

WEDDING BELLS.

COSTELLO—BLANEY.

One of the most interesting weddings celebrated in St. Joseph's Cathedral for a long time, was that of Mr. T. F. Costello (Naseby) and the popular vocalist, Miss Kitty Blaney, which took place yesterday (Wednesday). Long before the hour fixed for the ceremony (ten o'clock) the cathedral was filled in every part by an expectant crowd of people of every class and creed. The bride was attended by the Misses R. and M. Blaney and Miss Costello, and six charming little children in white dresses, with wreaths and veils, and carrying baskets of flowers, and the bridegroom by Messrs. D. and A. Costello, A. Hall, C. Morkane, and Dr. O'Neill.

The bride was attired in white moiré silk with chiffon trimmings, veil, and orange blossom. The bridesmaids wore dresses of cream lustre and picture hats. The marriage ceremony was performed by the Rev. Father Murphy, assisted by Fathers McMullen, Ryan, O'Donnell, and Cleary. The bride was given away by her father, Captain Blaney. At the Nuptial Mass, which was celebrated by Rev. Father Murphy, the newly-wedded couple approached the Holy Table. The cathedral choir—of which the newly-made bride was a prominent and faithful member—sang portions of Mozart's Twelfth Mass, and for an offertory piece Arcadelt's 'Ave Maria.' As the happy couple went from the cathedral the strains of the Wedding March rang out from the organ, and people pressed around on all sides with blessings and good wishes.

After the Nuptial Mass the newly-wedded couple and their friends proceeded to Captain Blaney's hotel (the Caledonian). A sumptuous repast was spread there, and a large body of guests assembled, including Very Rev. Father O'Neill, and the Rev. Fathers Murphy, McMullen, Ryan, O'Donnell, and Cleary. The health of the young couple was proposed by Rev. Father Murphy in a happy speech in the course of which he made feeling reference to the valuable services rendered to the Catholic Church and body in Dunedin and to every good and deserving cause by the bride and her sister. Various other toasts were also duly honoured. The young couple left by the afternoon train for Christchurch, where they will spend the honeymoon. We join with their many friends in wishing them a full and flowing measure of every blessing.

COLUMB—HORAN.

A ceremony, which attracted considerable attention, took place in St. Columba's Church, Owaka, on May 23, when Mr Charles Columb was married to Miss Mary Anne Horan, second daughter of Mr John Horan, Owaka. The bride, who was given away by her father, was attended by her sister, Miss Kate Horan, whilst Mr James Columb (brother of the bridegroom) acted as best man. The ceremony was performed by the Very Rev. J. O'Neill. At the conclusion of the ceremony a large party assembled at the residence of the bride's father, where a sumptuous wedding breakfast was laid. The health of the newly-wedded couple was proposed in felicitous terms by the Very Rev. Father O'Neill.

NEW ZEALAND: GENERAL.

PARLIAMENT meets on the 23rd inst.

The Wellington City Council have adopted the Mayor's scheme involving the expenditure of some £50,000 upon tramways, electric light, town hall, water supply extension, and minor work.

A CHRISTCHURCH jury found a verdict of 'Not guilty' in the case of Charles Henry Carter, charged with manslaughter in connection with the Rakata railway disaster.

THE *Gasiti* announces the appointment of Mr. M. Foley as Clerk of the Warden's Court and Receiver of Gold Revenue and Mining Registrar at Gore, from May 6.

WE have received parcels of used stamps for Father Kreymborg's mission from Miss Maggie McAfee, Otautau, Miss Margaret Lee, Woodlands, Mr. P. Fennessy, Gimmerburn, and Miss E. Cunnene, Broadfield.

THE June number of the *Triad*, which has just come to hand, is a very creditable production. As usual the illustrations are very good, whilst the letterpress maintains the usually excellent standard of the journal.

IN the annual reports presented to the Wellington City Council it was stated that the drainage scheme, which is now complete, had cost £173,202, the estimate being £175,000. The influence of a proper drainage is shown in the steady decrease of typhoid cases, which have fallen from 101 in 1891 to 11.

THE Marine department has received a telegram from Captain Bolland, of the *Hinemoa*, stating that W. Brown (chief mate), M. Buchanan, C. Osterm, and O. Sjoblom (sailors) were drowned by a boat swamping at East Cape. The second mate, Hardy, and a seaman named Weymark were saved. The boat was endeavouring to effect a landing when the accident happened.

WE desire again to remind our readers that parcels of used stamps sent through the post office are liable to a registration fee. Unless such parcels are registered by the sender we shall in future decline to accept delivery. Within the past week we had to pay a registration fee, which would purchase ten times the quantity of stamps received. Only large parcels, containing stamps of the value £12 and upwards should be sent and these should be registered.

