

perseverance, and devotedness, in driving Sunday after Sunday a distance of fifteen miles, cold, weary, wet, and fasting, to say a second Mass. Nor was less energy, perseverance, and devotedness required in your frequent journeyings over the long and difficult road to Jackson's Bay. But a priest loves his people and would lay down his life for them. You have often ventured yours, crossing the dangerous rivers of South Westland, where many have been drowned, and you, to our own knowledge, have been swimming. Is it any wonder we should love such a priest, and be sorry to part with him? However, in obedience to the commands of our beloved Bishop, you are leaving for another parish, wherein we are certain that your conduct will be directed to reflect credit on yourself and honour on the priesthood. We heartily wish you God's blessing, and may your future parishioners appreciate you as we do. Please accept the accompanying purse as a slight token of our sincere regards.—Signed on behalf of the parishioners of Ross: John Crowley, Thomas McGlarry, Martin Minihan, William Ponch, Edward Bellamy, Patrick O'Raw, Timothy Markham, Michael Moys, Denis Collins, Joseph Haddock."

Father Macmanns feelingly replied, and said he thanked the people of Ross for their kind and flattering address and for their substantial testimonial. He was glad to say that he never had met with better people, and that he spent some of the happiest days in his life in Ross. Why should he not like the people, he added? They were good and virtuous, and always co-operated with the priest in all matters, and whenever that happy blending of priest and people existed, religion was sure to go ahead. He was now leaving the district and he could honestly say he was not leaving an enemy behind him. He now wished them good-bye, and assured them that they would meet with a kind friend in Father Browne, who was well-known on the West Coast, and in Canterbury, for his sterling qualities as a friend and priest.

CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own Correspondent.)

At a meeting of the Canterbury Agricultural and Pastoral Association held recently, it was proposed to give the new show grounds the name of Onslow Park, in honour of the late governor. The proposal, however, received considerable opposition from Mr John Grigg, who in the course of a somewhat animated speech, characterised Lord Onslow as a "Public Partisan." It would appear that Lord Onslow at his farewell banquet in Auckland took a somewhat favourable view of the Government taxation proposals, and this roused the ire of Mr Grigg, who pointed out how heavily the new taxation would press upon himself. Sir John Hall defended the much-abused Governor, and referred to the practical sympathy Lord Onslow had always shown towards the Association. Another member attempted to throw oil on the troubled waves by suggesting that the grounds be called Glasgow Park. After more discussion, it was unanimously agreed that the required name should be the Canterbury Agricultural and Pastoral Association Show Grounds.

The customary meeting of the Catholic Literary Society was held on Tuesday evening. His Lordship the Bishop presided. Quite an intellectual treat was presented to members in the shape of a well-prepared and ably-written paper by Mr Clarke on the life of Goethe. The life and characteristics of the great author were commented upon in a most exhaustive manner, his poems being ably criticised and their beauties pointed out. The paper teemed with interest, and demonstrated the speaker's thorough acquaintance with Goethe's works. His Lordship expressed himself highly edified by what he had heard, and after most members had spoken favourably of the paper, Mr Clarke was accorded a hearty vote of thanks. The Society will probably sustain a heavy loss shortly, it being rumoured that Mr J. W. Kennedy, an old and valued member, intends leaving Christchurch to try his fortune in one of the sister colonies. It is no exaggeration to say that there is no member of the Society whose absence would be more keenly deplored than that of Mr Kennedy, and it is to be hoped some steps will be taken to show the high estimation in which he is held.

A lecture to be given in the Literary Society's rooms on Tuesday evening, April 5th, by his Lordship Bishop Grimes, is looked forward to with considerable interest, the subject being "My visit to Loretto."

Wirth's circus is now in Christchurch, and is attracting large audiences. Some of the feats of horsemanship are worthy of note, but the performances of the pig are perhaps the most amusing feature of the entertainment.

Mr T. Ross, 130 Princes street, Dunedin, is showing a fine assortment of winter goods. Ladies will find their requirements provided for with the utmost taste and judgment.

Mrs M. Sheeran, George street, Dunedin, is always well supplied with a choice and excellent stock of ready-made clothing for ladies and children. Mrs Sheeran also makes up material to order, and hosiery made on the premises is especially deserving of patronage. Gentlemen's shirts of every description are also made and repaired there.

Mr A. Lee Smith has announced himself as a candidate for the representation of Bruce. His address to the constituents will be found elsewhere.

