

situation. The next effort is to be made in a more central place. The object is a most deserving one, as the old school is altogether unsuitable for school work. The lady stall holders, who deserve all praise for their zeal in this good cause, are Mesdames Campbell, Griffen, Burke, Hannan, Doogan, Foot, Miss Roche, the Children of Mary, and Mrs. Dr. Morice, sen.

During the absence of Father Malone, who is visiting his home at Hawera, the Rev. Father Ainsworth has been assisting Father Carew.

The hearing of the application for the Old Age Pension brought together a large number of veterans, who in the early days of the Colony faced many dangers by 'flood and field' in hunting for the precious metal, but who are now literally stranded.

Our worthy citizen, Mr. Felix Campbell, has been again unanimously elected to the chairmanship of the Greymouth Harbour Board.

The teaching staff of the Brothers' School has been reinforced by the arrival of Brother Hillary. Under the able guidance of Brother Canice—who has had large experience as a teacher in Victoria and elsewhere—the school has made great progress, the results of the last Government examination beating all previous records. The Catholics of the district show their confidence in the Brothers by sending their children to the school from the surrounding districts, many of the children travelling long distances. The attendance is now larger than on any previous occasion.

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL, NELSON.

The old school building which was for many years known as 'Father Garin's School,' and which was situated in Manuka street, (says the *Nelson Colonist*) has been pulled down. The old edifice was quite historical, and was associated with some of the earliest educational efforts in this city. His Grace Archbishop Redwood and many other colonists, who now occupy very prominent positions in this Colony, in their boyhood days went to the old school, over which the late Father Garin ever exercised a watchful eye, and took care to provide the best tuition obtainable in those days for the scholars. The Very Rev. Father Mahoney has had the old building replaced by a new, substantial, and up-to-date structure. The new building reflects much credit on Messrs. Leaper Bros., the architects and builders, and all who have had a hand in its construction. On entering the building by the main entrance, one finds two ante-rooms, one on the right hand, and the other on the left, where provision is made for hanging hats and cloaks. Passing through swing doors we enter the main room, which is seventy feet long, thirty-one feet wide, and in height is twenty-one feet six inches in the clear. At the eastern end of the room there is a fine stage, which is fully thirty feet long and fourteen feet deep. The room will hold comfortably between 400 and 500 persons. Special attention has been paid to the ventilation and the acoustic properties, both of which are excellent. Passing through the main room, along the south end of the building, there are three more small rooms, one of which is fitted up for a refreshment room, and contains a copper for securing hot water when required. Gas and water have been laid on throughout the building, and special provision has been made for combating a fire if one should occur, as water can be quickly obtained from three different parts of the building. A belfry has been erected over the main portion of the building, and outhouses with conveniences have also been supplied.

Father Mahoney marked the event of the completion of the building on the evening of February 14, by inviting the tradesmen who had been engaged therein, their wives and families, together with a few friends, numbering altogether about forty persons to a social gathering, which took place in the main part of the building. Father Mahoney, in welcoming his guests, remarked that during his residence in Nelson he had had to do with the erection of many buildings in the city and country, the aggregate cost of which was between £20,000 and £25,000, and he never had a cross word or unpleasantness with any employed on the numerous contracts. He said he had great confidence in Messrs. Leaper Bros., and the excellence of their work showed that that confidence had not been misplaced. Messrs. C. and H. Leaper responded, and stated that all who had been employed on the building had done their duty well and pleasantly. Father Mahoney was congratulated on having not only a fine schoolroom, but one which will be useful as a capital hall for social gatherings. Refreshments were liberally supplied, and several of the company provided entertainment in the shape of songs, recitations and music. The very pleasant gathering was brought to a close just before 11 o'clock, by the company singing the National Anthem.

BAZAAR AT DANNEVIRKE.

A bazaar in aid of the Catholic presbytery building fund was held in the Town Hall, Dannevirke recently. At the opening ceremony Rev. Father McGrath took occasion to thank Mr. Hunter on behalf of himself and the Catholics of the town and district for kindly consenting to open the bazaar. Mr. Hunter said that it was very desirable that so able and popular a pastor should be provided with suitable accommodation, and as the bazaar was for the purpose of raising funds to provide Father McGrath with a residence, he hoped it would be a financial success, and had much pleasure in declaring it open. The hall was tastefully decorated, whilst the four stalls, representing England, Ireland, Scotland and New Zealand, were artistically furnished with a fine stock of goods. The stalls were managed as follows:—England, Mesdames Rice and A. F. Browne, assisted by Mesdames Lyons and Jones, and Misses Wright (2), Scrimgeour, Grimwood and Jones. Ireland:—Mesdames McDermott, Burmister, Misses Halpin, Gleeson, Parker (2), and Allardice. Scotland:—Mesdames Kemp and Wysocki, assisted by Misses Shrewsbury, McGee, Brophy and Freeman (3). New Zealand:—Refreshments:—Mesdames Moss, Traynor, and Tyson, and Miss Traynor. During the first part of the evening the town band played outside the hall, and later on an orchestra gave selections in-

side the building at intervals during the evening. A number of children, dressed to represent various flowers, went through the intricacies of a maypole dance under the direction of Mrs. Burmister. The local paper (the *Morning Press*) stated that the bazaar was a social and financial success.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND.

