

stantial purse of sovereigns, in recognition of her services as organist. The presentation was made by the Very Rev. Father O'Neill, who spoke in terms of high praise of Miss Dunne's readiness in the past to give her esteemed services in the choir. He also referred to Miss Dunne's abilities as an instrumentalist—her reputation was hard to excel—and the congregation was very fortunate in having her services as organist. Miss Dunne had also filled the duties of a teacher in the Sunday School for many years. Mr. Dunne, on behalf of Miss Dunne, thanked Father O'Neill for the kind words he had used in making the presentation, and also the congregation who had given proof of their appreciation of his daughter's efforts to fill worthily the honourable post she had occupied in connection with the church's ceremonies.

## WEDDING BELLS.

GAMBLE—FRASER.

A marriage which excited considerable interest among the Catholic community in Palmerston North (writes our Wellington correspondent) was celebrated in St. Patrick's Church by the Rev. Father Patterson on Wednesday last. The contracting parties were Mr. William Gamble, of Palmerston North, second son of Mr. J. S. Gamble, of this city, and Miss H. Fraser, youngest daughter of Mr. John Fraser, a well-known resident of Oriental Bay. The bride, who was given away by her father, was attended by Misses Fraser, Gamble, and McGregor as bridesmaids, and Mr. J. Gamble was best man. Among the many handsome presents received was one from the members of St. Patrick's Choir, of which Mr. Gamble is the painstaking conductor.

## OBITUARY.

MRS. MATTHEW HANLEY, GORE.

The interment of the late Mrs. Matthew Hanley, Gore, whose death we briefly reported in our last issue, took place on Tuesday, the 5th inst. The esteem in which the deceased had been held was shown by the large number who attended the funeral, which was the largest seen in the district for years. Among those present were the Rev. Father Murphy (Dunedin), Rev. Father Coffey (South Dunedin), Rev. Father O'Dea, Rev. Father Magrath, and Rev. Father P. O'Donnell, who officiated at the grave. Mrs. Hanley had been ill only for a few weeks, and prior to her death received the rites of Holy Church, of which she was a devout and exemplary member. The deceased leaves, besides her husband, a grown-up family, consisting of six sons and two daughters to mourn their loss.—R.I.P.

## NAPIER.

(From our own correspondent.)

The results of Inspector Hill's examination of the Marist Brothers' School at Napier are to hand, and the comments made therein and the high percentage attained show the very satisfactory way in which the school work has been carried on during the scholastic year, and must indeed be gratifying to both teachers and parents. Undoubtedly it reflects the highest credit on the superior, Brother Brendan, and the teaching staff under him. The following extracts are taken from the report:—'The progress of this school, since the date of examination last year, is commendable and of good average. Standards III. and IV. have done very well, and the pass-work, with few exceptions, is of good quality.'—'The oral answering of standards V. and VI. was of an unusually intelligent character and the behaviour of the lads and the class arrangements pleased me very much.'—'Now that the school is well organised, and the foundation work good, much better results may be expected.'

A social took place on the 6th inst. the proceeds of which are to be devoted to paying off a long standing debt on the school buildings.

His Grace the Archbishop and the Rev. Father Ainsworth concluded their mission at Meanee on Monday the 4th inst. The missionaries have indeed done good work in this district. Copious graces have accompanied their efforts. When in Napier, St. Patrick's Church was crowded night after night, standing room not being available. Over nine hundred communicants attended their duty, and within the memory of the oldest residents such an edifying sight had never been witnessed in Napier before. But it is well known that this was in a great measure due to the indefatigable exertions of Rev. Fathers Hickson and Ainsworth, who made a house to house call throughout the parish.

The missionaries proceeded to Clive on Tuesday and spent the rest of the week there, opening in Hastings on Sunday, the 10th inst.

D. I. C. grand display of new spring novelties, style, value, and assortment unequalled, at the leading fashion house.—\*.\*

Messrs. A. and T. Inglis, the well-known drapers of George street, Dunedin, announce that their first shipments of new goods for spring and summer wear are being displayed in all departments. As these goods have only just arrived from the Home manufacturing centres, and include all the latest novelties, our readers in Dunedin should not miss the opportunity of a personal inspection.—\*.\*

## ASHBURTON.

(From a correspondent.)

