

hoax and impossible; contracts its false altruism with the true altruism of Christianity; and proves that there can be no real happiness without God. The matter is excellent throughout, and the style is most pleasant. The book is highly recommended. Our copy is from Longmans, Green and Co. Price: 2/- and 3/6.

How to Use the Missal for the Laity—English C.T.S.

Spiritual writers tell us that one of the best ways, if not the best way to hear Holy Mass is to use the Missal and read the official prayers of the Church. There are many handy editions of the Missal in English and the best thing anyone can do is to buy a Missal and then get this little publication of the C.T.S. to help them use it profitably.

"The Spinner"

This Australasian magazine of verse has just made its appearance. It says it will "give the best that Australasia can supply of the great art of poesy," and it looks for co-operation to all who love that art. Seven contributions fill the booklet, all of them deserving of praise. Bernard O'Dowd's poem gives us a pleasant estimate of what constitutes "A Poet." The description is true to life and has many beautiful lines expressing thoughts uncommonly beautiful. "Where?" is a smooth and sympathetic translation of one of Heine's short pieces. "The Sculptor" is also good. They all are good and bespeak a kindly welcome in New Zealand for the modest volume. We are promised in each number a portrait of an Australasian author, the author in this, the first, issue being Mary Gilmore, to whose character and literary work a pretty compliment is paid in the Notes. She is represented in this number by "The Door," which our readers will admire with us.

THE DOOR.

I have come lonely to my house—
The house of flesh—
As one who, from the little hut
Of his young, fresh,
And happy years, went wandering forth,
And then returns once more
To its old hospitable door.

I have come lonely to my house:
And it is dust. . . .
Gone is the glowing form wherein
Once lay my trust,
Gone the proud splendor of its worth!
How strange from Death's dark shore
To come and find no more that door.

I have come here, eager as one
To his old place
Who hones to find familiar things—
And finds no trace;
One who has never ceased to hear
Cry deep in his heart's core
Sounds he had heard round one old door.

Far, far at sea, will sailors dream
They hear a cack
Crow from a farmyard fence, and wake
In sudden shock,
To feel upon the face a tear
For things they know no more,
Known round an old familiar door.

And in the Scattered Lands a man
Will ride all day,
And in and out the grass will see
A kitten play,
Hear a child's laughter there, and dream
He sees himself once more
Sit by an old familiar door.

And in The Scattered Lands a man
Sodden with drink,
Will pause and sway as one whom some
Sharp thought made shrink
(Struck as the dim-eyed by a gleam!)
When, as from youth's far shore,
A sound hails, passing, one old door.

And in The Scattered Lands where lone
A woman sits,
Or, risen, trims her housewife fire,
A shadow flits
Or a voice calls, and suddenly
She sees far Sydney's shore,
And an old, old door she knows no more.

And I, coming again to mine
Own house, find but
A haunted echo answer there,
And a door long shut. . . .
Ah, with the flesh sleeps memory,
Not to be wakened more
Save by that old familiar door.

Diocesan News

Archdiocese of Wellington

(From our own Correspondent.)

December 19.

Rev. Father Mahony, of St. Mary of the Angels, is calling for tenders for the erection of a school in Abel Smith Street. This is another advance in the line of education in the city.

Revs Dr. Casey and Dr. Chapman are staying with Archdeacon Devoy at Island Bay. Dr. Chapman has more than justified the hopes of the community for his success, and is to be congratulated on his honors.

The Buckle Street School held a wonderful "break-up" concert. It is a long time since Buckle Street had a concert, so there was a great rally of old and new pupils. The singing, and indeed the whole programme, delighted the large audience. Everyone went away praising. His Grace Archbishop O'Shea presented the prizes. The quality of these "break-up" concerts everywhere has been excellent. That given by the Sisters of the Missions, Lower Hutt, is a case in point. The people who went from town did not regret the journey. The "Witches' Song" was wonderfully done.

The quarterly meeting of the St. Vincent de Paul Society takes place on Sunday.

His Grace Archbishop Redwood has been over to Marlborough to bless the fine works undertaken by Very Rev. Dean Holley during his absence.

A pupil of the Marist Brothers, Tasman Street, M. Smith, has secured second place in the Sacred Heart College scholarship.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(From our own Correspondent.)

December 18.

The general "break-up" of the schools has been engaging the attention of the teachers, pupils and parents in Auckland during last week with bustle and excitement everywhere; all of which has been vividly imprinted on the eager little faces looking forward to the Christmas vacation. The "break-up" is a great festival in the lives of the little ones, bounding from the restraint of school life.

The Sacred Heart College held its annual prize distribution and concert in the large Town Hall before a crowded attendance. It was the biggest college gathering yet held, and was a great success.

The Sacred Heart Convent Schools, Remuera, also held a very successful function this week and have closed down for the holidays.

Recently the primary schools A Grade cricket championship was decided under very exciting circumstances. The competitive teams comprised the Vermont Street (Marist Brothers) eleven pitted against Devonport School. The latter school scored 132 runs for six wickets and then declared, Meredith (55) and Webb (54 not out) being the principal scorers. Hannan and Keleher bowled for Vermont Street, and then went in to put on 100 for the first wicket partnership. Hannan's total was 77 and Keleher's 35. Vermont Street's total score was 136 for the loss of six wickets. The game was a most exciting one and full of incident, the winners having four runs to score in 1½ minutes. They managed to put on eight.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own Correspondent.)

December 20.

Whole-hearted enthusiasm was the predominant note at the Christmas fete organised by the St. Joseph's Club, Papanui, and held in the Memorial Hall, on Tuesday evening. The funds will go towards the liquidation of the debt on St. Joseph's parish. Everyone connected with the fete worked with a keenness that augured well for the success of the function. The various stalls were well patronised, and the proceedings went with a swing throughout the evening. His Lordship Dr. Brödicke, in declaring the fete formally opened, said that he thought it was a duty on his part to be with them on such an occasion, for he knew well the difficulties usually associated with parishes such as theirs. They all knew the good cause to which the proceed would be contributed. Land had been acquired for a new presbytery, and then there was also the cost of building the presbytery. Papanui people had the reputation of being as willing to help others as they were to help themselves; and that was something to be proud of. He wished the function every success. The Hon. D. Buddo, M.P., also spoke a few words complimenting the promoters on their venture. The following were the stallholders:—Chocolate throw: Messrs. P. Smith and C. J. Burke. Flower and pot-plant stall: Mr. A. Moran. Variety stall: Mrs. A. Moran. Fancy stall: Mesdames A. Aitken, J. Neville

Irish Industries Room 23, Fletcher's Buildings, 4 Willis St. Irish Men and Women, give Xmas and New Year Gifts of Irish manufacture to your friends—Poplin ties (all shapes and shades) Irish Xmas Gifts Balbriggan socks and stockings, Handkerchiefs, for all linens (colored and white); lace flounces for brides, etc., etc. **Wellington**