

Monseigneur Broyer, the Marist bishop and Vicar-Apostolic, who spent more than twenty years in Samoa, speaks with unaffected admiration of him:—

"This descendant of those savages, who no longer ago than the last century murdered the distinguished navigator La Peyrouse, was brought up in the Protestant religion. About thirty years ago he was received into the Church, and it was no lukewarm conversion. With devout and ardent faith he practises the Christian virtues. Every day he makes the Stations of the Cross and says the Rosary, which he always carries wound around one hand. Each Sunday he receives Holy Communion. Great chief as he is he learned the mason's trade that he might be p to build the church with his own hands, and set the example to his labour-scorning subjects of Christian humility and to show them the true dignity of service paid to God. At the time of his conversion he had several wives; immediately he repudiated all but one, to whom he was remarried by a priest. Fifteen years ago she died, and since then he has remained true to her memory. Every day, when he is in Samoa, he goes to her grave and recites one decade of the Rosary.

"With this light thrown on his character one can no longer be surprised at his magnanimity in saving so many of the ship-wrecked foes at the time of the great tornado. "God is punishing these white men: let us be merciful," he said to his men. In regard to recent happenings Monseigneur Broyer can only speak from hearsay, since he is now in France, but of the character of King Mataafa he is able to speak with authority, and he thinks that no happier fate could befall the Samoans than to live under the rule of Mataafa

Diocesan News.

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON.

(From our own correspondent.)

May 27.

At St. Joseph's Church Solerun High Mass was celebrated on Whit Sunday. Rev. Father Molony was celebrant, Rev. Father Kimbell deacon, and Rev. Father O'Reilly sub-deacon. The choir, under Mr. McCardell, sang Weber's 'Mass in G,' the soloists being Misses Hickling, Sullivan and McDonld, Messrs. Griffin and Haughey.

Wellington is still adding to its reputation for weather, up to the 26th there have been no less than 23 wet days this month.

The Rev. Father Grady, of Mount Magdala, has been in Wellington this week, also the Rev. Father T. McKenna, of Pahiatua.

His Grace reports that the mission at Nelson has been most successful, and he and Father Ainsworth are highly gratified with the result.

Archdeacon Devoy, S.M., V.G., returned from the Wairarapa district on Thursday evening. He is still suffering from a severe cold.

Mr. Small, the contractor, has begun operations in connection with the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Given fine weather in the meantime, it is intended to lay the foundation-stone on the 11th prox.

The drawing of the plans, etc., for the new cathedral has been entrusted to Mr. F. W. Petre, the well known Dunedin architect. This is evidence of his success with the plans of the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

On Wednesday, the Queen's Birthday, the Misses Skerrett provided tea for the children of St. Joseph's Orphanage. On account of the heavy rain the garden party, which had been arranged for them, had to be abandoned, but with indoor games they had a very enjoyable afternoon. Needless to add, the children feel very grateful to the donors and did full justice to the things provided.

At St. Mary of the Angels' Solemn High Mass was said, the Ven. Archdeacon Devoy being celebrant, Rev. Father Doherty deacon, and Rev. Father Servajan sub-deacon. Under Mr. Oakes Gounod's 'Messe Solennelle' was rendered in an efficient manner by the choir, assisted by an orchestra. The Ven. Archdeacon Devoy preached on the festival of the day.

On Saturday last quite a large number of the Old Girls were entertained at afternoon tea at St. Mary's Convent, Hill street. The schoolroom was most tastefully decorated, and there were about sixty members of the association present. A programme of vocal and instrumental music was given, Misses Sullivan, Connel, Smith and Walgrave contributing. It was unanimously decided to hold a dance on the 21st of June. The following were appointed a committee to make the necessary arrangements:—Mesdames T. G. Macarthy, W. Gascoigne, A. Martin, Gaudie, and the Misses Williams, Skerrett, Croubie, Saunders, O'Connor, and McDonald, and Miss K. Williams (hon. secretary).

Mr. Harry Eccles, a former student of St. Patrick's College, and grand-nephew of his Grace Archbishop Redwood, succeeded in beating all comers at the pigeon shooting match in Masterton on the Queen's Birthday. On each of his two nominations he, with three others, scored the possible. In the firing off he was again successful, and obtained £55 of the prize money.