The winter in the Ashburton district, including the recent snow storm, ranks as one of the most severe, if not the severest, in the memory of the oldest inhabitant. Everywhere around the wattle and gum trees still wear their mantle of dead leaves. Nature in other respects seems to be hurrying along to make up for lost time. Farming operations, so long delayed preparatory to the coming season, are now in full swing, and magnificent spring-like weather prevails.

On Sunday last Very Rev. Dean O'Donnell, after having celebrated Mass at Methven, 26 miles distant, preached a fine discourse on the Festival of the day at Benediction. The Triduum to the Sacred Heart of Jesus takes place here on Friday, Saturday and Sunday next.

His Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Grimes, S.M., D.D., makes his visitation of this parish on next Sunday, when his Lordship, assisted by the Very Rev. Dean Foley, will conduct a mission during the following week. His Lordship will remain a month in the Ashburton district.

The Ashburton Catholic Literary Society, inaugurated a year ago by the Very Rev. Dean O'Donnell and under the able management of the officers, has proved a gigantic success. The members were pleased to welcome the Rev. Father Cooney at a recent meeting. Besides the ordinary routine of the Literary Society, a dramatic class under the directorship of Mr. W. Bowden is progressing favourably, and has recently given some highly successful dramatic performances in public. The pieces staged on the first occasion were 'The Attractive Young Lady' and 'Which is the Best Head?' One of these was redemanded, and with 'The Mysteries of the Secret Order,' filled the bill at the second performance. The respective characters were well filled by Messrs W. Bowden, P. Hanahran, J. Moison, J. Healey, P. Healey, and Higgins, while recitations by Messrs Hanahran and Moriarty filled in the interval at the second performance.

The ordinary weekly meeting was held on last Wednesday evening, when a debate—'Has the invention of machinery benefited mankind?'—was fought out vigorously. Mr. C. Henry was in the chair.

## BISHOP GRIMES AT GERALDINE.

(From a correspondent.)

His Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Grimes and the Very Rev. Dean Foley opened a week's mission at St. Mary's Church, Geraldine, on Sunday week. After Mass the Missionary Rector, the Rev. Father Bowers, presented his Lordship with an address on behalf of the Catholics of the district, who expressed their pleasure at his visit, and hoped that success would crown his efforts to erect a Cathedral in the capital city of his diocese. The address was signed by Father Bowers, and Messrs. Andrew Lysaght, William Earl, Kyran Brophy, Jeremiah Connolly, and William Fitzpatrick. In the course of his address to the congregation his Lordship said he was satisfied the time was not far distant when the Cathedral would be built at Christchurch, and it was hardly necessary to repeat that this building would be really a parish church for every one in the diocese. Every priest, every man, woman, and child would have a right to look upon the Cathedral as the mistress church of the diocese, where the great events took place, such as consecrations, ordination of priests, retreat of the clergy, etc. It was also well that the people should have a place where they could go in great numbers. The expression of the Holy Father the Pope was quite sufficient to cause his Lordship to act in the matter, even if he had not the actual wants of the place to urge him to it. The Holy Father assured him by word of mouth that God would bless their efforts, and crown them with success, and the Holy Father had given a special blessing to all those who helped the work. His Holiness had also written to him (his Lordship) since he left Europe that in addition to the beautiful cameo he had presented him with, he wished expressly to have his name heading the Cathedral subscription list with £100. It was not a large sum to come from a sovereign, but they had to consider the limited resources at his disposal, and the value was greatly enhanced when they considered that this was the first diocese in New Zealand to be the recipient of any favour of the kind from the Holy Father. It was an earnest of his Holiness's own good will towards them, and a source of great encouragement. He was glad to say that the appeal in New Zealand had so far been most liberally responded to, especially on the West Coast. When the idea was first suggested in Christchurch it surprised everybody—even non-Catholic friends—to see the liberal spirit in which the matter was taken up.

The services during the week were largely attended. On the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin 43 children made their First Communion, after which there was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until night. On Sunday morning, the 10th, the Sacrament of Confirmation was administered to 70 children and adults. On Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings special devotions were held in connection with the consecration of the faithful to the Sacred Heart. The church was crowded on Sunday evening. After a most impressive sermon by his Lordship the Bishop, the Papal Blessing was given followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, the consecration of the congregation to the Sacred Heart and the renewal of Baptismal vows.

Before beginning his sermon his Lordship announced that the sum of £371 13s had been subscribed during the day towards the Cathedral building fund.

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