

## CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own Correspondent.)

## HARVEST RESULT.

In the Ellesmere and surrounding districts a large number of threshing machines are now at work. But, as many crops which promised well before the recent north-westers set in, have been badly shaken, and a good deal of the wheat that remains is considerably shrivelled, the result of the threshing is often very unsatisfactory. The stubble, owing to the dry weather, is scarcely worth feeding off, and farmers are ploughing it in as quickly as possible.

## SIR WESTBY PERCEVAL.

It is said, says a local newspaper, that Sir Westby Perceval has been offered high office in the Colonial Government. At present he had decided nothing. But he may be debating to re-enter public life in New Zealand, or to go in for a seat in the Imperial Parliament. Either the Liberals or Tories would jump at him, and he has got just the debating style that the House of Commons likes. On the other hand, the Prime Minister's berth probably awaits him in the Colony. For the Mr Perceval who left New Zealand some years ago, and the Sir Westby Perceval who will return are two very different individuals. The Assembly will recognise his weight at once.

## THE WAR SHIPS.

The flag-ship Orlando, with Rear-Admiral C. A. G. Bridge, the Wallaroo, and the Bingarooma, arrived in Port Lyttelton on Thursday morning last. The Katoomba, who arrived earlier during the week, is another of the seven fast cruisers of the Australian auxiliary squadron. The Orlando came up the harbour first, and as she passed Officer's Point she was greeted by the Katoomba, moored near the dock, with a salute of fifteen guns. The flag-ship replied with five guns. As soon as the three vessels were moored, a party, consisting of Mr J. Joyce, M.H.R., chairman of the Lyttelton Harbour Board, also other members of the board; and Mr J. Stinson, the Mayor of Lyttelton, and members of the Lyttelton borough council, paid a

included letters of condolence at the loss sustained by the society through the death of the late Brother W. O'Shaughnessy, also a letter from Brother Beeham (Auckland) re suggestion of an art-union was read and dealt with. The president reported that everything in connection with the proposed banquet was in a forward state. A candidate for membership was proposed, and when the ordinary routine business had been attended to the branch adjourned.

## THE BISHOP.

The Right Rev Dr Grimes, accompanied by the Rev Father C. M. Browne, arrived on Ash Wednesday in Abaura, on the West Coast, and on the following day proceeded at once with the episcopal visitation. The Rev Father Browne preached also a short mission, and the church was crowded to excess each evening by persons who came to listen to the instructions and frequent the Sacraments. On the following Monday the Bishop and Father Browne set out for Nelson's Creek, and on Sunday last they were at Totara Flat. At both the places the visitation and a mission took place. The Rev Father Browne, who comes from America, and therefore must have witnessed much of the magnificent scenery of other lands, was quite delighted with the natural glories of the West Coast. On his way to the Coast he had to pass through the vertebra of New Zealand, and he considers the scenery, which frequently met his vision to be unacquailed.

## PAROCHIAL.

On Tuesday next the clergy of the Christchurch deanery will meet at the Catholic Presbytery at Darfield for the quarterly ecclesiastical conference.

Mass was said at St Mary's, to which parish the deceased belonged, also at the Pro-cathedral on Sunday last for the repose of the soul of the late Mr J. Murray, licensee of the New Brighton Hotel, and one of the three persons, who lost their lives by the fatal boating accident at Sumner on Friday evening last. For the same intention Mass was said at St Mary's on Monday morning last, and on the afternoon of the same day the remains of Mr Murray were interred in the Linwood public cemetery. Mr Murray was about thirty-two years of age.—R.I.P.

## OUR WORD FOR IT.

The tide is setting strongly in the direction of a Prosperous Season. Yet, some will complain. There is no use in complaining. If we were to sell people common Boots and charge a big price for them they would not return. We sell Boots that fit well, look well, and wear a reasonable time, and customers are anchored thereby. They are "ours," so to speak. They come a second and a third time, and steadily on. Our profits are squeezed down to the lowest point, so don't fear on that score.

