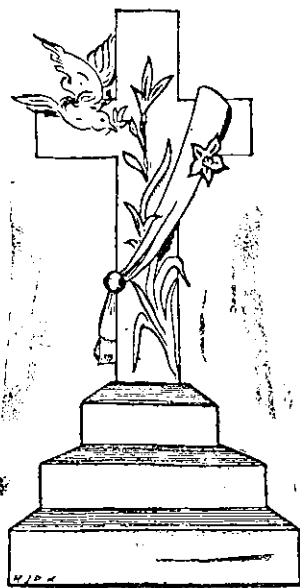
Another instance of this same prelate's rabid intolerance where Protestants are in the minority in 'priest-ridden' Munster, will suffice to convince all sensible and tolerant Scotsmen of the shameless character of the charge levelled against him, is, that the Bishop's legal advisers are Messrs. A. H. Allen and Sons, Queenstown, a well-known Protestant firm.

In concluding my observations in reference to the mean attack made upon 'the Roman Catholic Religious Authorities' in Queenstown, I merely desire to add that I have the privilege of knowing the Most Rev. Dr. Browne intimately, and can vouch that there is

Not a Trace of Intolerance

in his character: indeed, I can go further and state that he is regarded by Protestants as a broad-minded prelate for whom they entertain the highest feeling of esteem and regard.

But your correspondent not being satisfied with having maligned 'the Roman Catholic Religious Authorities' here, also charges the Catholic Community of Queenstown with aiding and abetting the former, by boycotting a Roman Catholic shopkeeper who was obliged to close his establishment, sell his stock in trade for next to nothing, and flee to Britain. Let me at once assure you, Sir, and the good people of Dundee, that nothing of the kind ever happened in Queenstown. The story is absolutely false. It is a creation of a mind filled with prejudice and bitter rancour against Catholic Nationalist Irishmen to defame whose character in order



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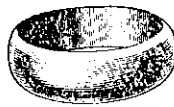
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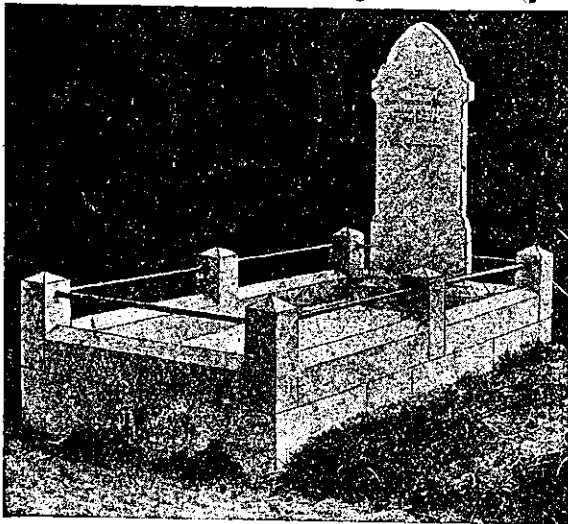
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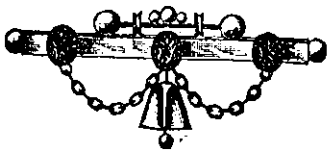


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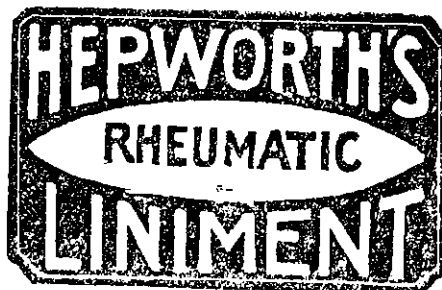
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to make political capital out of it the foulest weapons are used.

The object of the writer of the article with which I am dealing, was unquestionably to create alarm in the minds of the Dundee electors by showing up the present-day intolerance of the Catholics of Queenstown, and thereby to demonstrate the inevitable persecution which Protestants would have to endure under the regime of a Home Rule Parliament. But I shall briefly place

A Few Facts

before your readers which will enlighten them regarding the treatment which the Protestant minority of this town has received from the Catholic majority in Municipal and in Parliamentary matters. First let me state that the voting strength of the Catholics in Queenstown is eight times greater than that of the Protestants, which goes to show that no Protestant candidate could possibly hope for election without the support of the Catholics. What happened at the last municipal election in January, 1911? Three Protestant candidates stood, and all three were elected, defeating twenty Catholic aspirants for municipal honors. Of course they were elected by the Catholic vote, and they acknowledged it gratefully.

Will your correspondent produce a single instance in the whole of Protestant Ulster where the Protestant electors have acted with similar liberality towards the Catholics? He cannot do so.

I now come to the question of the Protestant representation on another public board in this town, I mean the local Technical Instruction Committee. The committee consists of twelve members, and of these five are Protestants—viz., the Venerable Archdeacon Daunt, M.A. (rector), M. Ambrose, J.P., Engineer Captain Dixon, J. Rogers, and A. J. Moore. These five gentlemen, mark you, were appointed by the Queenstown Urban Council, which could have chosen all Catholics if the members were actuated by any religious or political intolerance. Again, on the local School Attendance Committee, of which three of the nine members are Protestants, the Catholic majority elected as their vice-

chairman, the Rev. Victor J. Cotter, M.A., Presbyterian clergyman.

The Catholic Electors of East Cork.

And now, Sir, let your readers learn that the Catholic electors of the Parliamentary Division of East Cork, of which Queenstown is by long odds the largest voting unit, have been persecuting the Protestant minority in the division for the past nineteen years, by electing a Protestant gentleman to represent them in the Imperial Parliament, and during that long period his strongest supporters and most ardent admirers were the intolerant 'Roman Catholic Religious Authorities' at Queenstown. Comment on these facts would be superfluous.

In conclusion, permit me to say that I trust I have adduced sufficient facts in this communication to convince the most sceptical of your readers that the allegations made in the article styled 'Sinister Side-lights on Home Rule' against the Catholic Religious Authorities and the Catholic people of Queenstown are utterly baseless. If I have written at greater length than I intended it is because I feel that I am discharging a public duty in exposing the untruthfulness of your correspondent's statements by the ample material at my command, and in the hope, too, that it will deter other over-zealous but indiscreet bigots from embarking hastily in a crusade of misrepresentation and calumny.

His Eminence Cardinal Logue has agreed to become patron of the Catholic Record Society of Ireland, of which the Most Rev. Dr. Healy, Archbishop of Tuam, has accepted the presidency, and Right Rev. Dr. Donnelly, Bishop of Canea, and Right Rev. Dr. O'Doherty, Bishop of Zamboanga, being vice-presidents. An influential clerical and lay committee has also been formed. The new society will confine itself entirely to the publication of documents in Irish, Latin, English, etc., which may help to illustrate the early, medieval, or modern religious history of Ireland. These documents will be published in a journal of the society, of which Rev. Dr. McCaffrey, Maynooth, has been appointed editor.

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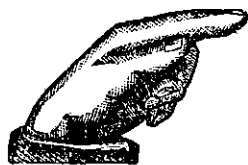
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Rev. Father O'Reilly distributed the prizes at the break-up of the school on December 15 and addressed the children. The music examinations were held on November 22, and were conducted by Mr. Schilsky. All the candidates presented were successful, and the examiner expressed himself highly pleased with the work done. The following is the list:—Senior, Mary Mackie; intermediate, May Johnson, Dorothy Milnes, Eileen Mackie, and James Gorman; junior, Alma Woltersdorf, Jean Hay, Eileen McKeneen, and Christina Garman; preparatory, Jessie Mitchell, Edna Hardy, and Runa Knewstubb.

The annual concert given by the pupils on November 25 was a very great success.

The following is the prize-list:—

Bible history, M. Healy 1, Rose Trail 2; Christian doctrine, A. Albertson 1, M. O'Halloran 2; dux, M. Johnson; attendance (silver medals), R. Trail, H. Simpson, I. Johnson, L. Anderson, R. Austin, E. Cabral.

Standard VII.—Shorthand and bookkeeping, D. Milnes; reading, R. Cabral; shorthand, M. Mitchel; fancy needlework, M. Johnson.

Standard VI.—First in merit, A. Albertson; second, L. Neil; composition, M. Healy; amiability, R. Trail; spelling, N. Varney.

Standard V.—First in merit, P. Knewstubb; second, E. McKewen; composition, M. O'Halloran; arithmetic, H. Simpson; geography, E. Ray; spelling, E. Cabral; neatness, A. Woltersdorf; amiability, E. Mackie; singing, J. Smith.

Standard IV.—First in merit, L. Anderson; second, A. Neil; recitation, I. Johnson; composition, M. Collette; sewing, M. Crammond; reading, J. Tangney; botany, N. Johnson; reading, R. Austin; writing, H. Flynn; drawing, R. Burt; gardening, J. Crammond; application, P. Semple; arithmetic, R. Albertson.

Standard III.—First in merit, H. Parsons; second, L. Percy; reading, M. Montgomery; politeness, M. Hay; punctuality, N. Hardy.

Standard II.—First in merit, L. Smith; second, B. Albertson; politeness, C. McKewen; reading, J. Brennan; writing, John Brennan; arithmetic, T.

Kirkwood; spelling, P. Trail; politeness, N. Stephenson; reading, R. Knewstubb; drawing, E. Hardy; amiability, M. McKenzie; writing, E. Smith; recitation, N. Hughes; arithmetic, V. Dougherty; writing, L. Percy.

Standard II.—First in merit, F. Holden; second, H. Woltersdorf; writing, R. Flynn; arithmetic, T. Cabral; reading, M. Tunnage; spelling, O. Smith, M. Dougherty; arithmetic, L. McKewen.

Preparatory Classes.—A. Crammond, W. Dougherty, L. McEntee, B. Taunt, F. Montgomery, D. Parsons, M. Amalfitano; J. Kirkwood, A. Smith, C. Eastgate, A. Eastgate, M. Montgomery, M. Woltersdorf, N. Cabral, L. Dougherty, N. Troy, M. McEntee, P. Flynn, D. Geddes, F. Simpson, W. Johnson, S. Parker, W. Stephenson, T. Hughes, L. Erridge, R. Amalfitano, A. Smith, P. Smith, S. Geddes, A. Montgomery, M. Lacone, K. Smith, M. Monti, G. McKenzie, L. Dougherty, M. Albertson.

Attendance at Sunday School.—L. Anderson, R. Trail, E. Cabral; most popular boy, L. Anderson; most popular girl, D. Milnes.

Musical Honors.—M. Mackie, D. Milnes, A. Woltersdorf, E. McKewen, J. Hay, J. Mitchel, Christina Gorman; highest marks in practical music, M. O'Halloran.

Nature study.—P. Knewstubb.

Standard VI.—Proficiency certificate, M. Mitchel.

The girl who is adaptable will never criticise the customs of the place that is to be her home. She will not announce 'We did so-and-so in Blanktown.' She may disapprove and feel she can improve as much as she likes, provided she keeps it to herself. The adaptable girl does not force her opinions, obtrude her wishes, or become a regulator. She does not groan over past luxuries when fortune takes wing, nor be ever anxious for something that is not at hand. She may not like circumstances, but she makes the best of them. So doing, she finds them not half so bad as pictured. It is well not to be too adaptable. Where this trait is merged into yielding a point of conscience, because others see no harm, to becoming a nonentity with a mind that wobbles toward the last person, it is not to be desired.

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Black Wool and Cotton Hose—1½ pair
Tan Clocked and Embroidered Hose—1½ pair
Tan Lace Hose—1/3, 1/11 pair
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Current Topics

Abuse of the Cinematograph

A London cable last week informed us that an influential deputation, which included Lord Aberdeen, several bishops, head masters, and representatives of rescue societies had waited on the Home Secretary, Mr. M'Kenna, regarding demoralising literature and cinematographs. From all accounts it is not too soon that this effort is being made to put an end to the abominable uses to which some leprous people in the West End of London have put the cinematograph. At a conference held recently in that city to discuss the question of censoring picture films some revolting disclosures regarding the doing of London's 'smart set' were made. One of the witnesses (Mr. Taylor) stated that it was within his own knowledge, from one who had recently left one of the chief cinematograph film shows, that a number of girls, chiefly chorus girls and of the dramatic profession, had left this particular firm because of the awful poses they were called upon to make. Such films were prepared for private use in the West End, where they were displayed at charges running to as much as £25 a time. Mr. Taylor's statements have been confirmed by a cinematograph operator, who told a representative of *Reynold's Newspaper* that he knew of one firm whose business almost entirely consisted of the production of films and photographic prints of a repulsive character. Elaborate appliances are employed for the purpose of obtaining realistic effects, and the models, the majority of whom are girls, are compelled to surrender all sense of shame. To tempt them to agree to do what is required of them they are offered remuneration at a very high rate. The police are fully aware of quite a number of places where films depicting degrading scenes are exhibited in private, but as the letter of the law applying to strictly private performances is outwardly maintained, they are practically powerless. It is to be hoped that those who are trying to move Parliament in this matter will not slacken or relax their efforts till effective legislation is obtained.

More About Sacramental Wine

Mr. G. B. Nicholls and the Rev. B. S. Hammond were very lavish in their promises as to the retention of the statutory exemption in favor of the importation of fermented wine for sacramental purposes if national prohibition were carried; but, as we pointed out to them, present assurances were of little value, and what we were concerned with was the probable trend of the movement. Some little light is thrown on this aspect of the matter by the following letters. The first appears in the current issue of our Presbyterian contemporary, the *Outlook*. Under the *nom de plume* of 'Christian Voter,' a correspondent writes as follows to that paper:—'The question of fermented wine at the Sacrament has been brought before the Christian voters at this last election in a startling manner. As members of the Protestant and Roman Catholic clergy have denounced the liquor traffic in the strongest terms, and in view of the awful sin and misery resulting from the use of fermented wine (for if there was no use there could be no abuse of it), and also in view of the danger to those communicants to whom strong drink is a temptation, would it not be better for the ministers of all denominations to abolish fermented wine from the Sacrament, as many ministers have already done? It is quite possible to make excellent unfermented wine, and the poisonous alcoholic element is absolutely unnecessary.'

The other letter is addressed to the editor of the *Timaru Herald*, and appeared in the issue of that paper for December 16. It reads as follows:—'Sir,—I have read in your issue of December 12 the letter of the Acting-Primate of New Zealand regarding the use of fermented wine in the Sacrament. If this is the position of the Churches, I fail to see how they can condemn the use of fermented liquors. The Acting-Primate says provision has been made for getting fermented wine for

the Churches, in the event of prohibition being carried. Is this fair? Is it honorable? The law says fermented liquors must not be manufactured or retailed. Why should the Churches be exempt any more than the individual? If this provision has been arranged for, I trust the members of the House will not allow it to pass.—Yours, etc.,

VOX.'

The editor states, in a footnote, that he has excised a considerable portion of the letter, so that evidently it was even stronger in the original.

Some Home Truths

The Rev. G. C. Blathwayt, Anglican minister at Port Chalmers, has been doing a little quiet thinking. An Anglican bishop of Auckland, some two or three years ago, created a mild sensation by declaring that the rising generation in New Zealand was largely pagan. The problem which Mr. Blathwayt has been trying to figure out is, What sections of the community are fairly chargeable with perpetuating and producing the pagan element, and what section is free from responsibility in the matter. We give Mr. Blathwayt's answer in his own words, merely noting that the bearing of his pointed and thoughtful remarks lies in the application of them. Speaking at the distribution of prizes at the Port Chalmers District High School last Thursday, Mr. Blathwayt said:—'It is often said that religious education, as supplementary to the present secular system of education, must rest with the ministers of the church taking advantage of any facilities offered them to teach in the schools before or after the ordinary school hours. Now, here in Port Chalmers, you have every school day two ministers giving religious instruction for half an hour before the school opens. Judge of the effectiveness of such a non-compulsive system in securing the religious instruction of the school children of our community as a whole. Out of more than 400 children attending the school less than 100 attend our daily religious instruction classes. In Port Chalmers the ministers are doing what is absolutely impossible in country districts, where there are a large number of small schools distributed over a wide area and only a few clergy. The question therefore is What proportion of the new generation will be Christian and what pagan? And can such a non-compulsive system ever be adequate to the religious needs of our young nation? Again, Protestants have talked a great deal about the blessed privilege of an open Bible. But if our Bible is not being opened, what is the use of its being an open Bible? Further, I would ask ardent Protestants who object to the Bible in schools to make no mistake. The Roman Catholics are giving religious instruction. Hence another question: If all the other churches are not doing this—if the Protestants are not—then who are producing the Christians of the future—who the infidels? We hear a great deal just now of the German menace. A nation's best defence is its knowledge of God. Germany or any other nation can never supplant Great Britain's dominating place in the scale of nations so long as she remains true to the almighty arbiter of the destinies of nations.'

Unchristian 'Christianity'

A week or two ago we commented briefly on the absence of Christian charity—and indeed of regard for the most elementary principles of truth and fair dealing—manifested in connection with the recent local option agitation right up to election day. The Very Rev. Archdeacon Harper, of St. Peter's Anglican Church, Wellington, has been referring, with great plainness of speech, to the same unpleasant phenomenon; and whether his remarks are correct or not in respect to Wellington, they are undoubtedly a true bill as regards Dunedin. After referring to the methods adopted to capture votes in connection with the political elections, the Archdeacon continues: 'But when one comes to consider another question that has stirred this country to its foundations—I mean the local option question—the position is different, for here the name of Christ is used. Here His service is avowed, and the extension

of His Kingdom is put forward as the object which is before those who are fighting. Now again I want to leave the merits of the question entirely alone. I want to deal with the methods used, because it seems to me a very serious condition of things has arisen. There are two parties, one party avowedly fighting for their interests. They are the party who claim that the trade in which they are concerned is a legitimate and honorable trade. That is their claim, and they fight for it, but the methods they use are to be reprobated in many instances. . . . They don't claim to be examples of loyalty to the principles of Jesus Christ, but still from our point of view many of their methods and a great deal of their language must be absolutely and unreservedly condemned. There is the other side, and I am not speaking of the voter, but of the leader and the fighter. And the reason why I think it calls for a reference from one in my position—a priest of the Church—is because what is done is done in the name of Jesus Christ. In the name of Jesus Christ we have untruths, or shall I say only half-truths, we have misrepresentation, we have slanders, we have malice and bitterness, we have insinuations of worse description—in the name of Jesus Christ.'

*

National prohibition he described as 'a desire absolutely and entirely to exclude from this country, except for medicinal and sacramental purposes, something which Christ and His Apostles did not condemn. And the claim is made in the name of Jesus Christ, in the name of Him who began His ministry with the miracle of Cana of Galilee, and ended it with the Holy Communion. And there were drunkards in those days as there are to-day. It has become the custom of men in this community, again in the name of Jesus Christ, to restrict and condemn legitimate liberty and pleasure in every direction. Here and there and everywhere the doings of men and women are attempted to be interfered with in the name of Jesus Christ. Then we take up last year's census returns, and we find that there has been for the first time a remarkable increase in the number of those who note themselves down as "No religion," or "Object to state." Have the two facts any connection with each other? Is it an unfair inference that the name of Jesus Christ is being made abhorrent to many—that pure, that holy name, and that loving free service and religion—because it has been dragged in the dirt and besmirched with intolerance, malice, hatred, untruthfulness, and slander? To the man in the street this is Christianity.'

This brand of Christianity the man in the street has labelled 'wowerism'; and it is little wonder that—as the recent elections have largely shown—he and his class are in open and avowed revolt against it.

Some Protestant Tributes

Can anything of good come from Nazareth? The bigots say 'No'; but those who, like Nathanael of old, go and see and examine for themselves, have a very different story to tell. Rev. A. W. Hand, of the Baptist Church of Keyport, N.J. (United States), spoke recently on 'What Good Things Can We Learn From the Roman Catholic Church?' His text was Phil. iv., 8: 'If there be any virtue, if there be any praise, think on these things'; and in the course of his sermon he gave the following admirable summary of the visible excellences of Catholicism: 'It is my purpose to-night to speak on points of excellence of the Catholic Church as seen by one outside that great Church. While my testimony may not be fully adequate on the subject, still it will be unprejudiced and disinterested.'

From her unbroken history going back to Christ we are under a great debt to her for preserving the manuscripts of our New Testament. For ages monks were the scholars of the day, and their work was kept from the exigencies of war in monasteries. We are greatly indebted to her also for such men as Thomas à Kempis, Fenelon, and Savonarola.

We admire her people:

Because they believe strongly in their Church.

Because of their loyalty to their Church's interests.

Because they are always ready to defend their Church's interests and if need be die for her.

Because they support her by faithful church attendance, by generous liberality, and the men go to church equally with the women.

Because they show great reverence for their Church and pastors.

The wisdom of the Church is seen:

In regard to the times of service, all classes accommodated by early and late services.

Their churches are open all the week for worship and meditation.

Her charitable work commends her to all communities.

There is no distinction when in church between the classes of people; they are equal before God, whether rich or poor.

Their attitude on the question of divorce is wise and strong. To them marriage and the home are sacred, and if they succeed in leading other Churches in taking a similar stand, the future welfare of the State, now threatened, will be assured.

They give no uncertain sound as to the deity of Jesus.

The hold on the masses of men and women in some cities helps to make good government possible.

Their well-known influence on children in their earlier years.'

*

And another prominent American minister has also made the discovery that on a number of important points the Catholic Church is right, and Protestantism has gone all wrong.

Preaching on a recent Sunday on 'Mistakes of Protestantism,' Rev. Dr. G. Woolsey Hodge, of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Ascension, is reported in the *Public Ledger* to have spoken as follows: 'Prior to the Reformation all that architecture and art and form and ceremony could do to make the Church and its services impressive was used. In fact, religion inspired the masterpieces of the world in architecture and art and music. Christians felt that they should give their best and richest to the service of God, and that the employment of such things would be most useful in impressing men and inspiring them with a true sense of their relationship to God. But the Protestant reformers changed all this. They said religion was entirely a spiritual thing, that splendid churches were a waste, beautiful services were a formality, statues and pictures tended to superstition, festivals were merely days for money-making. So they built plain, unadorned meeting houses, banished all form and ceremony; some would not even have a note of music in their worship nor observe Christmas Day or Good Friday. The result of this mistake of Protestantism has been to make men lose their reverence for all sacred things, to think the worship a very unimportant thing, and so give it up altogether. It has made men luxurious and selfish, lavishing all their wealth on themselves, thinking only of their pleasure and profit. And Protestants are coming to see this. It is the first of their mistakes they are beginning to realise. They are now building as beautiful and costly churches as Catholics, so they can scarcely be told apart, using stained glass and organs and liturgies and even surpliced choirs. They are realising the power and beauty of these things, that there is nothing so elevating and cultivating as art, and it should be used in the interest of religion.'

On Sunday afternoon, December 10, his Grace Archbishop Kelly journeyed to Stanmore, where he was to bless and lay the foundation stone of the new church (says the *Catholic Press*). His Grace was met by a guard of honor of the local and district branches of the H.A.C.B. Society and the Irish National Foresters, in full regalia, and afterwards, attended by the Rev. Fathers J. Whyte and Kelly, he proceeded to solemnly bless the foundations. The building will cost about £2000, and the collection at the ceremony totalled close on £500.

CATHOLICS AND STATE SCHOLARSHIPS

HOW CATHOLIC PUPILS ARE PENALISED

At the ceremony in connection with the distribution of prizes at St. Patrick's College, Wellington, on December 14, the Rector (Very Rev. Dr. Kennedy) referred to the question of Education Board Scholarships, and the injustice to which Catholic secondary schools are subjected.

Before reading the list of prize-winners (said Very Rev. Dr. Kennedy), I would like to make a few remarks about the question of scholarships. You are aware that the Education Act was amended last year so as to allow pupils attending any school subject to inspection to compete for the various Education Board Scholarships; but no provision was made to enable the winners of these scholarships to hold them in any but State secondary schools. Hence, as the law stands at present, the pupils attending our Catholic schools are allowed to compete for scholarships and free places, but they are not allowed to hold them in our Catholic secondary schools. Now, I wish to point out that this new enactment, which appeared to many at first a great concession, and which was no doubt intended by the legislators to be a boon to Catholics, is, on the contrary, extremely detrimental to our Catholic secondary schools. More than 90 per cent. of the boys who enter this college from our primary schools come with proficiency certificates entitling them to free places in a secondary school, but they are debarred from holding them here. They are practically *penalised* because they attend a Catholic college. Again, every year 30 boys, on an average, from this college pass the Junior Civil Service examination, and thereby qualify for a senior free place, which entitles them to free tuition in a secondary school up to the age of nineteen. But they are debarred from holding these free places in *this college* from which they qualified for them. It is, therefore, quite evident that if the pupils in our Catholic primary and secondary schools were to avail themselves of the free places and scholarships in the only way in which they are now open to them, that is by attending the State secondary schools, we should have to close up our secondary colleges. Now, we cannot suppose that this was the object aimed at by those who framed this enactment and placed it on the Statute Book. It is impossible that in this enlightened twentieth century a body of honorable and intelligent men could be guilty of such oppressive legislation. Yet, if our children availed themselves of the opportunities offered them by these scholarships, the inevitable result would be disaster for our Catholic secondary schools. We asked for bread, and they have given us a stone. We must take it for granted that our legislators intended to amend the Education Act in *favor* of private schools, and not to their *detriment*; and we can only conclude that through some oversight they failed to realise what the new clause in its present form means and involves for our Catholic schools. I feel sure that when the attention of Parliament is drawn to this important matter, they will realise that a very serious blunder has been made, that through an oversight they have passed an enactment extremely detrimental to the very schools it was proposed to benefit, that they have made a mistake which should be corrected at the earliest convenient opportunity.

If any objection is made to the proposal that our Catholic children should be allowed to hold Education Board Scholarships in Catholic secondary schools, it will no doubt be on the ground that our schools are *denominational*. But let me inform those who offer this objection that there are two denominational secondary schools in the Dominion in which the scholarships I refer to are tenable and have been held for many years. They are Christ's College Grammar School, Christchurch, and the Wanganui Collegiate School. I hold in my hand the prospectuses of these two colleges, and I will read for you some extracts from them. In the Deed of Foundation of Christ's College in 1855 we read: 'We do hereby found the said college to the

honor and glory of the Eternal Trinity, for the propagation of the most holy Christian religion, as it is now professed and taught by the United Church of England and Ireland.' This college, therefore, is distinctly denominational in its aim. It is also denominational in the means taken to attain its end; for—to quote again from the prospectus: 'There is a short morning service in the chapel at 8.30 a.m. on all week days.' . . . 'Morning school opens daily, and on Saturday closes, with prayers.' The staff includes a rev. chaplain, and the course of studies includes Divinity. The warden and chairman of the Board of Governors is the Bishop of Christchurch, and the headmaster is an Anglican clergyman. So much for Christ's College. As regards the Wanganui College, the chief trustee is the Bishop of Wellington, the headmaster is an Anglican clergyman; a rev. chaplain is included in the staff, and Divinity forms part of the course of studies. 'All boys'—to quote from the college prospectus—'living in the masters' houses are required to attend the chapel services on Sundays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Day boys must attend the Wednesday and Friday services, unless the parents object on religious grounds. Religious instruction is given in each form every week by the chaplain and head master.'

These two schools are, therefore, distinctly denominational, in the full sense of the word; and yet, according to the prospectus, and according to the official reports of the Education Department, scholarships given by the Board of Education are tenable in these schools, and they have been held in these schools for many years.

Why, then, I ask, are Catholic secondary schools debarred from enjoying the benefits of these scholarships? It can no longer be maintained that it is because they are denominational. Christ's College and Wanganui College are as denominational as St. Patrick's College, yet they are allowed to hold these scholarships. It cannot be said that we are not subject to inspection, for we are inspected just the same as the State-endowed schools. It cannot be maintained that our secondary schools are inefficient. A glance at the results of public examinations gives ample proof of our efficiency, if they be taken as the hall-mark. Since the foundation of this college 25 years ago over 200 boys from it have matriculated, and more than 300 have passed the Civil Service examinations. Many of these have reaped successes in higher fields of science, medicine and art. Last year two pupils from Catholic schools gained 2nd and 3rd places for the whole of the Dominion, and out of more than 1600 competitors in the Junior Civil Service examination, obtaining first and second places in English, two first in arithmetic with full marks, first place in heat and light, first in geometrical drawing, third in mathematics, and fifth in French.

Some other reason, therefore, than that of inefficiency or of being denominational must be found for our unfair treatment. And if, when this matter is brought before the notice of Parliament, nothing is done to redress our grievance, who can blame us if we feel that we are *penalised* because we are Catholics. We ask for no favors; we claim but fair-play and justice. Our demand can be briefly but aptly expressed in the well-known school-boy phrase, 'Play the game.'

The newly-erected St. Ann's Catholic Church at Dinmore, four miles from Ipswich, was opened and dedicated by Bishop Duhig, of Rockhampton, on Sunday, November 26. Through the generosity of the people of Ipswich and district, the church was opened free of debt.

The annual meeting of the Australian Catholic Truth Society was held in the Cathedral Hall, Melbourne, on the evening of December 4. His Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne presided, and there were also present their Lordships the Bishops of Sandhurst, Sale, Ballarat, and a number of the local clergy. Addresses were delivered by his Grace the Archbishop, Right Rev. Dr. Reville, Right Rev. Dr. Higgins, and others.

Turkey, Plum Pudding, and Cock o' the North Tea! Talk about a Merry Christmas!

"Hi, Jock! Don't forget the 'Hondai Lanka'; the camping out will be a fizzle without it!"

IRELAND UNDER HOME RULE

THE SEPARATION BODEY

Under the auspices of the Manchester Reform Club, Mr. T. W. Russell, M.P., opened a debate in Manchester on November 3, on 'The Condition of Ireland under Home Rule.' He said that, having regard to his previous attitude on the subject, it might be thought singular that he was now taking up his present position. Well, the truth was that he was not unteachable. That a man should change his mind upon any question ought to depend on the facts of the question; and the man who would not change his mind when the facts were different was not a wise man. He was not there to sketch the Home Rule Bill or to guess and prophesy what was to be in that Bill. Anybody could play that game who liked. Why, he asked, was Home Rule urgent and imperative at the present time? Apart from the needs of Ireland, it was urgent and imperative in order that the Imperial Parliament might be set free to do the work of the country. The demand for Home Rule was historically sound, and the time for dealing with the question was opportune. They talked in these days about destroying the Constitution, but the Irish Constitution was bribed out of existence with peerages and gold, 'cash down' in the most shameful manner.

His Definition of Home Rule

was that it would not be merely the passing of a Home Rule Bill, but the passing of a measure to restore the sovereign rights of Ireland. He was told that that practically amounted to separation. He asked Great Britain to dismiss all the wild whirling words used by the Nationalists in years gone by. Those words were uttered in times of great hardship and suffering, when the country was really in such a state that men's hearts were broken looking on at the misery. If he might use the words of Carlyle, separation 'is not in the ground plan' of Creation. All the great trunk questions, if he might use the expression, had already been settled. They had settled the land laws in principle, had disestablished the squirearchy, and settled the question of higher education, and there was now nothing left which an Irish Parliament could not deal with more satisfactorily than the Imperial Parliament. They would remain citizens of the United Kingdom, although they had an Irish Parliament. Home Rulers looked upon separation as midsummer madness, and were as loyal to the Empire as those who said most about it. He was opposed to Home Rule being wanted at a time when the country was in a state of turmoil and disorder. Then they were a nation of agrarian insurgents; now a nation of agricultural freeholders—perhaps the most conservative race of people on God's earth—instead of a country steeped in crime. Now three-fourths of their jails had been closed; prosperity was increasing. Their Tory friends said: 'Why not let well alone?' But then they would not give self-government when the country was in disorder. Having remarked that many Protestants in good commercial positions in Dublin, Belfast, and elsewhere were willing now to acquiesce in a measure of Home Rule, which they were satisfied would treat them fairly, Mr. Russell remarked that of course they could not do anything with the Orangeman. 'After all,' said Mr. Russell,

'The Orangeman is a Pure Idealist.

He has got no axe to grind. He has the Pope before him every moment when he awakes, the last thing he sees when he goes to bed, and he is afraid of him; but there are a great many people in Ireland who are not Orangemen. I set no store by Sir Edward Carson and his provisional government. The idea of Sir Edward taking off his wig and gown and getting into a khaki suit and spiked helmet is really too much for me. But they are just going as near the precipice as they can. We once had a provisional government, and Robert Emmet was hanged for it. When I reminded Sir Edward Carson of that, he stated that I had entirely mistaken his meaning. Of course a man who had

the Lord Chancellorship in view—after all, it does not do for him to be forming a provisional government. Sir Edward said all he meant was a committee of safety. Well, who is going to attack them, to fight them, and what do they want protection from? I don't believe in all this nonsense. They won't pay taxes, they say, to an Irish Government. Won't they? Will they stop drinking whiskey and smoking tobacco, and will the old Orange ladies stop drinking tea? They will do nothing of the kind. I only wish they would stop drinking whiskey. That would be of great value to me. This talk of resisting taxation and fighting is all nonsense. Agricultural freeholders don't fight. I pin my faith upon the agricultural freeholders.

Discussing

The Future of Ireland Under Home Rule,

the right honorable gentleman said there were only two great controlling forces in Ireland, the Roman Catholic Church and the land. In every other country in the world they were Conservative forces, and they would have been that in Ireland also but for the circumstances. Ten years hence—he said it with no satisfaction—he saw Great Britain convulsed with great labor struggles, Socialism waxing more and more, and getting stronger and stronger; he saw his own country happy in the possession of a modest Government, laboring for the benefit of the country, he saw the Conservative forces to which he had alluded asserting themselves. Great Britain would see a calm and peaceful Ireland, in fact, the only peaceful part of the country—a prosperous Ireland, and probably the only place where a decent respectable man could lead a decent and honest life. That was his outlook for Ireland under her own Government.

CATHOLIC TOLERANCE

DISTINGUISHED CLERGYMAN'S EVIDENCE

Mr. John Redmond, M.P., chairman of the Irish Parliamentary Party, has received a subscription for the Irish Parliamentary fund, accompanied by the following letter, under date October 28, from the Rev. Canon J. O. Murray, M.A., a distinguished Canadian Protestant clergyman of Irish birth:—

The Retreat, St. John's, Winnipeg.

Dear Mr. Redmond,—Will you kindly add the enclosed small contribution to the Irish National Parliamentary fund.

