

P. J. Clarke, and the members of the company to visit Te Awamutu this year were:—Messrs. F. Hahn (violinist), S. L. Exton, S. Pritchard, F. Bourke, L. O'Malley, F. J. Adeane, N. Hutcheson, C. Dod, W. Hendry, J. T. Fitzgerald, R. Long, Purcell, Kemble, and Noonan (secretary). During their stay they were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. Jackson, of the Te Awamutu Hotel.

A concert was given on Saturday evening at Kihikihi, when, as the local correspondent of the *Post* says, the delightful musical programme, followed by a minstrel entertainment, was most highly appreciated, and the whole of the items were enthusiastically received. Returning to Te Awamutu several carols were sung as the New Year was heralded in.

There was a very large attendance at the Town Hall on Sunday evening, when the company submitted a sacred programme. The items were rendered in a most pleasing manner, and the audience was very appreciative.

Entertainments at Te Awamutu have been most liberally patronised for some months past, and the concert on New Year's night was no exception to this rule, the seating accommodation—withstanding that fully 100 chairs had been procured—was totally inadequate for the requirements. Several requests had been made that day for the company to repeat 'Nazareth.' This they had decided to do. A feature of the programme throughout was the overtures, which were played by Miss Marie Hahn. Mr. F. Hahn, as violinist, added considerably to the rendering of the items. The rich mellow voice of Mr. F. Bourke soon made him exceedingly popular with the audience. Mr. S. Pritchard was equally well received, and the audience was most emphatic in recalling both these gentlemen. Mr. L. O'Malley was already too well known to receive other than a warm welcome. Messrs. S. L. Exton and F. Adeane proved themselves very talented, and were most pleasingly received. It was probably in the harmony items where the company appeared to best advantage. The choruses were sung with much feeling, and the expression was a special feature. The first part of the highly enjoyable programme consisted of songs and choruses, and the second was devoted to a minstrel entertainment. Mr. F. Burke as interlocutor was all that could be desired, and Messrs. L. O'Malley and R. Long (bones) and W. Hendry and F. Adeane (tambos) kept the audience well amused. A number of chorus songs and solos were rendered in a most pleasing manner, and several encores were called for.

In a short speech the Rev. Father Lynch thanked the club members for coming to Te Awamutu, and hoped that they would again visit the district at no very distant date. He thanked all for their patronage and appreciation of the concerts, but more especially thanked the audience for the hospitality extended. He especially thanked Mr. Clarke and the officers of the club, and hoped that the members would again be at Te Awamutu to usher in 1913.

On Tuesday the club members returned to Auckland. In the morning they were the guests of Mrs. Clarke at the Vicarage, where a very pleasant hour was spent. Before leaving the hotel, Mr. Clarke, on behalf of the club, presented Mrs. Jackson with a very handsome silver afternoon tea service. In a short but appropriate speech he expressed the highest appreciation of the hospitality received, and felt sure that he was only voicing the opinion of all in saying they were made to feel thoroughly at home. Mr. Jackson suitably responded, and thanked the members for the very beautiful present.

The takings of the concerts throughout totalled £33 7s 6d, which is considered highly satisfactory.

OBITUARY

MRS. MARY CASEY, LOWER HUTT.

(From an occasional correspondent.)

On November 22 there passed away at Lower Hutt, Mrs. Mary Casey, wife of Mr. Patrick Casey. The

deceased, who was a native of Ireland, was 55 years of age. Her illness was short, and the news of her death came as a great shock to her many friends, by whom she was highly esteemed. She was a devoted Catholic, and took a deep interest in Church affairs. The late Mrs. Casey leaves a husband, four daughters, and three sons to mourn their loss, and for whom great sympathy is felt. The funeral was a very large and representative one. Rev. Father Walsh officiated at the graveside, and the members of the Hibernian Society acted as pall-bearers.—R.I.P.

REV. FATHER O'DWYER, S.M., LEESTON.

(By telegraph from our Christchurch correspondent.)

The death occurred on last Sunday night at Leeston, of the Rev. Father O'Dwyer, S.M., a priest well known for very many years in most parts of the Dominion. The Rev. Father John Dennis O'Dwyer, who was in his 66th year, was born in the diocese of Kerry, on January 17, 1846. He was educated at Blackrock College, and also at Paris, where he was ordained in 1871. The deceased was professed in the Society of Mary on May 11, 1885, and for many years labored in the archdiocese of Wellington, in the diocese of Auckland, and also in Tonga. He came to Christchurch in 1906, being attached to both city parishes, and since then had done duty in Kumara, Reefton, Waimate, and elsewhere, latterly assisting at Leeston.

A Solemn Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of the late Father O'Dwyer, S.M., was celebrated at the Church of St. John the Evangelist, Leeston, at 11 o'clock on Tuesday. The Very Rev. Dean Hills, S.M., V.G., was celebrant, Rev. Father Morkane (Holy Cross College) deacon, Rev. Father Dignan, S.M. (St. Mary's, Christchurch) subdeacon, and Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., master of ceremonies. The Office for the Dead, prior to and during the Mass, was sung by the clergy, all those of the North Canterbury deanery being present. His Lordship Bishop Grimes presided in the sanctuary, and, at the conclusion of the Mass, addressed the crowded congregation on the life and missionary labors of the deceased priest during the long period he had been associated with the progress of the Church in the Dominion, and gave the absolution at the coffin. Immediately after Mass the remains were conveyed to the local Catholic cemetery, and interred alongside the grave of the late Dean Chervier, S.M., a former rector of the parish of Leeston. The funeral was very largely attended. The Very Rev. Dean Hills officiated at the graveside, assisted by the clergy previously mentioned.—R.I.P.

MR. CORNELIUS O'DONOGHUE, HASTINGS.

(From our own correspondent.)

Sincere regret was felt throughout the district when the death of Mr. Cornelius O'Donoghue, of the Albert Hotel, Hastings, at the comparatively early age of 52 years, was announced. Deceased was seized with a sudden illness a few weeks ago, and he passed away on the morning of January 2. The late Mr. O'Donoghue was of a genial and kindly disposition, and a patriotic Irishman, being treasurer of the Irish Parliamentary fund in Hastings. He was a native of the County Waterford, and arrived in the Dominion 33 years ago, when he took up contracting work in Waipawa. Later on he started hotel-keeping in Wainstead, proceeding from there to Napier, and thence to Port Ahuriri. The remains were taken to the Church of the Sacred Heart, where the first part of the burial service was read by the Very Rev. Father Keogh, who also officiated at the graveside. The attendance at the funeral, which was the largest ever seen in Hastings, bore testimony to the esteem in which deceased was held. It was headed by over sixty members of the Hibernian Society, representing Hastings, Napier, and Waipawa. Deceased was a member of the Waipawa branch for the past thirty years. The clergy present were the Very Rev. Dean Grogan (Meeanee), Rev. Father Saunderson (Waipawa), Rev. Father O'Connor (Napier), and Rev. Father Gondringer (Wellington).—R.I.P.