

noted, the excellent programme of music which will be presented on the occasion should of itself be sufficient to attract a bumper house. The programme appears in another column in this issue and it will be seen that it includes the names of such favourite artistes as Miss K. Moloney, Miss Rose Blaney, Miss Lucy Connor, Miss Mary Morrison, Miss Kitty Blaney, Misses S. and N. Hall, Mr. James Jago, Mr. E. Eager, Mr. J. Woods, Mr. P. Carolin, Mr. R. Needham, Mr. J. Deaker, while some 50 of the Christian Brothers pupils will also take part in the performance.

THE re-opening of St. Patrick's Basilica, South Dunedin, will take place on Sunday week, June 26th. The ceremony will take place at 11 o'clock, when Pontifical High Mass will be celebrated by his Lordship the Bishop of Dunedin, assisted by the local clergy, and by others from a distance. The re-opening sermon will be preached by the popular parish priest of Lawrence, the Very Rev. Father O'Leary. St. Joseph's Cathedral choir will be present in full strength, and will render Mozart's Twelfth Mass, with a full orchestral accompaniment. Admission to the re-opening will be by ticket, which can be obtained from the clergy and church committee. Further particulars will be published in our next issue. In the next following issue we will publish interesting photographic views of the basilica.

WE have received the following subscriptions for the South Dunedin Orphanage:—The Rev. J. O'Donnell (Queenstown), £5; Mr. P. Corcoran, £1 1s; A Friend, £1 1s; Client of St. Anthony, 10s.

WE have received parcels of stamps for the Rev. Father Kreymborg's mission from the children of St. Patrick's School, Lawrence; Miss Moloney, Dunedin; Miss Mary O'Brien, Kokonga; Arthur J. Flaherty, jun., Dunganville; D. Leydon and R. B. Wilson, Dunedin; and also several parcels which were inadvertently forwarded before a note was taken of the names of the senders. Also a stamp album (filled) from Miss N. Quigley, Ashburton.

NEW ZEALAND: GENERAL.

THE Bishop of Christchurch is expected to arrive from Europe at an early date, and a movement is on foot to present him on his arrival with some tangible proof of the appreciation of his flock of his solicitude for their temporal and spiritual welfare. Along with the offering of each parish an address from the clergy and laity, and the names of the subscribers, will be presented to his Lordship. Further particulars will appear in a future issue.

WE have to acknowledge the receipt of a memorial of the '98 Celebration in the shape of the famous national song "Who fears to speak of '98," set to music by a noted Irish composer. The publication has already been referred to by our Wellington correspondent and it is got up in a very creditable style. On the title-page there is a picture of Theobald Wolfe Tone surrounded by allegorical figures. It is published by D. R. Lawlor of Wellington at the modest sum of 1s.

A HIGHLY successful and enjoyable entertainment took place at Panmure on the 24th ult. under the patronage of Mr. Macdonald. Adequate assistance was lent by Mrs. Fleming, Misses Mulkere, Andrews, Wilkinson, A. McDonald, Donovan, Dottie Loomb, Millie Malone, Roberts, Higgins, Messrs. McGinnis, Porter, A. Loomb, while six of the school children prepared by Miss Hogan went through a dramatic piece. The catering was in the hands of Mr. Johns.

INTERCOLONIAL.

WITH regard to Australian Federation, Sir Robert Stout, in a letter to the *Sydney Morning Herald*, states that many New Zealanders are profoundly interested in Federation, and have watched the fight with great anxiety. He does not question the sincerity or patriotism of the anti-federationists, but in thus striving for an ideal federation they have killed a possible Commonwealth. He goes on to suggest that, if some kind of union far short of federation might not soon be consummated between New Zealand and Australia, the establishment of a federal appellate court might be brought about, such court to meet once a year in New Zealand. Then there could be an opening left for a commercial treaty with New Zealand and for the Commonwealth that is to be. There are other ways by which New Zealand could be brought into closer touch with their brothers across the Tasman Sea; but he does not suggest them, as he wishes to see one or two steps taken at a time. He regrets that New Zealand was not represented at the last two Federal Conventions, and concludes:—"I have thrown out these suggestions in the hope that, now that federation must again be discussed, New Zealand will not be deemed a foreign country. Federated Australia must come, and who dare forbid the bans if far away New Zealand declares her readiness to become one of the great Australasian family?"

THE BISHOP OF AUCKLAND AT NORTH WAIROA.