As an Irish Protestant—the son of a clergyman of the Anglican Church in Canada—I am glad to take this opportunity of associating myself with other Irish Protestants who have disclaimed any belief in the cry raised, partly in ignorance, partly to serve political ends, that Home Rule would mean loss and persecution for the Protestant minority in Ireland. Though I have lived in Canada for the past nine years I was born and brought up in the heart of the Protestant corner of Ulster, and afterwards lived for nearly ten years in Dublin, and have always kept in touch with Irish life and Irish affairs; and I am only stating

Absolute Facts

that I have never known of any act of intolerance on religious grounds on the part of the majority in Ireland. Such isolated cases of intolerance as I have come across have been, I regret to say, on the other side. Such religious animosity as may exist in Ireland is, in my opinion, the direct outcome of the system of government, or rather of misgovernment, which has so long been an incubus on the country. The policy pursued by successive English Governments of playing off one set of people in Ireland against another was no more calculated than it was intended to promote unity among Irishmen of different creeds. The tendency of the minority to cut themselves off in every way from the sentiments, social and literary, as well as national and political, of their fellow-countrymen, naturally intensified the division, as did also the fact that in the main the landowners were of one creed and

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If you want your Christmas dinner to be a success use Hondai Lanka Tea!

the tenants of the other. With the advent of Home Rule and the completion of land purchase these causes of division will be removed, and Irishmen will find no more difficulty in co-operating in the service of their common country, while agreeing to differ on points of theology than do the inhabitants of any other self-governing country. The spirit of Nationality is a wonderful crucible in which the most diverse elements are fused.

Irish Protestants have only themselves to blame if they have lost their due share of influence in the public life of Ireland. So long as they set themselves against the aspirations and aims of the overwhelming majority of their fellow-countrymen,

They are not Entitled to Complain

if they are passed over in elections to county councils and the like. They cannot have their cake and eat it, seek inspiration abroad, and expect appreciation at home. Let them take their part as Irishmen in develop-

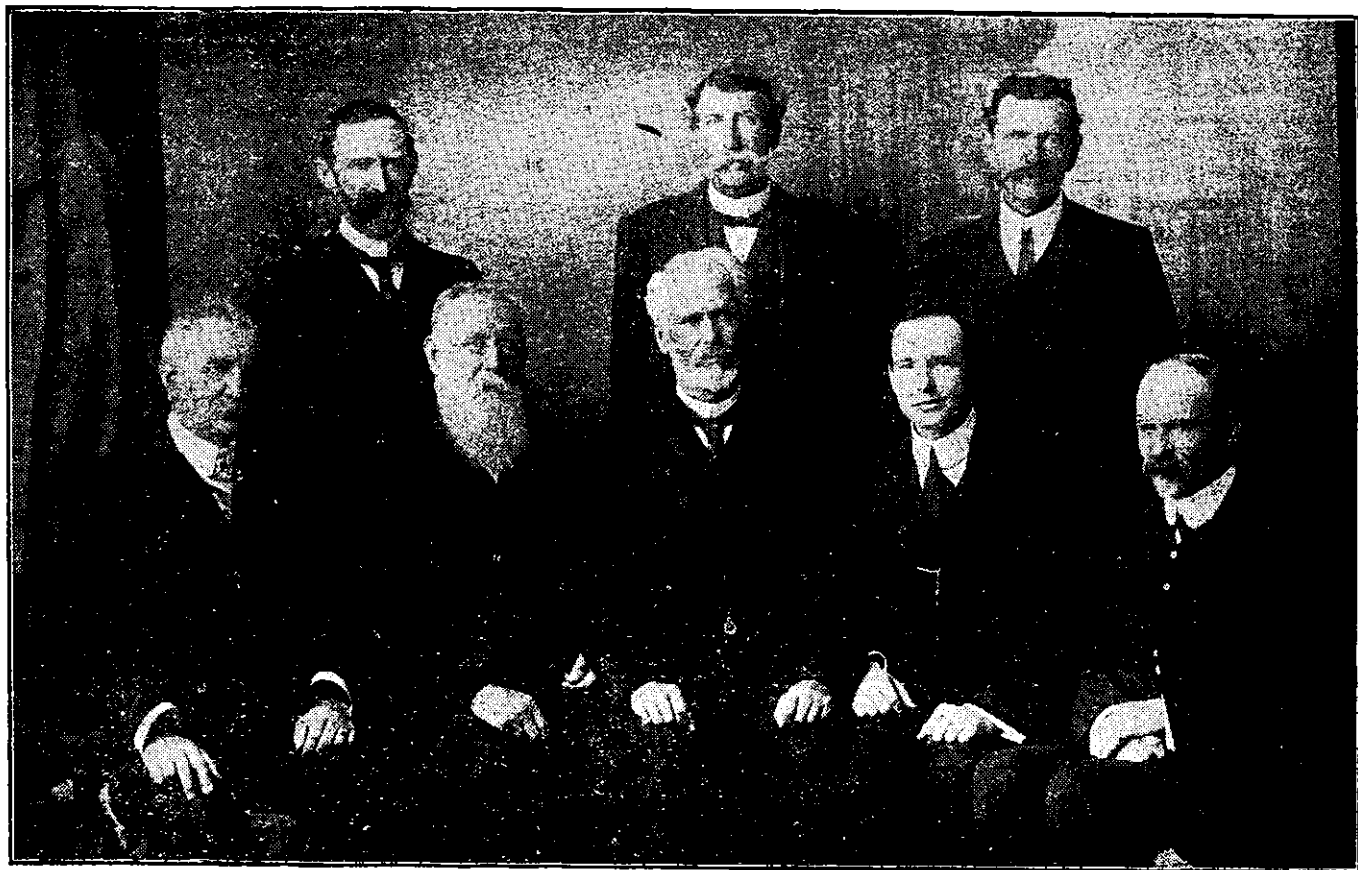
any men professing to be Nationalists should have been found to weaken by factious opposition a movement which has done such great things for Ireland. That they may yet see the criminal folly of such conduct and that a united Ireland may soon see the fruition of her hopes, is the earnest desire of—Yours very sincerely,

(REV. CANON) J. O. MURRAY, M.A.

P.S.—You are at liberty to make any use you please of this letter.

Very Rev. Father Lynch, C.S.S.R. in The Philippines

August (says the *Filipino Messenger*) was a memorable month for the members of our Manila conferences. The visit of Very Rev. Father Lynch put new life into



OFFICERS OF THE NEW ZEALAND DISTRICT OF THE H.A.C.B. SOCIETY.

From left to right—Standing: Bros. Daniel Flynn, J.P., John Patterson, J.P., and P. J. Nerheny, J.P., District Trustees.

Seated: Bros. M. J. Sheahan, J.P., Dist. Treas.; Joseph M. Foy, Dist. Vice-President; William Beehan, M.L.C., Dist. President; C. Mulholland, Past Dist. President; and William Kane, Dist. Secretary.

ing the national life, and Ireland will not be slow to give them their proper share in shaping her destiny.

As to the 'loyalty' cry, it is almost ridiculous to refer to it in view of the recent utterances of Sir Edward Carson and Captain Craig. But I may be permitted to say that residence in Canada, once governed from Downing street, and in consequence on the verge of rebellion, now autonomous and deeply attached to the motherland, has only confirmed my deep-seated conviction that the only way to make a people loyal is to make them contented, and that the most trustworthy bond of an Empire is the freedom of its component parts, each developing on its own lines and contributing its individual note to the harmony of the whole.

May I conclude by expressing my admiration of the skill and patience with which you have carried on the work of your great predecessor, Mr. Parnell, and my regret—which is, I feel sure, shared by practically every Irish Nationalist on this Continent—that

the religious activities of our young men and women. His exhortation at the Sodality reception, his three Sunday sermons to the government university students, his triduum to the same young men, will never be forgotten by those who had the good fortune to hear him.

There was an inspiring representation in the Seminary Chapel on the morning of August 20. The determination to hear Mass and receive Holy Communion on that day, was not hindered by one of the heaviest rainfalls of the season. The same spirit was in the large gathering of determined youth, who came out in the early morning for three successive days to assist at Mass and listen to a religious instruction before attending their classes at the Government University. Remember, far-a-way friend, that classes in Manila being at 7.30 a.m., so that you may mark all the higher the degree of determination that distinguish these sturdy youth.

The first solemn Sodality reception of the year was held in the Ermita Church, on Sunday afternoon, August 20. Despite the inclement weather, the church was filled with students of the government higher schools. The sermon on the occasion was preached by the Very Rev. P. M. Lynch, C.S.S.R., Superior of the Redemptorist Fathers in the Philippine Islands. For nearly one hour Father Lynch addressed the congregation of Filipino young men and women who listened with unabated interest to his eloquent and stirring discourse. Forty-six young ladies were received as members into the Sodality and fifteen were admitted as aspirants. The spiritual director, Rev. P. M. Finegan, S.J., officiated at the ceremony, which was concluded by Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament. Not the least impressive feature of the solemn function was the congregational singing of the hundreds of young people who filled the church.

Since its inception more than a year ago, the Mass for government school students shows every Sunday a steadily increasing attendance. On August 6, the young men were privileged to hear a sermon from Very Rev. P. M. Lynch, C.S.S.R., who had just arrived from Cebu. It was the first sermon preached by him in Manila. So impressed were his hearers, that the Rev. Father was invited to conduct a triduum the following week. The exercises began on the evening of August 16 at 6.30 o'clock. A triduum held during regular class is not without its difficulties. But enough earnest young men were found to fill the seminary chapel. They came from all parts of the city, the attendance increasing each night. Besides the evening sermon, there was Mass, followed by instruction, on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday mornings, at 6.30, the attendance on these occasions being double and treble what had been anticipated. There was a general Communion on Sunday morning, August 20. The occasion will not be soon forgotten by those who were present. It rained that morning as it can only rain in Manila in the season of typhoons. But the heavy down-pour was no obstacle to the determined young men who had followed the exercises of the triduum. With a spirit of admirable piety they braved the storm to assist at Holy Mass and receive Holy Communion. At the conclusion of the Mass, the Papal Benediction was given by Father Lynch.

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

December 21.

Bro. J. W. Callaghan, P.P. (District Deputy of the H.A.C.B. Society) left for Levin this evening to open a branch of the society in that town.

Rev. Father Thomas Segrief, S.M., who was recently ordained, preached his first sermon at St. Anne's on last Sunday evening.

The City Council at its last meeting granted the use of the Newtown Park to the St. Patrick's Day celebration committee for March 16.

The prize-giving ceremony in connection with the Otaki Convent was a great success. Before the distribution of prizes a concert of high-class merit was given. The attendance of the public was large, and all showed their appreciation of the children's efforts. Of the seven candidates presented for proficiency all gained the honor, and were awarded handsome prizes.

Blue and White, a magazine published for the students and ex-students of St. Patrick's College, referring to the rumors afloat in connection with the disposal of St. Patrick's College owing to its not meeting the requirements of the college, states that there is no intention whatever of the college being disposed of, but that the intention is in the near future to establish a second college in a place suitable for students from Taranaki, Hawke's Bay, Wairarapa, and Mana-

watu. The present college will then be utilised for day students.

The new Cathedral for Wellington will be a most imposing building. The plans have been prepared by Mr. J. S. Swan, and it will be in the Basilica style, the building material being stone, brick, and cement. Two towers, rising to a height of 139 feet, will grace the building. It will comfortably seat nearly 4000 people, and will be arranged in such a way as will give persons in the back seats as good a view as those in the front. The plans were prepared with the Buckle street site in view, but it is quite possible that another site will be chosen. It is expected that the first portion of the building will be commenced in about 12 months' time.

The quarterly meeting of St. Patrick's branch of the Hibernian Society was held at St. Patrick's Hall on last Monday evening. Bro. J. J. L. Burk, B.P., presided over a large attendance of members. The actuary's report in connection with the valuation of the society for the quinquennium period ended December 31, 1907, was read and discussed, it eventually being decided to refer it to the management committee for report. Nominations for officers for the ensuing half-year were received, resulting in each position being eagerly sought after. The elections will take place on January 3, and should prove very interesting. The Rev. Father C. J. Venning, S.M. (chaplain), who was present, addressed the meeting. Very satisfactory reports from the delegates on St. Patrick's Day celebration committee and the Pipe Band committee were received. The receipts for the evening amounted to £120.

It is interesting to note the progress that Catholicism has made in the Empire City during the last few years in the matter of building churches and institutions. At the present time there are no fewer than forty-three such buildings in the city and suburbs. Commencing in the south, we have at Island Bay the Sacred Heart Convent with its beautiful grounds, also a parish school and the Church of St. Francis, whilst the Rev. Mother Aubert's Home of Compassion is situated directly opposite to the church. At Seatoun we have the Church of St. Mary Star of the Sea, whilst the Sisters of Mercy have a very successful preparatory college for young boys in that healthy seaside suburb. Coming into Kilbirnie we have St. Patrick's Church Schoolroom, and at Newtown there is the Church of St. Anne, St. Joseph's Convent, St. Anne's parish school, and St. Anne's Club, with a residence for the Ven. Archdeacon Devoy and his clergy. In Te Aro we have St. Joseph's Church, erected by the late Rev. Father Kerrigan, S.M., as a mission church, St. Patrick's College, and Mother Aubert's Home for Incurables, a convent school in Sussex square, and a residence for the Vicar-General and his clergy in Lauriston street. Proceeding east in the Te Aro parish, overlooking the harbor, there is the recently-built and beautiful church of the Redemptorist Fathers (St. Gerard's) and monastery. Standing out prominently on the Brooklyn Hills, we have St. Anthony's Chapel, which was opened during the year. Still in Te Aro parish we have the recently-erected school, conducted by the Marist Brothers in Tasman street. The old school and Brothers' residence, the Church of St. Mary of the Angels, St. Patrick's Hall, and residence for the Very Rev. Dean Regnault, S.M. (Provincial) and clergy, are in Boulcott street. Coming into Thorndon, we have that commodious church, the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, St. Mary's Convent, and the residence of his Grace the Archbishop, Guildford Terrace School, and the building now being erected for the boys in Hawkestone street. In the outlying districts a church has been for many years in Makara, whilst a building is contemplated for Karori. Northlands has St. Vincent's Chapel Schoolroom, and Wadestown, St. Brigid's Chapel Schoolroom. Khandallah and Johnsonville both have churches. Petone has the Church of the Sacred Heart and a convent and school. Lower Hutt has St. Peter and Paul's Church and a convent school, whilst the newly-constituted parish of the Upper Hutt has St. Joseph's Church and St. Joseph's Orphanage.

Across the harbor at Muritai there is St. Antonio's Church. In a short time there is to be a new school for girls at Te Aro, and the new Cathedral will shortly be commenced. This is a splendid testimony of the sacrifices Catholics, who are but one-seventh of the population, have made and are making in the cause of their faith.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

December 21.

On the national scholarships question the following editorial appeared in the *Lyttelton Times* of last Tuesday:—

'We think that the rector of St. Bede's Collegiate School is quite justified in protesting against the regulations which prevent children who win free places or State scholarships enjoying the fruit of their successes at Roman Catholic secondary schools. This question stands quite apart from denominational grants. We are opposed to grants to denominational schools because we believe they would seriously impair the efficiency of our national system of education. But if a child has been sufficiently well taught at a Roman Catholic primary school to win a free place or a scholarship in open competition it is surely illogical and unjust to insist that he shall not hold his free place or his scholarship at a Roman Catholic secondary school. It is necessary, of course, when the State pays for a child's education for the State to see that the child is properly taught. It does this when he is attending a State secondary school, and if he is not making the progress prescribed by the regulations and ascertained by further examination the payment ceases. The same tests could be applied without any additional cost in the case of a child attending a denominational school, and it seems to us that if he came through them successfully he ought to be allowed to remain at the institution which his parents preferred. We can think of no reasonable objection that can be urged against this course. Sectarian differences should be divorced as far as possible from our education system, and it would be another step in this direction to make the quality of the teaching and not the place of the teaching the first claim for assistance towards secondary education.'

There was a large attendance of members at the Christchurch Catholic Club's meeting on last Wednesday evening. The president, Mr. R. Beveridge, presided. The programme of the evening was the periodical oratorical competition for the diploma of merit awarded by the Federated Catholic Clubs of New Zealand. The contestants were Messrs. Frank McDonald ('Pitt's Speeches'), J. P. Laurensen ('Sir J. G. Ward, Bart. '), E. Anderson ('Cleopatra'), and P. McNamara ('Sir George Grey'). Messrs. J. R. Hayward and E. L. McKeon were judges, and although recognising that Mr. McDonald's selection and delivery was a fine oratorical effort, it was not, in accordance with the set rule, and placed Mr. E. Anderson as first in order. During the evening the president handed the award, donated by Mr. E. L. McKeon, for the member who introduced the greatest number of new members during the year, to Mr. F. O'Connell. The president, on behalf of the club, proposed the health of Dr. A. B. O'Brien, who leaves shortly for England, and eulogised in graceful terms Dr. O'Brien's active interest in club matters, and the regret all felt in even for a time being deprived of his presence and highly valued influence. He sincerely wished Dr. and Mrs. O'Brien and family a safe and pleasant voyage, coupled with heartfelt greetings for the approaching festive season. Dr. O'Brien, who was very warmly received, expressed the great pleasure it had been to him to be associated with the club ever since settling in Christchurch, an association which he hoped to renew on his return. He was fully convinced of the need and usefulness of such an institution, our devoted clergy did everything possible to safeguard us in the faith we loved so well, but withal something remained for ourselves to do, and in doing this, and also helping others in a like manner, clubs such as this adequately provided the means. He wished

the club and all connected with it every prosperity. Advantage was also taken of the occasion to say farewell to Mr. Harbison, another active member, who is leaving for New York. Among the guests present was a gentleman, late of the Catholic Young Men's Club, Leeds, England, and Mr. Ramsey, secretary of the Ashburton Catholic Club. Supper was provided, and the evening filled in with an enjoyable musical programme.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(From our own correspondent.)

St. Benedict's Hall presented a brilliant spectacle on Saturday afternoon, when Mr. Myers, M.P., in the presence of the Right Rev. Mgr. Gillan and Rev. Fathers Carran and Forde, and a very large gathering of people, declared the Christmas tree and bazaar in connection with St. Benedict's Convent formally opened. The pupils of St. Benedict's, in order to show their appreciation of Mr. and Mrs. Myers, presented Mr. Myers with an address and a gift suited to the occasion, whilst Mrs. Myers was the recipient of a beautiful bouquet, presented by Miss Audrey Dickenson. The following ladies were in charge of the stalls:—Mrs. Fernandez, Newton stall; Miss Lorrigan, Children of Mary stall; Mrs. Doolan, Mount Roskill stall; Miss Taylor and Mrs. Attridge, Grafton stall. The Christmas tree is in charge of Mrs. McVeagh.

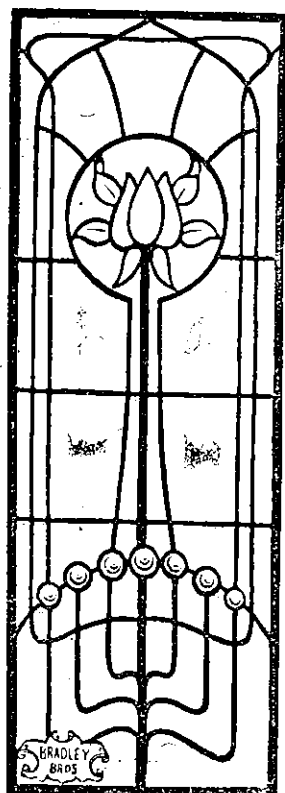
The pupils of the Marist Brothers' School, numbering about 180, journeyed to Motatapu for their annual picnic. In the early part of the day the weather was anything but good, but about 10 a.m. it broke fine and continued so the whole day. In the afternoon the annual sports were held, and the following events were decided:—100yds Championship, J. McCarthy 1, B. Lanigan 2; 400yds relay race (Standard VI. pupils), J. McCarthy, I. Hing, B. Lanigan, S. Johnston 1; long jump (over 13), A. Hatton 1, I. Hing 2; long jump (under 13), R. Tercel 1, A. Ralph 2; hop, step, and jump (over 13), A. Hatton 1, I. Hing 2; hop, step, and jump (under 13), R. Tercel 1, N. Dodds 2; swimming race (50yds), R. O'Connor; swimming race (25yds), P. Shivan 1, M. O'Shea 2; obstacle race (over 13), J. Draffin 1, R. Stanley 2; obstacle race (under 13), A. Ralph 1, B. Lanigan 2; three-legged race (over 13), J. Draffin and J. Draffin 1; three-legged race (under 13), M. McVeigh and C. Murray 1; wheelbarrow race (over 13), A. Hatton and N. Dodds 1; wheelbarrow race (under 13), A. Ralph and B. Lanigan 1; high jump (over 13), I. Hing 1, A. Hatton 2; high jump (under 13), B. Lannigan 1, W. Ireland 2; wrestling (over 13), R. Stanley, (under 13), J. O'Hara. All the events were keenly contested, and some very good performances were put up. Before leaving for home the boys gathered in their numbers and gave three hearty cheers for Mrs. Reid, who so kindly gave the use of the grounds.

On Monday evening, December 11, about 300 of the parishioners of Portland assembled in the convent schoolroom for the purpose of honoring the Rev. Father Heath on the eve of his departure from amongst them, after six years' work in the district (says the *Catholic Press*). Mr. J. A. McDonald was in the chair, and the priests on the platform included Very Rev. Father M. J. O'Reilly (Provincial of the Vincentians), Rev. Fathers Flanagan, Adm., Hall, C.M., and Cooney (Oberon). Dr. Wilson, who made the presentation—a purse of sovereigns and a handsome address—referred to Father Heath's fine work in Portland, and the general love and appreciation he had inspired. Father Heath was also eulogised by Councillor Harembland, Mr. H. A. McGrath, and Fathers O'Reilly, Flanagan, Hall, and Cooney.

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**TWELVE TOOK TRENCH'S REMEDY;
ELEVEN WERE CURED.**

L.D.S. Business College,
Salt Lake City,
Utah, June 20, 1910.

Messrs. Trench's Remedies, Ltd., Dublin, Ireland.

Gentlemen,—I have been in Europe for three years, and have just returned. A number of people have applied to me for the Remedy, so please send me some blank forms.

Some years ago I placed a great many orders for Trench's Remedy, and out of twelve people for whom I got the medicine **ELEVEN HAVE BEEN CURED.** I consider that a splendid record!

Mr. Armond F. Rundquist, whose unsolicited testimonial appears in your pamphlet, is one of the parties, and he mentions another.

I labored with Mr. Rundquist a long time before I could get him to send for Trench's Remedy. He said he had spent a great deal of money in medicine without having received any benefit. Finally he decided to send for a half-package of the specific, with the result that he has never had a return of the fits since he took the first dose. He recommended it to a family by the name of Olsen, in the southern part of Salt Lake City, in which a child had from 25 to 40 spells each night. When I last saw the father of the child he told me that the little one was almost completely cured. A short time ago I got some of the medicine for a gentleman named Owen, of this city. I saw his brother a few days ago, and he told me that Mr. Owen has not had an attack since he commenced taking the Remedy, and that he has greatly improved in health.

I wish to say before closing this letter that I am not an agent for Trench's Remedy, or for any other medicine or thing. I write in praise of the specific because of the inestimable blessing it has been to so many of my friends.

You may use my letter in any way you desire.

Very truly yours,

WM. A. MORTON,

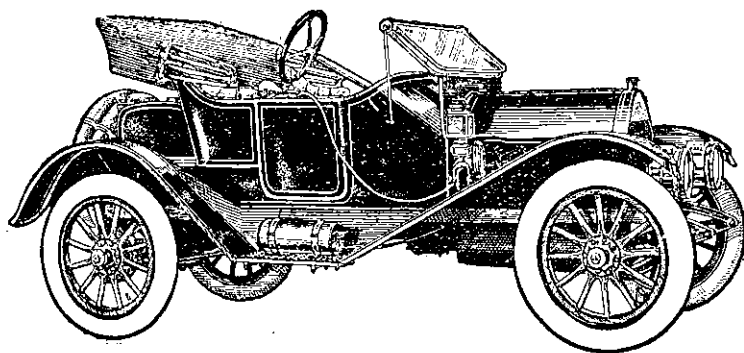
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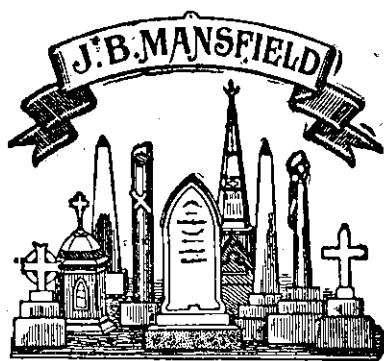


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WOOL

Mr. M. T. Kennelly, 217 Crawford street, Dunedin, reports as follows:—

Rabbitskins.—Prime winter does, 17d to 18d; second does, to 16½d; prime bucks, to 16d; incoming and early winter, 14d to 15d; autumn, 12d to 13d; racks, 7½d to 9d. Horsehair, 16d to 19d; catskins, 4d to 6d each.

Sheepskins.—Halfbred, 6d to 8d per lb; fine crossbred, 5½ to 7d; coarse do., 5d to 6½d; pelts, 3d to 5d.

Hides.—Sound ox, 6d to 8d; do. cow, 5d to 6½d; damaged ox and cow, 3d to 4½d; calfskins and yearlings (sound), 6½d to 9d. Horsehides, 8s to 14s each.

Tallow.—Best in casks, to 26s per cwt; do., 24s; mixed, 18s to 20s; rough fat, 16s to 20s.

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NEW ZEALAND RAILWAYS

NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS, 1912.

The following Alterations in and Additions to the ordinary train service will be made in connection with the above:—

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY,
29TH AND 30TH DECEMBER.

MONDAY AND TUESDAY, 1ST AND 2ND JANUARY.

An Extra Express Train for Balclutha will leave Dunedin at 8.45 a.m., Mosgiel 9.20 a.m., Henley 9.54 a.m., Waiholo 10.10 a.m., Milton 10.35 a.m., Stirling 11.5 a.m., arriving Balclutha 11.12 a.m. This train connects with Lawrence and Catlins River Branch trains and will stop at Caversham and Mosgiel to pick up passengers, and at Allanton, Henley, Titri, Waiholo, Milburn, Milton, and Stirling to pick up or set down passengers.

An Extra Express Train will leave Balclutha at 4.0 p.m., Stirling 4.7 p.m., Milton 4.42 p.m., Waiholo 5.2 p.m., Henley 5.15 p.m., arriving Dunedin 6.12 p.m. This train connects with trains from Catlins River and Lawrence Branches, and with train for Outram. Will stop at Stirling, Milton, Milburn, Waiholo, Titri, Henley, Mosgiel, and Caversham to pick up or set down passengers.

SATURDAY, 30TH DECEMBER.

An Extra Express train for Oamaru will leave Dunedin at 12.35 p.m., Waitati 1.28 p.m., Seacliff 1.49 p.m., Waikouaiti 2.8 p.m., Palmerston 2.35 p.m., Hillgrove 3.2 p.m., Hampden 3.11 p.m., Herbert 3.33 p.m., Maheno 3.43 p.m., arriving Oamaru at 4.3 p.m. Will stop where timed and at Port Chalmers Upper to pick up passengers for stations at which train stops.

An Extra Express train for Dunedin will leave Oamaru at 4.35 p.m., Maheno 5.0 p.m., Herbert 5.12 p.m., Hampden 5.35 p.m., Hillgrove 5.42 p.m., Palmerston 6.16 p.m., Waikouaiti 6.37 p.m., Seacliff 7.4 p.m., Waitati 7.25 p.m., arriving Dunedin 8.20 p.m. Will stop where timed, and at Port Chalmers Upper to set down passengers only.

The train usually leaving Dunedin for Palmerston at 4.30 p.m. will not leave until 5.27 p.m.

Train for Oamaru and intermediate stations will leave Dunedin at 11.0 p.m.

Train for Christchurch will leave Dunedin at 10.45 p.m.

Train will leave Dunedin for Invercargill at 11.10 p.m.

Train will leave Dunedin for Mosgiel at 10.35 p.m.

Train will leave Mosgiel for Dunedin at 11.45 p.m.

Train will leave Dunedin for Balclutha at 6.15 p.m., connecting with trains for Lawrence and Catlins River Branches. Will take passengers for Owihire and stations South thereof only.

MONDAY AND TUESDAY, 1ST AND 2ND JANUARY.

The 5.0 a.m. Palmerston-Dunedin train on MONDAY will NOT run.

An Extra Express Train will leave Dunedin for Palmerston at 9.25 a.m., stopping at the following stations:—Waitati 10.26 a.m., Seacliff 10.55 a.m., Puketeraki 11.6 a.m., Waikouaiti 11.20 a.m., arriving Palmerston 11.42 a.m.

An Extra Express Train will leave Palmerston for Dunedin at 5.40 p.m., stopping at Waikouaiti, Puketeraki, Seacliff, Waitati and Purakanui, also at Port Chalmers Upper to allow passengers to alight, arriving Dunedin 8.0 p.m.

Trains for Palmerston and Intermediate Stations will leave Dunedin at 8.16 a.m. and 9.40 a.m., returning leaving Palmerston at 4.15 p.m. and 6.5 p.m.

Train for Dunedin and Intermediate Stations will leave Palmerston at 4.15 p.m. and 6.5 p.m., arriving Dunedin 7.15 p.m. and 8.45 p.m.

The train usually leaving Dunedin for Palmerston at 4.30 p.m. will leave at 7.42 p.m. on Monday and 5.27 p.m. on Tuesday.

Train will leave Dunedin for Mosgiel at 11.20 p.m.

Train will leave Outram for Mosgiel at 6.40 p.m., returning, leaving Mosgiel at 7.35 p.m., connecting at Mosgiel with trains to and from Dunedin.

MONDAY, 1ST JANUARY.

RACES AT WINGATUI.

DUNEDIN-WINGATUI.—Trains will leave Dunedin for Wingatui Racecourse at 11.10 a.m., 11.30 a.m., and 11.45 a.m. The 11.30 a.m. and 11.45 a.m. trains will NOT stop at Intermediate Stations.

Trains will leave Wingatui Racecourse for Dunedin at 4.45 p.m., 5.30 p.m., and 5.45 p.m. The 4.45 p.m. and 5.30 p.m. trains will NOT stop at Intermediate Stations.

Trains will leave Wingatui for Dunedin at 5.2 p.m. and 6.25 p.m.

DUNEDIN-MOSGIEL.—The train usually leaving Mosgiel for Dunedin at 5.16 p.m. WILL LEAVE at 5.10 p.m., Wingatui 5.50 p.m., Dunedin arrive 6.26 p.m.

The train usually leaving Mosgiel for Dunedin at 6.10 p.m. will NOT leave until 6.20 p.m.

The train usually leaving Dunedin for Mosgiel at 5.15 p.m., will NOT leave until 5.30 p.m.

TUESDAY, 2ND JANUARY.

CHRISTCHURCH-DUNEDIN.—An Extra Express train will leave Christchurch at 9.10 a.m., Oamaru 2.13 p.m., Maheno 2.40 p.m., Hampden 3.14 p.m., Palmerston 3.55 p.m., arriving Dunedin 6.0 p.m. Will stop at Maheno, Herbert, Hampden, Hillgrove, Palmerston, Waikouaiti, Seacliff, and Waitati to pick up or set down passengers, and at Port Chalmers Upper to allow passengers to alight.

Special Express train will leave Dunedin at 7.35 a.m., arriving Oamaru 11.10 a.m. This train will stop at Ravensbourne, Port Chalmers Upper, Waitati, Seacliff, Waikouaiti, Palmerston, Hillgrove, and Hampden only.

Special Express train will leave Oamaru at 7.0 p.m., arriving Dunedin at 10.45 p.m. Train will stop at Maheno, Herbert, Hampden, Hillgrove, Palmerston, Waikouaiti, Seacliff, Waitati, Port Chalmers Upper and Ravensbourne only.

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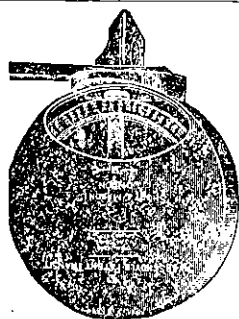
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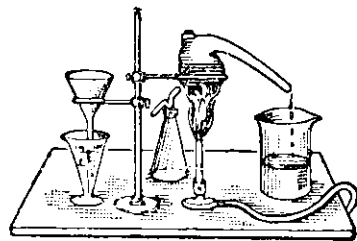
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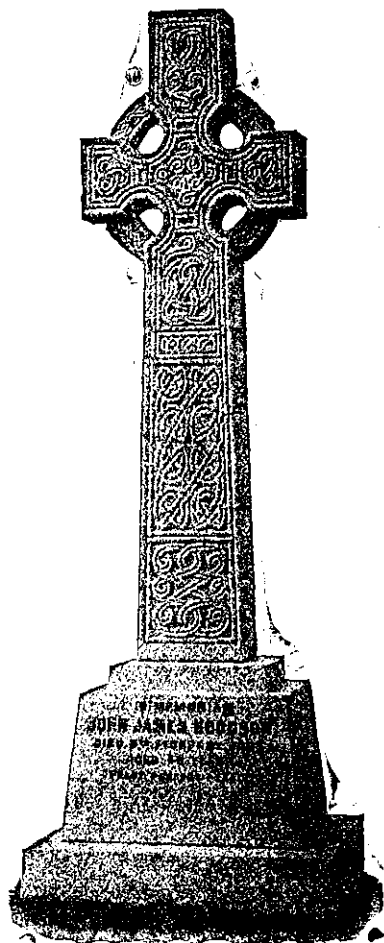
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The train usually leaving Port Chalmers for Dunedin at 10.15 p.m. will LEAVE at 10.3 p.m.

Train for Balclutha will leave Dunedin at 6.15 p.m. This train connects with trains for Lawrence and Catlins River Branches. Will take passengers for Owhiro and stations South thereof only.

Train for Christchurch will leave Dunedin at 9.0 p.m.

Train for Dunedin will leave Christchurch at 9.20 p.m., Dunedin arrive 6.40 a.m. on Wednesday.

INVERCARGILL-DUNEDIN.—Extra Express train will leave Invercargill for Dunedin at 12 noon, Balclutha 2.35 p.m., Stirling 3.32 p.m., Milton 4.5 p.m., Caversham 5.13 p.m., arriving Dunedin 5.20 p.m. This train will stop where timed to pick up or set down passengers, and will also stop at Mosgiel to allow passengers from South of Milton to alight.

Train for Invercargill will leave Dunedin at 10.0 p.m.

Train for Dunedin will leave Invercargill at 10.20 p.m., arriving Dunedin at 5.0 a.m. Wednesday.

WEDNESDAY, 3RD JANUARY.

Train will leave Palmerston for Dunedin at 5.0 a.m., Seacliff 5.58 a.m., arriving Dunedin 7.28 a.m. Will stop at Stations Port Chalmers Upper to Pelichet Bay to set down passengers only.

SATURDAY, 6TH JANUARY.

