

known her for many years, and contributed by his advice in developing those natural talents with which she was endowed. It is needless to observe that the Rev. Father's claim was disputed by some of the guests, who championed the work of the Sisters, and he eventually found himself in a minority. Mr. Ellis, in responding to a toast, expressed his pleasure at being present at the ceremony, the beauty of which had made a deep impression on his mind, and he fervently joined with the bride's companions in praying that every blessing might attend the newly-married couple in their course through life. Mr. and Mrs. Price left in the afternoon for New Plymouth where the honeymoon is to be spent, their departure being accompanied by the good wishes of the convent pupils, as well as showers of rice, and even one onlooker averred that he saw a couple of dissipated-looking old shoes cleave the air as the carriage rolled away. It is only right to mention that the bride was assisted in her preparations for the ceremony by many of her former schoolmates, and that prominent among these was Miss Marion De Vere O'Connor, who took a very active part in forwarding the arrangements. The wedding presents were numerous. The bridegroom's present to the bride was a crescent brooch with swallow set in pearls. The presents to the bride from her friends included a silver-mounted oak tray, China tea set, set fish knives and forks, handsome photo frames, set silver serviette rings, jam dish, butter dish, bracket, Doulton vase, salt cellars, table centre, etc. Among those who made presents were the convent boarders, Miss O'Connor, Miss Smith, Miss Grace, the bride's sister, Miss Neville, Miss Worthington, Miss Sullivan, Messrs. Hutcheson, O'Meara and Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Macarthy.

The Very Rev. Father Dawson left for Auckland last week *en route* for the Hot Springs at Rotorua, where he intends to spend some time for the benefit of his health.

The news of the wreck of the Tasmania came as a shock to the community on Friday morning, and much sympathy was expressed not alone for the passengers, but also for the genial captain, who had made himself a general favourite with the travelling public. At first a good deal of uncertainty prevailed as to the safety of the passengers and crew, but as messages came in from various places it became known that the whole of the former and some of the latter had got safely to land. To-day, however, the news has arrived that ten of the crew had perished. Among the passengers were Master O'Malley of St. Patrick's College and his sister, Miss O'Malley, son and daughter of Mr. J. O'Malley of the Bealey, Canterbury. It will be remembered that I mentioned some time ago that Master O'Malley was very ill with fever at St. Patrick's College, and that his relatives came up from the South to see him. As soon as he got sufficiently recovered to be able to travel he went to Auckland accompanied by his sisters, and I believe went as far as the Hot Springs. He was on his return to Wellington by the Tasmania when she struck. Considerable anxiety for the safety of both was felt by the College authorities when they heard of the disaster, but all uneasiness was set at rest on Friday afternoon by a telegram to Rev. Father O'Sullivan from Master O'Malley saying that he and his sister were safe.

I regret to have to record the death, during the week, of Mr. John McNamara, one of the oldest attendants at the Parliamentary Buildings, at the venerable age of eighty-five. The deceased was a native of Cork, and when only nineteen years of age enlisted as a bandsman in the 6th Regiment. This was in 1841, so that he had the honour of serving in the British army long before the Queen came to the throne. After seeing a good deal of service in various parts of the world he arrived in Auckland in 1847 with his regiment, and after being stationed there for a short time he came on to Wellington, where he went through a good deal of hardship incidental to the early colonisation of this Colony. After having served nearly twenty-five years in the army he obtained his discharge, and settled down in the Empire City. He had been for more than twenty years messenger in the Parliamentary Buildings, and had earned the esteem of all with whom he had to do, by the faithful manner in which he discharged his duties. He leaves a widow, two sons, and several grandchildren to mourn their loss. The funeral took place on Thursday morning, and was attended by Mr. George Fisher, M.H.R., and by a large number of parliamentary officers. Mass was said at St. Mary's Cathedral, the Rev. Father Gallagher being celebrant, who also conducted the service at the graveside. The Rev. Fathers Power and O'Meara were also present. A large number of wreaths were sent by friends of the deceased as a memento of the respect in which they held his memory.

The whole of the windows in the church of St. Mary of the Angels are now of stained glass, so that the sacred edifice looks extremely pretty both from the interior as well as from an exterior point of view. These windows, fourteen in all, have been presented by kind donors at a cost of about £150, which speaks well for the generosity of the parishioners. The Very Rev. Father Devoy, V.G., having so far directed his attention to the beautifying and enlargement of St. Mary's, is now about to make a number of improvements in St. Joseph's Church. The pipes for the new organ to be erected there arrived by the Gothic a few days ago, so that it is expected the instrument will be ready for the opening ceremony about the beginning of September. It will be necessary, however, to raise the roof of the church immediately over the organ, and I understand that a contract for this work is already let. At a largely attended meeting of the women's branch of the Sacred Heart Society on Friday night the Vicar-General spoke on the necessity of replacing the plain windows in St. Joseph's Church by stained glass ones, and hoped that the congregation would be as generous as those who attended St. Mary of the Angels. I understand that already two very fine memorial windows have been ordered from Messrs. Atkinson of New Castle-on-Tyne by a generous benefactor, and three more have been promised, so that in the near future the Vicar-General hopes to have stained glass windows substituted for the windows already in use.

