

John's, Parnell, which has lately been lengthened and renovated. Both events have been looked forward to with great interest and the valuable assistance which will be rendered by the clergy of the city parishes will ensure successful re-openings. Last Sunday the Bishop paid a visit of inspection to Tukapuna Reformatory and grounds and minutely examined every detail of the vast estate and the arrangements of the house; and he expressed admiration of the results achieved.

A much-respected and valued parishioner of Thames parish, Mrs. Bruce, died suddenly at Devonport on Sunday morning last. She took an active part for years past in all church matters, and acted as Thames organist for a long time. Prior to her death she read the burial-service from her prayer-book, and then peacefully expired. Soon after the death the Bishop visited the house, and Rev. Father O'Reilly came specially to attend her funeral.—*R.I.P.*

At the last meeting of the Irish Federation League the following office-bearers were appointed for the ensuing twelve months:—President: the Hon. Mr. Tole; vice-presidents: Messrs John Callinay and John Campbell; treasurer: Rev. Father Croke; secretary: W. Sheahan; auditors: Messrs Nerheny and W. Pole.

The St. Patrick's Day Celebration Committee meet next month, and such early preparations for the event should ensure success.

The Auckland parliamentary representatives are at cross purposes on the question of the railway route. The Wellington citizens, generally, favour the Stratford route, but the result of their efforts is minimised by the parliamentarians. Auckland has always suffered in this direction.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

On Tuesday last the Vicar-General spent the whole afternoon in visiting his people who live in Sydenham, where there are a great number of Catholics. All were pleased to welcome into their households the genial presence of the Vicar-General, whose object was to see his people and to ascertain where they reside. A short time ago he proceeded over a considerable portion of Addington in the same manner, and as time will permit, he intends to visit every part in the parish.

A letter has been received from the Very Rev. Father Cummings, who writes from Lyons on the 28th of July last, and through the kindness of the Vicar-General I am permitted to transcribe from the communication the following extracts: 'My dear Father Le Menant,—As you will perceive I have not yet reached London. I am, however, with the permission of the Very Rev. Father Cereval, leaving this evening for Paris *en route* for London. He wishes that I should go to Paynton for a time, and there rest myself; this I propose doing after a few days in London. I am not writing a long letter to-day, but will when I settle down in Paynton. I have been exceedingly unwell, but my three weeks' treatment at Vichy has done me much good. I can now say Mass, which I was unable to do till last Sunday. The Bishop is everywhere collecting for the new Cathedral, and I believe is doing well. He justifies his long absence from the diocese by the opportunity afforded him of getting means, and he believes that he may not have the same opportunity again. At present he is in Belgium, and I think doing well. I have no idea when he intends to return. I suppose that he has written to you and provided you with all the information possible. . . . F.F. General and Leterrier are aging very much. To-day the General goes to Brittany to visit the new Novitiate. Yesterday the Rev. Father Leterrier asked me to remember him affectionately to your Reverence, to sympathise with you in your difficulties, and to thank you for all the good you have done in the past. I hope you will send me one or two copies of your *Temuka Tournament*, which I will take to the 'Catholic Truth Society' for publication. I quite forgot to bring them with me.' After referring in very affectionate terms to several friends in this city, Father Cummings continues: 'Owing to my health, I have been compelled to put aside all letter writing and correspondence. I hope this will be a sufficient explanation to my Christchurch friends, whom I have not forgotten. Kindly remember me to Fathers Marnane, Goggan, and Rafferty, and to all the priests. I will write shortly to Mt. Magdala and to the Mission Sisters. Trusting you are well and bearing bravely the burden of the Vicar-Generalship.—Believe me to be, Dear Father Le Menant, yours very sincerely in J.C., STEPHEN CUMMINGS, S.M.'

As has already been made known great preparations are being made for the coming parochial bazaar, which will take place at St. Mary's about Christmas next. The Sisters of Mercy and a number of ladies in the parish are getting ready a large stock of splendid and varied articles which are at present in the private residence of Mrs. Louisson, and which are, however, but the commencement of a still larger collection that will be prepared before the time arrives for the carnival to be opened. The articles at present comprise a number of very handsomely worked chairs. There are also a quantity of folding-screens, painted plates, and mirrors, historic dolls, and a great profusion of embroidery, and of plain and fancy needle-work. Mrs. J. Deamer, Mrs. G. Harper, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Nelson, Miss Louisson, Miss Haskins, the Misses Moir and Miss Barry are occupied in preparing the articles, and these and other ladies will assist at the bazaar, and all the school children and their friends will furnish one stall.

