

ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATIONS AT LAWRENCE.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR PRESENT.

(From our Special Reporter.)

The St. Patrick's Day Sports Society at Lawrence had the full benefit of all the added *clat* that glorious weather and the presence of the Governor could give to the day's proceedings. On account of the visit of his Excellency to Lawrence the celebrations proper to the "17th of Ould Ireland" took place on Tuesday, the 15th. On his arrival in the town in the morning his Excellency was met by the Mayor and councillors. An address of welcome was read to him by the Mayor, Mr. J. J. Browne. After the reply, various leading citizens were presented to Lord Ranfurly. A copy of Mr. J. J. Woods's "New Zealand National Anthem" was personally presented to him by the composer. His Excellency stayed at Johnson's Hotel. At 1 o'clock he was entertained at luncheon at Montgomery's Hotel by the Mayor and councillors, several of the leading citizens, including the Very Rev. Father O'Leary, being present by special invitation. The sports programme was varied and interesting, and, considering the state of the harvest, was very well attended. At 2 o'clock Lord Ranfurly, accompanied by Captain Alexander, his Worship the Mayor, and several councillors, visited the grounds, and was received with cheers by the crowd of onlookers. The sports programme was in thoroughly capable hands, the secretary being Mr. J. Kelleher; judges, Messrs J. T. Nichols, B. Hart, J. Donlan, J. Roughan, T. Devine, J. Tyson; handicappers, Messrs H. Hart and J. McKinley; starter, Mr. A. M. Eyles. The programme was kept going with a good swing, and most of the events were marked by that sharp competition which keeps the public wide awake and on the *qui vive*. Appended are the results:—

Maiden Race: F. Harley, 1; C. Humphreys, 2. One Mile Bicycle: George Cox, 1; E. Tamblin, 2. Boys' Race: S. Robertson, 1; C. Moyle, 2; G. Fair, 3. Putting Stone: S. Thornley, 1; E. Curtin, 2. 120yds. Foot-race Handicap: J. Davis, 1; A. McKay, 2. Cumberland Wrestling (10st.): J. Bryant, 1; W. McKay. Boys' Race (12 years and under): G. Williams, 1; S. Robinson, 2; A. Ryan, 3. Two Mile Bicycle: George Cox, 1; J. T. McDonald, 2. High Jump: A. C. Buckland, 1; S. Thornley, 2. 220yds. Handicap: C. Humphreys, 1; J. C. Gordon, 2. Cumberland Wrestling (all comers): S. Thornley, 1; T. Ryan, 2. Half-Mile Handicap: J. Hop, Step, and Jump: J. Davis, 1; H. Sullivan, 2. Boot Race: T. Sing Lee, 1; A. McKay, 2. Boys' Race (15 years): W. Blackwood, 1; E. Thomson, 2. 300yds. Foot-race: W. Clarke, 1; J. Davis, 2. Three Mile Bicycle: J. McDonald, 1; E. Tamblin, 2. Farewell Race (100yds): A. McKay, 1; T. Sing Lee, 2. Five Mile Trot: C. Mullin's Erin, 1; R. Brown's Rosella, 2.

THE CONCERT.

There was a bumper house at the concert—the biggest, it is said, that was ever got together at Lawrence. Lord Ranfurly attended, accompanied by the Mayor and Mayoress. His Excellency watched the entire programme with evident interest, and at its close gave expression to the pleasure which the concert had afforded him. The bill of fare was lengthy, varied, and excellent, but, thanks to the excellent stage management of the ubiquitous and much-talented Mr. J. J. Woods, everything went through without hitch or delay. Of the twelve talented artists who held the boards, eight belonged to Lawrence and two to Waipori—everyone of them deservedly welcome favourites with the people of Lawrence. They were aided by the delightful singing of Miss Morrison, and the highly cultivated voice of Mrs. W. Manson, both of Dunedin. A detailed *critique* of the various items would bring us far beyond the limits of our further available space, but the following will give an idea of the high class of entertainment provided by the energetic St. Patrick's Day Committee of Lawrence:—

