

there was a large attendance of members and their friends, and ladies appeared especially in full force. The hall was tastefully decorated with flags, and during an interval in the entertainment refreshments were handed round. The programme, which was most attractive, consisted of music, song, and story, and Mr F Cooper's display of dissolving views with an oxygen ether light lantern was exceedingly interesting and well shown. Mrs Dobbin played most of the accompaniments, and the first musical item was a duet which the latter lady and Miss Cummings executed tastefully on the piano. Mrs Kelly was happy in the song, "The blind girl to her harp." The gas was then turned off to give Mr Cooper an opportunity to exhibit views illustrative of the poem, "The curfew must not toll to-night," which Father Bell recited in a clear and correct manner. Indeed, Father Bell, who had been favoured with very little time to prepare for the task, made the best of a defective and badly-written specimen of verse, but the subject of the poem was excellent, and the views of the old bell-ringer, the fortress, the heroine of the story, and others were attractive and well depicted on the screen. Miss Bryant sang with good taste, and with a violincello accompaniment by Mr A. C. Nottingham, in addition to one on the piano, "The children's home." Miss Cuming rendered admirably "The maid of the mill," and as an encore "The wearing of the green." Mrs Dobbin, on the piano, and Mr Nottingham, on the violincello, played in an excellent manner a duet, which consisted of selections from "Maritana." Miss Bryant appeared once more and sang with her usual success, "Remember me no more," and as an encore "The minstrel boy." The room was again darkened in order to heighten the effect of the next item, "Beautiful snow," which Mr C. Cuming recited with good taste. Previous to showing the views incidental to this exquisite poem, whose authorship is so much disputed, Mr Cooper threw on the screen a pretty domestic scene, and Miss Bryant sang, meanwhile, at the back of the stage, "Home, sweet home." The recitation and display of views over, Mrs Kelly sang, with a piano and violincello accompaniment, O, loving heart, trust on," for which she received a well-merited encore, and complied by repeating the last stanza of the song. Indeed, this item may be considered the musical and vocal gem of the evening. The singing of the National Anthem concluded a very pleasant entertainment.

St Joseph's Church at Port Lyttelton, was, on Monday afternoon last, the scene of a very pretty ceremony—the marriage of Mr John Haydon, of the Post Office, to Miss L. O'Brien, second daughter of Captain O'Brien, one of Lyttelton's oldest residents. The Rev Father Partron officiated on the occasion, and the friends of the happy couple crowded the church to overflowing. Mr Haydon is very popular in Lyttelton, and a fair amount of bunting was displayed on the occasion of his nuptials.

The Leeston branch of the Hibernian Society held on Wednesday evening last a most successful and enjoyable social gathering in the Leeston Town Hall, which was handsomely decorated for the occasion. Refreshments of excellent quality were provided on a liberal scale. The attendance was large and several members from this city and other parts were present. Vocal solos were sung by Mrs Kelly and Miss McKendry, Messrs Cooper, Brooks and Longstaff, Mr and Mrs Kelly sang several duets, and dancing was kept up to a late hour to the music of Mr Bossiter's Quadrille Band.

I hear that the Rev Father O'Donnell intends to enlarge his church at Darfield, and that the Rev Father Foley, who has been the guest of the Rev Father Cummings, V.G., for a short time, has gone to Timaru to bid adieu to his late parishioners, prior to taking charge of the parish of Shand's Track, to which he has been appointed parish priest. Father Foley's delicate health is said to be the cause of his removal to a parish where his duties will be somewhat lighter than they were at the late scene of his labours. The Rev Father Aubrey, who, I understand, is preparing to depart, succeeds the Rev Father Foley as parish priest of Timaru. The Rev Father Lavery has visited the city during the week, and I am glad to say that he is now well able to dispense with the use of crutches.

The Right Rev Father Guillman, S.M., military chaplain of Noumea, New Caledonia, and secretary to the Right Rev Monsignor Fraysee, Vicar Apostolic of New Caledonia, is now the guest at the Presbytery of his Lordship Dr Grimes. Father Guillman, who arrived in New Zealand some months ago in the hope of renewing his health, will return next week to New Caledonia.