An Extra Express Train will leave Balclutha at 4.0 p.m., Stirling 4.7 p.m., Milton 4.42 p.m., Milburn 4.50 p.m., Waiholia 5.2 p.m., Henley 5.15 p.m., arriving Dunedin 6.12 p.m. This train connects with trains from Catlins River and Lawrence Branches, and with train for Outram. Will stop at Stirling, Milton, Milburn, Waiholia, Titri, Henley, Mosgiel, and Caversham to pick up or set down passengers.

Holiday Excursion Tickets are not available by certain trains. For particulars see daily press.

For further particulars see Posters and Handbills at all Stations.

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Running, Walking, Cycling. Hammer, Cable, and Ball. Piping and Dancing. Woodchopping and Sawing. Wrestling, Quoiting. High Jump Handicap. Novelty Event for Cyclists. Pillow Fight for Youths.

ADMISSION: To Grand Stand and Grounds, 2s; Ground, 1s. Children under 10 years accompanied by their parents, free.

Full particulars given in Programme, which can be obtained at the Society's Office, 91a Princes street, Dunedin.

W. E. C. REID, *Secretary.*

WEDDING BELLS

LAMBERT—THORNE.

On November 22, at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Auckland, a pretty wedding took place, the contracting parties being Mr. L. J. Lambert, fourth son of Mr. F. L. Lambert, I.S.O., late Chief Inspector Excise Branch, Inland Revenue, Somerset House, London, and Miss R. Thorne, third daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Thorne, of Auckland. The ceremony took place

in the presence of the relatives and numerous friends of the young couple, who have been associated with the work of the Cathedral parish for some years, the bridegroom having been one of the collectors and a member of the Iibernian and Holy Family Societies, and the bride one of the officers of the Sodality of the Children of Mary, and also organist at the evening devotions. A Nuptial Mass was celebrated by Rev. Father Holbrook, assisted by Rev. Father Ormond, at which the happy couple received Holy Communion. After the ceremony the party drove to the house of the bride's sister, where the wedding breakfast was held, at which the young couple were the recipients of numerous congratulations and good wishes.

Timaru

(From our own correspondent.)

December 26.

The Rev. Father Quinn, of St. Bede's Collegiate School, is a guest of the Very Rev. Dean Tubman at the Priory.

Mrs. C. Byrne, of Pleasant Point, has generously given a magnificent sanctuary lamp to the new church. The cost is well over £50, and both in design and material is worthy of the sacred edifice.

The sanctuary was tastefully adorned for the Christmas festival, the altar and immediate surroundings getting the chief attention. The early Masses were crowded, most of those present being communicants.

Very Rev. Dean Tubman celebrated a Missa Cantata at 11 o'clock, and preached on the feast of the day. The choir, under the baton of Mr. Croxford, with Miss Eileen Dennehy at the organ, rendered Gounod's Mass of St. Cecilia with devotional effect, the solos being taken by Mesdames J. G. Venning and Lynch, and Messrs. Jordan and Jefferson.

Miss G. Atkinson, L.T.C.L., gave an enjoyable 'At home' to her pupils and parents in the Stafford Tea Rooms last week. A large number availed themselves of the invitation, and a delightful musical programme was rendered by the pupils, many of the young soloists being recalled. Afternoon tea was served and much appreciated.

The Ven. Archdeacon Harper, who has been the leading figure in the Anglican Church in South Canterbury almost since its inception, is now retiring to the Old Country. He was farewelled at a public meeting of citizens on Friday evening and presented with a purse containing upwards of £400 sovereigns. The Very Rev. Dean Tubman took a prominent part in the function, recognising the Archdeacon's devoted public spirit and private worth, and it was generally admitted that his speech was the most brilliant delivered that evening.

Ashburton

(From our own correspondent.)

December 23.

The members of St. Mary's Tennis Club journeyed to Timaru on December 16 to try conclusions with the Timaru club. An enjoyable and interesting game resulted in a win for the Timaru team. The visitors were hospitably entertained by the home team.

The oratorical competition held annually under the auspices of the Catholic Young Men's Club eventuated on Tuesday evening last. Rev. Father O'Hare officiated as judge. Mr. F. K. Cooper was awarded first honors for a splendid oration on the life of the late Mr. R. J. Seddon.

Rev. Father Bartley, S.M., Wellington, delivered an address on 'Cardinal Newman' in the Catholic Club rooms on Thursday evening last. Rev. Father O'Hare presided. The rev. lecturer treated his subject in a masterly manner, his portrayal of the striking characteristics of the great Cardinal being followed with the keenest attention by the large audience present. On the motion of Mr. M. J. Moriarty, seconded by Mr. F. K. Cooper, Rev. Father Bartley was accorded a very hearty vote of thanks for his instructive lecture.

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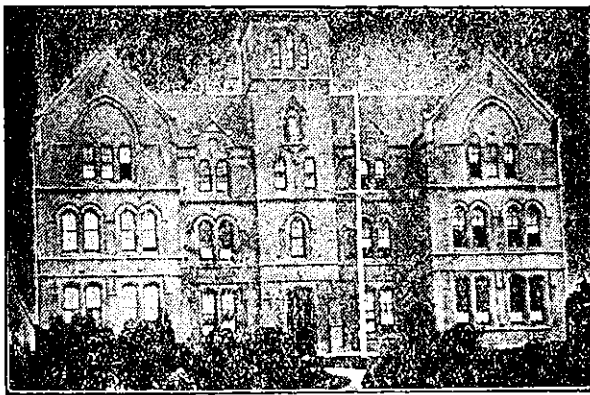
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The course of studies is arranged to enable students who enter the College to prepare for Matriculation and the various Examinations for Degrees at the University.

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THE RECTOR.

MARRIAGE

LAMBERT—THORNE.—On November 22, 1911, at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Auckland, N.Z., by the Rev. Father Holbrook, Adm., assisted by the Rev. Father Ormond, Leonard James, fourth son of F. L. Lambert, Esq., I.S.O., late Chief Inspector Inland Revenue, Somerset House, London, to Rose Agnes, third daughter of Mr and Mrs C. B. Thorne, of Auckland.

WANTED—Good Catholic GOVERNESS to teach three girls; English or French preferred.—Apply with references, capabilities, and salary required to Mrs. Fairfax-Cholmeley, Bell Block, New Plymouth.

ANSWER TO CORRESPONDENT

WINE.—This question has now been very thoroughly ventilated, and the discussion on the subject may be fairly allowed to drop.

**CONVENT OF THE SACRED HEART
TIMARU.**

The Annual Spiritual RETREAT for LADIES will begin at 5 p.m. on TUESDAY, January 2, 1912, and end on Saturday, January 6, at noon.

The Retreat will be preached by
THE REV. FATHER FOSTER, S.J.

By applying to the Rev. Mother Superior, ladies wishing to make the Retreat can board at the Convent during the week.

**CONVENT OF THE SACRED HEART
ISLAND BAY, WELLINGTON.**

A RETREAT FOR LADIES will be preached by Rev. Father Edward Sydes, S.J., to open on the evening of Monday, January 8, and to close on Friday morning, January 12.

Ladies who wish to attend it may reside at the Convent during that time. No special invitation is required.

Particulars may be obtained by applying to the Mother Superior.

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MESSAGE OF POPE LEO XIII. TO THE N.Z. TABLET.

Pergant Directores et Scriptores New Zealand Tablet, Apostolica Benedictione confortati, Religionis et Justitiae causam promovere per vias Veritatis et Pacis.

Die 4 Aprilis, 1900.

LEO XIII., P.M.

TRANSLATION.—Fortified by the Apostolic Blessing, let the Directors and Writers of the New Zealand Tablet continue to promote the cause of Religion and Justice by the ways of Truth and Peace.

April 4, 1900.

LEO XIII., Pope.



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1911.

'PLAY THE GAME'

It is unnecessary for us to add anything, either by way of amplification or of comment, to the Rev. Dr. Kennedy's lucid and weighty statement regarding the grievance which Catholic students and Catholic secondary schools labor under in respect to the conditions governing the grant of 'free places' and of State scholarships.

With the legislative aspect of the matter we have already dealt very fully in these columns. It will be sufficient for the present to say that prior to 1910 the pupils of private schools were absolutely and expressly debarred from even competing for National Scholarships. They might, so far as the letter of the law went, compete for Education Board scholarships in any district in which the Board framed its regulations so as to permit them to do so. But so far as we know, not a single Board ever did make any such provision; and for all practical purposes the pupils of Catholic schools were absolutely excluded from any participation whatever in the system of State scholarships towards which Catholic tax-payers are compelled to contribute.

*

Towards the close of 1910 an Education Amendment Act was passed—to come into force on 1st July, 1911—which made National scholarships open for competition 'by pupils . . . of any school subject to inspection under the Act'; and which provided that Board scholarships should 'be open to all children of the prescribed age'—thus making both classes of State scholarships available for practically all our Catholic primary pupils. There can be little doubt that members of Parliament thought that in adopting this measure they were conferring a benefit on Catholic schools; and it would be ungracious not to acknowledge the friendliness of their intentions. But, unaccompanied as it is by any provision making scholarships and free places tenable at Catholic secondary schools, the concession, if availed of by Catholic pupils, would, as the Rector of St. Patrick's College so effectively shows, prove instead of a blessing a very grave evil. 'More than 90 per cent.,' says Dr. Kennedy, 'of the boys who enter this college from our primary schools come with proficiency certificates entitling them to free places in a secondary school, but they are debarred from holding them here. . . . Again, every year 30 boys, on an average, from this college pass the Junior Civil Service examination, and thereby qualify for a senior free place, which entitles them to free tuition in a secondary school up to the age of nineteen. But they are debarred from holding these free places in this college from which they qualified for them. It is, therefore, quite evident that if the pupils of our Catholic primary and secondary schools were to avail themselves of the free places and scholarships in the only way in which they are now open to them, that is by attending the State secondary schools, we should

have to close up our secondary colleges. . . . If our children availed themselves of the opportunities offered them by these scholarships, the inevitable result would be disaster for our Catholic secondary schools. We asked for bread, and they have given us a stone.'

*

Under the existing legislation Board scholarships must be taken out 'at a secondary school or its equivalent approved by the Board,' and National scholarships 'at a secondary school or its equivalent approved by the Board and the Minister.' It would, in our humble judgment, probably be wise policy for any Catholic winner of a State scholarship or free place to write to the local Board, naming the Catholic secondary college at which he desires to take it out and formally requesting the Board to 'approve' such college for the purpose. Unless this is done it will always be open to a hostile Minister of Education or hostile members in Parliament to oppose the passing of a remedial measure on the ground that, as the Boards have already power to 'approve' Catholic secondary colleges, any further legislation is unnecessary. If such application is unsuccessful—as in most cases it probably will be—then at least the position is made clear, and the Catholic claim for redress is strengthened. If by any chance the application should be successful, an important precedent will be established; and it is presumably by adopting this course that the two denominational colleges specifically referred to by Dr. Kennedy in the first instance secured recognition. Obviously, however, the simple and only really effective way of release from the oppressive situation in which Catholic secondary colleges are at present placed is by an amendment of the Act, in the direction, say, of making scholarships tenable 'at any secondary school or its equivalent approved by the Minister.' This would mean, of course, that Catholic secondary schools desiring recognition would require to submit—as St. Patrick's College already does—to State inspection. In the case of the secondary schools, however, the Education Department allows a practically free hand in regard to the programme of work to be followed: and the friendly annual visit of the secondary Inspector is merely for the purpose of ascertaining that the programme adopted is a practicable one, and is carried out with a reasonable measure of efficiency. Speaking with some knowledge of the work that is being done in the State institutions, we can assure our Catholic secondary teachers that they may freely welcome the measure of inspection to which the State high schools and district high schools are called upon to submit.

*

The Catholic claim for fair treatment in the matter of scholarships cannot be rejected on the ground that the Catholic secondary colleges are denominational, because, as Dr. Kennedy shows with such telling effect, the principle has been already recognised in the case of such purely denominational establishments as Christ's College and Wanganui College. Nor can it be refused on the ground of inefficiency, because, in the case of St. Patrick's College, it is subjected to State inspection, and is yearly passing scores of boys through precisely the same examinations—Matriculation and Civil Service—as those for which they are prepared in the State-endowed establishments. And, as we have before shown in this column, there is ample precedent in various of the Australian States for the legislation now suggested. In Queensland bursaries and scholarships have been thrown open for competition to every child in the country, and Catholic children are able to get the benefit of their State scholarships in the Christian Brothers' College, Nudgee, All Hallows Convent, Brisbane, and other Catholic high schools; while Church of England or other Protestant scholarship holders who may desire it are permitted to take out their scholarships at the Church of England College. In Victoria the Jesuit College at Kew, and in West Australia the Christian Brothers' College at Perth are, we believe, similarly recognised. In New South Wales and in Victoria the respective Ministers of Education have announced their intention to give effect to a similar proposal, recognising the great secondary schools in the community that are not under the direct control of the

Government. The broad principle underlying the whole question was admirably expressed by Inspector Stuart, of Auckland, at the Inspectors' Conference held in February of last year: 'If a Catholic child gained a scholarship at a Catholic primary school, and wished to attend a Catholic secondary school, he saw no reason why such scholarship should not be tenable at the higher grade Catholic school. There was a great principle involved in the question. If a member of the community contributed to a public fund for a certain object, on no reasonable grounds could he be excluded from the benefits which that fund implied.' That is the principle for which the Catholic body contend; and in his reasoned and weighty appeal to Parliament to 'play the game,' Dr. Kennedy has furnished convincing, and indeed unanswerable evidence of the fairness and justice of our claim.

Notes

The Church in Tripoli

As interest is centred at the moment on Tripoli, it is opportune to give the following details as to the state of the Church in the North African Prefecture:—At present the Prefecture Apostolic is served by 23 Franciscan monks of the Leonine Union, the Prefect being the Right Rev. Guiseppi Rossetti. The city of Tripoli is the official residence of the Prefect, and counts 4400 faithful. It has a flourishing Marist College, and an institution for young girls, conducted by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny, with 350 pupils. There are 3000 Catholics of the Greek Church, 10,000 Jews, and about 30,000 Turks and Arabs. Among the other maritime cities of the country, Derna, the Dardanis of the ancients, with 12,000 inhabitants, possesses a flourishing mission. In Benghazi, built on the ruins of the ancient Berenici, are several hundreds of Catholics, with boys' and girls' schools, directed by monks and nuns, and there are important missions also in Homtis, the celebrated Septis Magna of the ancients, Mescia, and other towns. The Prefecture at Tripoli has erected a model hospital, and established six free dispensaries. In Mescia and other cities are orphanages. The Ottoman and Arab population avoid the Christians, and the only ground on which the Christian population meet them are the charitable institutions and works of mercy, of which the Catholics carry on the work and bear all the cost.

CORRESPONDENCE CONDENSED.

'IRISHMAN No. 2' sends us a lengthy letter—*apropos* of a recent correspondence which appeared in our columns—consisting largely of personal references which could not be published. Our correspondent, however, appears to think that Mr. Angland's work and standing on local bodies has been misrepresented; and as we would be sorry to do that gentleman an injustice in this matter we print the portion of the letter bearing on this aspect of the discussion. Our correspondent writes: 'One of your correspondents says Mr. Craigie obtained £120,000 for the Borough of Timaru. I may inform your correspondent that Mr. Angland is a member of the Finance Committee of the Timaru Borough Council, and he had as much to do with the raising of the £120,000 as Mr. Craigie had. Also I may inform your correspondents that there are also four other gentlemen in the Finance Committee who also have a say in all financial matters of the council. As to Mr. Craigie attending the opening of the new church, he was there by invitation, so also was Mr. Buxton, who came from Wellington, and Messrs. Francis, Mayor of Waimate, and Kennedy, Mayor of Geraldine, and Mr. Angland and several other Timaru gentlemen as well. Re the Irish delegates, a resolution of the Borough Council was carried authorising a civic reception to the Irish delegates.' The correspondence on this subject is now closed.

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

On Christmas Day at the Sacred Heart Church, North-east Valley, Masses were celebrated at 6, 7, and 7.30 by the Rev. Father Skinner, and at 8.30, 9, and 11 o'clock by the Rev. P. O'Neill.

At St. Patrick's Basilica, South Dunedin, there were Masses at 6, 7.30, 9, and 11 o'clock on Christmas Day. A feature of the day's ceremonies was the very large number of communicants at the early Masses. Midnight Mass was celebrated in the chapel of the Convent of Mercy, and also in the chapel of the Little Sisters of the Poor, Anderson's Bay.

Sincere regret was felt in Dunedin when it became known that the Rev. Brother Brady, principal of the Christian Brothers' School, had been recalled to the mother house of the Order in Sydney. During the seven years that Brother Brady was principal, the school made considerable progress, and the many successes of the pupils at the annual public examinations bore testimony to his ability as an educationist. Brother Brady during his stay in Dunedin had the entire confidence of the parents of the pupils, and his popularity with the boys was unbounded. He took a very keen interest in athletics, and encouraged in every way the various football and cricket teams from the school which had been so successful in past seasons. In his departure from Dunedin Brother Brady took with him the best wishes of the Catholic community.

On Christmas Day at St. Joseph's Cathedral Masses were celebrated continuously from 6 to 9 o'clock, at all of which very large numbers approached the Holy Table. At 11 o'clock his Lordship the Bishop celebrated Pontifical High Mass, Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., being assistant priest, Rev. Father Scanlan deacon, Rev. Father Skinner subdeacon, and Rev. Father Corcoran master of ceremonies. The sermon on the day's festival was preached by the Rev. Father Coffey. The music was Gounod's Messe Solennelle, which was remarkably well rendered by the choir, under the conductorship of Brother Cusack, Mr. A. Vallis presiding at the organ. The proper of the Mass was chanted, and the 'Adeste Fideles' was sung at the offertory. There were large congregations at all the Masses, and the Cathedral was crowded in the evening when the choir gave several sacred selections appropriate to the Feast of the Nativity. Brother Cusack again conducted, and Mr. A. Vallis presided at the organ. The following were the selections:—Solos—Mrs. Power, 'Ave Maria' (Gounod); Mr. McGrath, 'Nazareth'; Mr. Popplewell, 'Noel' (Barby); Mr. Eager, air from 'Rebekah.' The choir sang 'Joseph Fili David,' the 'Adeste Fideles,' Santley's 'Ave Maria,' and Mozart's 'Gloria.' At the conclusion there was Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The high altar was very artistically decorated for the festival, white and scarlet flowers and graceful foliage being used for this purpose with much taste and judgment. This was the work of Misses Murphy and White. At the conclusion of the day's ceremonies, the choir was entertained in St. Joseph's Hall. Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., who presided, speaking on behalf of his Lordship the Bishop and himself, thanked the choir for the very excellent music rendered in connection with the day's ceremonies, and also for their services during the year. Thanks were specially due to the conductor (Mr. Vallis) for the state of efficiency to which he had brought the choir, and also to Miss Callan who had proved herself a very capable organist, and one who had a thorough knowledge of Church music. He concluded by wishing the members a very happy Christmas. Messrs Flynn (secretary) and Vallis briefly replied.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

December 26.

Midnight Mass was celebrated at Christmas in the chapel of the Sacred Heart Convent by Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., chaplain.

Very Rev. Father Brown, C.S.S.R., Superior of the Waratah Monastery, concluded a retreat to the

Sisters of Mercy at the convent, Colombo street, on Saturday.

Rev. Father Bartley, S.M., M.A., commenced to-day a retreat for the Sisters of the Missions, at the Convent of the Sacred Heart, High street.

Christmas Day in Christchurch was marred by very inclement weather. At the time of writing the conditions are unfavorable for out-door pleasure, necessitating the abandonment or postponement of the Catholic excursion picnic and sports gathering.

Masses were celebrated in St. Mary's Church, on Christmas Day, almost continuously from 7 o'clock, and attended by large congregations, there being over 500 communicants at the early Masses. There was a Missa Cantata at 11 o'clock, at which the Rector, Very Rev. Dean Hills, S.M., V.G., was celebrant. Brief addresses were given at all the services on the subject of the day's festival, cordial good wishes for all the joys and blessings of Christmas being also extended. The music was selected from various Masses and was excellently rendered by the choir, Mrs. W. Cronin being organist. In the evening there were Solemn Vespers and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, given by the Very Rev. Dean Hills, attended by Rev. Fathers Hoare, S.M., and Dignan, S.M. Rev. Father Morkane, of Holy Cross Ecclesiastical College, Mosgiel, Dunedin, assisted in the morning. In the suburban churches of the parish Masses were celebrated as follows:—The Church of the Immaculate, New Brighton, St. Joseph's, Papanui, and St. Michael's, Hornby.

On Sunday evening at the Cathedral there were Solemn Pontifical Vespers and Pontifical Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Masses were celebrated on Christmas morning almost continuously from 6 o'clock to half-past 9, each being attended by very large congregations, the greater portion of which were communicants. At 11 o'clock there was Pontifical High Mass. His Lordship Bishop Grimes was celebrant, the Rev. Father Graham, S.M., M.A., assistant priest, the Rev. Dr. Kennedy and the Rev. Father Gilbert, S.M., M.A., deacons of honor at the throne, the Fathers Daull, S.M.A., and Hanrahan, deacon and subdeacon respectively of the Mass, and the Very Rev. Father Price (Administrator) master of ceremonies. First addressing the congregation in general terms, and then from the gospel of the day his Lordship the Bishop preached an impressive discourse, showing the birth of the Divine Saviour to be the fulfilment of the prophecies of ages and the realisation of the symbols and figures predicting the advent of the Messiah. The music was Gounod's Messe Solennelle, excellently rendered by the choir, with Mr. Alfred J. Bunz at the organ. At the offertory Novello's arrangement of the 'Adeste Fideles' was sung. In the evening there was Pontifical Vespers and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The occasional preacher was the Rev. Father Bartley, S.M., M.A., of St. Patrick's College, who delivered an eloquent sermon to a very large congregation. The sanctuary and high altar were profusely and most tastefully adorned with choicest flowers and foliage, and in the evening brilliantly illuminated. The whole of the nine fully-furnished side chapels were also beautifully adorned for the occasion. Masses were celebrated at the suburban churches of the Cathedral parish at 8 a.m. in that of the Sacred Heart, Addington, and at 9 a.m. in St. Agnes's Church, Halswell.

The death is reported of the Rev. Father John Keogh, until lately professor at St. Patrick's College, Manly. Father Keogh was a man of exceptional ability and was a graduate of the Royal University of Ireland. He arrived in Australia twelve months ago. After spending some weeks at St. Mary's Cathedral, he was appointed assistant priest at St. Francis', Albion street. On March 1 his Eminence the late Cardinal appointed him Professor of the German and French languages in St. Patrick's College, Manly.

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DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(By telegraph, from our own correspondent.)

December 26.

At the Cathedral on Christmas Day seven Masses were celebrated, the first three Masses by Rev. Father Holbrook, Adm., and the others by Rev. Father Ormond. All the Masses were largely attended, particularly by men, numbers of whom received Holy Communion. His Lordship the Bishop celebrated Pontifical High Mass at 11 o'clock, Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly being assistant priest, Rev. Father Liston deacon, Rev. Father Ormond subdeacon, and Rev. Father Holbrook master of ceremonies. There were also present in the sanctuary Right Rev. Mgr. O'Haran and Rev. Father O'Doherty. His Lordship preached a sermon appropriate to the day's festival. The choir, under Mr. Hiscocks, sang with much taste Millard's Mass. In the evening in lieu of Vespers, a splendid selection of sacred items was given by the choir, followed by a fine sermon on the Nativity by Rev. Father Hunt, C.S.S.R. There were very large congregations at all the Masses, and also in the evening. The high altar was very artistically adorned.

At St. Benedict's on Christmas Day the two early Masses were said by Right Rev. Mgr. Gillan, who also celebrated Mass at Avondale. High Mass was celebrated by Rev. Father Smiers, Rev. Father O'Malley being deacon, and Right Rev. Mgr. Gillan subdeacon. Mgr. Gillan preached a fine sermon on the day's festival. Rev. Father Forde celebrated a Missa Cantata at midnight at Helensville, and Mass at Henderson on Christmas morning. Rev. Father O'Doherty preached at St. Benedict's on Christmas evening. The altar was handsomely decorated, and the crib was tastefully designed. At the Sacred Heart Church, Ponsonby, the early Masses were said by Rev. Father O'Farrell, and the later Masses by Rev. Father Wright. At the Sacred Heart Convent Masses were said by Rev. Father Liston, at the Mater Misericordiae Hospital by Right Rev. Mgr. O'Haran, at St. Vincent's Home by Rev. Father O'Doherty, and midnight Mass St. Mary's Convent by Monsignor O'Reilly.

OBITUARY

MR. A. HOPE BLAKE, CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

Very sincere sorrow is felt at the death, which occurred shortly after midnight on last Sunday, of Mr. A. Hope Blake, in his seventy-first year. The late Mr. Blake was one of the oldest and most prominent Catholics of Christchurch, and was ever to the fore in all Church movements; in fact no one could have been better known and appreciated in this regard. For long years he was associated in choir matters, and from the first opening of St. Mary's Church, Christchurch North, he had been one of the most valued members. He was, too, an active, zealous, and devoted member of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, having held the position of president of St. Mary's Conference ever since its inception, over fifteen years ago. Whilst assiduous in his attendance at the Society's Conference meetings, he rarely, if ever, missed one of the general meetings. The late Mr. Blake was a gifted writer, with descriptive powers above the ordinary, and was for many years a widely read contributor to current literature. Always of a most genial disposition, he had a happy faculty of making and keeping friends. His life was an eventful one, his youthful days being spent in the most stirring times of New Zealand's history. From the *Lyttelton Times* I extract the following:—Mr. Blake was born on the ship *Slain's Castle* when she was rounding the Cape of Good Hope on her way to the Dominion in 1840, and he landed in Wellington with his parents in the first month of the following year. His father came out to the new country under contract to the New Zealand Company, but in 1849 he decided to go to Lyttelton. On the way down from Wellington he was drowned, and he left his wife with nine children to care for and to rear in a rough country.

She fought her battle bravely, and with the aid of her family, and encouraged by the kindness of the settlers, she succeeded admirably. In 1861 Mr. Hope Blake went to Napier and commenced in business as a baker. The outbreak of the Maori War found him in the Napier Militia, and he served at the battle of Oamaru-nui, an engagement that he afterwards simply but vividly described in his *Sixty Years in New Zealand*. After the quelling of the rising of the Hau Haus he returned to the bakehouse, and a year later he married, but he also took part in other campaigns against the rebellious Natives. In 1874 his fortunes carried him to Canterbury, and once more he set himself up in a bakery business and continued in charge of it until his death. Two years ago he completed and had published a thoroughly interesting and well written work on the early times in New Zealand, principally the North Island, given to the public under the title *Sixty Years in New Zealand*. In that modest literary effort Mr. Blake contributed some capable sketches of Maori war scenes and many shrewd delineations of Maori character, coupled with a number of well-told anecdotes. Throughout his life Mr. Blake took an active interest in the Dominion's politics, being closely identified with the fortunes of what is now the Opposition Party, and right up to the time of his death he was a keen critic of the political situation. As a young man he was a first-class rifle shot, and for three years was provincial champion of Hawke's Bay. In music he found another sphere for earnest and enjoyable service, and from 1851 until the Sunday before his last illness he was a member of a church choir, either in Wellington, in Napier, or in Canterbury. Mr. Blake was a highly respected citizen, and a proud and worthy recipient of the Maori war medal. He leaves a widow and four sons.

A Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of the deceased was celebrated by Very Rev. Dean Hills, S.M., V.G., at St. Mary's Church on last Wednesday morning in the presence of his Lordship the Bishop, who gave the absolution at the coffin. His Lordship also addressed a few words to the large number of assembled mourners on the many services to the Church and consistent Catholic life of the deceased. A lengthy cortege followed the remains to the Linwood Cemetery, the Rev. Father Hoare, S.M., officiating at the interment. Whilst the coffin was being borne from the church the organist (Mrs. W. Cronin) played the 'Dead March' from 'Saul.'—R.I.P.

MR. PATRICK BROPHY, AUCKLAND.

(From our own correspondent.)

The demise of Mr. Patrick Brophy, of Victoria avenue, Mt. Eden, will be regretted by a very large circle of friends. The deceased was a native of Kilkenny, and arrived in New Zealand about fifty years ago, and engaged in mining in the early days of the Otago, West Coast, and Thames Goldfields. For the last twenty years he has resided at Mt. Eden, Auckland. Mr. Brophy was an active worker in Catholic Church matters, and was held in the highest esteem and regard by the clergy and laity. Feeling references to his death were made by the clergy at most of the Catholic churches on Sunday. Mrs. Brophy predeceased her husband about twenty years ago, and he leaves surviving him a daughter (Mrs. W. R. Stone). The remains were taken to St. Benedict's, where a Requiem Mass was celebrated on Tuesday morning by Rev. Father Carran. There were also present in the sanctuary Right Rev. Mgr. Gillan, V.G., and Rev. Father Golden. Monsignor Gillan addressed the large assemblage in the church, and in touching language referred to the many good qualities of the deceased, who had been a staunch supporter of St. Benedict's Church from its earliest days to the time of his death. Every priest who had had charge of the parish had been indebted to the assistance and advice of Mr. Brophy. As the coffin was borne from the church, the 'Dead March' from 'Saul' was played. The interment by the side of his predeceased wife took place in the Symond street cemetery. The last rites were performed by Monsignor Gillan, assisted by Rev. Father Golden.—R.I.P.

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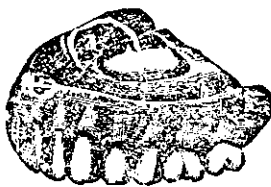
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Irish News

ANTRIM—Ulster and Home Rule

The distinguished lawyer now at the head of the Irish Unionist forces, who can on occasion throw such ardent fire into his eloquence, is wont to speak of Ulster as if it were an exclusive preserve of Unionism. Half the people of Ulster are Nationalists and Home Rulers, and in addition there is arising amongst the extreme Protestants of the Province, a movement against the undemocratic principles supported by the Unionists. Mr. T. H. Sloan, J.P., addressing a large and enthusiastic meeting, held on October 25 in the Ulster Minor Hall, Belfast, under the auspices of the South Belfast Parliamentary Association, a body which was, he said, neither dead nor dying, declared war upon those who, under the pretence of opposing Home Rule, are conducting a campaign against the working classes in Ireland. Ulster, he affirmed, had, to her own detriment, fought hard in the past for the coercion of Irishmen, for the privileges of landlordism, and against the giving of five shillings a week to the aged poor. She had fought hard in the interests of gentlemen who could afford to lounge in easy chairs and laugh at the democracy, whom they had gulled, were gulling, and intended to gull. When Mr. Sloan uses language of this kind about the leaders of Irish Unionism it may be assumed that their cause is rapidly dying even in Ulster.

Unionist Practices

In the Ulster Hall, Belfast, on November 4, Mr. Hemmerde, K.C., Recorder of Liverpool, delivered an address on 'Home Rule and Social Reform,' under the auspices of the local Liberal Association. He said he did not know that there was any more nauseating hypocrisy in the world than that of men who, for political purposes, tried to delude other men by putting on the cloak of Protestantism and raising the 'No-Popery' cry. He asked Sir Edward Carson what pecuniary sacrifices he had ever made for his principles. He asked the audience to bear in mind that the object of men of the type of Sir Edward Carson, Captain Craig, and others was to fight the battle of privilege. He asked these twin leaders of anti-Nationalism did they know how their friends in England fought? Did they know that there were counties in England where a Liberal could not rent a house? Did they know that there were villages in England where a Liberal could not hire a committee-room at an election, that there were shopkeepers in England boycotted for daring to show Liberal colors, that the engines with which their friends fought were the engines of bigotry, intolerance, and social ostracism? The foreigner was not their enemy; their real enemy was the man at home who opposed the onward march of the nation. The social questions, the great human questions cried aloud for treatment. Parnell once said Ireland could not spare

a single Irishman. He (the lecturer) said England could not spare a single Irishman, too.

DUBLIN—Protestant Prelates and Politics

In the course of his remarks at Ringsend on Sunday, October 29, the Archbishop of Dublin pointed out that Protestant prelates claim rights in politics, and a certain section of the Protestant press who support the claim would deny those rights to Catholics. His Grace said: 'It strikes me, indeed, as somewhat noteworthy at how many of the meetings of Irish Protestants, the Bishops, when presiding at their Diocesan Synod, have shown that such meetings, held though they are for religious and ecclesiastical purposes, are regarded by the Bishops and others as furnishing suitable occasions for the delivery of addresses upon a subject so eminently political in its nature as that of Home Rule. Well, this may be right or it may be wrong. I am not going to express any opinion as to how I myself regard it. But I will say this, that if I, taking the opposite view of the subject from the view of it taken by those dignitaries of the Protestant Church, were to go even half as far as they have gone, I should be prepared for something like a deluge of vituperation from a certain section of the Protestant press of this country, more especially of the press of the north-eastern district, which so audaciously arrogates to itself the honored name of our northern province of Ulster.'

FERMANAGH—What He Expected

'I knew it would be when I saw the Bench so well filled,' was the remark made by Judge Craig at the Enniskillen Licensing Sessions, when a license for Garrison Hotel was granted by a majority, despite the police objection. There were, he said, a great many magistrates there whom he had never seen in his life.

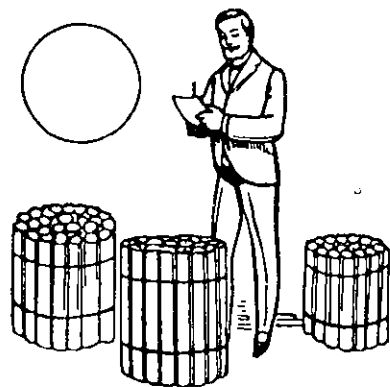
TYRONE—Consecrated Bishop

The Right Rev. Dr. Gunn, a Marist priest, who was lately consecrated Bishop of Natchez, Mississippi, U.S.A., is a native of Fivemiletown, County Tyrone, where his mother still lives.

GENERAL

Irish and Scottish Conditions Compared

A lecture delivered by Professor Geddes, in Edinburgh recently, contained some instructive references to the present condition of Ireland, and illustrated the progress which has been made in the sister island since the Government has begun to take an interest in its welfare. He had recently visited some of the provincial Irish towns, in connection with the approaching survey for the Town-planning Exhibition, and he said that Ireland bade fair, before many years, not only to have prosperous agricultural counties, but correspondingly reviving towns. The industrial development of Scotland had created the evils of 'congested tenements and debasing slums, with the results not only of an intemperance, vice, and crime which was tragically in excess of those of Ireland, but also a web of deteriorative conditions far more difficult to clear away.