ANNUAL GATHERING OF THE OTAGO GAELIC ASSOCIATION.

THE annual gathering of the Gaelic Association took place in the Garrison Hall on Friday evening, 30th ult., and was marked by great enthusiasm. The Hon. John McKenzie, Chief, presided and a representative and influential assemblage of friends and citizens crowded the platform, including the Hons. J. G. Ward and J. McGregor, the Mayor of Dunedin (Mr. Gourley), the Very Rev. Father O'Neill (Milton), Rev. Father Murphy, Mr. J. F. M. Fraser, the officials of the Society, and deputations from kindred societies. The body of the hall and gallery were well filled with an orderly and appreciative audience.

The opening speech of the Chief was a vigorous piece of rhetoric in which the advantage of such associations was dwelt on together with a short *resumé* of the benefits conferred on the British Empire by the Celtic race, formed of the Highlanders, the Irish and Welsh.

The Hon. J. G. Ward, who on rising was accorded a most hearty reception, expressed his pleasure at seeing the Chief in such good form, and acknowledged himself under many obligations to the McKenzies, who, he said, were bound to win.

The Chief then called on his friend, Father O'Neill, whom, he said, he had specially invited to the gathering and who on a former occasion had enlivened their meeting by his presence and his words.

Father O'Neill's appearance was the signal for a real Celtic welcome. He expressed his acknowledgments for the kindly manner in which the chairman had introduced him, the first effect of which was to give him a nervous twitch, from which he only recovered on seeing the smiling and encouraging faces beaming all round him. It gave him great pleasure to be there with them that evening, for such meetings tended to draw closer the bonds that united the sea-divided Gael. They were all descended of the same stock and whether they hailed from the Emerald Isle or the Highlands of Scotland a tie existed between them that was cemented by a common language and habits and traditions that were common to both peoples. He had always since his school-boy days felt a leaning towards the picturesque Highland costume and this feeling was intensified when he learnt that among the various disguises adopted by the outlawed pastors of his native land in the dark and evil days when the iron heel of oppression crushed heavily upon our forefathers, the Highland piper's dress held a prominent place. The venerable man who adopted this method of eluding the vigilance of his enemies whilst he gave the consolations of religion to his scattered flock, was an expert player on the pipes and though a heavy price was placed upon his head and the blood-hounds were often set upon his track he succeeded in outwitting all their efforts to discover him. Little did they know that the piper who often played right in the midst of them and for a while charmed away their wrath was the object of all their fruitless raids and vain curses. Among the many memorials of those evil days, now gone for ever, thank God, that have come down to us, there is not one more interesting than the portrait in oils which hangs upon the walls of the episcopal residence in Cavan, representing the glorious confessor in all the grandeur of his kilt and tartan, with his pipes slung over his shoulder. The rev. speaker made mention of the fact that Gaelic societies were spreading. Ireland was making great strides in the direction of reviving the knowledge of her ancient language. And in New Zealand, though a good deal more might be done by those who had an intimate acquaintance with that language that "melts into music," that language which was ancient and honoured before English came into existence, through the boiling over of the philological cauldron in which all the lingual ingredients of Europe had been mingled, yet he could testify that the language was not entirely neglected in our adopted country. He was glad to be able to inform the meeting that in addition to other societies similar to this already in existence, a movement was on foot in Tokomairiro to form a Gaelic Society on the lines of this one, which would take in the various branches of the Celtic race represented in the district. He had been urged to take an active part in the matter by a good natured Ionian on the ground that he was a Highlander who happened to get born outside his native land (laughter). Father O'Neill summed up the prominent features of the Celtic character by saying it was remarkable for tenacity, with a fair share of vivacity, all admitted its sagacity and it proved its own capacity; it was tinged with some loquacity, and had the deuce's own audacity (laughter and applause).

A varied entertainment followed, in which Highland reels by young people in costume, inter-perced with a few Gaelic songs and solos from Miss K. Blaney, Mr. Jago, and several others formed a conspicuous part.

On the motion of Father O'Neill a ringing vote of thanks was accorded to the grand old chief, New Zealand's present uncrowned king.

We have pleasure in drawing the attention of our readers to the advertisement of the Royal Insurance Company on the cover of this number. As a result of years of fair and generous dealing with insurers, the Royal now holds the proud position of the leading fire office in the world. Their income of over two millions sterling from fire premiums alone is the "record" in this line, no other company having approached such figures.

Mr. Gawne, of Dan-dun (says the *Southland Times* of April 13 1891), has just been on a visit to Invercargill to push business a little. Not that it wants much canvassing, for since he commenced the manufacture of his Worcester-shire Sauce, the demand has kept pace with his capacity to supply it. He makes a really good thing indistinguishable from the famous Lea and Perrin's, which he places upon one's table at a much lower price, and trusts to that to secure a steadily growing trade. Those who have not yet tried the good article should put their prejudice aside for a time and test the question with a bottle or two.—ADV.

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