REFERRING to the operations at Orepuki of the company which now owns the Kaitangata coal mine, the correspondent of the *Southland Times* says: 'Shale obtained from a trial shaft, put down in the drive and tested by Mr. Dunlop in a retort, which has been erected, returned, I am informed, the magnificent average of 90 gallons of oil to the ton of shale, so that the prospects of success of the company are good.'

A RECENT visitor to Otago Central informs the *Otago Daily Times* that the farmers in that district have had a good year, and one Moonlight settler is alleged to have threshed a crop giving an average of 100 bushels of oats to the acre. He sold the oats at five shillings a bag, bags extra, and even at that small price made a good profit. Stock of every kind looks well, and things on the whole are very prosperous.

ON the afternoon of May 23, His Excellency the Governor and party paid an official visit to the Panmure district, Auckland, where they were received by Monsignor Walter McDonald. They paid a visit to the Catholic School, and also inspected the district church and other places of interest. The vice-regal party also visited the Catholic Church, and His Excellency expressed himself as being very well pleased with his visit, and with the cordial welcome extended to him.

MR. COOPER (president) occupied the chair at the last meeting of the Ashburton Catholic Literary Society. Mr. J. Higgins was elected librarian. The programme for the evening consisted of a mock parliamentary election. There were four candidates—Messrs. McSherry and Duffy (Liberals), Moison and Bowden (Independents). After the candidates had given their views on the subjects of the day and answered a number of questions, a ballot was taken with the result that Mr. Duffy was elected by a majority of four. The usual speech, on the declaration of the poll, was made by the successful candidate, after which the proceedings terminated.

A SYDNEY message of June 1 states that a tug reported speaking the barque Northern Chief, from Kaipara, off the coast. The captain of the Northern Chief said that he passed the Perthshire last Thursday in Latitude 34deg. south, longitude 164deg. east, about 400 miles from Cape Maria Van Dieman. The Perthshire reported all well. The Northern Chief met heavy weather after passing the Perthshire. Up to going to press nothing further had been heard of the disabled steamer.

THE Dunedin winter show of stock, agricultural machinery, and farm produce, held in the Agricultural Hall, was opened on Wednesday afternoon by the Right Hon. the Premier. There was a very large attendance, visitors being present not alone from all parts of Otago, but also from Canterbury and Wellington. The entries in all departments were very good, especially the exhibit of agricultural machinery, which was a very fine display. In consequence of going to press on Wednesday afternoon we are obliged to hold over our notice of the exhibits until our next issue.

AT St. Patrick's Church on Sunday morning, May 28 (says the *Charleston Herald*), the Ven. Archpriest Walsh was presented with an address and a purse of sovereigns, the gift of the Brighton and Charleston congregations, who recognise with feelings of pride, the high honour which has lately been conferred upon their worthy parish priest. The address was written by Mr. P. J. Fleming, and read by that gentleman, who thanked the congregation for allowing him the privilege to read a congratulatory address to their priest. The purse of sovereigns was presented by Mr. Thomas Shine, who referred in eulogistic terms to the Venerable Father's long and honourable career in the parish. In the course of the address the parishioners said—During the last thirty years we have witnessed your many virtues, toils, and labours for the advancement of our holy religion, and how the days of your youth and vigour have been always devoted to the best interests of our holy Church. Through your gentle tenderness and kind forbearance and sympathy for others, you have won our confidence, love and admiration, and the golden opinions of the other denominations here. The Ven. Archpriest said he felt very grateful for their sentiments, and accompanying purse of sovereigns. After all it was no more than what he would have expected from the people of Charleston, for he remembered some years ago, when he was on the eve of his visit to the Old Country, he found that the people of Charleston were the first to come forward and present him with an address and a purse of sovereigns. Regarding the dignity conferred upon him by the Archbishop, he felt how unworthy he was of such a high honour, but nevertheless he would endeavour to prove himself worthy of it.

Persons about to purchase bicycles ought not to be led away by the opinions of others, but should exercise their own judgment in the selection of machines. The "Cleveland" bicycle, for which Messrs Mason, Struthers and Co., of Christchurch, are agents, is considered to be honest value. The 'Rover,' also offered by the same firm, has its admirers. Any of our readers in Canterbury intending to purchase a bicycle should inspect these machines, when they can satisfy themselves as to their merits.* *

Mr. E. W. Dunne, bookseller, George street, Dunedin, directs the attention of the Catholic community to his large and well-selected stock of prayer books and books of devotion. Patrons of Mr. Dunne's establishment have an opportunity of making a selection of rosaries, crucifixes and aids to devotion generally, from one of the most extensive stocks in the colony. Books, newspapers, and magazines, published in any part of the world, may be ordered through Mr. Dunne. Special attention is given to stationery, the assortment offered being unequalled for variety and quality. Tucker's wax candles are kept in stock, and supplied in large or small quantities at reasonable prices. All are invited to inspect the stock without being pressed to purchase.* *