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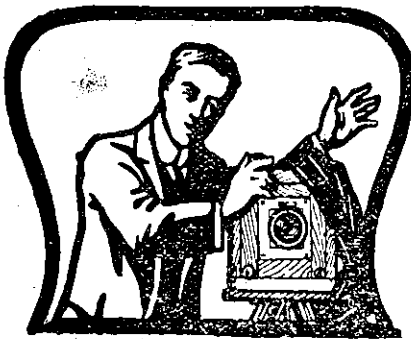
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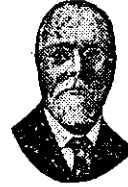
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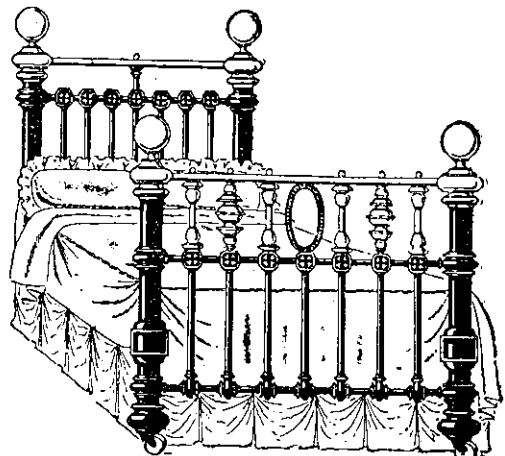
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Convent Schools, Dannevirke

The children of the Convent School gave on December 11 an entertainment as a sort of epitome of the year's work. The spacious schoolroom (says the *Dannevirke Advocate*) was festooned with floral ropes suspended above the temporary stage, and pictures, examples of the pupils' work, adorned the walls of the chamber. The opening number was announced by the first notes of the piano and violin, the performers, Misses Z. Adams, V. Punch, and E. Cotter, being greeted with a hearty round of applause. 'Irish blossoms' proved to be a dainty arrangement of popular Irish airs, which was given with sprightly spirit, and then came a song and chorus by the senior scholars, 'Where shall we wander?' the flowing melody of which was very tastefully sung. Miss Daly gave a bright rendering of the march from 'Faust,' which met with much appreciation, and then came the 'Crowning of the Angels,' in which eight young ladies, representing Italy, France, Spain, and New Zealand, were each in turn crowned by the fairy queen, after reciting a little poetic speech appropriate to the occasion. The inspiring air of 'The Holy City,' arranged as an instrumental trio, was given by the Misses M. Bartlett (piano), M. Daly (organ), and E. Cotter (violin), followed by a vocal duet, 'I heard a voice,' which was sweetly sung by some of the senior scholars. 'The Japanese umbrella' was one of the most enjoyable numbers, presented as it was in the costume of the chrysanthemum and sung to the music of the land of the Rising Sun. Miss E. Cotter gave a most creditable rendering of the ambitious composition, 'Romanza,' and was warmly applauded. A company of girls, armed with gold and silver wands, surmounted by stars, went through a series of clever evolutions designated 'Star drill,' followed by quite the most artistic event of the afternoon, the singing by Miss M. Bartlett of Mascagni's 'Ave Maria,' accompanied by Miss Cotter (piano), Miss Daly (organ), and Miss E. Cotter (violin). The 'Gloria' from Mozart's Twelfth Mass was next given with considerable fervor by the Misses E. Cotter (violin), Daly (organ), Z. Adams and M. Lavelle (piano). 'Tell me where is beauty found' was nicely sung. An instrumental duet, 'The mill wheel,' by the Misses McDermott and Cotter, preceded the final number, 'The holidays of the year, a part recitation, in which Father Christmas (Master C. Parker) introduced to the Queen (Miss M. Bartlett) the following characters, who each had something to say: St. Valentine (Miss Flynn), St. Patrick (Miss McDermott), Spring (Miss Adams), Arbor Day (Miss Karaitiana), George V. (Miss K. Frank), and Santa Claus (Miss Lavelle). Appropriate songs were introduced and nicely sung, concluding with the 'Adeste Fideles.'

Master Skinner then came forward, and in a clear and distinct voice read an address to the Rev. Father Cahill.

In returning thanks, Rev. Father Cahill pointed out that the programme had been arranged in quite a small way, and consequently the Sisters had decided to invite only the parents of the children to be present. For this course there was good reason. In the first place the school had only been established so short a time that it had not been possible to give the children that measure of training which would warrant a more public display. Then, too, the pupils, and especially those taking music, had been so hard at work preparing for other examinations, that they had not the energy to enter upon a more elaborate programme, but considering all the circumstances, he thought the performance most creditable, and perhaps there had been just a little too much modesty on the part of the Sisters. With regard to the very flattering address which had been presented to him, he desired to say that he naturally felt gratified at the part he had played in promoting the school, and it also afforded him the greatest pleasure to find that his efforts were evidently so highly appreciated. Such a school was wanted in the district, because when they looked around them they saw unrest everywhere. Political unrest, social unrest, industrial unrest, and it was most important that the

children growing up should be taught the principles of true Christianity, the principles of justice and the principles of obedience, especially obedience to their parents. The school was doing a great work both spiritually and intellectually, and was a credit alike to the teachers and to the community. He desired, in conclusion, to thank the parents for attending, and the children for their entertainment, which had been in all respects most enjoyable.

Rev. Father Cahill then announced that an exhibition of the children's work would be on view in the high school at the convent, and the majority of the parents adjourned thereto for the purpose of inspecting it. The exhibition consisted of fancy needlework, chip carving, painting, poker work, etc., and was greatly admired, both for its artistic nature of the designs and the skilfulness of its execution.

The following was the prize-list:—

SACRED HEART HIGH SCHOOL.

Christian doctrine, E. Higgins; good conduct, P. Cullinane; regular attendance, K. Vaughan; painting (water colors), E. McDermott; needlework, P. Cullinane; dux of the school, E. Higgins.

Standard VII.—First prize, E. McDermott; second, P. Cullinane; third, K. Vaughan; general progress, V. Punch; diligence, K. Corbett.

Standard V.—Prize for general progress, M. Lavelle.

Kindergarten division.—First prize, E. Lavelle; second, I. Nathan; third, M. Somerville.

ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL.

Christian doctrine—First division, K. Frank; 2nd, M. Cloherty; 3rd, F. Frank; 4th, D. Cullinane; 5th, B. Sullivan. Good conduct—First division, T. Cotter and M. McDermott; 2nd division, D. Cullinane and A. Muir. Bible history—A. Skinner and A. Curtis. Regular attendance—M. Cloherty and M. Parker. Politeness—First division, A. Skinner and A. Adsett; 2nd division, M. Ordish. Amiability—M. Vaughan. Wood-carving—C. Parker. Needlework—I. Muhleison. Readiness to oblige—First division, F. Curtis and E. Scott; 2nd division, E. Lewis. Dux of the school, K. Frank.

Standard VI.—First prize, H. Parker; 2nd, M. McDermott; 3rd, C. Parker; diligence, L. Moran.

Standard V.—First prize, M. Cloherty; 2nd, T. Cotter; 3rd, I. Muhleison.

Standard IV.—First prize, F. Frank and M. Frost; 2nd, R. Cullinane; 3rd, O. Houlahan; diligence, R. Muir.

Standard III.—First prize, M. Parker; 2nd, D. Cullinane; 3rd, G. Lissington; diligence, T. Moynihan.

Standard II.—First prize, M. Burr; 2nd, T. Garrett; 3rd, M. Allardice.

Standard I.—First prize, H. Karaitiana; 2nd, D. Flinn; 3rd, Eunice Frost.

ST. BENEDICT'S CATHOLIC CLUB, AUCKLAND.

(From the club correspondent.)

The first annual oratorical competition of St. Benedict's Catholic Club took place in the club rooms last month, when there was a crowded attendance, amongst those present being Rev. Father Carran (chaplain), and others of the clergy. The president (Mr. J. G. Fay) occupied the chair, whilst the Rev. Father O'Farrell officiated as judge. Five competitors took part—Messrs. G. Dwyer ('Hugh O'Neill'), A. J. Fernandez ('Abraham Lincoln'), J. J. Furlong ('Napoleon'), A. Rose ('Florence Nightingale'), and N. Mahoney ('Henry Grattan'). Rev. Father O'Farrell, in giving his decision, commented on the high standard of literary ability displayed by the speakers, and said that he had to declare a tie for first honors, his decision being A. J. Fernandez and A. Rose (90 points), 1; G. O'Dwyer (87), 2; J. J. Furlong (76), 3; and N. Mahoney (73), 4. The winners, besides tying for the merit diploma of the Federated Clubs of New Zealand, also divided honors for the St. Benedict's Club prize, it being arranged that the competitors' efforts should count for both competitions.

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On the Land

It is noted in the farmers' column of a weekly contemporary that, according to Professor Silas Wentworth, of Los Gatos, California, his experiments with electric influence on animal and vegetable life at his experimental farm on a ranch near Roseville during the past year have proved that electricity will more than double the production of lambs, and greatly increase the yield of wool. A flock of 2000 sheep was divided, one-half being placed in a field under the power wires of an electric power company, while the other was removed from electric influences. In the field under the electric power line the production of lambs averaged a fraction over two lambs to each ewe. In the adjoining field where electrical influence was lacking, the lamb average was less than one to each ewe.

At Burnside last week 140 head of fat cattle were yarded, the quality being mostly middling. There was a brisk demand, with prices 10s to 15s higher than the previous sale. Prime bullocks sold at £11 10s to £12 5s, extra to £13 15s, medium to good £9 10s to £10 15s, light £7 5s to £8 10s. As a rule the Christmas yarding of fat sheep is below the average, but this year 3600 were penned. There were several lines of splendid sheep, with a small proportion of indifferent. The supply was far too heavy, consequently competition was slow, with prices 1s to 1s 6d down at the start. Towards the finish the demand improved. Prime wethers (in the wool), 22s to 24s; extra, to 26s 6d; medium, 18s to 19s 6d; best shorn wethers, 20s to 22s; medium, 17s. The quality of the 2082 fat lambs penned was far below the average of previous years. A fair proportion were prime, but a large number were not up to trade standard. For prime there was a brisk demand at good prices. Pigs, 200 yarded; most of these were porkers

and light baconers, and a few pens of heavy baconers, with a small balance of suckers, slips, and stores. All met strong competition and late prices were fully maintained. Suckers, 10s to 16s; slips, 17s to 22s; stores, 25s to 35s; porkers, 35s to 45s; light baconers, 48s to 55s; heavy, 60s.

At Addington last week there were large entries of stock in consequence of it being a double market. The demand for fat stock was good to meet the butchers' requirements for the Christmas and New Year trade. Fat lambs were firmer. Store sheep sold briskly, and there was a sharp decline in fat cattle. Fat wethers sold well, but ewes were easier. Store cattle and bacon and store pigs were in good demand, while porkers were easier. The yarding of fat lambs was a heavy one for the time of year, totalling 3266, and the quality was exceptionally good. The best lambs ranged from 15s to 19s, and lighter 12s 3d to 14s 9d. The yarding of fat sheep was a large one, and consisted largely of ewes with some good lines of wethers. The sale opened a bit slack, but afterwards improved. The range of prices was: Prime wethers 17s 6d to 22s 6d, others 14s 9d to 17s, prime ewes 15s to 17s 6d, others 10s 9d to 14s 6d, merino wethers 15s 6d. The yarding of fat cattle totalled 412, and included a large proportion of North Island lines. The sale was a very dragging one, and prices fell to the extent of 3s 6d per 100lb for steer beef, the supply being considerably beyond requirements. The range of values was 25s to 28s per 100lb. Steers made £8 15s to £12 10s, heifers £5 17s 6d to £11 10s. There was a large yarding of fat pigs, and baconers met with a good sale and fully maintained their values. Porkers were, however, easier. Choppers made 50s to £4, large baconers 60s to 71s 6d, lighter 47s to 55s (equal to 5½d and 5¾d per lb), large porkers 34s to 38s 6d, smaller 27s to 32s (equal to 5½d to 5¾d per lb).

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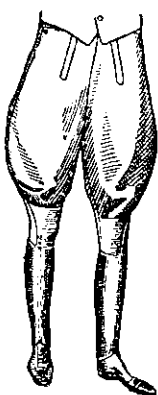
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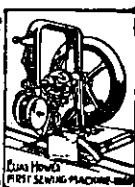
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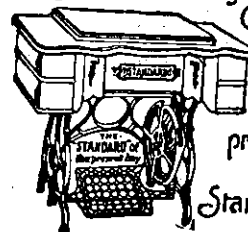
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Sacred Heart School, North East Valley

The annual distribution of prizes in connection with the break-up of the Sacred Heart School, North-east Valley, Dunedin, took place on December 13. Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., presided; with him were Very Rev. Dean Smyth, S.M., and Rev. P. J. O'Neill. A number of the parents and friends of the children were also present. The programme consisted of a cantata, 'The Dolls' Hospital,' and action songs by the various classes. These items were executed in a manner that elicited the applause and admiration of those present.

After the distribution of prizes Rev. Father Coffey addressed the children, and congratulated them on the performance just witnessed, and also on the work done during the year. He spoke to the children of their obligations to their teachers (the Dominican Nuns), who were responsible for the success of the school. In congratulating the children Father Coffey reminded them that those who gained prizes in school did not always get the prizes in the race of life, but that success depended on labor and the application of those principles inculcated at school. Christian doctrine and regular attendance were also emphasised. In conclusion he wished the children a pleasant holiday, and on behalf of the Sisters thanked all those who had shown kindness to the school and its teachers during the year.

The following is the prize-list:—

Class Prizes.

Standard I.—Reading, M. Belisky; spelling, M. McCleary; arithmetic, M. C. O'Kane; tables, F. Toomey; drawing, L. Turnbull; attendance, V. Dooley.

Standard II.—Sewing, M. Doudle; reading and composition, M. Lawlor; arithmetic, J. Leyden; draw-

ing, R. Anderson; spelling, R. King; writing and neatness, E. Tobin; attendance, N. Pollock.

Standard III.—Reading, writing, and composition, J. Toomey; arithmetic and spelling, M. Dyer; drawing, R. Pearson; geography and sewing, M. Collins; home work and neatness, M. Dyer; attendance, S. McCleary.

Standard IV.—Reading and spelling, V. Belisky; arithmetic and home work, M. Wood; drawing, B. Callery; sewing, A. Dyer; composition, A. Lawlor; writing, V. Belisky; attendance, I. Lyng.

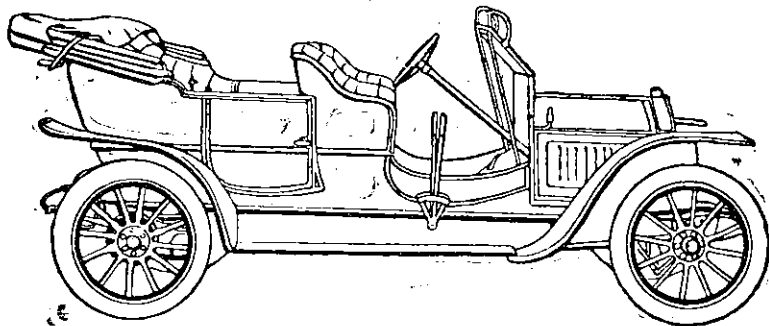
Standard V.—English and composition, S. Hanley; arithmetic, V. Rissell 1, H. Pearson 2; reading and spelling, N. Thompson; drawing, A. Hannagan; writing and neatness, R. Douglas; geography and home work, S. Hanly; attendance, H. Lyng; sewing, J. Hannagan.

General Prizes.—Music and politeness, K. O'Keefe; diligence, J. Lynch, S. Simmonds; good conduct, A. Fogarty (medal); Christian doctrine, first division, N. Thompson; second, A. Bell, P. Simmonds (prize); third, A. Bell.

Attendance at Sunday school, C. Thompson.

Convent School, Blenheim

The fairies (says the Marlborough Express) were abroad last night, and took the, for them, unusual course of allowing mortals to witness their revels. The Town Hall was rather small to hold all who wished comfortably to see and hear the little elfs, and many were content to stand throughout. The entertainment, of which the audience only saw the finished performance, must have caused weeks and weeks of weary toil and



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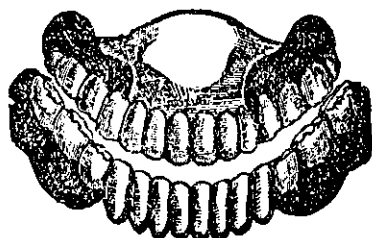
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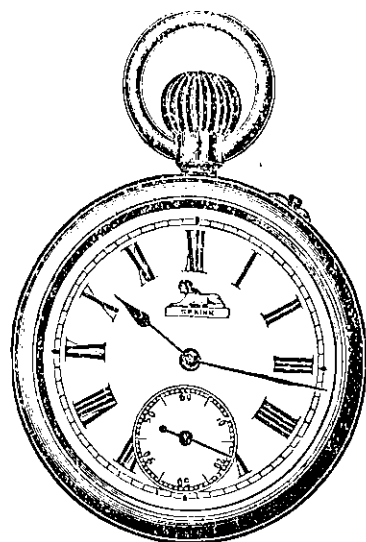
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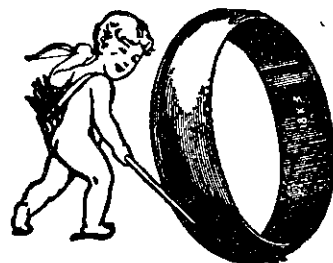
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patience on behalf of the Sisters who were responsible for the work. The curtain rose on a pretty scene in a woodland dell, the fairy queen held her court, enthroned in a bower of forest flowers, the attendant fairies paying her homage in music, song, and story. The dresses of the fairies, representing the sprites of the various seasons of the year, showed up very richly under the limelight, worked by Messrs. Walsh and Paine. A flock of butterflies were very quaintly dressed, and added greatly to the general impressiveness of the ensemble. The singing was very good throughout, and in some instances surprisingly clever, and dancing was a feature of the spectacle. Miss Fanny Langley was the hardest worked individual of the evening. She presided at the piano throughout the evening, and it was noticed that she played the music entirely from memory. It was a feat to be proud of on the part of such a young performer. The following was the cast of characters:—Fairy Queen, Miss Northcroft; Spring Fairies, Misses M. Watson and C. Priddle; Summer, Miss Murray; Autumn, Miss Elliott; Winter, Misses Watson, Gould, and Burgess; butterflies, Masters Watson, Burns (2), Griffiths, Maher, and France. There were some outstanding voices which deserve more than passing mention. The two Watson girls, Alexis and Marlet, and Cora Burgess must be singled out for special praise in this department, while Miss Northcroft, although nervous, acquitted herself admirably in the duet with Miss Watson, 'Before the dawn awakes.' The choruses were all sung well, the best perhaps being 'The toast,' with solo by Cora Burgess, and 'Sailing,' solo by Alexis Watson. The banquet scene was a pretty sight, whilst the fairies' march drew a spontaneous outburst of applause from the audience. A quaint little artist was Miss Marlet

Watson in the old-fashioned song, 'If no one ever marries me,' for which she was encored. The dancing was splendidly done by Miss A. Watson, Misses Priddle and Perrin, and Misses A. Watson and C. Burgess. The latter introduced a dainty form of jig step, which appealed very favorably to the audience. Three piano-forte duets for two pianos were played by Misses Murray, Benning, Gould, and Houldsworth, Misses Haywood, Benning, Elliott, and Perrin, and Misses Sharpe, Broughton, Haywood, and Wolferstan. The pretty little butterfly dance by the butterfly sprites must not be forgotten mention. Certainly the spectacle was one which would bear repetition, and there is no doubt it would again draw a full house to witness the frolics of 'The Fairies of the Seasons.'

The following is the prize-list at the Convent School, Blenheim:—

Good conduct, A. Elliott; Christian doctrine, class I., D. Houldsworth; Christian doctrine, class II., M. Perrin; Christian doctrine, class III., G. Flood; music, senior division, F. Langley; music, higher division, M. Benning; music, lower division, T. Haywood; music, elementary division, L. Broughton; music, elementary division, D. Sharp.

Hockey prize (gift of Miss Northcroft), T. Haywood.

Class I.—Reading, French, drawing, history, and composition, F. Langley; geography, N. Gould; English, spelling, recitation, and writing, M. Watson; general improvement, E. Murray.

Class II.—French, N. Gould; writing, arithmetic, history, and composition, D. Houldsworth; spelling, English, geography, and recitation, A. Elliott; drawing, E. Wolferstan; reading, M. Benning.

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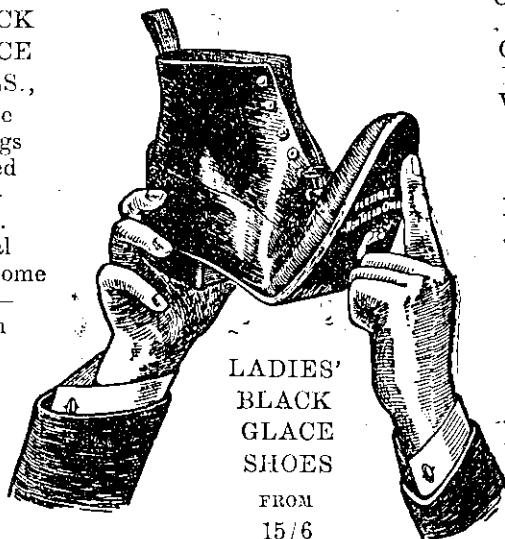
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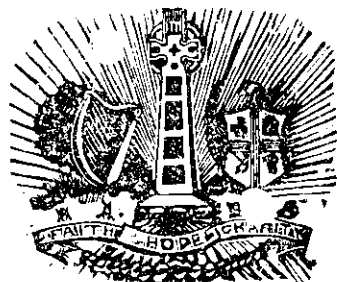
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Class IV.—Arithmetic, I. Wolferstan; reading and spelling, C. Burns; English and history, M. Perrin; writing, geography, and drawing, B. Burgess; composition, D. Sharp.

Class V.—Highest marks and arithmetic, A. Griffiths; drawing, A. Mackintosh; needlework, G. Flood.

Class VI.—Composition (oral), K. Broughton; reading and recitation, M. Sharp; arithmetic, J. France; needlework, Z. Adams; arithmetic, G. Griffiths; highest marks, N. Brown; mental arithmetic, R. Burns; spelling, G. Maher; catechism, E. Barry; attendance, K. Barry; drawing, K. Bartlett; writing and drawing, C. Canavan; spelling, M. Mills.

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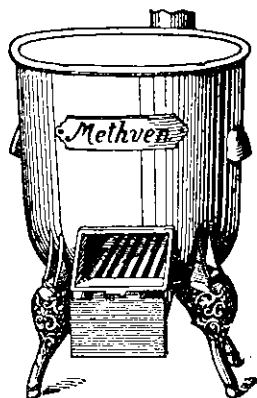
It is doubtful (writes the Brisbane correspondent of the *Catholic Press*) if there is another prelate in Australasia who has had such a strenuous year as his Lordship Bishop Duhig. Besides traversing his own extensive diocese he has contrived to find time to carry out a considerable amount of church duty in the archdiocese, consequent on the continued ill-health of his Grace the Archbishop. He remarked at the Dinmore function that during the past twelve months he had travelled 16,000 miles within the State, and everywhere he saw evidence of the wonderful progress the Church is making. What was still more astonishing, as well as gratifying, was his statement that since he became Bishop of Rockhampton nearly £60,000 had been spent in paying off debts and building new churches and schools. It is a splendid record, and no wonder the Bishop speaks enthusiastically of the good-fellowship and generosity shown by the people of Central and Western Queensland.

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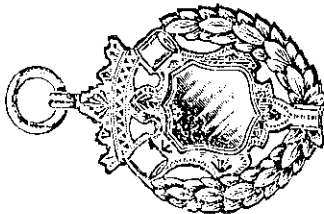
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ENGLAND

CATHOLICS AT OXFORD UNIVERSITY.

The commencement of the new academic year (writes the Oxford correspondent of the *Universe*) has been signalled by the arrival of what is believed to be a record number, and among them is what we imagine must certainly be a record number of Catholics. Thirty-seven of the 'freshmen' are Catholics, and Downside has the credit of having sent no less than seven of them. These, added to the number of those who remain from last year, bring the total number of Catholic undergraduates up to the extremely high figure of a hundred.

THE PROGRESS OF THE CHURCH.

Members of the Catholic Truth Society who, in the Westminster Cathedral Hall on Friday evening, November 3, tendered congratulations to its president, the Most Rev. Dr. Bourne, on his forthcoming elevation to the Cardinalate, dwelt with much satisfaction on the change that has taken place in the attitude of Englishmen towards the Catholic Church. It is true (remarks the *Catholic Times*) there has been a great change. Many prejudices have still to be combated. They are deep-rooted. But the edge of the old antagonism has been blunted. We have had and have writers of high ability who by works that have circulated extensively have done much to enlighten the public. And we have had and have in the Bishops and clergy men whose virtues and devotion to duty could not have failed to make an impression on those around them. When an Englishman sees that his neighbor, whether cleric or layman, lives and acts well he is always willing to give him, in the words of the Most Rev. president, a good and kindly hearing. At present a favorable opportunity for gaining his sympathy presents itself. Rationalists are courting his attention for publications calculated to destroy his belief in Christianity. The Catholic Truth Society has initiated a campaign against them, and if it is supported as generously as it ought to be, it will result in bringing many non-Catholic doubters into the Catholic fold.

THE NEW ARCHBISHOPS.

The Most Rev. Dr. Ilsley, the new Archbishop of Birmingham, was born in 1838, and was educated at Sedgley Park and at Oscott, where he was ordained in 1861. He was successively assistant priest at Longton and Rector of Olton Seminary. In 1876 he was appointed Canon of Birmingham, and three years later he became Bishop-Auxiliary. In 1888 he succeeded the Right Rev. W. B. Ullathorne as Bishop, and in 1906 he was named Assistant at the Pontifical Throne. He is a Governor of the University of Birmingham. The Most Rev. Dr. Whiteside, the new Archbishop of Liverpool, was born at Lancaster in 1857, and was educated at St. Edward's College, Liverpool, at Ushaw, and at the English College, Rome. He was ordained in 1885, and was then appointed a professor at St. Joseph's College, Upholland, of which he was afterwards vice-president and president. In 1893 he was made Canon of Liverpool, and a year later, at the early age of thirty-seven, he was consecrated Bishop of the diocese.

FRANCE

EXPULSION OF RELIGIOUS.

A special correspondent gives an account of the campaign for the expulsion of the Little Sisters of the Assumption from their convents in France (says the *Catholic Times*). No English-speaking person can read it without feeling indignant; no Frenchman who despises unmanliness can consider the details without experiencing a sense of shame. But apparently when French people lose their faith they lose with it the

power of recognising what what is mean and contemptible. So much we infer from the action of the French Government towards these unoffending nuns. First, the Sisters are subjected to nearly every possible form of annoyance by the authorities; and now policemen are dragging them from their convents and actually striking them as they thrust them out. The secret of the enmity to the Sisters is, of course, their success in winning the sympathy of the working classes and bringing religious influences to bear upon their lives. That is a good work which the enemies of religion in France cannot tolerate. Happily there are signs that many of the French toilers are beginning to resent the cowardly tyranny of their anti-Christian rulers. In spite of all the efforts to damage it, the Catholic Church in France continues to gain additional strength. The Government may expel the nuns, but it cannot prevent French men and women from admiring the religion which prompts their self-sacrifice.

UNITED STATES

RECENT DEATHS.

American papers record the deaths of Very Rev. Charles M. Lynch, Vicar-General of the diocese of Sacramento, who was born in the County Cavan, Ireland, in 1842; the Rev. Hubert O'Dea, assistant priest at St. John's Church, Utica, New York, a native of Ireland, aged thirty-nine; and Very Rev. T. O'Callaghan, D.D., V.G., Mobile, Ala., who was born in 1839 at Kanturk.

SPAIN

NUNS AS IDEAL NURSES.

Professor Roncalia, an eminent physician of Mantua, Spain, who is generally anti-clerical in his views, recently addressed two hundred trained nurses of that city. Professor Roncalia, who was their chief instructor, in speaking of the qualities of the ideal nurse, expressed himself as follows:—'Allow me to bring before you the example of those who were and will be always the models of the competent nurse, the example of the Sisters. Do not believe, however, that in speaking of them I have any intention of propagating clericalism. No. Who knows me knows that I am not a clerical; quite otherwise. However, in speaking of them it seems to me that I am throwing a ray of light on their work, so noble, so great, yet so unknown. You see these Sisters flitting about among the wards, quick, light, silent, always with the same expression of goodness on their faces, with the same indulgence in their actions. You see them pass from bed to bed, hastening to where they are called without ever allowing the least sign of impatience to escape them. I have always opposed, and always will oppose, the idea of expelling the Sisters from the hospitals. At Mantua I have insisted to the point of obtaining them as assistants even in the operations. I have said, and repeat it, the Sisters are the model of the true nurse; they are the sublime in goodness and in self-sacrifice; they represent the heroism of abnegation. And what presents itself before them as reward for their mission? The prospect of passing their lives from dawn to late night amid the laments of those who suffer and the death rattle of those who die; the probability of acquiring the infectious germs of terrible and incurable maladies, as happened a little while ago to a young Sister in the flower of her health and youth, who died of tuberculosis; the forgetfulness and ingratitude of those who benefit by her ministrations; the absolute absence of amusements and of relaxation; a table not too well laden with the good things of this life. With all this you will see them going about contented after a manner, without asking for anything, without any pretence, content only to give their whole lives and their whole work to the relief of the suffering and the unfortunate. And it is precisely these Sisters that I put before you as examples to follow, as examples to put in practice. Endeavour to walk in their footsteps, and at the bedside of the poor invalids be good, always good, very good.'

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WANGANUI.

Remuera

(From an occasional correspondent.)

December 13.

On the occasion of their annual concert, last week, the pupils of St. Joseph's School gave a delightful entertainment. There was a very large and appreciative audience in St. Mark's Hall. The entertainment was of a varied character, and whether singing or acting, the youthful performers were exceedingly happy and successful in their respective parts. Excellent results were achieved by all responsible for the success of the concert, and a special word of praise is due to the Sisters of St. Joseph who gave so much time and attention to instructing the children. It must have been highly gratifying to them to see how well their pupils rose to the occasion, and also to note how quick the audience were to recognise the ability of the young artists, and to demonstrate their appreciation in no unmistakable manner.

The parochial sodality of the Children of Mary made their annual retreat early in the month. The exercises continued over four days, and consisted of Mass each morning at half-past six o'clock, and lecture and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament in the evening. A pleasing feature of the retreat was the receiving of Holy Communion each morning by all the sodalists. On the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Misses Casey, Finnerty, McIlroy, Bannow, and Hazel Green were consecrated, and Misses Lineen and Smith were received as aspirants. The exercises were brought to a close on the following Sunday evening by a procession in honor of Our Lady. The procession was led by the cross-bearer and acolytes, followed by the sanctuary servers, school children, wearing wreaths and veil, the Children of Mary in regalia, and four bearers carrying a white statue of Our Lady. Each of the processionists carried a cluster of Easter lilies. Our Lady's altar was adorned with white lilies and blue delphiniums—all of which made a very pretty effect with the shining of the silver vases and candelabra.

The yearly prizes and awards were distributed at the Convent of the Sacred Heart on Thursday morning last. His Lordship the Bishop and the town and suburban clergy were present. A very enjoyable programme was presented by the pupils, and his Lordship delivered an instructive address. Later, the visitors were entertained at lunch by the Sisters.

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To Keep the Hands Soft.

Keep a bottle of olive oil on your washstand, and before washing the hands rub a little of the oil well in. Then soap and wash as usual. The oil loosens the dirt and also keeps the skin soft.

After Boiling a Ham

Let it cool in the water in which it was cooked. This helps to make it more tasty, moist, and tender. The same rule also applies to a tongue.

When Boiling Milk.

If you do not want the cream to rise to the surface and form a skin, pour it as soon as it is scalded into a jug, and let the jug stand in a basin of cold water.

Washing Light Dresses.

In washing white and light-colored dresses that would not stand hard rubbing and only the bottom or hem of the dress and cuffs are really soiled, you will find an easy way to remove the dirt is to soap well the places and then scrub them well with a nail-brush, using plenty of soap and water. Spread the articles out over a clean board and then use the brush. The dirt will disappear like magic, especially if the clothes have been soaked in warm soapy water for half an hour.

Carrot Marmalade.

Boil four or five pounds of carrots, which have been washed, but not scraped. Cook until tender, which may take some hours, unless they are very young. Remove from kettle, peel and cut out any dark spots. Run through the 'grinder,' set medium fine, or mash to a smooth pulp with the potato masher. To every pound of carrot pulp allow one pound of granulated sugar, six almonds, the rind of one lemon, the juice of two, and a scant half-teaspoonful of almond flavor. Put pulp and sugar together in preserving kettle, and bring to boiling point slowly. Boil steadily for fifteen minutes, stirring often, as it burns easily. Set it to one side while you stir in thoroughly the grated lemon juice and rind, the almond extract, and the sweet almonds (which have been blanched and cut in thin shavings). Cook all together for five minutes longer, and when cool put in jars and seal. This makes a delicious and unique marmalade.

Beeswaxing.

Beeswaxing, as everybody knows, consists of applying a mixture of beeswax and turpentine to a hard floor, or to linoleum or oilcloth. The common way, which is also the most dangerous way, is to begin the operation by putting the turpentine in an old saucepan, and then set it on the stove to heat. Frequently it becomes too hot and ignites, and in the endeavor to put out the flames lives have been lost, needlessly lost. It is not necessary to make the turpentine hot. Cold turpentine will dissolve the beeswax if only a sufficient time be allowed. The mixture may be made, and let stand aside till required. But if this precaution be neglected, it is better far to use one of the prepared mixtures that are sold for the purpose, than run the fearful risks involved in heating such an inflammable oil.

Worth Knowing.

Half a lemon dipped in salt and rubbed on discolored ivory knife handles will restore them to their original whiteness.

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'CATHOLIC DISLOYALTY.'

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—I was pleased to see the letter signed 'South Canterbury' in your issue of last week. I quite agree with your correspondent that the Catholics of South Canterbury have not done justice to the three Catholic candidates who stood for the different districts—namely, Messrs. Kennedy (Geraldine), Jefferies (Temuka), and Angland (Timaru). What support did the Catholics give these men? Practically none. And why so? Are not the above three gentlemen a credit to their countrymen? Mr. Kennedy is Mayor of Geraldine. Mr. Jefferies has been connected with the Bank of New Zealand for years, and now is in business in his own account; and Mr. Angland also has been member of several local bodies and is at present a member of the Timaru Borough Council, and in business on his own account. Are not these men a credit to their Catholic friends? They are all young men who have had to fight their way without rich friends to start them in business, or support them. I hope some others will take this matter up, and try and get things placed on a better footing. All I can say is that I am sorry for our very able young men who have fought the hard battle of the last election, and were defeated, and, although defeated they were not disgraced, for the speeches they delivered and the manner which they conducted their campaign were a credit to them and their friends.—I am, etc.,

SOUTH CANTERBURY No. 2.