(From our own correspondent.)

February 24.

The Very Rev. Dr. Egan, O.S.B., has been transferred to the charge of the Sacred Heart Church, Ponsonby, and the Rev. Father Gillan from there to St. Benedict's, Newton.

The Very Rev. Father Hackett of Paeroa has been in town upon a business visit during the week.

I am very grateful to the Rev. Father Golden of Patea for his correction concerning the Very Rev. Dean O'Reilly. His eulogium of the Dean is well merited.

The Hibernian Society's annual district meeting was held and concluded on the evening of the 15th inst. The district funeral fund now stands at £3891 3s 4d. The funeral claims for the half year amounted to £110, and the net increase for the same period was £132 12s 10d. The sum of £2050 has been invested locally at 5 per cent in good freehold security. Application was made from Stratford to start a new branch of the society. The motion moved by the Charleston branch bearing upon the fees paid by branches to their medical attendants was defeated by a large majority. A vote of condolence, moved by the Christchurch delegate, regarding the death of the Very Rev. Father Cummings, S.M., was unanimously carried. The following officers were elected for the ensuing term:—District president, Bro. John Patterson, J.P.; district vice-president, Bro. Daniel O'Sullivan; district secretary, Bro. William Kane; district treasurer, Bro. M. J. Sheahan, J.P.; auditors, Bros. D. O'Sullivan and J. B. Stead. The officers were installed by Past District President Bro. P. J. Nerheny, who addressed the officers in suitable terms of congratulation, to which they in like manner replied. A motion, moved by Bro. W. Beehan, that no delegate be sent from the New Zealand district to the forthcoming annual meeting in Melbourne was carried. The mover thought it of more advantage to reserve the money for the movable district meetings in our own Colony. The district president urged the meeting strongly to send a delegate to Melbourne, as this next meeting, in consequence of the revision of the laws, was of vital interest to the Society as a whole.

The Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan and Rev. Father Croke attended the H.A.C.B. district meeting. His Lordship addressed the meeting and highly eulogised the Society and the good work it was doing. The Archbishop and Bishops lately assembled at Wellington had determined to assist, in every way possible, the Hibernian Society. He would ask the delegates present to convey to their respective branches the very high regard in which he held the Society, and to the Auckland branch he returned his sincere thanks for their success in working for the churches during the last three St. Patrick's Day celebrations. The Bishop was applauded upon resuming his seat and again when leaving the hall. It was a very high mark of respect shown to the Society generally by the Bishop, and was highly appreciated by the D.P. and members present.

Sir George Grey's memorial demonstration of Saturday last was in every way a success, excepting in the most important matter of all—the financial part of it. The true old saying, 'when you touch a man's pocket you touch his heart' was verified to the letter. The populace put on their best clothes and demonstrated in honour of their city's benefactor, but they kept a tight grip of their purses. His Lordship Dr. Lenihan was to have spoken in the Domain, but owing to the death of Father Luck that morning he could not attend, and sent a written apology.

Rev. Father Henneberry, of Hobart, and a relative of the famous missionary, came from America by the last 'Frisco' mail boat. He preached last Sunday evening at the Cathedral, giving a graphic account of his travels around the world, and the growth of the Church in every land.

A novena to St. Patrick is about to be commenced by Father Croke at St. Patrick's.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

February 27.

St. MARY'S school, conducted by the Sisters of Mercy, Colombo street, presented quite a festive appearance on the 15th inst., on the occasion of a welcome being accorded to his Lordship the Bishop after his return to the Diocese. The children, in holiday attire, were present in strong force, and also a large number of their parents and friends. His Lordship was accompanied by the Very Rev. Father Le Menant des Chenaiss, V.G., the Rev. Fathers Mar-nane, King, Crotty, Richards and Price. After a 'Song of Welcome' had been given by the pupils, Miss Josie O'Brien read, and then presented to the Bishop, a beautifully illuminated address. His Lordship was also presented by the children with two handsome ball-stands. An entertainment, consisting of instrumental and vocal selections, recitations, and a cantata entitled the 'Fairies of the Seasons' was then given. The first part of the programme was as follows:—Piano solo, Miss Cissie O'Brien; recitation, Miss Nellie Turner; vocal solo, Miss Hortense Powell; piano solo, Miss Florrie Heard; recitation, Miss Dulcie Deamer. In the cantata, which followed, Miss Eva Hulston was the 'Fairy Queen,' and the other performers were—fairies, Misses I. Young, Turner, Simpson, K.