The overtures were "Songs of Ireland Landers" (Mrs. and Mr. J. J. Woods), and "Il Polletto" (Misses W. Woods and M. King). The vocal selections were opened by Mr. A. Campbell with "Let me like a soldier fall." Miss Morrison sang "The Kerry Dance," and Gounod's "Serenade" (with violin *obbligato* by Mr. J. J. Woods), and in response to encores, "An Irish girl's opinion" and "Ben Bolt." Mrs. Manson's songs were "Asthore" and "The last rose of summer"; for encores she sang "The gap in the hedge at Kilmare" and "Love was once a little boy." The vocal solos contributed by Mr. J. J. Woods were "I trust you still," "Many happy returns of the day," and a bit of drollery entitled "The baby on the shore." For encore he rendered Duval's great song, "That's just where you make the mistake." Miss Leech (Lawrence) sang "The dear little shamrock"; Mrs. King "Dublin Bay"; and Mr. G. Neill (Lawrence) "The yeoman's wedding," and for encore, "Major O'Maherty," "Father O'Flynn" and "Good-bye, Mavourneen" were rendered respectively by Mr. Bray and Mr. J. M'Dowall, both from Waipori. In response to an encore, Mr. Bray sang "Simon the cellarer." Four duets greatly enhanced the attractiveness of the programme. They were "The two cousins" (Miss Morrison and Mrs. King); "The happy policeman" (Mrs. King and Mr. J. J. Woods—encored); "Friendship" (Miss and Mr. Woods); "Love and War" (Mr. M'Dowall and Mr. Bray—encored). A violin solo, "Oft in the still night," was finely rendered by Miss Mary Woods. The onerous duties of accompanist were undertaken by Mrs. Woods, with the occasional aid of Miss Morrison and Miss C. Woods.

Towards the close of the programme the Very Rev. Father O'Leary moved a vote of thanks to his Excellency the Governor for his attendance at the sports and concert. In doing so Father O'Leary paid a delicate compliment to Lord Ranfurly's nationality and popularity which elicited a storm of applause. He likewise paid a well-deserved tribute to all the artists who had assisted in the programme, and referred in terms of high and merited compliment to the splendid talent from the district which had appeared on the stage that evening. A short and pithy reply from Mr.

Woods was followed by the singing of the National Anthem as a solo (Mr Woods) and chorus (the whole company). And thus an exceedingly pleasant and varied entertainment was brought to a close.

OBITUARY.

We have received from an occasional correspondent a report of the death of one of the most respected licensed victuallers of Auckland, Mr. Michael Dervan, of the Freeman's Hotel. Deceased was highly connected, being son of Mr. Dervan, of Duniry House, Loughrea, Ireland. Mr. Michael Dervan reached Melbourne in 1860, crossed to the Thames in 1868, and engaged successfully both in mining and hotel-keeping. Deceased was the first treasurer of the local H.A.C.B.S. The funeral was largely attended—over 40 carriages being in the *cortège*. Father Croke performed the solemn ceremonies at the Cathedral. Monsignor McDonald was likewise present at the graveside, together with the Mayor, the three sons of deceased, Messrs. Goldwater, P. Ryan, A. Dervan, P. Dignam, A. Crowther, M.H.R., Stone, Hackett, Inspector Hickson, members of the H.A.C.B.S., and a large circle of sorrowing friends.—*R.I.P.*

With extreme regret we announce the death of Mr. Patrick Tangney of Charleston, Nelson. Some six weeks ago the deceased gentleman sustained severe burns, and despite unremitting medical attention he succumbed to the injuries. Mr. Langney was widely known and generally esteemed for his genial, unassuming qualities of manner. He was 65 years of age. The funeral service was read at the grave by the Rev. Father Walsh, and large numbers assembled to pay a last tribute of respect to the dead.—*R.I.P.*

LATE COMMERCIAL.