OBITUARY

MR. PATRICK NOLAN, MAORI HILL.

Sincere regret was felt on December 17 when it became known that Mr. Patrick Nolan had passed away at his residence, Cunnington road. Mr. Nolan had been in declining health for many months, and endured his sufferings with true Christian fortitude and resignation. During his long illness he was attended by the Rev. Fathers O'Neill and Corcoran, and he died fortified by all the rites of the Church. A Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of the deceased was celebrated at St. Joseph's Cathedral on Tuesday morning, after which the remains were interred in the Southern Cemetery. The Rev. Father O'Neill officiated at the graveside, and two old comrades, Messrs. Brennan and Mulholland, acted as pall-bearers. The late Mr. Nolan was a native of Athy, County Kildare, and in early manhood spent some years in the Royal Irish Constabulary, where so many able and respected colonial police officers received their early training. He was attracted to Victoria, and before joining the police force of that colony, he engaged for some time in gold-mining. He left the Victorian police to join the New Zealand force, in which his upright character and thorough knowledge of his duty soon secured him the charge of stations far from headquarters. He had charge at Clyde, and afterwards at Naseby, but he will be best remembered for his many years of service at Woodhaugh, in the north end of Dunedin, from which he retired some years ago on superannuation. The late Mr. Nolan leaves a widow and grown-up family to mourn their loss.—R.I.P.

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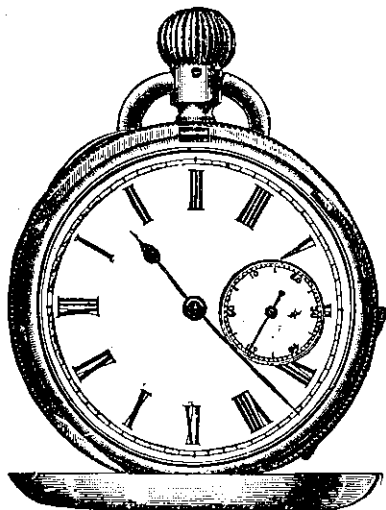
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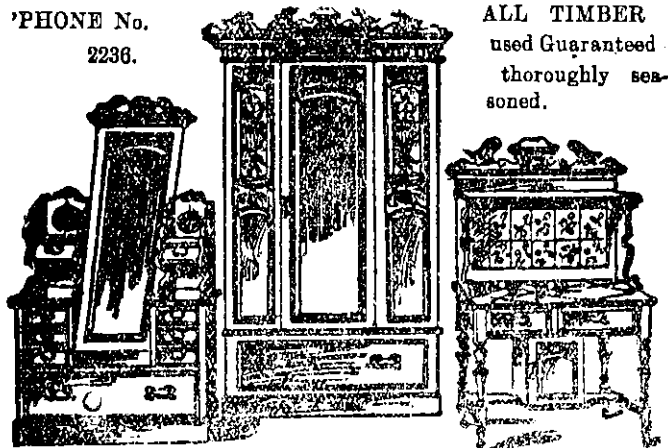
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The Family Circle

THE NEW YEAR'S LEDGER

I took a ledger fair and fine,
And now, I said, when days are glad
I'll write with bright red ink the line,
And write with black when they are bad.
So that they'll stand before my sight
As clear apart as day and night.

I will not heed the changing skies,
Nor if it shine nor if it rain;
But if there comes some sweet surprise
Of friendship, love, or honest gain,
Why then it shall be understood
That day is written down as good.

And if to anyone I love,
A blessing meets them on the way,
That will a double pleasure prove,
So it shall be a happy day;
And if some day I've cause to dread,
Pass harmless by, I'll write it red.

What do I see on looking back?
A red-lined book before me lies,
With here and there a thread of black,
That like a passing shadow flies,
A shadow, it must be confessed,
That often rose in my own breast.

And I have found, 'tis good to note,
The blessing that is mine each day;
For happiness is vainly sought
In some dim future far away.
Just try my ledger for a year,
Then look with grateful wonder back,
And you will find—there is no fear—
The red days far exceed the black.

TURNING OVER A NEW LEAF

It was New Year's Day. There had been a big storm, and although the wind had spent its force, the snow still fell steadily.

'Regular winter weather and no mistake,' observed Mr. Richard Hunt, as he came in noisily, stamping the snow from his boots; 'but I like it. So cold and bracing.'

Mrs. Hunt, who was sitting near an open Franklin stove, laughed heartily.

'I like the house best such a day as this,' she said, shivering a little. 'I don't believe I'd be willing to face the cold even for the sake of the bracing.'

'I heard you say you were going to see old Mrs. Helfer to-day?'

'Yes; but I'll have to wait until some other day. Poor Mrs. Helfer!'

'Is she sick?'

'Yes.'

'I suppose she's very lonely since her daughter died?'

'Yes.'

'I shouldn't wonder if she has a struggle to make both ends meet since that bank failure?'

'I don't believe she does make the ends meet. I feel very sorry for her.'

'But not quite sorry enough for you to go and see her, as you had intended to do to-day?' teasingly.

'Some other day will do as well—will it not?'

'Not if she needs you to-day. Come, get on your wraps, and I'll go with you. Let us be off.'

'Why, Richard Hunt, what's got into you? I thought you never liked to go calling, especially at such places.'

'You thought right, my dear; but can you tell me what there is to prevent my turning over a new leaf on New Year's Day?'

She laughed.

'It would be a good idea,' she said.

'Well, then, encourage me in it.'

'So I will.'

She arose at once and was soon ready to face the storm, with a basket on her arm.

'What's in it?' Mr. Hunt asked, as he relieved his wife of the basket.

'Sugar and spice, and everything nice,' she quoted.

A little maid opened the door when they reached Mrs. Helfer's. To Mrs. Hunt's question as to how the latter was, the child answered: 'She'm not very well, ma'am,' and then, lowering her voice to a confidential whisper, 'I guess she'm awful lonesome. She bin crying—I saw her.'

The weary old face brightened when little Polly led the callers in, but both Mr. and Mrs. Hunt were observant, and read 'between the lines' that the dear old lady was not only sorrowful, but troubled.

'I wish you a happy New Year,' Mrs. Hunt said, taking the thin old hands in a close clasp.

'Thank you,' responded the old lady warmly; 'and I wish you both a happy New Year.'

'We had a fine turkey for dinner to-day,' said Mr. Hunt, 'and I rather think my wife brought you a piece,' uncovering the basket. 'Yes, sure enough, here it is!'

'Now, Dick,' said his wife, 'you've made your speech; sit down, please.'

He sat down with a sigh, pretending to feel hurt. He looked so comical that Mrs. Helfer's spirits rose so far that she laughed.

'I am greatly obliged to you both for remembering me,' she said. 'I'm going to confess that I've been longing for some turkey for a week, and now here it is.'

The trio chatted pleasantly for a little while, and then Mr. Hunt arose suddenly.

'I've thought of an errand or two,' he said. 'You can have the floor to yourselves until I return. I'll not be gone long.'

He met the small maid in the hall.

'Polly,' he said, 'I don't want to pry into Mrs. Helfer's affairs, but I'm really anxious to know if she has everything she needs. She's an old friend, you know; does she need anything, Polly?'

'Yes, sir, 'deed she do; but she didn't say so. She aint' no complainer—that's what she ain't. She ain't had no coffee since—since—'

'Go on, Polly, talk fast. Since when?'

'Since her money took wings an' flew. I dunno where it flew to, but that's what some one said—it flew—an' she don't hev butter no more. I wanted to tell the grocer's boy we was out, but Mrs. Helfer she say, "No, not now, Polly; some other time we'll see about it."'

'It doesn't seem hardly warm enough in the house, Polly. Do you have plenty of coal?'

'That's what we don't, sir,' she said with decision. 'We'm jess about out. I guess by to-morrer it'll be all gone. Mrs. Helfer's a'mose a' shakin' with cold sometimes. She had two shawls aroun' her when you rung the bell, but she took 'em off.'

Mr. Hunt had heard enough—quite enough.

'Poor, dear old soul!' he said to himself, as he went out on his ministering journey.

He kept his promise; he was not gone long. He put a bunch of bright carnations into the old lady's hand, and then he said to his wife, smilingly, that it was time to 'move on.'

Polly let them out of the front door. Returning to the room, she found the old lady in a rapture of joy. There were tears in her eyes, but she was smiling. The fragrant, rosy carnations were still in her hand. On a low chair beside her was the well-filled basket that the Hunts had brought.

'Look, Polly,' she cried, in a glee that was like a child's.

And Polly looked and laughed. What she saw was a plate of sliced turkey, dainty biscuits, a print of butter, a mince pie, a frosted plum cake, oranges, grapes, nuts, raisins, and candy.

'Oh, my!' cried Polly; 'what a fine New Year we do be havin' after all!'

Presently the grocer's boy delivered a heavily-filled basket and a message.

'Tell yer missus Buck Bowers sed he'd be here to-morrer morning at 8 o'clock sure.'

'What for?' asked the amazed Polly.

'What for?' mockingly. 'Why, to bring the load o' coal, of course.'

'Oh! I b'lieve there's fairies aroun'—I do so!' and after closing the door on the grocer's boy, Polly felt inclined to stand on her head by way of celebrating the delightful new state of things.

She left the basket standing in the hall, as it was too heavy for her to attempt to carry it, but she could smell the coffee, and took that package with her; also two or three more.

'Oh, Mrs. Helfer,' she exclaimed, 'another big basket's come, an' it's jes' full of everything. Here's coffee fer you—an'—an' tea an' sugar. An' to-morrer there's a big load of coal a-coming.'

'Polly!'

'Yes, mum.'

'What does it all mean—all that great basket of things you're telling about and the coal coming to-morrow?'

'I dunno.'

'But who sent the groceries? Who is going to send the coal?'

Polly looked mystified. She stood boring the toe of her old shoe into the rug. Suddenly a light broke over her face.

'I guess it's God's doin', ma'am. You sed the Lord ud provide—I heard you—an' He's done it.'

The old lady folded her hands.

'Bless the Lord, oh, my soul!' she said fervently.

'I've thought of something, Mrs. Helfer,' Polly suddenly broke out, excitedly. 'I guess Mr. Richard Hunt's a'bin' a'helpin' the Lord.'

The old lady smiled.

'We have the same thoughts about it, Polly, you and I,' she said. 'God always wants such help in His good work,' she said in conclusion.

FAMILY FUN

A Mind-Reading Trick.—By means of the table of letters given below it is possible to do some clever mind-reading, to the bewilderment of the person read. Suppose, for instance, you do not know the full name of a person. Get him to inform you in which of the upright columns, or column, the first letter of his name appears. If it is found in only one column, it is the top letter; if it is found in more than one column, it is found by adding the alphabetical numbers of the top letters of these columns, and the sum will be the number of the letter sought. By taking one letter at a time in this way the whole name, or any word, can be ascertained.

For example, take the name Jane. J is found in the two columns beginning with B and H, which are the second and eighth letters of the alphabet; their sum is 10, and the tenth letter of the alphabet is J, the one sought. The next letter, A, appears in only one column, where it stands at the top. N is seen in the columns headed with B, D, and H, the second, fourth, and eighth letters of the alphabet, and their numbers added give fourteen, or N, and so on. By memorizing the respective numbers of the letters of the alphabet, the trick can be worked very quickly, and will excite no little curiosity.

A	B	D	H	P
C	C	E	I	Q
E	F	F	J	R
G	G	G	K	S
I	J	L	L	T
K	K	M	M	U
M	N	N	N	V
O	O	O	O	W
Q	R	T	X	X
S	S	U	Y	Y
U	V	V	Z	Z
W	W	W		
Y	Z			

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Science Siftings

By 'VOLT.'

A Sky Scrapper.

The new Woolworth building to be erected in New York will be the highest business structure in the world. It will be fifty-five stories, measuring 750 feet, containing 20,000 tons of iron girders, and will cost £7,500,000.

The Light of the Glow-Worm.

The most economical artificial illuminant only gives us in light some 4 per cent. of the energy necessary to generate it, whereas between 96 and 100 per cent. of the energy radiated by the glow-worm reaches our eyes as light. The glow-worm is the most efficient of all light engineers; and when its secret is discovered, and artificial light can be produced as economically, our quarterly lighting accounts will scarcely be worth the cost of collecting.

Best Light for the Eyes.

According to scientists, the least injurious of present day illuminants is the acetylene flame, for the reason that it is the nearest approach to the character of daylight. For reading or writing purposes the oil lamp or candle is the best, because of its soft, yellow light. Daylight, of course, is the ideal. It is a mixture of all colors, and, as far as the eyes are concerned, the green, yellowish rays predominate. It is the invisible and ultra-violet rays that are so harmful, and in daylight there are not enough of these to hurt. Of the various forms of electric light, the violet is the most harmful.

The Rubber Tree.

It was a Jesuit missionary, Father Marcel de Esperance, who discovered the rubber tree. He found it while on one of his apostolic journeys among the Cambaba Indians of South America, and gave it the singular name of the seringuera, because he remarked that the savages used the sap of this tree, which hardens quickly, to make rude bottles that were shaped like a syringe. A rubber-seeker's camp is still called a seringal, and the workers are known as seringueiros. The name caoutchouc was given to this product by La Condamine, a French astronomer, who visited South America. In an account of his travels before the Paris Academy of Science, he said: 'The Indians of the Amazon give the name of cahutchu to a white sap drawn from the hyve tree.' The best caoutchouc (rubber) is obtained in the vicinity of Para, Brazil.

The Formation of Deserts.

There is a popular idea that deserts like the Sahara are the bottoms of ancient seas which have been lifted above the original elevation by geological forces. This notion is an erroneous one. It is absolutely certain, high authorities contend, that the sands of all the great deserts have been formed on the spot by the disintegration of the solid rocks on which they rest. Desert sands correspond in all respects, so far as their mode of origin is concerned, to the dust and sand that accumulates on our high roads in summer. All deserts are situated where the winds from the ocean, before reaching them, are exhausted of their moisture by passing over mountains or across extensive tracts of land.

The Cedars of Lebanon.

Very carefully enclosed and guarded are the two hundred remaining cedars of Lebanon, those famous trees that once clothed all the side of the Syrian mountains. So tall and beautiful were they in comparison with the trees of Palestine that the Hebrew writers celebrate them with extraordinary praise, and from the earliest times their soft, white wood was the glory of Jewish architecture. They were used in Solomon's Temple and in its successor, and also in the church that Constantine built at Jerusalem. Several of the trees in the grove are over fifteen hundred years old, and have a height of one hundred feet and a circumference of fifty.

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MISSING PAGE

OUR SCHOOLS

ST. PATRICK'S COLLEGE, WELLINGTON.

The breaking-up ceremony of St. Patrick's College took place on December 14. There was a large attendance of the clergy and friends. His Grace the Archbishop and his Lordship the Bishop of Lismore were present. An excellent musical programme was contributed by the College Orchestra, a chorus party of College boys, and individual instrumentalists and vocalists.

The Rector (the Very Rev. Dr. Kennedy) apologised to the large attendance for inviting them to a 'break-up' on an election night, and thanked them for preferring a prize-giving to the stirring events outside. In numbers the college had made a considerable advance. The roll had reached 154. In conduct and work the boys had given satisfaction. The Rector made some important observations on the question of scholarships, which are reported in full in another part of this issue.

The Bishop of Lismore addressed the boys, and congratulated the 'men of to-morrow' on their appearance. They were guarantors of New Zealand's future.

Mr. H. S. Wardell, in the course of an address to the boys, reminded them that their school supplied a very great want. Speaking on matters topical, he reminded the students that it would one day be their privilege and their duty to help to mould the political destinies of their country. Education, guided by religion, would make them high-minded and would deter them from dishonourable and unworthy acts.

Mr. Martin Kennedy, K.S.G., proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector and the masters of the college for their self-sacrificing work.

The following is the prize list:—

Scholarships.

Second Class.—English language and literature (value £10), Charles Laird; Latin and French (value £10), Joseph Connolly; A division—Mathematics (value £10), Leonard Daniel; B division—Mathematics (value £10), John Barry; general excellence (value £10), Howard Buckley.

Third Class.—English language and literature (value £10), Thomas Heffernan; Latin and French (value £10), William Craighead; mathematics (value £10), Desmond O'Sullivan.

Fourth Class.—English language and literature (value £5), Norman Meehan; Latin and French (value £5), Thomas Higgins; mathematics (value £5), Francis Grogan.

Good Conduct Prizes.

Senior division.—Gold medals presented by his Grace Archbishop Redwood, S.M., William Buckley, Arnold Roche; junior division—gold medal presented by the Very Rev. Father O'Shea, S.M., V.G., Thomas Cleary; extern division—gold medal presented by Ven. Archdeacon Devoy, S.M., Leonard Daniel.

Diligence.—Gold medal presented by the Very Rev. Dean Regnault (Provincial), S.M., W. Hennessy.

First Class A.—General excellence in class work (prize presented by the Very Rev. Dean Hills, S.M., V.G., Christchurch), W. Buckley.

First Class B.—General excellence in class work (gold medal presented by the Old Boys' Association), J. McGinley; Christian Doctrine (gold medal presented by his Lordship Bishop Grimes, S.M.), W. Hennessy; essay (prize presented by the Very Rev. Father Keogh, S.M., B.A.), W. Hennessy; English, W. Hennessy; Latin, J. McGinley; French (presented by the Very Rev. Father Moran, S.M., B.A.), J. McGinley; arithmetic and algebra, J. McGinley; geometry and trigonometry, J. McGinley.

Second Class.—General excellence in class work, Howard Buckley; Christian Doctrine (gold medal pre-

sented by the Very Rev. Dean Carew, S.M.), Howard Buckley 1, J. Hennessy 2; essay, C. Laird; English, C. Laird; history and geography, C. Laird; Latin, J. Connolly; French, J. Connolly; arithmetic (A), H. Buckley, Owen Craighead; algebra and geometry (A), L. Daniel; arithmetic (B), C. Parsons; algebra and geometry (B), R. Fuller; mechanics, H. Buckley; zoology, T. Heffernan.

Third Class.—General excellence in class work, D. O'Sullivan 1, W. Craighead 2; Christian Doctrine, D. O'Sullivan 1, W. Craighead 2; essay, V. Browne; English, W. Craighead; history and geography, F. McKenna; Latin, T. Heffernan; French, F. Kelly; arithmetic, A. Breen 1, T. Sullivan 2; algebra and geometry, D. O'Sullivan; chemistry, B. Dignan; physical measurements, W. Craighead.

Fourth Class A.—General excellence in class work, N. Meehan, L. Reeves; Christian Doctrine, N. Meehan 1, G. Fitzsimmons 2; essay (A), N. Meehan 1, R. O'Donoghue 2; essay (B), P. O'Rourke; English (A), N. Meehan; English (B), P. Reilly; history and geography (A), N. Meehan 1, L. McDonald 2; history and geography (B), H. Beirne; Latin, T. Higgins; French, T. Heffernan 1, A. Breen 2; Arithmetic, L. Reeves, F. Grogan; algebra and geometry, C. Duffou 1, F. Grogan 2; physics, L. Reeves; drawing, J. Egan.

Fourth Class B.—General excellence in class work, L. Henrys; Christian Doctrine, C. Dealy; essay, G. McMillan; English, C. Dealy; history and geography, L. Henrys; Latin, J. O'Neill, L. Reeves; French, C. Dealy; arithmetic, L. Henrys; algebra, G. McMillan; science, W. Coles; drawing, L. Cranby; writing, L. McDonald.

Fifth Class.—Christian Doctrine, W. Coles; English, W. Coles; arithmetic, W. Coles; writing, K. Gasquoine; drawing, E. Whittle; agriculture—(A), L. Butcher, P. Blake, (B), F. King; commercial course—(A), C. Parsons, (B), L. Flood.

Oratory and Debate.—Senior Debating Society: Debating (gold medal presented by Mr. Stanislaus Moran, LL.B.), T. Heffernan, D. Connor (prize); oratory (gold medal presented by Rev. Father Holley, S.M.), J. Spillane, D. Connor (prize); Junior Debating Society (gold medal presented by Mrs. D. Kennedy), F. McKenna, W. Craighead (prize).

Music.—Pianoforte—First division, F. Kelly 1, R. O'Donoghue 2; second division, W. Coles 1, E. Cullinan 2. Violin—First prize, A. Brennan, W. Neylon; second prize, E. Burns.

Board of Honor Prizes.—H. Buckley, A. Roche, W. Buckley, C. Andrews, T. Cleary, B. Chapman, M. Daly, R. Fuller, C. Duffou, P. Hanrahan, J. Hyland, T. Heffernan, C. Knight, W. Hennessy, R. Prindable, T. Higgins, E. Reeves, F. McKenna, L. Reeves, P. O'Connor, P. Reilly.

Prizes for Four Mentions.—D. Bradley, T. Cullen, W. Poppelwell, A. Bunney, J. Barry, W. Redmond, J. Spillane, J. Fitzgerald, N. Healy, D. Champion.

Gymnastics.—Senior division, Francis Kelly; junior division, Stuart Henrys (champion). Drill, Sergeant Dore's section.

Swimming.—Seniors, P. McCarthy; juniors, E. Clarke; diving, F. Reynolds.

Boxing.—Heavy-weights, T. Hodgins; light-weights, M. Brownlie; feather-weights, Tufi Noon; bantams, W. Bowden.

Rifle Shooting.—Gold medal presented by Colonel R. J. Collins, C.M.G., I.S.O., for highest aggregate: Awarded to Private F. King.

Tennis Tournament.—E. Burns and P. Blake.

Handball Tournament.—Senior, C. Parsons and C. Hodgins; juniors, A. Cummins and J. O'Neill.

The special prizes in connection with athletics were awarded to the following, the presentations being made by Mrs. and Miss Henrys, on December 12:—

Marathon race, W. Cole (gold medal); champion shot, E. King (gold medal); best handball player, C. Parsons (gold medal); best tennis player, P. Blake (travelling bag).

Boxing.—Featherweight, Bowden (Gladstone bag); bantam, Brownlee (Gladstone bag); heavy-weight, Hodgins (gold medal).

Grand Handicap, T. Cullen (oak and silver tray).

Swimming.—Senior, P. McCarthy (gold medal); junior, E. Clark (gold medal).

ST. BEDE'S COLLEGIATE SCHOOL, CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

The first distribution of prizes at St. Bede's Collegiate School took place on the afternoon of Friday, December 15. His Lordship Bishop Grimes presided. In addition to the parents and friends of the pupils the following clergy were present:—Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., Rev. Dr. Kennedy, Rev. Fathers Schaefer, S.M., and Bartley, S.M., M.A. (St. Patrick's College, Wellington), Rev. Fathers Fanning, M.S.H., Daull, S.M.A., Hoare, S.M., Dignan, S.M., and Hanrahan.

Before his Lordship presented the prizes the Rector (Rev. Father Graham, S.M., M.A.) read a report of the first year's work. He said that on the opening day fourteen pupils were present, but during the next week the numbers increased to twenty. The school roll showed the names of 23 pupils for the first year. On account of the fewness of numbers the work of the school could not be extended much beyond the classroom, but the rector expressed a hope that during the coming year an increase in attendance would enable St. Bede's to establish what is so necessary a part of schoolboy life—games and athletic clubs. During the year the discipline and conduct of the boys had been excellent. On the scholastic side also excellent work had been done, and great improvement had been shown in all branches. The work of the year had been only of a fundamental nature, as no boys were ready yet to be presented for any of the public examinations. The Rector then urged upon parents the necessity of leaving their boys at school until their secondary course was completed. He emphasised the necessity of higher education for Catholics, seeing that the State now made it so easy for non-Catholics to obtain the benefits of higher education by the system of scholarships which had lately been introduced, and at the same time he entered a strong and vigorous protest against the injustice that is being done to Catholics, inasmuch as Catholic children are debarred from holding these scholarships because they are not allowed to take them out in Catholic colleges and high schools, and cannot conscientiously take them out in the State schools. He expressed the hope that our legislators would soon grant at least this act of justice to Catholics. Before reading out the prize-list the Rector, on behalf of Father Quinn and himself, thanked his Lordship the Bishop for many acts of kindness that they had experienced at his hands. He also expressed his thanks to the many generous contributors to the prize fund.

After distributing the prizes his Lordship Bishop Grimes addressed the boys, and urged them to be faithful to the principles taught at St. Bede's, to be loyal and true Catholics, and hence to be loyal and true citizens.

A vote of thanks to his Lordship the Bishop for presiding at the function was proposed by the Rector and carried by acclamation. As his Lordship left the hall he was accorded three hearty cheers by the boys. The parents and friends of the boys were afterwards entertained at afternoon tea by the college staff.

The following is the prize-list:—

Special Prizes.—Good conduct, L. Donohue; next in merit, S. Elliott, Leo Donohue; diligence and regular attendance, B. Kiely; next in merit, B. Beswick, C. O'Malley.

Class Subjects.—Form II.—Christian doctrine, Lawrence Donohue; next in merit, L. Gray, Leo Donohue; general excellence, S. Elliott; next in merit, Lawrence Donohue, Leo Donohue; English composition, S. Elliott; next in merit, L. Gray, A. Khouri; English, Leo Donohue; next in merit, S. Elliott, A. Khouri; history and geography, S. Elliott; next in merit, A. Khouri, Lawrence Donohue; recitation, B. Beswick; next in merit, S. Elliott, Lawrence Donohue; spelling and dictation, A. Khouri; next in merit, B. Kiely, L. Gray; reading, A. Khouri; next in merit, B. Kiely, S. Elliott; writing, C. Dunn; next in merit, B. Beswick, S. Elliott; arithmetic, A. Khouri; next in merit, S. Elliott, Leo Donohue; algebra, B. Beswick; next in merit, A. Khouri, Leo Donohue; geometry, Lawrence Donohue; next in merit, Leo Donohue, S. Elliott; French, B. Beswick; next in merit, Lawrence Donohue, Leo Donohue; bookkeeping and shorthand, S. Elliott; next in merit, Lawrence Donohue, Leo Donohue, Carl Dunn; Latin, A. Khouri; next in merit, L. Gray, B. Kiely.

Junior Form.—Christian doctrine, F. Kraetzer; next in merit, W. Sunley, C. O'Malley; general excellence, F. Kraetzer; next in merit, C. O'Malley, W. Sunley; English composition, F. Kraetzer; next in merit, C. O'Malley, W. Sunley; English, W. Sunley; next in merit, N. Dunn, F. Kraetzer; geography, F. Kraetzer, next in merit, C. O'Malley, H. Bush; recitation, W. Sunley; next in merit, N. Dunn, C. O'Malley; spelling and dictation, F. Kraetzer; next in merit, C. O'Malley, N. Dunn; reading, C. O'Malley; next in merit, W. Sunley, H. Bush; writing, H. Bush; next in merit, F. Kraetzer, C. O'Malley; arithmetic, N. Dunn; next in merit, F. Kraetzer, C. O'Malley; French, F. Kraetzer; next in merit, N. Dunn; W. Sunley; bookkeeping, C. O'Malley; next in merit, F. Kraetzer, N. Dunn; shorthand, N. Dunn.

Preparatory division.—General excellence, F. Brown; reading and recitation, F. Brown; prize for four mentions, Leo Gray.

ST. CATHERINE'S DOMINICAN COLLEGE, INVERCARGILL.

The annual distribution of prizes in connection with St. Catherine's College, Invercargill, took place on December 13. The Very Rev. Dean Burke presided, and Rev. Father Kavanagh was also present. The pupils gave a short programme, consisting of songs, pianoforte solos, English and French recitations, and the 'Christmas Story,' in which the children, by a series of recitations and suitable songs, presented in an interesting manner the great Christmas mystery.

The following prizes and medals were presented to the pupils. Kindergarten.—Christian doctrine and general knowledge, E. Lynch; good conduct and politeness, E. Maher.

Grade IV.—Christian doctrine and arithmetic, A. Nisbet; spelling, music, and drill, M. Flanagan; writing and sewing, M. Dickens; reading and homework, M. Mather; tables and embroidery, M. Dickens; recitation and politeness, M. Hewitt; spelling and mental work, A. Pascoe; music and general improvement, M. Pascoe; arithmetic, D. Flanagan; drawing, nature study and reading, I. Millar.

Grade III.—Singing and writing, M. Matheson; arithmetic and spelling, I. Collins; number and word-building, — Waby; arithmetic and mat-weaving, D. Printz; reading and embroidery, N. Mulvey; spelling and mat-weaving, Joe Norton; improvement, Jack Murray; arithmetic and writing, Anthony Loughnan.

Grade II.—Word-building, G. Shirley; general improvement and neatness, P. Mannix; spelling and embroidery cards, M. Kavanagh; number, word-building, and mat-weaving, I. Printz; reading and spelling, O. Seaman; mat-weaving, Paul Dickens; counting, M. Mahoney.

Grade I.—Stick-laying and writing, G. Wills; spelling and numbers, R. Tanner; reading and embroidery, E. Tanner; word-building and number, T. Harvey; Kindergarten work, M. Haig; counting and tables, M. Flanagan; improvement, N. Burns; paper-

folding, A. Finnerty; stick-laying and paper-folding, E. Soaper; bead-stringing, M. Collins; figures and pricking, B. Hislop; numbers and mat-plaiting, N. Mulvey; word-building and tables, N. Waterston; stick-laying and figures, R. Abel; bead-stringing and numbers, D. Dickens; stick-laying, B. Waby; word-building, N. Maloney; mat-plaiting, W. Macdonald; reading and counting, B. Scully.

JUNIOR SCHOOL, ST. CATHERINE'S COLLEGE.

Medallists.—Christian doctrine, A. Brogan; English, N. Hishon.

Special Prizes.—Physical culture, G. Waddell; elocution, N. Hishon; needlework, M. Morris; conduct, A. O'Brien; deportment, G. Waddell; amiability, M. Hannan; good manners, A. O'Brien; neatness and order, E. Bowlker.

Class Subjects.—Arithmetic, K. Nesbit; penmanship, D. Murray; history and letter-writing, W. Guthrie; Bible history and general improvement, M. Wills; home study and punctuality, M. Erskine; French and grammar, K. Nisbet; attention to studies and arithmetic, A. Brogan; recitation and singing, M. Morris; letter-writing and spelling, M. Timpany; improvement in reading, C. Guthrie; neat book work, R. Smith; needlework and politeness, N. Philp; geography and drawing, K. Timpany; general knowledge and attention to studies, C. Freed; English, J. Sheehan; singing, and attention to studies, N. Hishon; essay-writing and penmanship, R. Smith.

Class IV.—English, W. Mather (silver medal); arithmetic, G. Roche; essay, M. Peterson; geography, C. Plank; French, L. Macdonald; reading, K. McKenzie; history, D. Smith; improvement, D. Cochran; elocution, H. Collins.

Class V.—Gospel, J. McAlister; English, E. McGrath (silver medal); arithmetic, A. Murray; French and writing, R. Shepherd; history, E. Lavelle; essay writing, T. Gilbertson; drawing, S. Broad; attention to studies, K. Lavelle; excellence of homework, N. Macdonald.

Senior Oxford.—English, D. Staunton; French, H. Mackley; physiology, H. Mackley, D. Staunton; general knowledge, D. Staunton; best essay, D. Staunton.

Junior Oxford.—English (medal), M. Snow; French, L. Greig, M. Snow; Latin, L. Greir; mathematics, M. O'Meara; best essay, M. Snow; attention to studies, M. Woolf; general knowledge, L. Greig; Gospel, H. Bews.

Preliminary Oxford.—English (medal), E. Ruck; French, S. Short; R. Joyce; arithmetic, R. Joyce, J. Metzger; freehand drawing, T. Guthrie; design, J. Metzger; history, R. Treseder, T. Guthrie; geography, R. Looney; writing, M. Guthrie; general efficiency, M. Nesbit; general improvement, H. Price.

General Prizes.—Politeness, M. Macdonald; deportment, M. Nisbet; order, L. Greig; senior calisthenics, M. Macdonald, R. Shepherd; junior calisthenics, L. Macdonald; attendance, L. Greig, M. Maloney; elocution, H. Collins; needlework, S. Mackay; oil painting, H. Spillane, M. Crosbie, S. Mackay; games, E. McGrath; Christian doctrine (gold medal), F. de Brum; conduct (silver medal), M. Crosbie; wreath awarded by votes of the pupils for the most amiable girl in the school, D. Staunton.

Music School.

Professional Examination.—Alice F. Harrington, L.A.B., A.T.C.L. (gold medal).

Advanced Harmony.—Grace E. Paton (highest marks in Southland), gold medal, special prize.

Intermediate Music.—M. Macdonald (silver medal), M. McIvor, F. Cameron, A. Wyeth.

Intermediate Harmony.—J. Metzger (prize), L. Greig, M. Maloney, R. Joyce.

Junior Music.—L. Greig (silver medal), H. Spillane (prize).

Junior Theory.—H. Collins (prize), E. McGrath, C. Plank.

Preparatory Music.—E. Ruck (prize), R. Treseder, R. Joyce, M. Peterson, B. Johnston, A. O'Brien, G. Roche.

ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL, INVERCARGILL.

The prizes in this school were distributed by the Very Rev. Dean Burke, who, in conclusion, reminded the children that the holidays, though a time of enjoyment, were to be spent usefully as well as happily. The following is the prize-list:—

Class VI.—C. Wells 1, M. Gilfedder 2, C. Hynes 3.

Class V.—E. McLaren 1, I. McMullan 2, S. Mooney 3.

Class IV.—M. McAnclly 1, L. Fahey 2, E. Ryan 3.

Class III.—M. Sinnott 1, I. Cunningham 2, D. Brogan 3.

Class II.—A. Keaney 1, M. Wells 2, I. McLaren 3.

General Prizes.—Good conduct medal, M. Clifford; Christian doctrine medal, M. Skiffington, C. Wells.

Various prizes, in addition to gifts from Santa Claus, were given to the rest of the children, which brought a happy school year to a happy ending.

DOMINICAN COLLEGE, OAMARU.

The annual break up of the college, and the distribution of prizes took place on Wednesday evening, when the Right Rev. Mgr. Mackay, V.G., presided, attended by Rev. A. Farthing and Rev. H. Woods. There was present a goodly gathering of parents who had come to witness the happy closing of a year's hard work and close study. A short programme of action songs and recitations, musical monologue, piano-forte selections, and club-swinging was gone through at intervals between the distribution of prizes to the various classes. Mgr. Mackay very cordially thanked the students for the pleasure their efforts that evening had given, and expressed his deep gratification at the spirit of industry and attention to work that had pervaded the college during the year then closing.

The following is the prize list:—

Preparatory School.

Grade II.—Class prize, Tui Bastings; reading and recitation, R. Bastings; arithmetic, E. Gallagher; geography, R. Bastings; drawing, E. Gallagher; general improvement, G. Molloy; improvement in music, R. Bastings and E. Gallagher; catechism and Bible stories, Tui Bastings.