## CITY BOOT PALACE,

GEORGE AND ST. ANDREW STREETS.

J. M'KAY, Proprietor.

visit to the Admiral, who, in the course of his remarks, in reply to an address which was read to him, said:—"The welcome and pleasing address with which he had been presented, alluded to the navy, and he might say that at the present time the navy was in a most efficient state. Although, in his opinion the navy was not able to protect the whole of England's vast dominions, he was confident that no power, or combination of powers, would be able to tear a portion of this or any other colony away from Great Britain. While saying this he reminded them that the navy would probably never be able to do more than at present. There were gaps in the line of defence, and these gaps the various local authorities would have to bear a hand in effectually filling up. He understood that the defences of New Zealand were at present receiving attention. This was one step towards filling up the gaps he had mentioned." Needless to say, the advent of the war ships has excited much interest in naval and military matters, and during the sojourn of the vessels the Port has been greatly thronged with visitors.

## ST PATRICK'S DAY.

The St Patrick's Day celebration committee of the H.A.C.B.S. met in the Hibernian Hall on Tuesday evening last. There was a large attendance, and the president, Brother P. Burke, occupied the chair. The Very Rev Father Cummings and a number of ladies were also present. Tickets for the banquet were distributed, and members and their friends are expected to do their best to make the celebration a thorough success. The catering was arranged for, and a sub-committee was appointed to prepare a toast list and a musical programme. The sub-committee subsequently met, and instructed the secretary to write to several of the clergy and to other gentlemen inviting them to respond to the various toasts. A number of ladies have promised the movement a large amount of support. It is therefore anticipated that the local celebration of St Patrick's Day will be a red letter day in Christchurch. The President presided on Monday evening week at an ordinary meeting of the branch which was held in the same place. Sick pay to the amount of £4 10s was voted; and there was a voluminous amount of correspondence, which

The Rev Father Cahill, of Wilcannia, New South Wales, is at present the guest of the Very Rev Father Cummings. The Rev Father Cahill called at the presbytery at the Pro-cathedral on his way home via Dunedin and Hobart.

A very successful meeting, which was attended by about fifteen gentlemen and about seventy ladies, took place on Sunday afternoon last in the Convent of our Lady of Missions, in Barbadoes street. The Very Rev Father Cummings occupied the chair, and the object of the meeting was to devise some means of aiding the Sisters to advance the noble work wherein they are engaged. Mr E. O'Connor, J.P., was appointed secretary, and Mrs Bryant, vice-secretary, and it was arranged that in the month of October or November next a bazar or art-union should take place. A strong committee of ladies and gentlemen was formed to carry out this praiseworthy work. Moreover, a very excellent executive committee was elected by the general committee. If actual measures were taken towards issuing immediately books of art-union tickets, and the committee firmly trust, now that the movement has begun, that it will end very successfully, and thus enable the good Sisters, who for over thirty years have been labouring in educating the female youth of the Colony and in extending their useful spiritual and material aid to the sick and destitute of the diocese, to proceed with the work which they have so long and so well advanced. The committee also trust that the young ladies, and they are very numerous, who have had the great advantage to be trained by the Sisters, will not forget their kind instructors, but assist them by taking an active part in the present movement. The very rev chairman spoke at some length of the great obligations of the Catholic people of the parish towards the Sisters of the mission. Mr W. P. Kelly spoke strongly in favour of the movement, and judging from the assistance promised, and from the general tenor of the gathering, the committee have reason to expect fully that their efforts will be crowned with a thorough success. When a cordial vote of thanks had been accorded to the Very Rev Chairman for presiding on the occasion the meeting adjourned until Sunday afternoon next.

After High Mass, which was celebrated by Father Galerne, at the pro-cathedral on Sunday last there was exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, and a solemn procession of the same in the evening around the interior of the sacred edifice. The Very Rev Father Cummings preached on the occasion a very impressive and instructive sermon on the words: "It is good for us to be here," which occur in the Gospel for that Sunday.