

tion, Hibernian Society, Ladies of Charity, and Children of Mary have already promoted successful gatherings, and there are others to follow.

Although advanced in years, Mr. M. Nolan still wields a vigorous pen in defence of Catholic principles, his contributions to the local newspaper press being always most illuminating. Not alone in this respect has Mr. Nolan done good work, but we had lately an instance of his literary skill and learning in a lengthy article on the 'Irish Harp and Irish Music,' contributed to the *Lyttelton Times*, which interested many readers who were not of his nationality.

In the presbytery grounds of St. Mary's, Manchester street, the rector, Very Rev. Dean Hills, S.M., V.G., has just had erected a neat and commodious building to be used as a meeting place for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and other parish organisations. This being the centenary year of the founder of the society, the Very Rev. Dean has decided to name it 'Ozanam Lodge.' Arrangements are being made for a formal opening at an early date.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(By telegraph, from our own correspondent.)

The Sacred Heart Church, Ponsonby, is now undergoing extensive repairs. The result of the recent bazaar was over £300.

The fortieth annual social of the local branch of the Hibernian Society will be held on Monday, August 25, for which preparations are now in active progress.

A fire broke out this evening in the shelter shed attached to the Marist Brothers' School, Vermont street. The Fire Brigade was quickly on the spot, but the shed was destroyed.

At the meeting of the confraternity of the Holy Family last week, Rev. Father O'Malley delivered a fine discourse on the 'Ven. Oliver Plunket,' in the course of which he dealt with the martyr's saintly life, and long suffering borne with Christian fortitude, which culminated in his cruel and indefensible execution at Tyburn.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament took place after the 11 o'clock Mass yesterday at the Cathedral, and was continued throughout the day until after Vespers. The church was crowded in the evening, when the Right Rev. Mgr. Brodie delivered a most impressive discourse on the Blessed Sacrament, after which the usual procession was held.

Sir Joseph Ward, who arrived last Friday from Europe, was accorded an enthusiastic welcome by a representative gathering of citizens. On Sunday he dined with his Lordship Bishop Cleary, and in the evening left by the express for Wellington. The railway station was thronged by an enthusiastic crowd, who cheered and sang 'He's a jolly good fellow' as the train left.

The children attending the various Catholic schools assembled this afternoon at an entertainment in St. Benedict's Hall, the proceeds of which are to be devoted to the fund for the bazaar to come off next October. The Sisters of St. Joseph organised the entertainment, which was eminently successful. After the good things on the tables had been disposed of, Rev. Father Forde threw several interesting pictures on the screen, greatly to the edification of parents and children. The whole was brought to a close with hearty cheers for the Sisters and clergy. The entertainment lasted from three to six in the afternoon.

Palmerston North

(From our own correspondent.)

A very successful euchre party was held in the Empire Hall on Friday last in aid of the funds for the coming bazaar. It was well attended, a very enjoyable evening being spent.

A sum of £25 was netted as the proceeds of a sacred concert given in the Opera House on Sunday evening by the Dandies, assisted by local talent, on behalf of the Gleeson family.

Rev. Father McManus announced last Sunday at all the Masses that the evening collection would be taken up for the St. Vincent de Paul Society. In the evening he gave a forceful address on 'Alms-deeds,' and exhorted all to assist the society. The collection realised £4 2s 8d.

His Grace Archbishop Redwood arrived in Palmerston on Saturday, and celebrated the 7.30 o'clock Mass to-day. At the close of the 11 o'clock Mass his Grace briefly addressed the candidates for Confirmation, and then confirmed 137, eight of whom were adults. There was a very large congregation. In the afternoon his Grace journeyed to Ashhurst and confirmed 32 candidates in the Church of St. Columba. His Grace returned to town for the evening service, and preached to a large congregation on the doctrine of 'Indulgences.' At the close of his sermon his Grace specially exhorted all to fulfil the conditions of the Jubilee.

Bluff

(From an occasional correspondent.)

A topic of great interest just now is the bazaar in aid of the convent school building fund, which opens on August 20. The goods are already on exhibition, and are greatly admired. A drawing-room suite of the very latest design and color stands first, then a full-sized drawing-room screen, the four panels of which are ornamented by a series of exquisite figures in a new and attractive style of coloring. The mounting of the screen is artistic in the highest degree. Both the suite of furniture and the screen came from the workshop of Messrs. Broad, Small, and Co., Invercargill. Painted-panels, mirrors, etc., elaborate fancy work, as well as useful articles such as clocks, quilts, and rugs, make a goodly show. A varied programme is being prepared for each evening, and no trouble is being spared to make the affair a great success.

Timaru

(From our own correspondent.)

The boys' school is now being thoroughly renovated, and will not re-open until Monday next.

The Children of Mary are holding an invitation social to-night, and a large number of acceptances have been received by the hon. secretary.

In connection with the complimentary concert to be tendered to Mrs. N. D. Mangos by the citizens of Timaru, her pupils and ex-pupils intend to make a separate presentation as a mark of their personal appreciation of her devotedness. Those in sympathy with the project are requested to communicate with Miss Naismith, Temuka, or Miss G. Atkinson, Timaru.

There was a very large congregation at the Sacred Heart Church last evening, when the usual monthly procession of the Blessed Sacrament took place. Very Rev. Dean Tubman preached a sermon appropriate to the occasion. The congregational singing was a striking feature of the devotions.

OBITUARY

MRS. ANNIE McDERMOTT, DANNEVIRKE.

The many friends of Mrs Annie McDermott (writes a correspondent) will regret to hear of her demise, which occurred on Sunday, July 6, at Auckland. The deceased, who was a native of Australia, was for many years a resident of Dannevirke, where she was looked up to by all the parishioners as a leader and a most strenuous worker in all things Catholic. Indifferent health occasioned a trip to Auckland, where apparently good progress was being made. Retiring to rest on Saturday evening bright and cheerful, she awoke in the early hours of the morning with a start, and died almost immediately. The body was brought by rail to Dannevirke, and taken to the church, where it remained till borne to the new cemetery on Wednesday afternoon. The funeral cortege was one of the largest and most representative seen in Dannevirke for many years. The deceased leaves a husband, four daughters, and two sons to mourn their loss.—R.I.P.