Grade I.—Class prize, L. Rooney; arithmetic, M. Tansey; reading, E. Cronk; writing, L. Rooney and E. Cronk; general improvement, A. Hanley; reading, M. Tansey; word-building, J. Harney; obedience and politeness, E. Cronk.

Junior School.—English and French, R. Montford; arithmetic, L. Miller, K. Grave, M. Wylie; drawing, K. Grave; letter-writing, N. Spiers; reading, E. de Courcey; attention to music, E. Breen; religious knowledge, E. de Courcey; good conduct medal, R. Montford.

Senior School.

Preliminary Oxford.—English, D. Kelly; reading, H. Jardine; attention to studies, K. Oakden; arithmetic, D. Kelly 1, M. Molloy 2; drawing, M. McCone; politeness, K. Oakden. Class medallist (English, French, and arithmetic), M. McCone.

Standard VI.—Proficiency certificates: M. McCone, J. Pringle, D. Kelly, and M. Cotter.

Junior Oxford.—Arithmetic, M. O'Grady, M. Smith, E. Cartwright; algebra, J. O'Donnell, M. O'Grady; geography, M. Cotter; French, M. Smith, J. O'Donnell; reading and penmanship, E. Coughlan; second in merit, E. Cartwright; class medallist, A. Pringle; certificate, N. Lynch.

Civil Service.—English, K. O'Meara; history, K. O'Meara; mathematics, E. Kelly; French, J. Pringle, R. Falconer; physiology, K. Ardagh; geography, M. Maider; theory and history of music, E. Kelly and J. Pringle; club-swinging, R. Falconer; attention to studies, M. Maider, K. O'Meara, and E. Kelly.

Matriculation (Division I.).—English composition, D. Sewell, L. Finnerty, T. McKinnon; French, K. Counihan, D. Hart, C. Shirres; mathematics, R. O'Donnell, T. McKinnon, K. Counihan; geography, C. Shirres, D. Hart; English history and literature, R. O'Donnell, D. Sewell; physiology, K. Counihan; arithmetic,

L. Finnerty; class medallists, K. Counihan and D. Sewell.

Matriculation (Division II.).—Physiology, J. O'Leary; dux of the college (English, French, Latin, mathematics), J. O'Leary.

Results of local examinations, published January, 1911; matriculation and solicitor's general knowledge, Imelda Gaffaney and Eileen O'Meara; Civil Service junior—credit list, Eileen O'Meara; pass, J. O'Leary, K. Counihan.

Needlework (Art).—Medallist, A. Pringle; next in merit, M. McCone; hon. mention, M. Maider, I. Lawlor, M. Smith, J. Robertson; machine sewing, M. Smith; next in merit, A. Pringle and M. McCone; plain sewing, K. Oakden; next in merit, M. Wylie; darning, M. Smith; painting (oils), A. Pringle; attendance, K. Counihan.

School of Music (Pianoforte).

Associated Board, Local Centre—Advanced grade, Margaret Twomey; intermediate grade, Ailis Molloy; lower school, Gretta Cooney.

Trinity College—Advanced grade (senior), Isabel Farrant (medallist); junior grade, Eileen Hill (medallist), Lena Lawlor (prize); preparatory grade, Elsie Mansell (medallist), May Cooney (medallist); singing, Lena Lawlor (prize).

Special Prizes.—Pianoforte, Kitty Ardagh; hon. mention—C. Shirres, D. Hart, D. Sewell, A. Pringle, M. McCone, T. McKinnon, M. Smith, M. Maider; singing, Lizzie Finnerty.

Harmony, Trinity College, London.—Senior, Margaret Ward; intermediate, Kitty Ardagh; junior, Maude Smith (medallist); preparatory, Nance Spiers.

Christian Doctrine.—Gold medallist, senior division, D. Hart; prize, J. Pringle; second prize, A. Pringle; good conduct medal, M. Maider.

ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL, OAMARU.

On December 13 the pupils of St. Joseph's School assembled to receive from the hands of the Right Rev. Mgr. Mackay, V.G., the prizes awarded to them. After giving the prizes Monsignor Mackay said a few kind words to the children expressing his pleasure at the good work done, the very good report made by the Inspector after his visit to the school—all Standard VI. secured proficiency certificates—and, above all, the good conduct of the children during the year. The following is the prize list:—

Standard II.—Catechism, C. Foley, M. Curran, K. O'Brien; reading, M. O'Brien, M. Gleeson, J. Cartwright; arithmetic, D. Meehan, L. Collins, E. Reilly; nature study, M. Gruppelaar, P. Mackay, I. Johnston; drawing, J. Tripp, M. Bermingham.

Standard III.—Catechism, G. Andrews, K. Pritchard; reading, L. Curran, L. Collins; arithmetic, W. O'Grady, O. Cooney; nature study, N. Hall.

Standard IV.—Catechism and singing, N. McLoughlin; reading and recitation, M. McGrath; arithmetic and music, M. O'Brien; drawing and designing, L. Hall; attendance, K. White, M. Meehan; composition, M. Reilly; nature study, A. O'Brien.

Standard V.—Bible history and good conduct, N. Fitzgerald; catechism and politeness, M. Foley; reading, recitation, singing, U. Bevin; arithmetic and music, M. Cooney; music and drill, E. Mansell; spelling, M. Costigan, M. Counihan; writing and drawing, E. Gamble; needlework, K. Fitzgerald, A. Johnston; composition and history, K. O'Brien.

Standard VI.—English, K. O'Grady; arithmetic, H. Meehan; composition and history, J. Forde.

Standard VII.—Gained proficiency certificates at the recent examination in Standard VI.—Greta Cooney, Kathleen Collopy, May Gamble, Katie Reilly.

Sacristan (special prize), Maggie Costigan.

CONVENT OF THE SACRED HEART, TIMARU.

Tuesday, December 12, witnessed the termination of the scholastic year, and annual distribution of prizes, at the Convent of the Sacred Heart, Timaru. The Right Rev. Dr. Grimes, Bishop of Christchurch,

presided, according to his custom, and among the distinguished guests present were the Right Rev. Dr. Carroll, Bishop of Lismore, and Right Rev. Mgr. O'Haran, of Sydney. The beautiful reception room was tastefully decorated with garlands of roses, large white lilies, and delicate hothouse plants. The entertainment, which preceded the distribution of prizes, showed both the talent of the pupils and the high standard of secular education for which the institution is so well known. The play, entitled 'In the Days of Good Queen Bess', was taken from the works of a classical author by the pupils, who impersonated the various historical characters in a particularly able manner. The choice musical selections and their admirable rendering called forth special appreciation. In the choruses, 'O Cessate' (Scarlatti), 'Hold thou my hand' (Briggs), and 'To God Eternal'—'Creation's Hymn' (Beethoven) the children's full melodious voices blended perfectly. Two quartettes, 'La Regatta Veneziana' (Liszt), 'Larghetto' (Beethoven), and a duo, 'Andante con variazione' (Schumann), displayed great skill and careful training. The items given by the junior members of the school were charming. The little ones, fifteen in number, were remarked by all present for their natural simplicity and graceful manners. A little French scene, 'Jamais Contenté', was very amusing, and when each tiny mite came forward dressed as a member of a nursery rhyme, making appropriate recitations, the effect produced was quaint and sweet.

His Lordship Bishop Grimes distributed the prizes and decorations. At the conclusion his Lordship addressed those present in his usual pleasing manner. He said the pleasure he always felt in being among the children of the Sacred Heart was greatly enhanced that evening by the presence of the Bishop of Lismore and Monsignor O'Haran, two illustrious members of the Australian clergy. They were to have been present at Island Bay, but owing to his persuasive powers had consented to pay a visit to the mother house of New Zealand instead. He referred to the splendid training given by the religious, and mentioned what had once been said by a former president of the United States: 'A good Catholic makes a good citizen'; saying that the same might be said concerning a worthy pupil of the institute: 'A true child of the Sacred Heart makes a good member of society.' He congratulated the pupils on the good work of the year, shown by the very creditable results, and concluded by wishing all present a merry Christmas and a bright New Year in the truest sense of the word.

The Bishop of Lismore in a few pleasant words referred to his presence among them that evening. He was, he said, attracted to Timaru for three special reasons—first, to see the mother house in New Zealand of the convents of the Sacred Heart, an Order for which he had a great admiration; secondly, to see that gem of ecclesiastical architecture, the new Catholic church, built by the Very Rev. Dean Tubman; and lastly, to see the spot which had sent so many rosy-cheeked, healthy specimens of boyhood, to the college of the Marist Brothers at Hunter's Hill, Sydney. 'Many a time,' said his Lordship, 'when my Sydney boys were still in dreamland, one of these little New Zealanders served my Mass, and when I asked the question: Where did you come from? Again and again I received the answer, Timaru or Kerrytown.' He warmly congratulated the pupils, and wished all present the joys and blessings of the approaching Holy season.

Monsignor O'Haran expressed his great pleasure in being present at the function that evening. He had for many years assisted at the annual break-up of the school of the Sacred Heart at Rose Bay, Sydney. His words were full of praise for the great work of education done by the religious all over the world.

At the conclusion, his Lordship Bishop Grimes announced that in honor of the distinguished Australians present, the holidays would be extended four days, the school re-opening on Tuesday, February 13.

The following is the prize list:—

Decorations.—The fourth ribbon of merit has been given by the votes of the pupils, ratified by the Religious, to Marion Taylor and Florence de Lisle; the fifth

ribbon, Eileen Timpany; the sixth ribbon, Clare Henrys; next in merit, Philomena Ward; pink ribbon, L. Kennedy, E. Connolly, M. McKendry, T. Findlay, R. Nottingham, N. Nottingham, R. Connolly, L. Gaspard, K. Gawne, M. Gawne, J. Mackenzie, N. Whitehead, M. O'Callaghan, E. Caldwell, M. Caldwell.

General good conduct, M. Taylor; next in merit, F. de Lisle.

Christian Doctrine.—Second division, C. Henrys; next in merit, A. Sheehan; third division, M. Taylor; next in merit, M. O'Shaughnessy; fourth division, K. Gawne; next in merit, M. Gawne.

Civil Service Class, M. Taylor; next in merit, E. Virtue.

Second Class.—Elements of philosophy, R. Hiskens; composition and literature, R. Hiskens, next in merit M. Hughes; history, P. Ward, next in merit R. Hiskens; science, M. Hughes, next in merit, E. Timpany; repetition, E. Timpany, next in merit, R. Hiskens.

Third Class.—English and logic, D. Tate; composition and literature, M. Mannering, next in merit D. Tate; history, A. Sheehan, next in merit A. Corry; geography, M. O'Brien, next in merit, A. Sheehan; repetition, A. Corry, next in merit M. O'Brien.

Fourth Class.—Grammar, E. Matheson, next in merit L. Gaspard; composition, next in merit, M. Taylor; history and geography, L. Gaspard, next in merit L. Sutherland.

Sixth Class.—Grammar, M. O'Shaughnessy, next in merit L. Kennedy; reading, R. Hatton, next in merit E. Connolly; history, M. Sutherland, next in merit, L. Kennedy; geography, L. Kennedy, next in merit M. O'Shaughnessy.

Eighth Class.—Linda Gaspard, J. Mackenzie, M. O'Callaghan; next in merit, K. Gawn, N. Nottingham, N. Whitehead.

Needlework.—Second division, F. de Lisle; next in merit, M. Hughes and M. O'Brien; third division, L. Kennedy; next in merit, R. Hatton; fourth division, R. Nottingham; next in merit, R. Connolly.

Order, F. de Lisle; next in merit, M. Hughes.

French.—Third division, R. Hiskens; next in merit, E. Timpany; fourth division, Alison Cory; next in merit, C. Henrys; fifth division, next in merit, L. Gaspard; sixth division, L. Sutherland; next in merit, M. O'Shaughnessy; elementary division, R. Connolly; next in merit, L. Gaspard.

German, A. Corry; next in merit, M. Mannering.

Certificates for good conduct and diligence—M. Taylor, R. Hiskens, L. Kennedy.

Certificates for good conduct—F. de Lisle, E. Timpany, C. Henrys, P. Ward, M. Hughes, E. Virtue, M. O'Brien, A. Corry, A. Sheehan.

The school will re-open on Tuesday, February 13.

THE CONVENT OF THE SACRED HEART, WELLINGTON.

The Rev. Mother and nuns of the Convent of the Sacred Heart, Island Bay, entertained the parents and friends of the pupils on December 11. The chief item was a play adapted from Cardinal Wiseman's *Fabiola*, which, by the excellence in which the pupils did their parts, reflected very favorably the instruction and attention given to its preparation. The scenery, the work of the nuns themselves, and staging were quite up to the best amateur productions. Interspersed between the scenes were several minor items, one in particular, 'Rondes les Souris,' the patrol of the mice with an epicurean taste for a candle, given by some of the younger pupils, was particularly pleasing, and met with great applause.

The following is the prize-list:—

Decorations.—The Sixth Ribbon of Merit has been given, by the votes of the pupils, ratified by the religious, to Flora Pascal; the Seventh Ribbon to Eileen Anderson; the Eighth Ribbon to Cecil Baldwin. The First Green Ribbon to Esme Humphries; the Second Ribbon to Florence Knight; the Third to Nellie Walker. The Pink Ribbon to Rita Salmon, Josephine Bicknell, Bernice Parsons, Betty Suttrell, Kathleen Galligan, Veronica Ross, May Evatt, Andrea Uniacke.

Christian doctrine.—Second division—Prize, C. Baldwin; next in merit, F. Pascal and A. Duncan. Third division—Prize, D. Inder; next in merit, A. Hill and E. Lutz. Fourth division—Prize, I. Duncan; next in merit, J. Bicknell and M. Salmon.

English subjects.—Second Class—Prize, K. Devine. Third Class—Prize, C. Baldwin; next in merit, N. Malone. Fourth Class—Prize, N. Walker; next in merit, W. Ryan. Fifth Class—Prize, B. Fitzgerald; next in merit, M. Uniacke. Sixth Class—Prize, I. Duncan; next in merit, J. Bicknell. Seventh Class—Prize, D. Salmon; next in merit, V. Ross.

Science Subjects.—First Class—Prize, V. Morgan. Second Class—Next in merit, M. Bunney. Third Class—Prize, A. Duncan; next in merit, N. Malone. Fourth Class—Prize, E. Humphries; next in merit, N. Walker. Fifth Class—Prize, M. Higgins; next in merit, B. Fitzgerald. Sixth Class—Prize, B. Parsons; next in merit, I. Duncan.

Essay-writing.—Prize, D. Inder.

French.—Fourth division—Prize, C. Baldwin; next in merit, A. Duncan. Fifth division—Prize, E. McKittrick; next in merit, D. Young. Sixth division—Prize, L. Young; next in merit, W. Ryan. Supplementary division—Prize, E. Humphries; next in merit, F. Knight. Elementary division—Prize, R. Salmon; next in merit, V. Ross.

German.—Prize, C. Baldwin; next in merit, P. Carlyon.

Needlework.—Second division—Prize, C. Baldwin; next in merit, P. Vavasour. Third division—Prize, N. Walker; next in merit, A. Duncan. Fourth division—Prize, M. Salmon; next in merit, D. Salmon.

Order.—Prize, P. Vavasour; next in merit, D. Inder and M. Bunney.

Certificates for good conduct and diligence.—C. Baldwin, A. Duncan, E. Humphries. Certificates for good conduct—F. Pascal, E. Anderson, M. McKittrick, F. Knight, N. Walker. Certificates for diligence—N. Malone and E. McKittrick.

ST. MARY'S CONVENT, THORNDON.

The presentation of prizes to the pupils of St. Mary's Convent, Guildford terrace, took place on December 12 in the schoolroom, in the presence of a large number of parents, relatives, and friends. In the course of a few remarks on the progress made by the school his Grace Archbishop Redwood stated that there are 136 pupils attending the school, of whom 34 are doing secondary work. Mr. Gill, the Inspector of Secondary Schools, had paid a visit of inspection, and his report was highly satisfactory. Out of seventeen presented in Standard VI., fourteen had gained proficiency certificates and three competency certificates.

The prize list was as under:—

Good conduct (boarders), gold medal, 'The O'Rourke Memorial' (gift of Mr. O'Rourke), Veronica Flanagan; junior pupils, Mona McConway; day pupils gold medal (gift of Mr. White), Muriel Blake; junior day pupils, Dorothy Matier; preparatory school, Valmai Williams.

Christian doctrine, gold medal (gift of Rev. Father Hickson), Gladys Goulter.

Special prizes for Christian doctrine—Gold medal (gift of Rev. Father Peoples), Lily Dealy; gold cross (gift of Rev. Father Peoples), Teresa Mahony; gold cross (gift of Rev. Father Peoples), Mildred Trolve; dux of school, gold medal (gift of Rev. Father Bowden), Catherine Lynch; mathematics, gold medal ('The McArdle Memorial,' gift of Mrs. McArdle), Lucy O'Donoghue; diligence, gold medal (gift of Mr. Maurice O'Connor), Catherine Lynch; composition, gold medal (gift of his Grace Archbishop Redwood), Dorothy Trolve; painting, gold medal (gift of Lady Ward), Marjorie Espie; elocution, gold medal ('The Mechtilde Memorial,' gift of Mrs. Rose), Arlette Scott; singing, gold medal ('The Grace Memorial,' gift of Mrs. Grace), Gladys Goulter; special prize for singing, gold medal (gift of Mrs. Trolve), Edith Chamberlain; music, gold medal (gift of Mrs. McCarthy), Girlie Gibbs.

Music.

Associate division, Annie Dolan; higher local division, Muriel Blake; senior division, Edith Chamberlain; intermediate division, Arlette Scott; lower division, Mildred Trolove; junior division, Gladys Llewellyn; elementary division, Margaret Hennessy; primary division, Mary Hennessy; diligence in music, Marjorie Bevan and Myra Bevan; violin playing, Lynda Haswell.

Theory of music.—Higher local division, Muriel Blake; higher school division, Annie Dolan; lower school division, Mary O'Neill; local centre rudiments, Arlette Scott; school rudiments, Mildred Trolove; primary division, Frances Gasquoine.

Shorthand.—Veronica Flanagan 1, Kathleen Bowe 2, Gertrude Treadgold 3.

Book-keeping.—First division, Catherine Lynch; second division, Sheila Lynch; third division, Kathleen White; fourth division, Ruby Bevan.

Typewriting.—Veronica Flanagan 1, Bowe 2, Kathleen White 3.

Needlework.—First division, Kathleen White; second division, Arlette Scott; third division, Emily Geange; fourth division, Emma Bell; fifth division, Veronica Hoult; prize for darning, Sheila Lynch.

School Prizes.

VI. Form.—English language and literature, Catherine Lynch; physiology, Dorothy Trolove; botany, Lucy O'Donoghue; French language and literature, Catherine Lynch; Latin, Veronica Flanagan.

V. Form A.—Composition, Lucy O'Donoghue; botany, Marjorie Espie; geography, Dorothy Trolove; history, Marie Fix; English, Dorothy Trolove; model drawing, Marjorie Espie; Latin, Jean Mathieson; literature, Lily Dealy; freehand drawing, Marjorie Espie; brushwork, Marjorie Espie; German, Gladys Goulter.

V. Form B.—Arithmetic, Bryda O'Rourke; penmanship, Marjorie Espie; geometry, Bryda O'Rourke; geography, Teresa Mahony; freehand drawing, Vera Little; Latin, Kate O'Leary; diligence, Kathleen Bowe; algebra, Winnie O'Sullivan; composition, Bryda O'Rourke; French, Marjorie Espie.

V. Form.—Diligence, Ruby Bevan; composition, Edith Chamberlain; algebra and geometry, Jessie Ward; penmanship, Ivy Nees; English, Mildred Trolove; botany, Kathleen Lenihan and Kathleen McMann, equal in merit; literature, Eva McAlister; freehand drawing, Kathleen Lenihan; history, Mildred Trolove; arithmetic, Gertrude Theadgold; highest marks, Mildred Trolove; elocution, Olive Cox; geography, Mildred Trolove; school singing, Edith Chamberlain; French, Maisie Reeves.

Sixth Standard.—Christian doctrine, Mildred Matier; diligence, Lynda Haswell; highest marks, Kathleen Hurley; penmanship, Mary O'Neill; literature, Lynda Haswell; arithmetic, Kathleen Hurley and Lizzie Ross, equal in merit; French, Lynda Haswell; composition, Rhoda Martin; elocution, Florence Meadows; English, Bessie Martin; freehand drawing, May Carkeek; model drawing, Kathleen Levett; spelling, Monica Greenwood; geography, Eileen Craig; history, Kathleen Twohill; botany, Doris Guise.

Fifth Standard.—Christian doctrine, Dorothy Matier; diligence, Rae Levy; elocution, Eileen Flanagan; highest marks, Mary Parsons; composition, Laura Hyde; English, Kathleen Hurley; literature, Rae Levy; penmanship, Mildred Matier; arithmetic, Laura Hyde; geography, Bessie Martin; drawing, Emma Bell; botany, May Carkeek.

Fourth Standard.—Christian doctrine, Mary Collins; English, Eileen McArdle; composition, Marjorie Bevan; geography, Eileen McArdle; reading and recitation, Clare Dodson; history, Margaret Hennessy; French, Ida Brooks and Mary Hennessy, (equal in merit); spelling, Amy Carey; arithmetic, Frances Gasquoine; diligence, Nana Day; highest marks, Marion Levett; writing, Lulu Doyle; drawing, Frances Gasquoine; botany, Edna McRae; school singing, Linda Riddell.

Third Standard.—Christian doctrine, Vive Whitaker; diligence, Myra Bevan; English and composition,

Devina La Dette; arithmetic, Peggy Reeves; French, Devina La Dette; writing, Leonore Flanagan; highest marks, Peggy Reeves; drawing, Veronica Hoult; geography, Leonore Flanagan; spelling, Peggy Reeves; reading and recitation, Leonore Flanagan.

Preparatory School.

Second Class.—Christian doctrine, Tessie Mewhinney; arithmetic, Valmai Williams; writing, Eileen Staff; French, Valmai Williams; spelling, Eileen Staff; highest marks, Dorothy Bolton; reading and recitation, Gladys Wareham; composition, Elsie Reid; geography, Vivian Williams; drawing, Vivian Williams.

First Class.—Arithmetic, Marie Duflo; geography, Helga Swan; reading and recitation, Hazel Aldous; writing, Kathleen Ferris; spelling, Fairy Wallace; highest marks, Frances Matier; French, Lulu Cohen.

A feature of the proceedings at the breaking-up ceremony was the production of the 'Sleeping Beauty' in French by the pupils. The various roles were taken by Misses Veronica Flanagan, Dorothy Trolove, Mildred Trolove, Eileen Flanagan, Linda Riddell, Gladys Wareham, Bessie Martin, Maisie Reeves, Muriel Blake, and Marjorie Espie, together with a small host of 'supers,' and the consensus of opinion evidently was that the young people acquitted themselves most creditably. In fact, in commenting on the performance his Grace Archbishop Redwood was eulogistic, more particularly in referring to the accent and pronunciation of the French by the young actresses, and he quoted in support of his statement a number of French clerics and laymen who were present at the performance. The audience was evidently of the same opinion, and gave the performers a full meed of encouraging applause. The remainder of a long and interesting programme was provided by Miss Teresa McEnroe (whose singing was very greatly appreciated), Miss Jean Mathieson (who displayed more than ordinary skill with the violin), Miss Rosie Segrief (vocal solo), Miss Girlie Gibbs (pianoforte solo), fairy dance (by Gladys Wareham, Peggy Reeves, Thirza Rogers, Kathleen Ferris, Bessie Martin, Eileen Staff, Linda Riddell, and Maisie Reeves), vocal solo, Miss Agnes Segrief; piano duet, Misses Dolan and Chamberlain; and vocal duet, Misses McEnroe and Segrief; and duet on two pianos by Misses Scott, Goulter, Dealy, and Bevan.

CONVENT OF MERCY HIGH SCHOOL,
TE ARO.

The Convent of Mercy High School, of Sussex square, 'broke up' for the mid-summer vacation on December 12. The list of prize winners is as follows:—

Christian doctrine.—Class I. (gold cross, gift of Mrs. Casey), Kathleen Corby; Confirmation class (gift of Mrs. Bradey), Laurence Whelan; special prize, Mary Dillon. Class III.—Cedric Casey, Alfred Lucas; special prize (gift of Miss Galloway), L. Sutherland. Class IV.—Amy Croucher, Eileen Foley, Maisie Goff, C. Croucher.

Good conduct.—Silver medal (gift of Mrs. Segrief), Kathleen O'Donoghue; junior (gift of Mr. Sullivan), Zita Casey; order (gift of Mrs. Keaney), Eileen Corby.

Attendance.—Senior (gift of Mrs. Bradey), Zillah Lucas; junior, Mary Upton.

Highest marks.—First half (gift of Mrs. Alward), Zillah Lucas; second half (gift of Mrs. Hickey), Kathleen Grant; junior, Mary Upton.

Music.—Upper division, Kathleen Bradey; junior division (diligence), Kathleen Foley; preparatory division, first, Constance Connors; second, Mary Upton.

Best pass.—Gold cross (gift of Mr. Wolland), Kathleen Grant.

Needlework.—(Gifts of Mrs. Segrief, sen.), May Wolland; junior, Kathleen Walsh.

Class I.—French (gift of Mrs. Corby), Eileen Buckley; algebra (gift of Mrs. Bradey), Vera Heavey; composition (gift of Rev. Father Hurley), Vera Heavey; printing (gift of Mrs. Corby), Vera Heavey; literature (gift of Mrs. Lucas), Eileen Buckley; drawing (gift of Miss Buckley), Eileen Corby.

Class II.—Proficiency (gift of Mrs. Bradey), Eileen Buckley; proficiency (gift of Mrs. W. Clifford), Kathleen Bradey; geography (gift of Mrs. W. Clifford), Eileen Buckley; English (gift of Mrs. Grant), Kathleen Bradey; arithmetic (gift of Mrs. Clifford), Kathleen Bradey.

Class III.—Arithmetic (gift of Mrs. Clifford), Kathleen Grant; geography, Zillah Lucas; drawing (gift of Mrs. Heavey), Kathleen Corby; composition (gift of Mrs. Foley), Kathleen O'Donoghue; dictation (gift of Mrs. Foley), Kathleen Grant; reading and recitation (gift of Mrs. Foley), Mona Hickey; writing, Kathleen Foley; English (gift of Miss Buckley), Kathleen Grant; diligence, Eileen Keaney; general improvement, Bertie Walker.

Class IV.—Arithmetic (gift of Mrs. Whelan), Mona Hickey; dictation, Doris Sullivan; composition, Doris Sullivan; English, May Wolland.

Preparatory School, Class I.—Arithmetic, Zita Casey; reading and recitation, Myrtle Tyack; writing, Mary Wolland; composition, Zita Casey; dictation, Mary Upton.

Class II.—Arithmetic, Gladys Harrison; reading and spelling (gift of Mrs. Turner), Connie Connors; recitation, Mary Walker; writing, Kathleen Walsh.

Class III.—Arithmetic, Cedric Casey; reading, Amy Lucas; spelling, Agnes Walker.

Class IV.—Reading and spelling, Alfred Lucas; tables, Winifred Pearman; writing, George Alward; general improvement, Paddy Griffin; general improvement, Amy Croucher.

Class V.—Reading, Veronica Keaney; spelling (gift of Mrs. Beveridge), Charlie Croucher.

Class VI.—Best pass (gift of Mrs. Croucher), Eileen Foley; reading (gift of Miss Galloway), Maisie Goff; improvement (gift of Miss Galloway), Ethel Bulford.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL, TE ARO.

The following is the prize list:—

Christian Doctrine—Senior Division (gift of Very Rev. Father O'Shea), Mary Flynn; good conduct, senior division (medal), Olive Roseingrave; junior division, May O'Sullivan; music and theory, Imelda Fama.

Standard VI.—Christian doctrine, Stella McKeegan; highest marks (medal, gift of Rev. Father Bowden), Mona Butler; regular attendance, Mary Flynn; diligence, Daisy Ryderberg; arithmetic, Doris Neils; reading and recitation, Eileen Griffin; drawing, D. Ryderberg and Imelda Fama; writing, Mona Butler and Eileen Griffin; geography, Olive Roseingrave; composition, Stella McKeegan.

Standard V.—Christian doctrine, May Patton; regular attendance, Lela Brett; composition, Florence Outtrim; arithmetic, Agnes Ward; diligence, Mona Davis; drawing, Margaret McMurrich; geography, Maud Brown; needlework, Frances Davis; neat work, Marion Weybourne; reading, Cecilia Hannon and Nora O'Sullivan; general improvement, Irene Sheehan and Clara Galloway.

Standard IV.—Christian doctrine, Ray Doherty; highest marks, Bridget Devlin; regular attendance, Rose McNaughton; diligence, Nellie Fitzgerald; reading, Agnes Smith; geography, Eileen Sullivan; drawing, Vera Murphy and Mollie Hodnett; writing, Nora Moynihan; arithmetic, Katie Clements; general improvement, Madge Henningham.

Standard III.—Christian doctrine, Mary O'Driscoll and Laura McNamara (equal in merit); highest marks, Gertrude Tandy; regular attendance, Teresa Hickey; reading and composition, Rene McMurrich; spelling, Mary Ryan; arithmetic, Ada Hill and Emily Peters; writing, Annie Charlton; reading, Dorothy Chapman; drawing, Nellie Quinn; diligence, Emily Neils and Margaret Wooller; general improvement, Statia Condon, Josephine Carew, and Nora Gastein.

Standard II.—Christian Doctrine, Rose Fuohy; regular attendance, Lizzie Guinan; general improvement, May Hanniffin; writing, May Tandy; spelling, Averino O'Brien.

Standard I.—Christian doctrine, Kathleen Doherty and Evelyn O'Brien; general improvement, Mary Gavin; diligence, Nellie Hyland; regular attendance, Jack McManus.

The Sisters of Mercy desire to thank the following donors of prizes:—Very Rev. Father O'Shea, Rev. Father Bowden, and Rev. Father Hurley.

Proficiency Certificates.

Proficiency certificates were awarded to the following:—Mona Butler, Imelda Fama, Mary Flynn, Eileen Griffin, Stella McKeegan, Doris Neils, Daisy Ryderberg, and Olive Roseingrave.

ST. MARY'S, SEATOUN.

Conducted by the Sisters of Mercy. The following is the prize list:—

Christian doctrine, J. Carroll 1 (gold medal presented by Archbishop Redwood), R. Goulter 2, J. O'Shaughnessy 3; good conduct, E. Carroll 1 (gift of Rev. Father Bowe, Carterton), L. Brodie 2; dux (gold medal, gift of St. Mary's Convent, Hill street), D. Barrett; English, D. Barrett 1 (gift of Mrs. T. G. Macarthy), I. Chesson 2, E. Carroll 3; geography, L. Donovan 1 (gift of Mrs. T. G. Macarthy), R. Goulter 2, L. Brodie 3; writing, J. Carroll 1 (gift of Miss Martin, Wellington Hospital), B. H. Miller 2; reading and spelling, N. Plimmer 1 (gift of Mrs. Barrett Gresford, Christchurch), C. Cuming 2; highest marks, L. Donovan; arithmetic, I. Chesson 1 (gift of Rev. Father McDonald, Blenheim), L. Donovan 2; recitation (gift of Rev. Father Bowe, Carterton), D. Barrett; Latin (gift of Mrs. Martin Kennedy), I. Chesson; French (gift of Rev. Father McDonald, Blenheim), D. Barrett; English history, I. Chesson; drawing, J. Carroll 1, B. H. Miller 2; swimming, J. Carroll; music—pianoforte, N. Plimmer; violin, D. Barrett; singing, N. Plimmer; science and general history, D. Barrett and I. Chesson (equal in merit); table manners, J. O'Shaughnessy.

Junior Division.—Christian doctrine, V. Mewhinney; reading and spelling, N. Redwood; general improvement, T. Cuming; physical drill, C. Hoben.

MARIST BROTHERS' SCHOOL, TASMAN STREET, WELLINGTON.

(From our own correspondent.)

A large and enthusiastic audience filled the spacious Town Hall last Friday evening for the popular annual concert by the pupils of the Marist Brothers' School, Tasman street. It has always been the custom of the school, from the time the Marist Brothers took over the teaching of the Catholic youth of Wellington in 1876, to hold an annual entertainment in connection with the distribution of prizes. In the early days there was sufficient room for the audience in the old schoolhouse in Boulcott street, but as the years went on the entertainments had to be held in various outside halls, owing to their increasing popularity. For the past three years the concerts have been held in the Concert Chamber of the Town Hall, but, although that hall is capable of holding some 700 people, yet last year it was uncomfortably filled, and hundreds had to be refused admittance. This year Brother Justin decided to venture the renting of the largest hall in Wellington (the Town Hall), capable of seating over 3000 people. Some 2000 people must have been present, notwithstanding the fact that no advertising was done. Among those present were his Grace the Archbishop, Very Rev. Dean Regnault, S.M. (Provincial), Very Rev. Father O'Shea, S.M., V.G., Very Rev. Dean McKenna (Masterton), Rev. Fathers Holley, S.M. (Wanganui), Hickson, Adm., Goggan, S.M., George Mahony, S.M., C. J. Venning, S.M., Segrief, S.M., and Mr. Martin Kennedy, K.S.G. The following excellent programme was submitted and evoked well-merited applause and recalls which, except in two or three items, owing to the length of the programme, had to be denied:—Overture, Irish march, 'Killarney and Minstrel boy,' St. Anne's Drum and Fife Band;

chorus, 'All merry hearts are we,' singing class; solo, 'Love's old sweet song,' J. Gamble (school medallist); recitation, 'Digger's tale,' M. Burke; song, 'King's own,' junior pupils; chorus, 'Oft in the stilly night,' singing class; piano solo, L. Andrews; tableau, 'Adeste Fideles,' soloist, Miss Gamble; dialogue, 'The boarding-house lodger,' F. Corry and G. Davis; overture, 'Father Tom's march,' St. Anne's Drum and Fife Band; chorus, 'Those distant chimes,' singing class; drill, dumbbells, junior pupils; solo, 'The gift,' F. Griffin; chorus, 'Soldiers chorus' (Faust), St. Mary of the Angels' Choir; instrumental quartette, 'La Serenata,' (violins), B. O'Brien and O. Kovaleoski, (piccolo), L. Carroll, (cornet), G. Davis, (piano), J. Burke, recitation, F. Reeves; part song, 'Ring out, wild bells,' W. Brady, J. Burke, R. O'Brien, W. Kelly, P. Kelly and C. Quinnell; farce, 'The Midnight Intruder,' in which the characters were taken by F. Corry, B. Hart, L. Ryan, D. Haggerty, D. Hart, L. Andrews. The overtures by St. Anne's Drum and Fife Band, under Mr. Dean, were well played, and the choruses of the singing class in three parts, under their capable conductor and instructor, Brother Ferdinand, were excellently sung, and drew forth from the large audience well merited applause. The rendition of that difficult piece, 'Oft in the stilly night,' was splendid. The school is noted for the excellent chorus work, and last night's performance proved that the school is still keeping up, if not excelling its past standard of excellence. The recitation by Mr. Burke was well done, and the audience were not satisfied until he re-appeared and gave Bracken's well known poem, 'Not understood.' Perhaps the most enjoyable items were those of the junior pupils. These small boys were excellent, their singing and drill being all that could be desired, reflecting great credit on their instructor (Brother Frederick). Amongst the pupils are also some very good instrumentalists (Masters Andrews, O'Brien, Carroll, Davis, Burke, and Kovaleoski), whose enjoyable items were well received. Masters J. Gamble's and F. Griffin's songs were well rendered, both boys possessing very sweet voices. The tableau, 'Adeste Fideles,' was well arranged. The comic recitation of Fergus Reeves was very good, and the audience refused to allow the programme to proceed until he re-appeared. The dialogue and farce were well acted. The St. Mary's Choir, under Mr. E. J. Healy, gave an admirable interpretation of the 'Soldiers' Chorus,' and had to reappear. The accompaniments were played by Miss M. Duggan.

