

turn laid upon the saint, and his heart rejoiced as monastery after monastery returned to its first fervor. But opposition from within still stormed around him, and it reached the climax when he silenced two of his subjects as famous for their preaching as they were indifferent in their way of living. These at once used their great influence to depose the saint, and so successful were they that he was removed to a distant monastery in the Sierra Moreno mountains. Crushed by bodily ills and this lengthy persecution, his life became endangered and change of scene was prescribed. Given the choice of two houses, one governed by a lover of the Reform, the other by one of the religious whom he had silenced, he chose to live with the latter that he might have a greater share in the Cross he loved so well. The helpless old man had many trials to put up, but he never complained, rather he rejoiced "that he was accounted worthy to suffer reproach for the name of Jesus."

Holy Death.

However, the time of his trials and sufferings was about to end; on December 14, 1591, he departed from this world. The numberless miracles, afterwards obtained through his intercession, covered with confusion his persecutors or rather broke for them the bonds of sin, as they immediately yielded to those reforms they had so long refused. John's triumph was complete; his vengeance God-like. In 1726 the Church, by the mouth of Benedict XIII, declared him a saint, powerful with the Most High, and able and willing to obtain for us the graces we need.

From the mere recital of the happenings in this saint's life we clearly see the appropriateness of the title "John of the Cross." Constantly struggling against persecution, treachery, the falling away of friends, the mockery of the indifferent, one could imagine that it was of him Jesus said, "I will show him how great things he must suffer for My Name's sake" (Acts ix, 16). But if with loving scrutiny we look into his interior life we shall see that no other name could more justly be given him, for truly "through many tribulations he entered into the kingdom of God."

No instant of his life seems to have been free from violent temptations by which the devil sought to cripple this champion of the Lord. Day and night he was tormented also by scruples to such an extent that once he was about to flee as one unworthy to the absolute retirement of a Carthusian monastery. But to one who sought only Christ and Him Crucified such troubles from without did not satisfy his craving for the Cross. With constant fasting, mortification, and the daily use of instruments of penance, he ran on with great strides in the footsteps of Jesus, and his soul was ever united with the Sacred Heart by constant prayer.

St. Theresa said of him that no purer soul was to be found in the Church Militant, that even before embracing the Reform he was a saint and that God had communicated to him treasures of Divine light. Like that of his Master his life was folly in the eyes of the world; but to those who have tasted the sweets of suffering for Jesus, of accepting every trial as a gift from His hands, of eagerly seeking bodily and mental tortures

in order the more closely to resemble Him, St. John of the Cross, seated on his throne in heaven, is an encouragement to us all in time of distress and sorrow, as he is a powerful intercessor for the strength to persevere. And as for three centuries he has promptly succored all who pray to him, so he will not now fail to obtain comfort for us, the poor of the flock. Wander where we will the Cross awaits us, to condemn us if we are "shirkers"; if we accept it then to raise us aloft in glory.—*Canadian Messenger*.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(Continued from page 29)

The death occurred on Tuesday morning of Mr. J. Horton, who held the position of verger at the Cathedral for the past 18 years. A model of fidelity and punctuality in the discharge of his many duties, he was always courteous towards those with whom he came in contact. The funeral took place at the Bromley cemetery on Thursday. Requiem Mass for the repose of his soul was celebrated at the Cathedral on Thursday, and his Lordship the Bishop gave the absolution. The deceased has a daughter, a Sister of Mercy, in a convent in New South Wales.—R.I.P.



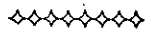
Addington

(From our own Correspondent.)

January 17.

The Children of Mary held their annual picnic on the 2nd inst. They journeyed across the harbor and spent a very pleasant time at Diamond Harbor.

The members of the Sacred Heart Choir recently entertained Miss Dolly Quinn (one of their most popular members) at a "Kitchen Evening" on the occasion of her approaching marriage. A very pleasant time was spent in competitions and dancing. Recitations and songs were contributed by the following:—Misses D. Quinn, G. O'Sullivan, and L. Wildermoth, Messrs. J. Lockhart, E. O'Sullivan, O'Malley, and W. Talbot. On behalf of the choir members, Mr. A. Marshall extended to the guest of the evening the congratulations and sincere good wishes of all, and asked Miss Quinn to accept the parcels, which were many and varied. In a happy little speech Miss Quinn thanked the members and their friends for the many gifts and also their kind wishes. The singing of "Auld Lang Syne" brought to a close a very happy evening.



Waimate

(From our own Correspondent.)

January 19.

With the holidays at an end, everyone appears to have settled down to the ordinary routine of business. The farmers are now very busy harvesting, and with the long sunny days, conditions are just about ideal.

Our worthy pastor (Rev. Father Peoples) has gone on a trip north to enjoy a well-earned rest. Father Knight, too, left by Monday's express for the north for a short rest.

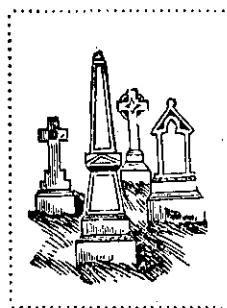
Looking back over the past year with its large amount of work and worry—the building of a new school, a fortnight's mission,

not to mention the large amount of ordinary duties of an extensive parish—the local clergy have experienced a strenuous and trying year, and they deserve a good deal more than the few days of holiday they are taking. Even so, all wish them the best of enjoyment in favorable weather conditions.

The half-yearly meeting of St. Patrick's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society was held in St. Patrick's Hall on Monday evening, and was attended by a fair number of members. After an amount of ordinary business was disposed of, the office-bearers for the ensuing term were installed by Bro. F. Landon, P.P.

The news of the death of Mr. Maurice Ferriter, who passed away at his residence, Holmes Street, Waimate, on Sunday, the 11th inst., was received with deep regret not alone by the Catholic community but by the public of Waimate generally. The late Mr. Ferriter was born at Dingle, Co. Kerry, Ireland, some 69 years ago, and migrated to New Zealand at an early age. He was one of those sturdy Irish Catholic pioneers who laid such a fine foundation for Catholicity in this country. The deceased was of a happy and cheerful nature, and always ready to lend a helping hand whenever and wherever needed. During his short but painful illness he showed wonderful patience, and was never heard to complain. He was attended by Rev. Father Peoples and Knight, and died fortified by all the rites of Holy Church. Requiem Mass for the repose of his soul was celebrated at St. Patrick's Church on Tuesday, the 13th inst., and the funeral, which took place immediately afterwards, was one of the largest seen in the district, thus testifying to the esteem in which the deceased was held. Rev. Father Peoples officiated at the graveside. The happy face and cheery voice of Mr. Ferriter will be sadly missed by a wide circle of friends, who extend their sincere sympathy to the sorrowing wife and family.—R.I.P.

All work guaranteed and neatly executed.
Estimates given. Lowest Prices.



W. J. HARDING & CO
MONUMENTAL MASONS AND

SCULPTORS

YARD, PARK AVENUE (near Cemetery),

TIMARU

Phone 895M

TRY ... Dom. McCarthy 349 KEYBER PASS ROAD,
FOR HIGH-CLASS TAILORING.

NEWMARKET,
Telephone No. 786. Auckland