BROTHER JOSEPH IN AUSTRALIA.

(From our Hawke's Bay Correspondent.)

I HAVE received a private note from Brother Joseph, of Christchurch, who recently went over to New South Wales for a well-earned holiday, and there is in it so much of interest regarding his doings, that I send you the following extracts for the benefit of the popular brother's innumerable friends both here and in Christchurch.

After premising that he has been impelled to neglect his correspondence, brother Joseph says, "I met Father Kickham at a concert given by the pupils of the Cathedral girl's school the day after my arrival in Sydney. He was surprised and delighted to meet me and a few days later we visited Manly Beach together. As soon as Father Prendergast (late of Hawkes Bay, C.O.) learned that I had arrived in Sydney, he wrote inviting me to come and spend a few days with him, and he spared no effort to make my visit to Bulli a pleasant one. Bulli is a mining township 42 miles south of Sydney on the sea coast, where beautiful white sand beaches stretch for miles. The mines are in the Illawarra ranges, about half a mile from the beach, the coal being obtained by tunnelling. I saw no shafts for other than ventilation purposes. The coal-laden trucks are drawn out of the main tunnels by wire cables worked by steam engines, but in the branch tunnels ponies do the haulage. It takes the miners half-an-hour to walk from the mouth of the tunnel to the pit head. In the cemetery there is a handsome granite obelisk erected by Government in memory of the 80 men who were killed by an explosion of fire-damp in the Bulli Company's mine a few years ago. The Bulli Pass is one of the sights of the colony. Our mutual friend, Father Prendergast, has been doing the work of two extensive parishes lately owing to the illness of the P.P. of Wollongong. The day before I arrived he had a sick call, sixteen miles north of Bulli, and on the following evening was called to attend a dying man who lived 3 miles in the opposite direction. He got home shortly after midnight, and had to ride off to Wollongong next morning to say mass and attend a funeral. The work is hard enough in country parishes where the population is scattered, but it is not an unmixed evil, as it furnishes variety of occupation, and relieves the monotony which would otherwise become intolerable to a young man of ardent temperament located in an isolated district.

I enclose a programme of an organ recital in the Centennial hall. The organ cost £12,000, and the price of admission to M. Wiegand's recital was sixpence, so you may judge of the efforts which are being made to cultivate a taste for really high-class music here. I have attended two of the recitals, and was enchanted. I have often been delighted at listening to Mendelssohn's "Songs without words," but after hearing Wiegand's exposition of them on this organ, I fail to see how a true conception of the great composer's work can be formed by hearing them on any other instrument than a grand organ. While the organ recitals are being given by the city organist, a splendid opera company is meeting with great success in the production of grand opera. The works are splendidly put before the public by two distinct staffs of artists playing alternate nights, which enables the musician to go two evenings in succession to the same opera and compare the two interpretations—an advantage which is obvious.

"I spent a few days at St. Joseph's college, the Institution of our Order, whose phenomenal success in the university examinations for years has surprised everyone. The college has a splendid building of which you have seen photos. The main corridors are each 280ft. in length. Apart from the main building are several two-story edifices, which are used as music rooms, museums, quarters for servants, etc. There are 250 pupils, 20 brokers, 12 men servants, and a number of visiting masters. After seeing the excellent discipline and serious earnestness in study, class, and elsewhere, one can readily understand that success must necessarily attend the pupils' efforts in the exams.

"The mention of the university in connection with the success of St. Joseph's reminds me to tell you that I spent four hours in visiting a portion of that great seat of learning. I was fortunate in meeting there a Mr Craddock, the junior Bedell, who very courteously showed us through the great hall, lecture room, and library in the main building, and explained and pointed out objects of interests in each department. We were chaperoned through the college of chemistry by Rev Broker Wilbred, one of the Marist Brothers, who has been attending the university lectures for a few years and recently passed in chemistry and some other subjects with honours. Leaving the schools of chemistry, we rejoined Mr Craddock, who took us through the medical college—a palatial building. The curator of the anatomical museum proved to be a New Zealander, and he accompanied us through his department and explained the various specimens. Then the theatres, lecture rooms, dissecting rooms, etc., were visited, but, owing to want of time, we were compelled to defer our visit to the Macleay museum. Besides building this museum at a cost of £6000 and handing over to it the most valuable collection in Australasia Sir William Macleay has endowed the department named after him."

After desiring to be remembered to all friends in New Zealand, Brother Joseph concludes a most interesting letter.