Owing to the lateness of the hour at the completion of the programme, the distribution of the prizes had to be postponed until next morning, when the Rev. Father Barra, S.M., presented the prizes to the boys at the school in Tasman street.

Rev. Brother Justin, headmaster, referred to the work done during the year. The new school in Tasman street proved to be eminently suitable for its purpose; in fact, competent judges well qualified to give an opinion about its merits, had pronounced it to be one of the best primary school buildings in the Dominion. The Catholics of Te Aro parish had thus every reason to be proud of their work in the cause of education. The religious education of the children had been kept well in view. In compliance with the wishes of the Bishops of New Zealand the study of the Gospels would be entered upon after the vacations. Judging from results obtained, the school was doing its share in secular instruction. On the sports field the boys had distinguished themselves perhaps more than in any previous year. The school opened in January with 170 pupils, but within a few weeks this number was increased to 220. The total number admitted during the year was 65, of whom 50 belonged to the Newtown parish. At the Government Inspector's examinations, 30 were presented in Standard VI., and of these 27 succeeded in passing, 20 of them gaining proficiency and the other seven competency certificates. One boy was successful in gaining a Junior National Scholarship, while two gained Education Board Scholarships. Recently a beginning was made with a school library. On the sports field the boys also distinguished themselves. Playing Association football, A team won the challenge

cup and a set of medals, and the B team were runners-up in their grade. In the schools competition, A team secured first place, the Thistle Cup, and a set of medals, while B team got into second place and earned another set of medals.

The prize-list is as follows:—

Special prizes.—Vocal solo (two medals presented by Mr. F. J. Oakes), J. Gamble 1, B. O'Brien 2; attendance (gold medal presented by Mr. T. O'Brien), N. Schrader; three years' full attendance (medal presented by Miss Coleman), D. McCarthy.

Standard VII.—General proficiency and dux of the school (gold medal presented by his Grace the Archbishop), F. O'Driscoll; arithmetic, R. White; Composition, C. Parrant; spelling, P. Lennon; algebra, C. Parrant; geometry, R. White; book-keeping, F. O'Driscoll.

Standard VI.—General proficiency (gold medal presented by Mr. S. Ross), W. Brady 1, R. Hickey 2, J. McCarthy 3; good conduct (medal presented by Mr. G. White), W. Brady 1, G. Davies 2; Christian doctrine (gold medal presented by Wellington Catholic Club), J. McCarthy 1, F. Bell 2; reading, J. Burke 1, W. Guerin 2; writing, J. Curry 1, K. Yates 2; composition, W. Johnson 1, K. De Muth 2; spelling, M. McHugh 1, H. Marshall 2; arithmetic, T. Callaghan 1, W. Brady 2; geography, E. O'Shea 1, W. Hutcherson 2; drawing, W. O'Sullivan 1, S. Campbell 2; history, B. Walsh 1, W. Heavey 2; home work, E. Schrader 1, D. Welsh 2; regular attendance, W. Brady, A. Doherty. Proficiency certificates—F. Bell, W. Brady, T. Callaghan, J. Curry, S. Campbell, K. De Muth, W. Guerin, W. Heavey, R. Hickey, W. Hutcherson, W. Johnson, M. McHugh, D. McCarthy, J. McCarthy, S. Murphy, H. Marshall, W. O'Sullivan, E. Schrader, B. Walsh, D. Welsh. Competency certificates—J. Burke, G. Davies, A. Doherty, E. O'Shea, J. Perry, L. Ryan, K. Yates.

Standard V.—Christian doctrine (medal presented by Mr. C. Smith), M. Burke; good conduct, F. Corry, B. Hart; dux, W. Beveridge; attendance, W. Beveridge; arithmetic, W. Beveridge, M. Robinson; English, F. Corry, J. Lodge; composition, G. Lundon; spelling, W. Fix, L. Andrews, E. Ryan; reading, L. Andrews, G. Davis; geography, N. Weybourne, M. Mahoney; mental arithmetic, J. Black; best exercise, J. Black, D. Ryan; history, B. Hart, W. Burke; singing, W. Kelly; recitation, M. Burke, N. Weybourne; map-drawing, M. Burke, W. Daniel; drawing, L. Schrader; general improvement, J. McGlinchey, P. O'Callaghan, P. Treadgold, O. Kovaleoske; writing, B. McCusker, A. McParland.

Standard IV.—General proficiency, A. Griffin (gold medal), J. Gamble, C. Finucane; good conduct, B. O'Brien, P. Kelly; Christian doctrine, A. Griffin, J. Delaney, C. Bezar; reading, T. Murray, L. Harvey; writing, R. Boyd, T. Bell, D. Murray; composition, C. Quinnell, R. Newton; spelling, A. Griffin, N. Schrader, J. Moran; arithmetic, N. Schrader, C. Finucane, J. Patton; geography, T. Hannan, M. O'Sullivan; drawing, W. Ashbridge, C. Davies; history, J. Barber, J. Columb; home work, C. Finucane, N. Schrader; attendance, N. Schrader (gold medal), A. Cudby, R. Newton.

Standard III.—Christian doctrine, John Gamble 1, W. Gamble 2; good conduct, W. Gamble; general proficiency, W. Gamble; improvement, W. Hannafin 1, S. Hoskins 2; reading, D. Hart 1; writing, D. Andrews 1, A. Kelly 2; arithmetic, D. Hart 1, B. Hyland 2; mental arithmetic, J. Pope 1; spelling, W. Gavin; composition, V. Doull; geography, B. Hyland; singing, F. Gormly 1, Griffen 2; grammar, B. Parsonage; neatness, F. J. Gamble 1, F. B. Gamble 2; drawing, B. Hyland; drill, F. Guinan; attendance, A. Bailey, J. Guinan, J. Pope, B. Parsonage, A. Green, W. Fitzgerald.

Second Class.—Good conduct, D. Boyd; catechism and good conduct, J. McAteer; general knowledge, J. Ridler, V. Schrader, E. Doull; arithmetic, T. Beckman, G. Moynihan; reading, H. Black, R. Murray; spelling, W. Fitzsimmons, B. Sloan; writing, D. Foley; neatness, J. Corby, M. Donnelly; attendance, R. Brockie,

R. Dwyer; improvement, P. Blewman, T. O'Brien, V. Blair, L. Cookson; general work, J. Beveridge.

First Class.—Good conduct, P. McParland; general proficiency, J. Doull; arithmetic, W. Corbey, V. Peters, V. Ward; reading, J. Burke, B. Quinnell; recitation, R. Beveridge; spelling, O. Johnson, L. Dwan; writing, P. Coleman, R. Smith, J. Dennis; neatness, L. Gamble; attendance, J. Ward, R. Grant; improvement, W. Bailey, P. Creedon, J. Fitzgerald, B. Knudson, C. Galvin.

MARIST BROTHERS' SCHOOL, THORNDON.

At the annual presentation of prizes in connection with the Thorndon Marist Brothers' School on Wednesday afternoon, December 13, Brother Virgilius traced the movement from Boulcott street to Thorndon, and stated that now they were within full view of the promised land—a new school. Mr. Bakewell, the Education Board's Inspector, had visited the school last May, and in his report had expressed himself as satisfied with the work being done. In November Mr. Bakewell had examined the Sixth Standard, passing eleven out of thirteen. The religious training of the boys had been attended to by the Rev. Father Peoples, the school chaplain, and every boy in the school had made his First Communion. Physical drill had received attention through the medium of the Cadet Corps, which had met with the approval of the drill inspector. The clergy, and in particular Fathers Hickson and Peoples, were thanked for the interest they took in the schools, and a debt of gratitude was expressed to the ladies of the parish, who had placed them in a position to present prizes.

The prize-list is as follows:—

Standard VII.—L. Kelly, first in aggregate merit, arithmetic, English, and geography; T. O'Connor, second in aggregate merit and first in bookkeeping, reading, and writing.

Standard VI.—J. Callaghan, first in aggregate merit, arithmetic, English; — Hanify, second in aggregate merit and first in arithmetic; K. Smith, first in geography; V. Ross, first in reading; J. Coffy, first in spelling; H. Ferris, first in writing; F. Chapman, first in physiology; A. Johnson, first in drawing (freehand); G. Dimond, first in drawing (instrumental).

Standard V.—E. Fitzgerald, first in aggregate merit; P. Brookey, second in aggregate merit; A. McFadden, Christian doctrine; A. Costelloe, first in arithmetic and first in regular attendance; M. Kelly, first in English; R. Ferris, first in geography; T. Lavin, first in reading; M. McEligott, first in drawing; E. Gibbs, first in writing; R. Allan, second in English; A. Whitaker, second in reading.

Standards III. and IV.—J. Thomas (dux), English, arithmetic, drawing; F. Hally, Christian doctrine, English, regular attendance; J. O'Brien, English, regular attendance, and writing; T. Stenbeck, exercise work; T. Henry, exercise work; J. Hawker, exercise work and regular attendance; F. Reeves, recitation, reading, and regular attendance; P. Dennehy, writing, regular attendance; B. Kay, recitation; G. Hill, singing and arithmetic; L. Duffou, arithmetic, regular attendance; J. Scanlan, arithmetic; C. Knight, tables; D. Gibbs, tables; Theo. Sellars, reading; J. Ryan, geography; A. Hagan, geography; M. Keeney, singing; G. Swan, regular attendance.

Standards I. and II.—E. Carey, Christian doctrine, spelling, and arithmetic; C. Rowley, spelling; W. O'Gorman, writing and recitation; W. Kay, writing; J. Ryan, spelling; A. Scanlan, reading.

During the afternoon the scholars provided an acceptable concert programme, and there were lots of good things provided for them.

SACRED HEART CONVENT HIGH SCHOOL, CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

His Lordship the Bishop presided on Thursday afternoon, December 14 at the annual entertainment and prize distribution in connection with the Sacred

Heart Convent High School, Lower High street, conducted by the Sister of Notre Dame des Missions. The large parish schoolroom used for the occasion was greatly crowded. Among those present were the Very Rev. Father Hills, S.M., V.G., the Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., the Rev. Father Bartley, S.M., M.A. (St. Patrick's College), the clergy of the Cathedral, and St. Mary's, Manchester street. The programme, as previously published in the *Tablet*, was very artistically rendered and much enjoyed, the characterisation in some of the numbers being exceptionally good, notably that of 'Our News,' wherein the leading papers and periodicals of London were depicted.

After distributing the prizes, his Lordship the Bishop spoke at some length on the excellent rendition of the programme, and in appreciation of the Sisters' efforts and pupils' response as disclosed in the report. Going back (said his Lordship) 24 years ago, when he first addressed the then pupils and teachers of the Convent School, the key-note that most impressed him was 'Duty and Loyalty.' This was still exemplified in the strictest sense of the word in the lives and actions of the devoted Sisters, who from a sense of duty to God, to the children, and to their parents, gave themselves ungrudgingly, year after year. Loyalty on the part of the children to their teachers was to-day as essential a factor in successful studies as ever it was. Loyalty thus inculcated at school, coincident with the moulding of character and the unfolding of the intellect, would be reflected in after life in relation to parents, to the home, and to religion.

As a departure from the usual practice in connection with the exhibition of work, the result of the year's study and industry of the pupils, it was on the present occasion opened several days prior to the annual breaking-up function, so that very many more people had an opportunity of viewing the collection. In the carrying out of this excellent idea one of the large club-rooms was utilised, and the display was certainly a remarkable one. The paintings in oils and water colors covered a wide range of subjects—landscape, floral, animal, and bird life. Prominent, too, were studies in black and white, several equine subjects being of a distinctly high order of merit. Some splendid examples of illuminated work on mirrors, firescreens, and other articles of drawing-room furniture were on view, and attracted much attention. Of the many exhibitors, several deserve special mention, notably Misses Susie Dromgool, Rona Isherwood, Kate Daily, Annie Watson, and Nellie McGurk. A large section of the exhibition was devoted to a display of dressmaking, plain and fancy needlework, comprising a bewildering array of completed garments, lace and embroidery work, ribbon work, Kensington embroidery, etc. The wood-carving sections contained articles exceptionally well executed. These comprised two beautiful hand-carved escritoirs exhibited by Misses Murtroyd and Edie McDonald, and a collection of tea trays, music stools, and other articles of household furniture. Conspicuous, and very creditable too, was the display of articles from the Kindergarten department.

ST. AGNES' SCHOOL, HALSWELL.

On Monday morning, December 11, a pleasing little entertainment was given by the pupils of the Sisters of the Missions attending the above school. Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., presided, and after speaking in complimentary and appreciative terms of the result of the years' work, presented the prizes. There was a large attendance of the parents and friends of the children.

ST. ANNE'S SCHOOL, WOOLSTON.

Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., presided at the break-up entertainment and distribution of prizes on Tuesday morning, December 12, in connection with St. Anne's School, Woolston, conducted by the Sisters of the Missions. There was a numerous attendance, and the programme presented was greatly enjoyed.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL, ADDINGTON.

The schoolroom was crowded on Tuesday evening, December 12, when an entertainment of a varied and enjoyable nature was given by the pupils of the Sisters of the Missions. Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., presided and distributed the prizes.

ST. MARY'S COLLEGIATE HIGH SCHOOL, CHRISTCHURCH.

On Friday afternoon, December 15, his Lordship the Bishop presided at the annual entertainment and prize-giving in connection with St. Mary's Collegiate High School, Colombo street, conducted by the Sisters of Mercy. Very Rev. Father Hills, S.M., V.G., Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., and a large number of visiting and local clergy were among the crowded audience. In eulogistic terms his Lordship the Bishop spoke of the successful year's work just closed, complimenting the teachers and pupils on the successful results of their endeavors, and expressed, on behalf of all present, appreciation of the enjoyment afforded in the artistic rendering of the following programme:—Pianoforte duet, 'King Cotton,' Misses Cassin, G. Haughey, M. Simpson, H. Ryan, G. Harding, E. Blogg, D. Goggin, and D. Burns; Masters B. Fringan, H. Moody; (violins), L. Burrow, M. Young, O. Westerberg, J. Morrison; chorus, 'The village bells,' pupils; Indian clubs, senior pupils; pianoforte trio, 'Rondino,' Misses D. Carter, E. Carter, M. Young, M. Barrett, A. Young, D. Young, N. Simley, S. Martin, M. Courtney, Masters B. Fringan, H. Moody, A. O'Brien, L. Vincent, A. Loughnan, M. Simpson; vocal solo, 'There's a land,' Miss L. Wormald; pianoforte duet, 'Valse brillante,' Misses B. Nicholson, D. Goggin, G. Haughey, M. Wood, J. Donnelly, F. McDonald, H. Ryan, W. Barcock, M. Simpson, G. Burns; dance, 'Irish reel,' pupils; pianoforte duet, 'March militaire,' Misses Sunley, M. Sunley, A. Seay, P. Ryan, A. Ryan, M. Young, F. Holmes, G. Moraghan, F. Gerity, M. Morrison; chorus, 'The soldier,' boys; violin solo, 'Minuet,' L. Burrow; dialogue, 'The expected visitors,' senior pupils; pianoforte duet, 'Pax in Serra,' Misses L. Young, M. Moore, V. Wilson, D. Blank, L. Gundry, E. Greig, G. Greig, P. Hollow, E. Couzins, L. Timbrell; chorus, 'God save the King,' pupils.

The following is a synopsis of work done during the year:—On June 6 the pupils were examined by Mr. W. Brock, who said in his report that on the whole the schools made a satisfactory appearance, and gave strong evidence of teaching on enthusiastic lines. On December 6 Mr. Hardie examined the Sixth Standard. Thirteen pupils were presented; twelve obtained proficiency certificates and one competency. During the year candidates were successful in the C. and D. Examinations, also in the Civil Service, Trinity College, and Royal Academy Examinations. At the Art Society's Exhibition the Sisters were awarded first diploma for Limerick lace and Irish crochet. At the Christchurch Literary and Musical Competitions two prizes were awarded to the Sisters' pupils, viz., one for singing and one for music. The examiner for Trinity College recommended the local secretary to award medals for pianoforte playing to two of the Sisters' pupils who obtained the highest marks in Christchurch in their respective grades, and who were exceeded by none in the Dominion.

The exhibition of school work, in which was displayed a splendid collection of all that is useful and artistic, occupied the close attention of numerous visitors. Quite a feature in the bewildering array was the excellent specimens of plain and fancy needlework. Although equally meritorious were the results of other industries and studies.

The following is the prize-list:—

Civil Service Class.—First Christian doctrine, English, French, and arithmetic, M. Young; first good conduct, physiology, and geometry, E. Couzins (medal); first geography, algebra, and drawing, F. Holmes.

Standard VI.—First composition and French, M. Hayward; first diligence and second spelling, P. Ryan; first geography and drawing, S. Sunley; first writing,

second reading, A. Ryan; first history, second geography, M. Petre; first reading, second composition, V. Wilson; first spelling and elocution, T. Ward; first arithmetic and needlework, V. Haigh.

Standard V.—First spelling and elocution, N. Sunley; first French and composition, E. Moraghan; first reading and geography, M. Corrigan; first writing, second spelling, F. Gerity; first arithmetic and drawing, C. Clark; first landscape painting, second geography, A. Kennedy.

Standard IV.—Arithmetic, I. Turner; drawing and writing, Z. Madden; reading and elocution, C. Ward; geography and history, N. Simson; history, grammar, and composition, M. Allen; needlework, M. Young.

Standard III.—Christian doctrine and arithmetic, M. Barrett; good conduct, I. Hayward; geography and history, B. Petre; French, S. Hayward.

Standard II.—French, P. O'Reilly; reading and elocution, G. Holt; needlework, M. Vincent; geography and history, M. Courtney; arithmetic, C. Trolove; grammar, S. Martin; composition, D. Gerity.

Standard I.—Writing, B. Behan; reading, M. Irwin 1, N. Davis 2; spelling, U. McKendry; arithmetic, C. Simson 1, M. Neate 2; diligence, R. McKendry 1, D. King 2; needlework, A. Young.

Preparatory Class.—Spelling, M. Blake; reading, T. Vincent; spelling, K. Cassidy 2; reading, G. Faulks, 2; Kindergarten, N. Burns; arithmetic, H. Barrett; good conduct, J. Thomson.

Fancy needlework, W. Barcock.

Landscape painting, L. Watson.

Music.

Higher Division.—Practical music, F. McDonald 1, J. Donnelly 2.

Advanced Grade.—H. Ryan 1, M. C. Goggin 2, P. Hollow 3.

Intermediate division.—Practical music, B. Kingan.

Junior division.—H. Moody.

Primary Division.—L. Sunley; violin playing, M. Young; theory of music, M. Simpson 1, G. Greig 2, L. Young 3.

ST. ALOYSIUS'S SCHOOL.

Standard V.—Arithmetic, H. Moody; grammar and composition, G. Thomson.

Standard IV.—Drawing, F. Gerity; spelling, A. O'Brien; Christian doctrine and geography, L. Dobbs; arithmetic, L. Vincent; history, I. Donnelly.

Standard III.—Arithmetic, P. Barrett; spelling, I. Madden.

Standard II.—Christian doctrine and spelling, B. Blake; reading, M. Darby; arithmetic, A. Loughnan 1, C. Hayward 2.

Standard I.—Arithmetic, C. Barnett 1; Christian doctrine, B. Darby; reading, S. O'Brien; spelling, L. Ormandy; good conduct, H. Hayward.

Preparatory Class.—Arithmetic, M. Salter; spelling, S. Barnett; reading, C. Edmonds; writing, L. Madden 1, E. Ward 2; Kindergarten, D. Hayns; politeness, H. Hammond.

The school will re-open on January 29.

ST. JOSEPH'S GIRLS' SCHOOL, CHRISTCHURCH

The annual entertainment and distribution of prizes in connection with St. Joseph's Girls' School, conducted by the Sisters of the Missions, took place on Wednesday afternoon, December 13, in the presence of a large audience. Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., presided, and a number of the clergy were present. The following programme was excellently rendered:—Song, 'The little gipsies,' junior pupils; recitation 'The shore of eternity,' Mary Squire; duet (2 pianos), 'Radiant,' Misses Veronica Berry, Mary Mather, Ida, Bradford, D. Bradford; dialogue, 'Indignant babies,' five little girls; chorus (2 parts), pupils; recitation, 'Faber's exhortation,' Miss Madge Allen; duet (2 pianos), 'The village king,' Misses D. Bradford, I. Bradford, M. Mather, V. Berry; semi-chorus, 'Hold thou my hand,' senior pupils; recitation, 'The cost of duty,' Miss Claire

Brown; chorus (2 parts), 'The lily and the rose,' pupils; old-time dance, 'The butterflies,' twelve little pupils; chorus, 'God defend New Zealand.'

Prize List.

Good conduct, G. Jarman; Christian doctrine, M. Squire, M. O'Connor, J. Coates, M. Connolly, N. Clentworth; amiability and politeness, T. Nelson, O. Wacked, M. Evans, E. Jarman, M. Wolfreys; regular attendance, R. Hole, C. Brown, O. Wacked, M. Squire, E. Jarman, L. Cummins, M. Allen, M. Hickey, I. Hickey; diligence, G. Jarman, M. Allen, M. O'Connor; C. O'Neill, J. Coates, M. Wolfreys, M. Hickey; devotedness, M. Squire, N. McCarthy, E. Eggleston, E. Malone, M. Evans, M. Wolfreys, E. Pearce, C. Brown; singing, C. Brown, O. Wacked, L. Reddington, M. Bowden, E. Noonan, G. Morris, L. Jarman; music, I. Bradford, M. Mather, V. Berry; order and method, G. Jarman, M. Orange, E. Jarman, C. O'Neill; E. Noonan, E. McCarthy, R. James; physical exercises, C. Brown, M. Allen, E. Jarman, M. Connolly, A. Abbot, J. Sharp, G. Sullivan; sewing, G. Jarman, N. McCarthy, L. Reddington, C. O'Neill, K. Gibbs, V. Mathieson.

Standard VI.—General excellence, G. Jarman; English and writing, A. Darragh; 1st arithmetic, drawing, geography, M. Squire; essay and spelling, T. Nelson; 2nd essay and geography, C. Brown; 2nd spelling and H. study, R. Hole; general improvement, A. McCormack.

Standard V.—General excellence, M. Allen; drawing and general improvement, N. McCarthy; reading and spelling, A. Noonan; English and arithmetic, A. Ross. Prizes were also awarded to M. Orange, O. Wacked, K. Morgan.

Standard IV.—General excellence, M. O'Connor; geography and 2nd spelling, L. Reddington; spelling and 2nd reading, A. Evans; drawing and 2nd writing, E. Jarman; 1st writing, R. Orange; 1st reading, F. O'Loughlin; arithmetic, E. Eggleston. Prizes were also awarded to L. Cumberland, M. Lafferty, P. Molloy, E. Johnson, M. Collins.

Standard III.—General excellence, C. O'Neill; arithmetic and mental, E. Newman; reading and recitation, E. Malone; geography, V. Berry; history, A. Abbot; English, M. Foster; recitation and essay, I. Bradford; spelling and dictation, K. Kiely; drawing, L. Cummins; 2nd arithmetic, M. Mather; 3rd arithmetic, M. Bower; 4th arithmetic, D. Bradford; mental and spelling, M. Swanston; writing and drawing, C. Jarman. Prizes were also awarded to A. Bennett, D. Egan, N. Evans, M. Flood, G. Milligan, A. Murphy, M. Murphy, M. Flurty, A. Duffy, A. Stratford, L. McInerney.

Standard II.—General excellence, J. Coates; 1st arithmetic and spelling, E. Noonan; 2nd arithmetic and English, essay, and drawing, M. Connolly; geography and reading, K. Gibbs; nature study and spelling, I. Hickey; general improvement, E. Nelson; 1st spelling and writing, I. Twomey; nature study and drawing, R. Milligan; general improvement, A. Grant. Prizes were also awarded to M. Elvy, M. Kelly, M. O'Loughlin, D. O'Shea, I. Hobbs, F. Lett, and E. Collett.

Standard I.—General excellence, B. O'Malley; spelling and reading, E. McCarthy; 1st arithmetic and writing, M. McAuliffe; 2nd arithmetic and spelling, M. Wolfreys; 1st writing and drawing, V. Mathieson; recitation, D. Handisides; 1st spelling, L. McKegney; word building and conversation, W. Lafferty; reading and general improvement, J. Sharp; general improvement, P. Malone. Prizes were also awarded to Kathleen Colline, G. Morris, I. Roswarne, E. Hobbs, L. Sullivan, C. Westwood, D. Price.

Primer III.—First in class, M. Hickey; 2nd reading, E. James; reading, V. Anderson; writing, L. Jarman; 2nd writing, Q. Barker; spelling, N. Kiely; arithmetic, E. Pearce; recitation, A. Clentworth; mental arithmetic, R. Collins. Prizes were also awarded to M. Langley, M. Stratford, N. White, V. Hole, M. Foster.

Primer II.—Conversation lesson, K. Byrne; spelling, R. James.

Primer I.—F. Cumberland, L. Darragh, T. Darragh, A. Coates, N. Clentworth, B. Berry.

ST. MARY'S PARISH SCHOOL, CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

The annual entertainment and prize distribution in connection with St. Mary's Parish School, conducted by the Sisters of Mercy, took place on Friday evening, December 15, when the schoolroom was crowded by an appreciative audience. Very Rev. Father Hills, V.G., presided. The following programme was excellently rendered:—Pianoforte duet, 'King Cotton march,' Misses G. Haughey, Hannah Ryan, M. Cassin, D. Goggin, G. Harding, M. Simpson, G. Burns; Masters B. Kingan, H. Moody, D. Morrison (violins), L. Burrow, M. Young, O. Westerberg, and C. Morrison; chorus, 'The hills resound, pupils; recitation, 'The exile's return,' Miss Molly Campbell; vocal quartette, 'A musical surprise, pupils; drill, junior pupils; pianoforte duet, 'March militaire,' Misses A. Ryan, P. Ryan, M. Morris, F. Gerity, C. McKenzie, G. Gibson, M. Young, F. Holmes, L. Moraghan, and G. Bowman; vocal solo, Miss M. Riordan; violin solo, Miss L. Burrow; vocal solo, Miss L. Kilbride; drill, 'Color drill,' pupils; vocal solo, Master C. Lawrence; play, 'Little Pickle,' pupils; pianoforte duet, 'Valse brillante,' Misses B. Nicholson, H. Ryan, F. McDonald, W. Barcock, M. Simpson, G. Burns, G. Goggin, M. Wood, G. Haughey, and M. Young; chorus, 'The old green lane,' pupils; 'God Save the King.'

The following is the prize-list:—

Dux, Basil Kingan.

Christian doctrine.—B. Kingan, C. Kingan, M. Daly.

Good conduct.—Standard V., C. Llannelly; Standard IV., C. Badland; Standard III.—, E. Perkins; Standard II., R. Watson, M. Courtney.

Arithmetic.—Standard VI., P. Riordan; Standard V., H. Wolfe; Standard IV., J. O'Donohue; Standard III., P. Flood; Standard II., E. Cecil.

Grammar and composition.—Standard VI., L. Lawrence; Standard V., S. Dobbs; Standard IV., L. McNaughton.

Writing.—Standard VI., L. Watson; Standard V., P. Perkins; Standard IV., J. Smith; Standard III., C. Shaw; Standard II., M. Shaw.

Reading.—Standard VI., P. Riordan; Standard V., H. Shaw; Standard IV., M. Campbell; Standard III., M. Crawley; Standard II., L. Brownie.

Geography.—Standard VI., F. Haughey; Standard V., N. Flood; Standard IV., L. Queenan.

Spelling and dictation.—Standard VI., L. Lawrence; Standard V., R. London; Standard IV., F. Perkins; Standard III., A. Newsome; Standard II., M. Hayes, R. Wilkin.

Regular attendance.—Standard VI., F. Haughey; Standard IV., C. Dobbs; Standard III., V. Haughey; Ina Campbell; Standard II., C. Rodgers.

Drawing.—Standard VI., L. Watson; Standard V., D. Cordery.

Singing.—M. Lawrence.

Needlework.—B. Watson.

MARIST BROTHERS' SCHOOL, CHRISTCHURCH

As a pleasing departure from the custom of recent years in regard to the breaking-up prior to the Christmas vacation of the boys' school in charge of the Marist Brothers, the event on the present occasion was celebrated in the form of a public entertainment, which proved most enjoyable to an audience which well filled the Choral Hall on last Wednesday evening. The boys of all ages entered into the spirit of their performances with that confidence characteristic of their nature, and strengthened by the careful training imparted by their teachers. As a compliment to their popularity on the stage, the question of encores was anticipated at the outset by Very Rev. Father Price stating that such methods of expressing appreciation would not be per-

mitted. The following programme was excellently rendered:—Part I.—Overture, Miss H. Woodward; chorus (3 parts), 'The dear little shamrock,' pupils; recitation, 'Barbara Frietchie,' Master A. McNamara; solo, 'The carnival,' Master R. McLaughlin; statue drill, pupils; semi-chorus, 'In the dusk of the twilight,' pupils; action song, 'Shoo-shoo car,' junior pupils; solo and chorus, 'Children's voices,' soloist, Master J. Young; recitation, 'How Jimmy minded the baby,' Master I. Bradley; chorus, 'My bonnie barque,' pupils. Part II.—Overture, Miss H. Woodward; chorus (3 parts), 'Canadian boat song,' pupils; duet, 'Believe me,' Masters J. Young and R. McLaughlin; plantation song, 'But it is so,' Master W. Harrington and troupe; dumb-bells, junior pupils; coon song, 'Four little curly-headed coons,' Masters I. Bradley, S. Harrington, F. Maine, W. Moloney; farce, 'Second Thoughts are Best,' dramatis personæ—T. Snell, T. Pollard; Robinson, J. Goodman; Crawley, A. Meyer; Purkiss, L. Archer; Scott, L. Ryan; chorus and tableau, 'God defend New Zealand.' Mr. H. Woodward acted as accompanist.

Among those present were his Lordship the Bishop (who had just returned from Timaru that evening), Very Rev. Father Hills, S.M., V.G., Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., and a number of the clergy.

At the conclusion of the entertainment the prizes were distributed by the Very Rev. Vicar-General, who warmly complimented the Brothers on their successful efforts, and congratulated the boys on the reward of their diligence, industry, and perseverance. This, said the Very Rev. Vicar-General, happened to be his first public function since his appointment to the present position, and nothing could have pleased him better, being, as he was, an old pupil of the Marist Brothers in London. His sympathies were naturally with them and he wished them and their schools continued success.

On the following morning at the school the boys assembled in full force to receive the remainder of the prizes left over from the distribution at the Choral Hall on the previous evening. Among those present were his Lordship Bishop Grimes, who gave out the prizes, the Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., the local and some visiting Brothers. After the boys had received their varied prizes his Lordship addressed them. He said that although he had been over fatigued from recent labors he made up his mind to be present at their excellent display of the previous evening. He always took great pleasure in hearing of their successes, and he looked forward to greater excellence from them in the future. He also complimented the Brothers on the high quality of their work, and the self-sacrificing spirit which led them to do so much, not for their worldly gain, but for the greater glory of God. Finally, after ringing cheers for his Lordship, for Father Price and the Brothers, the boys departed.

The prize list is as follows:—

Christian Doctrine.—Gold medal presented by Bishop Grimes, and Clifford shield.—Joseph Dowd. Hibernian Society's gold medal for dux of school, Linus Ryan; Catholic Club's gold medal for Standard VI., Mortimer Reddington.

Standard VII.—French, arithmetic, and algebra, J. Dowd; Christian doctrine, L. Ryan; English, geometry, and physiology, L. Ryan. Marist Brothers' Old Boys' Association's gold medal for champion athlete, J. Dowd.

Standard VI.—Second aggregate, Roy Dobbs; third aggregate, F. Madden; arithmetic, R. Dobbs, W. Garty; English, M. Reddington; reading, M. Reddington; writing, R. Dobbs; proficiency, M. Cronin, A. Meyer, C. Mills, W. Pope; spelling, A. Gregory, L. Archer; elocution, J. Goodman; diligence, E. Bowler.

Standard V.—Aggregate, O. McAloon, E. McLaren, E. Rodgers; Christian doctrine, O. McAloon; arithmetic, D. McAloon, J. McCormick, D. Nelson; spelling, F. Bennett, F. Jenyns, F. Foster, J. McGrath; comprehension, W. Harrington, J. Flood, K. Bradley; essay, B. Flood, J. Sheehan; drawing, R. Murfitt; writing, B. McCormack, E. McLaren, C. Pope; reading, R. Coates, P. Bennet, E. Jones, L. Quenan; mental, A. Higgins, L. Murphy.

Standard IV.—Proficiency, F. O'Brien, T. Pollard, B. Grant; Christian doctrine, J. Young; arithmetic, F. Khouri, T. Stevenson; spelling, J. Bradley, M. Nolan, F. O'Connor, W. Maloney, W. Woods, A. Connery, J. Matthews, J. Stanaway, A. Barker; comprehension, S. Crooke and D. Burns; essay, J. Hurley, J. Ellis; drawing, J. Scarfe, J. Gibbs, J. Main; writing, S. Harrington, F. Heslip; singing, R. McLoughlin.