The *Evening Post* of May 22 had the following complimentary reference to a well known public officer.—The ordinary observer, even if familiar with the active form, alert bearing, and strenuous character of the governor of the Wellington Gaol, would not suppose from appearances that for just upon a quarter of a century Mr. Garvey has discharged the duties and obligations of one of the most onerous and responsible positions in the community. It is, however, a fact that he is now just entering upon his twenty-fifth year of public service, and reference to the last report upon the prisons of the Colony will show how well that service has been rendered. For instance among other points to the credit of our local gaol management, it will be found that Mr. Garvey is responsible for the safe custody and well-being of more prisoners than are confined in any

other gaol in the Colony, and that while they are the healthiest, they cost less to maintain. Another excellent feature of this prison, as disclosed in the official report, is that it has a minimum record of punishments, which is one of the best assurances of effective management and discipline. Mr. Garvey's methods are modern, humane and yet effective, and it is to be hoped that the department and the country will have the benefit of his continued service long after he has completed his quarter of a century of work.

WANGANUI

(From our own correspondent.)

May 25.

Last Sunday there was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. In the evening the pulpit was occupied by the Very Rev. Dr. Pestre, S.M., who preached a very instructive sermon on the necessity of faith.

The devotions of the Month of May have been well attended every evening. Particular interest has been aroused by the appropriate discourses which are nightly given by one or other of our pastors.

At the council meeting of the St. Columba Literary and Debating Club, it was decided to hold the opening night on Thursday, June 1, when a concert will be given by the members. To this concert every young man in the congregation is cordially invited. Rev. Brother Alfred has now in working order a juvenile branch of the club. The meetings will be held monthly.

The local volunteer companies turned out in good numbers to fire a *feu de joie*, in honour of the 80th birthday of our illustrious Sovereign. A most pleasing feature of the day's celebrations was the parade of the Wanganui branch of the New Zealand Veterans' Association. The men, about 34 in number, were grouped around the Old Soldier's Monument, and photographed, after which three hearty cheers were given for her Majesty.

Pentecost Sunday was the twenty-second anniversary of our church, which was erected about a year after the arrival of the Very Rev. Father Kirk (now Dean). One of the original contractors recently examined the building, and stated that it was in a splendid state of pre-ervation, the timber being even better than any that could be bought in Wanganui at the present time. For a long time the church has been too small for the requirements of our growing parish. To remedy this our energetic pastor, as soon as funds permit, intends making such additions as will greatly increase the seating accommodation. It is worthy of note that, although as yet no formal appeal has been made to the congregation, several substantial donations have already been received. Judging by the usual liberality of the people in matters connected with the Church, the necessary funds will soon be available, and the alterations completed before the visit of his Grace the Archbishop takes place.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND.

(By telegraph from our own correspondent.)

May 29.

A convent school is to be opened in Gisborne next month. The Very Rev. Dean O'Reilly goes down to perform the ceremony.

The Rev. Father Kehoe has returned from Waikato, much benefited by his sojourn in the country.

A cable message was received on Sunday last by the Very Rev. Dean O'Reilly from His Lordship Bishop Lenihan, announcing his safe arrival in London.

An entertainment was given, on Tuesday night, by the pupils of the Parnell Convent school, in honor of the return of the Rev. Mother from Australia. Rev. Father Kehoe was present.

The Rev. Father Mulvihill, of Gisborne, is still, I regret to say, dangerously ill, and wide-spread sympathy is felt for him by the Catholics of Auckland. The Rev. Father Purton left for Gisborne, on Thursday last, to officiate during Father Mulvihill's illness.

The appeal made lately by the Very Rev. Father Lighthouse was for the Maori Mission, throughout New Zealand, in accordance with the resolution passed at the Provincial Council held recently in Wellington.

At Saint Benedict's, on last Sunday night, the Rev. Father Gillan concluded his course of sermons on the Blessed Virgin, after which an act of consecration to Our Lady was read by one of the children on behalf of all those present, after which there was a procession of the Blessed Sacrament. The church was crowded and the ceremonies were most impressive. Benediction, by the Rev. Father Gillan, assisted by Rev. Fathers Darby and Kamp, followed.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

May 29.

At Vespers, in the Pro-Cathedral on Sunday, the Rev. Father Crotty preached an impressive sermon on the divine mission of the Church.

Preaching at St. Mary's, last Sunday, the Rev. Father Marnane took the opportunity of thanking all who aided and otherwise took part in the successful carnival in aid of the funds of the parish.

The usual open air procession (weather permitting) of the Most Blessed Sacrament, in honour of the Feast of Corpus Christi, parading festival of the Pro-Cathedral, will take place on Sunday next at three o'clock, following Vespers.

A very fine drama in three acts, entitled 'Marcion,' or 'The Martyr of Antioch,' is just now in active rehearsal by a numerous