HIS Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan, accompanied by the Very Rev. Fathers Dawson and O'Reilly, left Helensville on Thursday morning, 12th May, en route for Wairoa. When they arrived at Tikinui, the first wayside town at which the s.s. Wairoa calls, the Bishop's party was met by Mr. Anthony Martin, who welcomed them on behalf of the Catholics of Aratapu and adjacent districts. The steamer, continuing its journey, arrived at Aratapu a little after six. Aratapu (which is the headquarters of the Kauri Timber Co. on the Wairoa River) is one of the largest towns on the river, and the greater portion of the timber shipped from the district leaves this place. The Catholics, however, are not a very large proportion of the population, and at present the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is offered up in the Public Hall when opportunity offers. This will soon, however, be a thing of the past, as the Rev. Father Smiers, since his arrival in the parish, has left no stone unturned in order that the Catholics might have a church of their own, and has so far succeeded that close on £100 has been gathered or promised towards the erection of a chapel midway between Aratapu and Te Kopuru, a neighbouring village. After a short rest and refreshment, the party, which now included Father Smiers, the parish priest of the whole country from the East to the West Coast, and which extends as far north as the North Cape, were welcomed in the Aratapu Hall by a crowded assemblage. The majority of the inhabitants, of all denominations, were present, as a mark of respect to his Lordship. After an overture, played by Miss Campbell on the piano, and a few vocal items by several lady and gentlemen amateurs, his Lordship was presented with an address read by Mr. Martin, on behalf of the Catholics of Aratapu, in which a hearty welcome was extended to their Bishop. Heart-felt pleasure was expressed at his presence among them that evening, and his blessing and prayers were asked for on behalf of themselves and families. His Lordship replied in his usual happy and pleasant manner, the audience showing their appreciation by loud and long-continued applause. After spending the greater part of Friday in Aratapu, and visiting many of his flock, his Lordship and party proceeded to Dargaville in the gasoline launch Sunbeam. On arriving, they proceeded to the Northern Wairoa Hotel, which fine building is now under the control of Mr. P. Lynch, who made Dr. Lenihan and the accompanying priests heartily welcome, and entertained them right hospitably during their stay. At half-past seven the Bishop visited Mangawhare (a suburb of Dargaville), where St. Mary's Church is situated. There Mr. W. H. Fitzpatrick read an address and presented him with a purse of sovereigns on behalf of the Catholics of Dargaville and surrounding districts. The address, after recording the pleasure felt at Dr. Lenihan's presence that evening and hoping they would often be cheered by his presence among them on future occasions, then gave an account of the various improvements which had been effected by Father Smiers, within the short space of twelve months, in what had before been rather a careless, easy-going, Catholic community. His Lordship replied in a suitable manner, and after receiving his blessing the congregation dispersed.

Next day, Saturday, a visit was made to Opunake. Starting by the eight a.m. train Dr. Lenihan and party arrived about half-past nine o'clock. On arriving at Opunake station they were met by three native chiefs, and proceeded to the little missionary church, where the natives were drawn up in two lines, men on one side and women on the other. Here various speeches of welcome were delivered by the chiefs, and replied to by his Lordship. The Very Rev. Father O'Reilly and Father Smiers performed the duties of interpreters. After this an adjournment was made to the church, where the natives sang a hymn, after which Father Smiers said a decade of the Rosary; the Magnificat was then rendered by the Maoris, after which the Bishop gave them his blessing. To see the manner in which the Maoris of Opunake attend to their duties, and the great respect and reverence they have for their priests (the good missionaries of the Mill Hill Mission) is a real pleasure, and would be a regular object lesson to some of our "Liberal Catholics." After a short stroll to various places of interest his Lordship and party were entertained at the local hotel, being the guests of the Maoris, who were proud to be hosts to such distinguished *rangatiras*. After dinner the party started on the return home. On Saturday night confessions were heard in the chapel at Mangawhare; and next morning First Mass was celebrated by his Lordship at 7.30 a.m., second Mass at 8 a.m. by Rev. Father O'Reilly, Third Mass at 9 a.m. by Rev. Father Dawson. At 11 o'clock a *Missa Cantata* was celebrated by Rev. Father Smiers, when the ceremonies in connection with the visitation were performed, the Bishop, fully vested, being met in the porch and conducted to the altar. After the Gospel his Lordship delivered his visitation sermon. After the sermon the usual prayers for the deceased prelates, priests, and laity of the diocese having been offered Mass was continued by Father Smiers. The little church was crowded during Mass, while a large number were compelled to remain outside. The majority of the congregation were composed of persons of other denominations. At half-past six in the evening all the Austrians of the district waited on his Lordship at the hotel and made him a presentation, when the usual complimentary speeches were made. His Lordship, in the course of his reply, which was made through the medium of an interpreter, referred to Emperor Francis Joseph's great fidelity to the Holy See and in particular to his donation in aid of the Bishop's palace in Ponsonby. After the presentation from the Austrians, devotions and prayers at the chapel at Mangawhare followed, where a crowded congregation was addressed by Very Rev. Father Dawson, who took as his text the following verse from the Gospel of the day: John, xvi, 23-30. "Amen, amen I say to you, if you ask the Father anything in my name, He will give it you." After the sermon, which was listened to with marked attention, the Very Rev. Father O'Reilly gave Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

One of the features of the Otago Jubilee Industrial Exhibition was the excellent display made by Messrs. Powley and Keast, the well-known firm of bottlers of Messrs. Speight and Co.'s celebrated ales and stout, and we may mention that the gold medal awarded to Speight and Co. for general excellence of beers should have been for ales and stout bottled by Powley and Keast, no bulk ales or stout having been judged. * * *