Standard III.—Christian doctrine, F. Maine; aggregate, S. Biltcliff, F. Maine, A. McNamara; arithmetic, J. Gibson, P. Golding, L. Gibbs, J. Kiely, M. Nelson, C. Price, J. Smith; spelling, M. Handisides, P. Bowden; reading, C. Murfitt, C. Sutherland, K. Jones, H. Tucker, P. McCarthy, R. Cubson, J. Daragh; essay, L. Payne, V. Flood, E. Donohue; writing, H. Batchelor, R. Bennett; diligence, P. Gregory, F. Holmes, G. Elvy.

Standard II.—Aggregate, H. Batchelor, L. Neilson, L. Sweeney; arithmetic, E. Sloan, J. Goodman, D. McLaren, M. Stanly; spelling, V. Kingdon, E. Barrett, J. O'Connor, B. McDonagh, J. Drumm, C. Ashton, C. Blogg, W. Ward, L. McMullen; reading, R. Wilson, W. Sutherland; essay, F. Archer, C. Dudderidge; recitation, F. Banfield, O. Brittenden, B. Rundle, J. McCarthy, H. Moulin; drawing, H. Dacombe; writing, F. Greenless, L. Lafferty.

Standard I.—Christian doctrine, H. Foster; good conduct, G. Dunn; reading, C. Dobbs; arithmetic, C. McInley, H. Shirley; spelling, F. Leonard, A. Powrie; drawing, W. Reddington, C. Garty; poetry, R. McKay. The following received prizes for diligence—W. O'Brien, S. Flood, V. Smith, M. Main, C. Handisides, J. Bowden, J. Ellis, P. Clarkson, E. Morrissey, L. Harrington, J. O'Donnell, M. Morrissey.

Class P.—Catechism, E. Stanley; good conduct, H. Banfield; reading, W. Holland; arithmetic, F. Pender; drawing, W. McArley; spelling, E. Egan. The following received prizes for diligence—J. Bennett, F. Heslip, N. Donaldson, E. Dickson, A. Stanley, W. Nelson, S. Ashton, P. Evans, and T. Donaldson.

The annual report, read by Brother Calixtus (director), expressed the pleasure it gave to be able to chronicle one of the most successful years in the history of the school. The school roll is 210, and the attendance throughout was very good, particularly so in the high classes. The religious welfare of the boys has been carefully looked after by the Rev. Dr. Kennedy, whilst daily religious instruction has been given in the school by the Brothers. The inspector's report was very satisfactory. In Standard VI., of eleven pupils presented nine gained proficiency and one competency certificates. In the athletic field the boys were successful in winning the junior football banner, not losing a game. Our best thanks are due to Mr. W. Garton, secretary of the N.C.P.S.A.A.A., for his unfailing kindness and courtesy towards us during the season. The spirit reigning among the boys is admirable, and there is not one of the staff who is not proud to be working amongst them. He would urge parents to continue sending their children regularly to school, and the Brothers promise to see that they will be all right. He would also urge parents not to take their children away until they have passed the Sixth Standard with proficiency, this being most important, a Sixth Standard certificate being now almost indispensable.

ST. MARY'S CONVENT HIGH SCHOOL, PONSONBY, AUCKLAND.

On Tuesday, December 12, the annual distribution of prizes took place at St. Mary's Convent High School, Ponsonby. Long before 8 p.m. a large gathering of parents and friends of the pupils assembled in the schoolroom. At 8 p.m. his Lordship Bishop Cleary arrived, accompanied by Rev. Fathers Mahoney, Tormey, Doyle, O'Farrell, O'Doherty, and O'Malley. A varied and interesting programme was submitted including vocal and instrumental items, recitations, and an address to his Lordship the Bishop. The performers acquitted themselves very creditably. Special mention

may be given to Miss A. Sara whose rendering of two solos greatly pleased the audience. In French recitation, 'Le vent des quatre Saisons,' Misses R. Ralph, A. Molloy, E. Kelly, E. Lynch, represented the seasons in picturesque costumes. A number of choruses were rendered in a manner which showed careful training on the part of the teachers. Recitations by Misses E. Kelly and M. Johns were much appreciated.

The prize list was read by Rev. Father O'Farrell, after which his Lordship complimented the children on their performance, and exhorted them to take advantage of the education which they were receiving in order that they might in after life be good Christian women.

After the entertainment the exhibits of painting and art needlework were inspected. The following is the prize list:—

Special Prizes.—Christian doctrine, E. Kelly (gold cross and chain presented by Right Rev. Dr. Cleary) 1, M. Flynn (gold cross presented by Mr. J. J. O'Brien) 2; conduct, A. Molloy (gold medal presented by Mr. M. Casey), E. Corboy (gold medal presented by Mr. W. Darby); diligence, S. Tristram (gold medal presented by the Mayor), D. Sneddon (gold medal presented by Mr. T. A. Connor); music, P. McGovern (gold medal presented by Mr. A. Myers); singing, A. Sara (gold brooch presented by Mrs. Kohn); regular attendance, M. McVeagh (gold medal presented by Mr. W. J. Ralph); essay, Rosie Ralph (gold medal presented by Mr. J. Gleeson).

Matriculation and Civil Service Class.—Mathematics, D. Laing 2, E. Markey 3; English, R. Lanigan and I. Green 1, H. Doherty 2; arithmetic, C. Lawry; drawing, C. Lawry.

Class VI.—Arithmetic, L. Tanner; composition, S. Tristram 1, M. Bushell 2, R. Kelly 3; geography, M. Tristram; drawing, M. McVeagh; penmanship, Rena Ralph 1, S. Ralph 2; science, J. Dardelli; elocution, M. Johns; reading, G. Darby; brush work, M. Dunn 1, A. McConville 2.

Class V.—Geography, E. Lynch 1, M. A. Brien 2; composition, M. A. Brien, S. Tanner; reading, L. Harris 1, M. Sinel 2; drawing, S. Tanner 1, M. Hahn 2; arithmetic, E. Thompson 1, R. Dias 2; penmanship, K. Dias 1, D. Wilson 2.

Class IV.—Composition, R. Foster; arithmetic, A. Thompson; reading, Y. McVeagh 1, N. Kelly 2; drawing, M. Casey.

Class III.—Composition, M. Flynn 1, M. Crome 2; arithmetic, V. Sneddon 1, B. Graham 2; reading, S. Kelly 1, A. McMahon 2; geography, M. Smith 1, L. Somerfield 2; general proficiency, E. Speedy 1, M. Lough 2; nature study, M. Boulton.

Class II.—Arithmetic, H. Graham; reading, L. Casey; writing, M. Barnes; orthography, M. McKay 1, E. Gaw 2; drawing, D. McArthur.

Primer III.—Arithmetic, D. Somerfield 1, D. McIntosh 2; drawing, D. Somerfield; spelling, J. McKay.

Preparatory.—Reading, C. Spindler, M. Graham; spelling, C. Spindler; recitation, D. Barnes; writing, A. Mills, M. Graham; drawing, R. Usher; tables, A. Thompson; kindergarten, N. Gaw, W. Flynn; general proficiency, M. Empson, J. Casey.

Special Prizes for Christian Doctrine.—E. Corby, R. Ralph, D. Sneddon, S. Tristram, G. Darby, M. Hahn, M. Smith, D. Barnes, S. Casey, D. McIntosh, M. Graham.

Music and Theory.—E. Kelly, A. Gifford, D. Laing, A. Molloy, E. Miller, L. Harris, R. Foster; singing, E. Kelly; music, — McVeagh, L. Tanner, M. Hahn, K. Kelly, I. Tanner, J. Lardelli, B. Bowden, M. Johns, M. Casey, N. Kelly, M. Smith, S. Kelly, M. Crome, B. Graham, L. Casey, D. McArthur.

French.—First division, R. Ralph 1, A. Molloy 2; 2nd division, E. Lynch 1, E. Miller 2; 3rd division, R. Foster, N. Kelly.

Painting.—I. Green, W. Corbett, A. Molloy.

Elocution.—E. Kelly, A. Gifford, A. Molloy.

Typewriting and bookkeeping.—W. Corbett, S. Tristram, M. Bushell.

Physical Culture.—Seniors and intermediates, W. Corbett, L. Tanner, M. Sinel, and B. Graham; juniors, M. McKay, L. Casey, E. Gaw.

Needlework.—J. Lardelli, P. Darby, E. Lynch, E. Speedy, M. Barnes.

Domestic Economy.—P. McGovern and W. Corbett. Regular Attendance, R. Foster.

Hon. mentions for music—W. Corbett, I. Markey, E. Thompson, M. Flynn, G. McVeagh, V. Sneddon, M. Sinel, A. Thompson, H. Graham, L. Somerfield, M. McKay.

The following pupils were successful at the recent Sixth Standard examinations, held at the Richmond road centre:—S. Tristram, M. Bushell, L. Tanner, M. Tristram, J. Lardelli, M. O'Connell, M. McVeagh, S. Ralph.

Trinity College, London.—Certificates in instrumental and vocal music—higher examination (piano), certificated pianiste, Cecilia Carrington; (solo singing), certificated vocalist, Alma Sara; higher local division (piano), Patricia McGovern; senior advanced division (piano), Ethel Hopkins, Alice Gifford, Eileen Kelly; intermediate division, honors (piano), Marie Hahn, Irene McGarry; intermediate division pass (piano), Ella Miller, Kathleen Kelly, (solo singing) Eileen Kelly; junior division (piano), A. Molloy, K. Dias, N. Kelly; preparatory grade (solo singing), M. Bushill; (piano), M. Crome, B. Graham, H. Graham, S. Kelly, D. McArthur, L. Casey, A. Thompson.

Auckland University College, School of Music.—Intermediate division (elocution), E. Kelly; junior division, honors (theory), Annie Molloy.

Royal Academy of Music.—Advanced grade (practical), Cecilia A. Carrington.

CONVENT HIGH SCHOOL, NAPIER.

The following was the programme of the entertainment given by the pupils of the Sacred Heart High School, Napier, conducted by the religious of Notre Dame des Missions, in connection with the annual distribution of prizes on December 12:—

Overture, 'Bohemian airs,' school orchestra; action song, 'Nelly's dolly,' junior pupils; solo (3 pianos and harmonium), 'Carnival of Venice,' Misses Hunt, Mullany, and Tylee (pianos), Miss Moore (harmonium); song and chorus, 'The lily and the rose,' senior pupils; hoop drill, junior pupils; Duet (4 pianos), 'Capricante,' Misses Mullany, E. Stevens, Boden, E. Doden, Moore, K. O'Donoghue, E. Kenny, and V. Dwyer. Then came a drama in three acts ('St. Philomena'). The characters were sustained as follow:—St. Philomena, Miss M. Chisholm; Aglae, Miss Hunt; Prince Lucius, Miss D. Kenny; Cathra, Miss M. Cassin; Nilocris, Miss M. Casey; St. Innocentia, Miss J. Higgins; Martius, Miss Murray; angel, Miss V. Dwyer. Between the scenes the following musical selections were given:—Violin solo, Wieniawski's 'Mazurka,' Miss Strangman (accompanist, Miss Cane); piano solo, Bach's Fantasia in C minor, Miss Cane; violin solo, Mlynarski's 'Mazurka,' Miss Cane (accompanist, Miss Holder); vocal solo, 'O dry those tears,' Miss Nielson (accompanist, Miss Cane; violin obligato, Miss Strangman); quartette, Gounod's 'Ave Maria,' Misses Strangman (solo), Nielson (piano), Cane (violin), Holder (harmonium); piano solo, 'Les Muscadins,' Misses Mullany, Tylee, Latapie, and Moore; instrumental selection, 'Norma,' school orchestra; finale, 'God defend New Zealand.'

Prize List.

Good conduct (prizes presented by Rev. Fathers McDonnell and O'Connor)—Boarders—M. Chisholm; hon. mention, D. Bendall and L. Boddington; day pupils—B. Tylee, G. Merrick; hon. mention, E. Mullany, A. Murray, N. Holder, A. Tait, R. Hunt, D. Kenny, and M. Hickey. Christian doctrine (presented by Mr. J. Higgins)—1st division, A. Kenny; 2nd division, L. Moore; politeness and amiability—boarders, D. Bendall; day pupils, A. Murray and K. Dineen; readiness to oblige—boarders, L. Russell and D. Bendall; day pupils, E. Mullany; regular attendance, M. Casey and H. Sweetapple.

Instrumental Music (prizes presented by Messrs. Lockyer and Harston)—Piano: Higher grade, R. Cane; senior grade (advanced), A. Holder; intermediate grade (honors), highest marks at music examination, A.

Murray (first prize), L. Moore, K. Falvey, K. Dineen, R. Hunt, E. Mullaney, and F. Boden; junior grade (highest marks at examination), E. Stevens; 2nd prize, V. Dwyer; preparatory grade, D. Raynes. Violin—Senior grade (advanced), L. Strangman (honors); intermediate (upper division), R. Cane (honors); junior (lower division), M. Cassin and E. Hardy. Solo singing—Intermediate grade, R. Cane (honors); junior grade, L. Strangman (honors); class singing, R. Hunt, L. Russell and K. Holder; mandoline (1st prize), E. Boden; shorthand, M. Wilson (speed), D. Kenny and R. Patterson (theory), K. Dineen (elementary); type-writing, M. Wilson.

Pyrography and plasticine, M. Collins; painting (oils) W. Heuheu, (water colors) M. Chisholm and N. Holder 1, D. Bendall and K. Holder 2; needlework (fancy), M. Chisholm 1, E. Hardy 2; (plain), H. Sweetapple; dressmaking, R. Lee and E. Latapie 1, R. Patterson 2; darning, M. Chisholm; patching, E. Latapie and M. Cassin; calisthenics, M. Collins.

Class Prizes.

Civil Service.—Dux of school, R. Hunt; mathematics and geography, D. Kenny; English and composition, L. Russell; French translation, L. Boddington; botany and physiology, L. Boddington.

Standard VII.—Mathematics, N. Holder and E. Hardy; English and composition, A. Tait and K. Falvey; geography, A. Dallow; physiology, R. Patterson; bookkeeping, A. Kearney.

Standard VI.—Arithmetic, E. Mullany; English and composition, M. Casey; geography, M. Cassin and Edith Annan; dictation and spelling, B. Tylee; writing and drawing, E. Stevens; reading and elocution, M. Casey; diligence, M. Hickey.

Standard V.—Arithmetic, E. Dineen and K. Holder; English and composition, K. Holder; geography, L. Moore; dictation and spelling, E. Kenny; reading, L. Hitchin and J. Higgins; writing, E. Latapie and K. Dineen; drawing, K. Habib; diligence and application, K. O'Donoghue and K. Sheehan; general improvement, S. Cameron and D. Annan.

Standard IV.—Arithmetic, D. Bendall; English and composition, D. Raynes; geography, E. Boden; dictation and spelling, D. Raynes; writing and drawing, D. Bendall; diligence and application, W. Maher.

Junior Division.—Good Conduct, V. Dwyer; Christian doctrine, A. Dineen; regular attendance, W. Yates; needlework, M. Moroney; kindergarten, S. Moore.

Standard III.—Reading, V. Dwyer; writing and spelling, K. McNamara; sewing, M. Moroney; arithmetic, A. Downes; drawing, M. Donovan.

Standard II.—Arithmetic, A. Dineen; writing, drawing, and reading, D. McNish; dictation and spelling, V. Ricketts; arithmetic and neatness, H. B. Hale; spelling and writing, I. Cuddon; drawing, C. McNamara; reading and spelling, R. Treston; sewing, S. Moore.

Preparatory Division.—B. Bishop, P. McGillicuddy, K. Moroney, E. McCarthy, R. Cogswell, M. Treston, R. Olsen.

At the music examinations held in October last by the examiner for Trinity College, the following candidates secured certificates:—Higher local (piano), R. Cane; senior grade (advanced), A. Holder; intermediate grade, (honors) A. Murray, (passes) K. Falvey, P. Polson, K. Dineen, H. Sweetapple, J. Higgins, and M. Casey; junior honors, L. Polson, H. Williams; passes, L. Boddington, E. Latapie, K. O'Donoghue, E. Boden; preparatory, Doris Raynes; violin—Senior grade (honors), L. Strangman; intermediate (honors), Ruby Cane; junior (pass), Mona Cassin; solo singing—Intermediate (honors), R. Cane; junior (honors), L. Strangman.

ST. PATRICK'S SCHOOL, NAPIER.

The prize-list at the above school is as follows:—

Good conduct, K. Mullany. Christian doctrine (prizes presented by Rev. Father McDonnell)—First division, H. Sullivan and W. Dallow; second division, I. Painter and R. Hogan. Regular attendance, L. Gunn; punctuality, K. Hare; politeness and amiability,

D. Barnes; singing, O. Raynes; sewing, E. Holder; neatness, A. Reash; readiness to oblige, F. Dooley.

Class Prizes.

Standard IV.—Reading and writing, A. Roach; arithmetic, M. Ahern; English and composition, M. O'Keefe; writing, E. Holder; spelling and dictation, C. Sullivan; drawing and brushwork, H. Sullivan.

Standard III.—Reading and spelling, W. Dallow; writing, R. Forde; arithmetic, N. McCarthy; English composition, O. Raynes; drawing and brushwork, M. Sharpin.

Standard II.—Reading and spelling, K. Mullany; writing, D. Barnes; English and composition, B. Tankard; writing, K. Hare; drawing, D. Taylor.

Standard I.—Reading, I. Painter; spelling, R. Hogan; writing, E. Holder; English, D. Barry; arithmetic, M. Gardiner; drawing, N. Bailey; tables, R. Tohill; reading and spelling, K. Griffin; arithmetic (second), A. Holman; reading, N. Burke; writing, F. Kearney; reading and spelling, F. Roach; spelling, F. Dooley; needlework, L. Gunn; writing, W. Durney; spelling, F. Brown; drawing, A. Raynes.

Preparatory Classes.—Catechism, D. McKenzie and D. Goldfinch; regular attendance, I. Gilbert; most obliging boy, C. Raynes.

ST. JOSEPH'S CONVENT, NAPIER.

The prize-giving at St. Joseph's Convent School, Napier, took place on December 13, in the presence of a large number of parents and friends. Before the distribution the pupils provided an entertainment, the drama 'Ernscliffe Hall' being the chief attraction. The cast was as follows:—Countess Moreland, Nellie Downing; Miss Matilda Sinclair, Elsie Goldfinch; Miss Clara Hamilton, Katie de Friez; Sophia, Erin Morton; Annette, Elsie Skinner.

The prize-list is as under:—

Good conduct (prize presented by Rev. Father McDonnell)—First division, F. Hayden; second division, N. Farmer; Christian doctrine (prize presented by Rev. Father O'Connor)—First division, N. Downing; second division, Edith Murrow. Amiability and politeness—First division, N. Downing; second division, E. Murrow. Amiability and politeness—First division, N. Downing; second division, V. Johnson. Regular attendance—First division, E. Goldfinch and K. Doyle; second division, E. La Broome. Punctuality, C. Lynch and E. La Broome; readiness to oblige—First division, K. Downing; second division, A. Reidy. Music, G. Lynam. Singing—First division, E. Morton and K. de Friez; second division, D. Campbell. Dressmaking, A. Webber; sewing, E. La Broome; cooking, E. Goldfinch. Calisthenics—First division, L. McGrath; second division, M. Miller.

Class Prizes.

Standard VI.—Reading, composition, and drawing, E. Goldfinch; arithmetic and writing, K. Murow; geography and English, N. Downing.

Standard V.—Reading and arithmetic, E. Morton; writing, C. Lynch; drawing, K. de Friez; English, L. McGrath; brush drawing, A. Collins; composition, F. Brady; geography, G. Lynam; equal to 1st English, L. Foskitt; nature study, F. Hayden.

Standard IV.—Arithmetic and spelling, K. Doyle; composition, M. Comber; reading and recitation, E. Skinner; English, K. Downing; geography, E. Murrow; drawing, D. Keating; brush work, A. Webber; nature study, I. Chambers.

Standard III.—Reading, writing, and drawing, E. Mansner; arithmetic and geography, D. Campbell; grammar and composition, R. Tohill; recitation, L. de Friez.

Standard II.—Reading, spelling, and English, M. McCallum; general improvement, E. McClurg; reading, N. Farmer; arithmetic, spelling, and tables, P. McConkey; writing and recitation, A. Reidy; general improvement, A. McConkey.

Junior Division.

Good conduct, F. Percy; Christian doctrine, L. Neilson; regular attendance, C. Hewett; sewing, M. Rogers; drill, D. Campbell; reading, spelling, and writ-

ing, M. Rogers; tables, D. Campbell; drawing and plasticine work, W. Heffernan; general improvement, J. Pearcy.

Preparatory Class.—G. Murrow, L. Neilson; F. Pearcy; R. Hayden, C. Hewett, M. Heffernan, C. Farmer, W. de Friez.

MARIST BROTHERS' SCHOOL, NAPIER.

The Marist Brothers' School annual concert given in the Theatre Royal, Napier, on the evening of December 13, was a pronounced success, and attracted a very large audience. The programme, which included songs, tableaux, recitations, musical monologues, dumb-bell and club exercises, statue drill, choruses, etc., was a very enjoyable one, and besides giving pleasure to the audience showed to full advantage the training received by the boys at this school. Several of the items were exceptionally good, especially the choruses. The physical exercises were accurately executed, the pupils, without exception, working in perfect unison. The statue drill, too, was creditably performed. Among the most enjoyable items were two songs, 'Island of dreams, and Guonod's 'Ave Maria' (an encore), sung by Master G. Madigan (medallist, 1911). In addition to the numbers given by the pupils, Mr. J. W. Coe contributed a ventriloquial turn, and drew some clever lighting sketches. Mr. Coe is an exceedingly clever amateur with the crayons, and one of his sketches, drawn in 60 seconds, was really a remarkably good piece of work. Other programme items were:—Choruses by the pupils, 'O'Donnell Aboo,' 'Chiming bells,' 'Whispering hope,' and 'Christmas carol,' Master Madigan singing the solo in the last mentioned; recitation, 'How McDougall topped the score,' Master J. Downing; song, 'Killarney,' Master Archie McGrath; song and tableau, 'Sleeping camp,' Master L. Reidy, L. Clarebut and W. Poll; song, 'What would you take for me, papa,' Master E. Murrow; recitation, 'The owl critic,' Master M. Griffin; musical monologue, 'Little Jim,' Master Archie McGrath; sketch, 'Chiselling,' Master H. Sweeney, J. Downing, C. La Broome, G. Maddigan, and J. McGrath. The statue drill, quite an original item, was specially arranged by Bro. Emilian, who also carried out all arrangements in connection with the organisation of the concert, and he is to be congratulated on the success attending his efforts. The pianoforte accompaniments were sympathetically played by Miss May McGrath. The pupils were all dressed in white, with blue ties and sashes, and their appearance, as well as the entertainment they provided, met with general approval.

CONVENT HIGH SCHOOL, PALMERSTON NORTH.

(From our own correspondent.)

December 15.

The Convent High School and the parish school broke up for the Christmas vacation on Monday and Friday last respectively. In addition to the prize-giving at the high school the pupils were invited to a well laden Christmas tree on Wednesday last. The pupils had a pleasant time, and returned home well supplied with dainty presents, and well pleased with the thoughtfulness of their kind teachers. On the same afternoon the children of the parish school were similarly entertained. On Friday afternoon the children of the parish school, together with their parents and friends, assembled in the Zealandia Hall for the annual distribution of prizes, which were presented by the Rev. Father Costello, when a select programme of instrumental and vocal items was gone through. At the close of the function Mr. Woon, manager for Haywards, Ltd., gave each child a free pass for any night to the pictures.

A full realisation of the good work that is being done by the Sisters of Mercy (says the local *Standard*) in connection with St. Patrick's parish is, perhaps, only possible to those who come in daily contact with them. Yet even a stranger, gifted with ordinary powers of observation, may realise something of its extent and

value after having visited the school and heard the pupils perform. Several years ago it was found necessary to provide a high school for the parish, and a building was secured between Grey and Featherston streets. Roomy and commodious as it was, it has lately been found insufficient for requirements, and it has been enlarged to a very material extent. Yesterday afternoon, December 11, a dual function was performed in connection therewith. The day marked the closing of the term, with the attendant prize-giving ceremony, and the celebration of the fact that the building, with its handsome additions, is to be used henceforth as a high school and boarding school. The celebration took the form of a garden party held in the spacious grounds surrounding the building. Notwithstanding the inclement nature of the weather, there was a good attendance, seats being provided on the lawn under the shelter of the trees. With regard to the grounds, which are decidedly picturesque, it may be mentioned that they comprise some three acres, a portion of which is laid out in a delightful orchard, while the whole is surrounded by tall pines and poplars. An inspection of the building showed that it contains thirty rooms all told, including dormitories, school rooms, and entertaining rooms. They are well lighted and airy, while the walls are either painted or papered in quiet and attractive colors.

Among those present were the following:—His Grace Archbishop Redwood, Very Rev. Father Keogh, Rev. Fathers Costello, Herring, Dore, the Rev. Mother Mary Francis, head of the Order at Wellington, Mother Bernard, from Seatoun Preparatory College, Mr. Buick, M.P., and Mrs. Buick, the Mayor and Mayoress, Mr. Robert McNab, and a large number of prominent citizens.

During the afternoon the pupils of the school submitted an excellent programme of instrumental and vocal items, which were very much appreciated. They sang well and they played well, and their work reflected a great deal of credit on their teachers. The programme rendered was as follows:—Chorus, 'Cherry ripe'; duet, 'Dolls' song,' Misses Muriel Townshend and Cora Bartlett; piano solo, 'Liebestraum' (Liszt), Miss Alice Rainbow; solo and chorus, 'My curly-headed babby,' Miss Vida Cimino and junior pupils; violin solo, 'Tendresse' (Oscar Reiding), Miss Vera Graham; recitation, 'L'Ange et l'enfant' (Jean Reboul), Miss Alice Hodgins; song, 'The wood pigeon' (Liza Lehmann), junior pupils; piano solo, 'Rhapsodie No. 4' (Liszt), Miss Nita Green; solo and chorus, 'Grow, little mushroom, grow' and 'Plantation echo song,' Misses Eileen Grant, Christine Lusted, and Trixie Stockwell; club drill, senior pupils. Misses Graham, Rainbow, Kendall, and Oldridge acted as accompanists.

Prize List.

At the conclusion of the programme the Mayor (Mr. J. A. Nash), presented the following prizes:—

Special Prizes.—Good conduct (gold medal, Mr. P. O'Connor), I. Oldridge; Christian doctrine (gold medal), A. Hodgins; dux (gold medal, his Worship the Mayor), N. Green; English composition (gold medal, his Grace Archbishop Redwood), M. Brett; French conversation (Mr. Pascal), A. Hodgins; physical drill, seniors (Mr. Lynch), A. Hodgins; physical drill, juniors (Mr. Lynch), M. Bellerby.

Music Prizes.—Licentiate division (gold medallist), E. Rawlins; theory and music, V. Graham; theory and music, V. Kendall; associate and advanced theory, A. Rainbow; advanced grade, R. Kelly; senior division, E. Lynch; higher division, pianoforte and theory, M. Hill and M. Buchanan; lower division, pianoforte and theory, E. Grant; elementary division, pianoforte and singing, V. Bartlett; elementary division, pianoforte, E. Eyre.

Theory of Music.—Grade I., I. Carey; Grade II., M. Hodgins; Grade III., K. Delahunty; Grade IV., M. Brett.

Class Prizes.

Class I.—Mathematics (Mr. Bennett), N. Green; English, M. Buchanan; arithmetic (Mr. Park), E. Speed; French, N. Green; geography, I. Oldridge; science, A. Hodgins; typewriting (Miss Scaulan), G.

Elliott; shorthand, I. Oldridge; bookkeeping, I. Oldridge; model drawing, E. Speed; freehand drawing, V. Bartlett.

Class II.—English literature, G. Elliott; arithmetic, K. Burke; reading, E. Oldridge; drawing, D. Lynch; French, C. Lusted.

Class III.—Highest marks, T. Stockwell; arithmetic, E. Grant; geography, E. Grant; composition and spelling, T. Stockwell; arithmetic (second division), E. Lewis; reading and recitation, M. Hoben.

Preparatory School.

Good conduct, B. Devine.

Class I.—Arithmetic, M. O'Brien; reading and recitation, M. Townsend; class singing, V. Cimino; spelling (Mr. Park), J. Devine; drawing, J. Devine.

Class II.—Arithmetic, A. Lusted; reading and recitation, R. Hoben; writing, G. Ingram; spelling, B. Devine.

Class III.—Reading, P. Leslie; writing, E. Clark; drill, R. McKewen.

Following the presentation of prizes, his Grace Archbishop Redwood briefly addressed the children. Eulogistic reference was made to the undoubted ability displayed, which reflected so much credit on their teachers. Particularly did this apply to the musical items, which were of a very high order of merit. But what impressed him more than anything was the excellence of the enunciation shown throughout. This was one of the most important branches of teaching, and one that they had been striving for in all their schools. He was pleased to see that so much progress had been made. The articulation in the songs was particularly clear, and every word could be heard distinctly. This was a great thing, for if the words of a song were not clearly articulated, much of its beauty was lost, particularly to those who were not familiar with it. He praised the splendid work that was being done by the Sisters, to whom great praise was due for the splendid results achieved.

Rev. Father Costello, on behalf of the Sisters, thanked those present for their attendance, more especially in view of the inclement state of the weather. To Archbishop Redwood thanks were due for having consented to attend, and to perform the opening ceremony at such a busy time. While on the subject he would like to extend a cordial welcome to the Rev. Mother Bernard, who was present from Wellington. Allusion was made to the splendid work that was being done by the Sisters. They were beloved, not only by the Catholic pupils, but by the non-Catholic pupils who attended the school, and it was with a feeling of great pleasure that he saw the manner in which all worked so harmoniously together.

Afternoon tea was then dispensed, and concluded a very pleasant afternoon.

In addition to the good work that is being done by the Sisters, particular mention should be made of the work done by Mr. Pascal, who teaches French, and Miss Croucher, who teaches German and the violin.

ST. BRIDE'S CONVENT, MASTERTON.

A large audience greeted the production of the dramatised version of *Guy Mannering*, by the pupils of St. Bride's Convent, at the Town Hall, on Thursday, December 10. When the Rev. Mother Superior essayed to place this drama before the public, it was thought that she might have taken in hand something rather beyond the pupils, but the way in which all the parts were carried out quickly dispelled all doubts, and the Sisters and pupils are to be congratulated on the excellence of the entertainment. In the acting, pride of place undoubtedly went to Miss Holloway, who took the part of an old gipsy woman, 'Meg Merrilees,' her delineation of the character being most realistic. Miss J. Milne as 'Dominie Sampson,' Miss Hanify as 'Dandie Dinmont,' Miss Coralie Smythson as 'Lucy Bertram,' Miss Colina McKenzie as 'Colonel Mannering,' and Miss Collerton as 'Mrs. McCandish,' also deserve special mention for the manner in which their roles were portrayed. The cast of other characters was as follows:—'Henry Bertram,' Miss O'Connell; 'Dirk

Hatteraick,' Miss L. McComisky; 'Baillie Muckeithrift,' Miss Catherine McKenzie; 'Gilbert Glossin,' Miss Molly Bunney, Grizzy, Gabriel, Sebastian, and Franco (gipsies), Misses Eileen Bunney, Kitty Hodgins, Muriel Welch, and Galvin; Jock Jabos, Miss Aileen Dennis; Sergeant McCraw, Master J. O'Dowd; Julia Mannering, Miss Nelson; Flora, Miss Symes; gipsies, Misses Dinnis and Reta Page; gipsies, soldiers, smugglers, peasants, Misses Bunney, Hodgins, Page (2), McComisky, Welch, McKenzie, etc., Masters O'Connell, Hodgins (2), Hanley, O'Donnell (2), O'Dowd, Mathieson, Welch, and McEwen. Considerable assistance was rendered in the choruses by Miss Connie McLachlan, Miss Ogilvy, and Messrs. J. J. Kellher, and E. Flavin. The convent orchestra (Misses Hanify, Holloway, Page, Smythson, Holmes, McKenna, and Master De Castro), rendered a number of selections during the intervals, and Miss Hanify, L.T.C.L., L.A.B., played 'Pester Carneval' (Liszt) in capital style.

At the close of the entertainment the Mayoress (Mrs. J. M. Coradine) presented the prizes won during the year by the pupils.

Very Rev. Dean McKenna, on behalf of the Mother Superior, thanked all who assisted in the performance, and also the public who extended their patronage.

The following is the prize-list:—

Junior Class.—M. Cooper, writing; R. Richards, Christian doctrine and arithmetic; T. Taylor, spelling and needlework; M. Eastwood, arithmetic; I. Michell, reading and poetry; K. Bunney, drawing; K. O'Leary, arithmetic; D. Duggan, history and Christian doctrine.

Intermediate Class.—R. Page, intermediate honors T.C.L., junior theory, and arithmetic; D. Page, arithmetic, junior theory, and intermediate practical, T.C.L.

Senior Class.—M. Galvin, geography, needlework, and neatness; M. Bunney, English and drawing; R. Dennis, arithmetic, junior French, and junior practical, T.C.L.; K. Hodgins, history and intermediate practical, T.C.L.

Civil Service Class.—K. Nelson, senior practical, T.C.L., advanced theory, T.C.L., English, and mathematics; W. Symes, physiology and higher intermediate theory, T.C.L.; L. McComisky, arithmetic; P. Hanify, senior violin, T.C.L., and higher local theory, T.C.L.

Music.—D. de Castro, preparatory violin, T.C.L.; H. de Castro, junior practical, T.C.L.; M. Eton, junior practical, T.C.L.; A. Golder, junior practical, T.C.L.; G. Moorhouse, junior practical, T.C.L.; K. Redmond, junior singing, T.C.L., and intermediate honors practical, T.C.L.; J. Milne, senior honors practical, T.C.L.; E. O'Connell, senior practical, T.C.L.; E. Holmes, senior practical, T.C.L.; M. Fowle, intermediate practical pass, T.C.L.; C. Cooper, higher local practical, T.C.L.; B. Grey, higher local practical, T.C.L.; O. Isakson, higher local practical, T.C.L., and lower intermediate theory, T.C.L.; A. Fuller, certificated pianist, T.C.L.

Special Prizes.—C. Smythson, mathematics and French; J. Milne, shorthand; N. Collerton, shorthand and typewriting; P. Hanify, L.T.C.L. and L.A.B., gold bracelet; N. Collerton, first prize Christian doctrine, gold medal; E. Bunney, second prize Christian doctrine, silver medal; good conduct, N. Collerton and M. Galvin tied for the gold medal, which was eventually won by N. Collerton.

There are 102 primary schools in the archdiocese of Melbourne, attended by 23,049 pupils. The teachers number 479—279 religious, 153 secular, and 47 visiting. Statistics with regard to colleges and high schools show that there are 38 of these—2 for training teachers, 8 for boys, and 28 for girls. The students at the colleges and high schools total 4009.

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