At St. Mary's Convent, which is under the charge of the Sisters of Mercy, the actual attendance at the high school is 48 pupils. This number, however, does not include those who come to receive private lessons, and the attendance of the day school, which includes both sexes, and over which four Sisters preside, is 183. There are eleven Sisters at the convent, and all subjects are taught by them to a very advanced degree. The following list contains

V.  R.

CROWN LANDS FOR SETTLEMENT

The following Crown Lands in addition to those advertised in *The Land Guide* will be offered For Sale or open for Disposal as under:—

AUCKLAND.

KAURI TIMBER for Sale by Public Auction on Friday, 30th September.

Block X., Mangakahia, S.D.

97 singed kauri trees, containing 274,052 sup. feet, and 10 green kauri trees, containing 35,000 sup. feet. Upset price, £159 10s 6d.

For Lease in Perpetuity. Open on 21st October.

15 Sections, Karapiro Settlement, near the town of Cambridge, ranging in area from 30 acres to 532 acres, and the Annual Rental varies from 9d to 7s per acre.

For Sale and Selection (Optional System) on 19th October.

5 Sections, Rangiriri S.D., from 22 acres to 635 acres. Cash Price from 9s to 14s per acre. These Sections are from 7 to 11 miles from Huntly Railway Station.

Kahikitea Timber for Sale by Public Auction on Friday, 21st October.

4 Lots. (1) 2,118 trees; 3,680,000 sup. ft. Upset price, £920.

(2) 8,158 trees; 14,228,000 sup. ft. Upset, £3,557.

(3) 4,400 trees; 7,000,000 sup. ft. Upset price, £1,750.

(4) 3,030 trees; 4,190,000 sup. feet. Upset price, £1047 10s. This timber is situated on Block XI. Tokatoka S.D. Hobson County. The purchaser of any lot will have right to convey timber over Government iron train line to its terminus at mouth of Bascombe's Creek, Northern Wairoa River, the purchaser to provide his own rolling stock.

HAWKES BAY.

For Sale and Selection (Optional System) on 28th September.

8 Sections, containing 4,622 acres in Takapau, Pohui, Waiau, Waiapu, Motu, and Pataitahi Districts. Sections range from 58 acres to 1,525 acres, and the Cash Price from 7s 6d to 25s per acre.

TARANAKI.

Small Grazing Runs for Lease upon application on 26th October.

5 Runs, Pouatu Survey District, from 486 acres to 1,400 acres each Annual rent from 3d to 4½d per acre.

For Sale by Public Auction at Stratford on Friday, 28th October.

Sections in Township of Stratford, Whangamomona, Mangamingi and Huiakama.

MARLBOROUGH.

Small Grazing Run for Lease upon application on 28th September.

Run No. 131 Orieri S.D., 366 acres. Annual rent, 3d per acre.

For Sale and Selection (Optional System) open on 26th October.

20 Sections, Mt. Fyffe S.D., Kaikoura County. Sections range from 103 acres to 1557 acres, and the cash price from 12s to 30s per acre. The sections are from 6 miles to 11 miles from Kaikoura.

CANTERBURY.

For Lease in Perpetuity.

Open on 27th September.

Section 8, Orakipaoa Settlement, 11 acres, Half-yearly rent, £6 6s 10d. Orakipaoa Settlement is on North bank of Temuka River, and is about 2½ miles from Temuka Railway Station.

Section 13, Roimata Settlement, 3 acres 1 rood 27 poles. Half-yearly rent, £6 1s. The Roimata Settlement is at Woolston about 2 miles from Cathedral Square, Christchurch.

OTAGO.

For Sale and Selection (Optional System) on 5th October.

24 Sections, principally in Glenomaru, Rinnu, and Woodland Districts. Sections range from 22 acres to 368 acres. Cash price from 10s to 40s per acre.

SOUTHLAND.

For Lease in Perpetuity

Village Homestead Lots. Open for application on 21st September.

For Sale and Selection (Optional System) on 29th September.

9 Sections, Waikawa District. Sections range from 263 acres to 610 acres. Cash price from 5s to 12s 6d per acre.

Sale Plans and Full Particulars of the above may be obtained at any Land Office in the Colony.