BURNSIDE STOCK REPORT.

(SPECIAL TO N.Z. TABLET.)

(Per favour Messrs. Stronach Bros. and Morris.)

Wednesday, March 16, 5 p.m.

A very heavy day was experienced at the Burnside weekly sales. There was a large attendance of buyers and brisk sales were effected, but owing to the number of entries the day's proceedings were unusually prolonged.

SHEEP—There was a large entry of sheep—namely, 4217, but as butchers required two week's supply, last week's prices were maintained. Best crossbred wethers brought up to 12s 1d; do, do, ewes up to 9s 3d.

WETHERS—Medium, 9s to 10s 6d; inferior do, 8s to 9s 9d.

EWES—Medium, 7s 6d to 8s 9d; inferior, 5s 6d to 6s 9d.

LAMBS—1852 penned. Competition for best quality fairly good; others neglected. Best sold up to 10s 3d; medium, 6s 6d to 8s 9d; inferior, 1s 9d to 6s 3d.

PIGS—177 penned. Last week's rates prevailed.

CATTLE—Prices ruled at about 10s per head in advance of last week's quotations.

The keen bitter blasts characteristic of winter in this portion of New Zealand are now within "cooee," if the expression may be used, but the prospect may be received with perfect equanimity if one would only take the precaution of visiting the shop of Messrs. Brown, Ewing and Co., in Princes street. The firm have lately imported a stock of really splendid Irish tweeds. Now, Irish tweeds possess a world-wide reputation. As the linen which is made in the Emerald Isle is unexcelled throughout the world, so also does the tweed of Ireland take a premier place *par excellence* amongst all manufactured goods. We were afforded an opportunity of examining Messrs. Brown, Ewing and Co.'s stock, and speaking with some authority on the subject, we can say that it embraces some typical examples of the very best products of the Irish tweed industry. Great coats for inclement weather represent a special feature of the stock, and anyone who contemplates replenishing his wardrobe in this direction cannot do better than visit Messrs. Brown, Ewing and Co.'s shop.—*ADVT.*

New Haven and Sterling cycles have now firmly established themselves into favour with cyclists throughout the world and their superiority has been proved again and again under varying circumstances. If anyone contemplates investing in a machine or if a cyclist is thinking about presenting himself with a new mount just to celebrate the jubilee of the province or for any other equally adequate reason he should certainly call at Morrow, Basset and Co. and inspect these first-class machines. There is nothing in the world that one can so easily be deceived with as a cycle, and to the uninitiated we repeat the advice the firm offers in their advertisement, which appears in another column in this issue—"Don't be duped with cycle talk that oozes through a hat."—*[ADVT.]*

The attention of farmers and others is directed to the advertisement of Messrs. Donald Reid and Co. In view of the approaching grain season they announce that they have special facilities for storage, and they hold weekly auction and produce sales.—*[ADVT.]*

The Australian General Catholic Depot (Messrs. Louis Gille and Co., Sydney) are advertising a list of new Catholic books, and as the long winter nights are now at hand and good literature helps to while away the dreary hours, our readers have here an opportunity to replenish their libraries.—*[ADVT.]*

A time of festivity such as is now approaching engenders kindly and generous sentiments in all directions. In another column Messrs. Landlaw and Gray, the well-known ironmongers, announce that they are giving to every purchaser a present equal to 10 per cent. on every purchase from 10s upwards.—*ADVT.*

LANGDOWN & STEEL
Family Butchers.

178 and 180 Colombo Street Christchurch.—Hams, Bacon, Beef Sausages, German Sausage
Brown, White Puddings, Pressed Beef, Corned Beef, Corned Pork, Ox Tongues, and a good supply
of Small Goods. Orders solicited daily and delivered punctually. Ring up Telephone 389.