Haydn's beautiful mass in B flat was well executed at High Mass at the pro-Cathedral on Sunday last. The Rev Father Cummings, V.G., was celebrant. His Lordship Dr Grimes read from the pulpit the circular, which contains the sentiments which the Catholic bishops in New Zealand expressed at their recent meeting in Dunedin. His Lordship commented at some length on the various resolutions in the circular, and recommended them strongly to the earnest consideration of his flock and to Catholics generally. A very beautiful statue of the Blessed Peter Chanel, proto-martyr of Oceania, was blessed and unveiled at St Mary's at Vespers on the same day. The statue, which is of terra cotta, and has recently arrived from France, is somewhat similar, but smaller in size, than the one placed in honour of the martyr in the pro-Cathedral. There was a large congregation on the occasion, and pontifical vespers were celebrated. The Rev Father Le

Menant was celebrant, and was assisted by the Rev Fathers Ginaty, Marnane and Guillman. As a panegyric had been quite recently preached on the martyr, his Lordship Dr Grimes, who was also present, delivered an eloquent discourse on the next day's festival—the assumption of the Blessed Virgin. There was a numerous choir, and many of the solos were well sung. A slight error, it appears, occurs in my brief notice of a panegyric, which the Rev Father Ginaty preached recently at St Mary's on St Mary Magdalen, who, it seems, was the sister of Lazarus and of Martha. The account given likewise of the Legend of Province does not quite correspond in a few particulars with the version which the rev preacher gave.

## GUILD OF ST ALOYSIUS, CHRISTCHURCH.

THE usual weekly meeting of the Guild of St Aloysius took place last Thursday evening, when there were present Rev Father Bell (President), also Very Rev Father Aubrey and about 20 members. Three new members were elected. After the minutes were read and adopted, and other unimportant business dealt with, the hon. secretary announced that during the week his attention was called to the necessity for a coat of paint for the outside of the hall, and also an offer of a guinea towards covering the expense. After some discussion it was decided to accept the offer, and refer the matter of painting the hall to the council. The programme of the evening was then proceeded with, and consisted of a "Mock Banquet." The following are the toasts which were proposed and responded to:—"His Holiness Pope Leo XIII.," proposed by Mr J. O'Shea, and responded to by Rev Father Bell; "His Lordship Bishop Grimes," proposed by Mr Reddington, responded to by Father Aubrey; "Athletic clubs," proposed by Mr Garty, responded to by Mr Reddington. "Timaru Aloysian Guild," proposed by Mr Beamish, and coupled with the names of Father Aubrey and Messrs Mather and Maddren, responded to by Father Aubrey. The other toasts proposed were "The Rev President," "Hon Secretary," "Caretakers," "Older Members," "Younger Members," "Absent Members." After a vote of thanks was accorded to Rev Father Aubrey for his presence that evening, rev chairman closed the meeting with the usual prayer.

London has a firm of opticians whose speciality is the sale of spectacles for horses. The object of the spectacle is to promote high stepping.

Maxim, the machine gun man, is still pegging away at his flying machine, which he believes will sail high and fast enough to defy assault from destroying guns.

The Pope has congratulated the Duke of Norfolk on the initiative taken by his Grace in the erection of a charity hospital to perpetuate the memory of the late Cardinal Manning.

On the 5th of June the three African Bishops—Mgri. Tournier, Gazamal, and Polemeni—were consecrated in the Cathedral of Carthage at Tunis, in presence of a congregation of the most influential members of the French Protectorate.

The Duke of Talleyrand, wishing to co-operate in the fourth centenary of Christopher Columbus in his capacity of Chevalier of the Golden Fleece, intends to send an authentic portrait of the great navigator, formerly the property of his uncle, the great Talleyrand, to the Madrid Exhibition.

The Cathedral of Mayence has come into possession of an interesting relic. The German poetess, the Countess Hahn-Hahn, has bequeathed to it the greater portion of the crucifix carried by the unfortunate Mary Stuart when she marched to the scaffold on the 18th of February, 1587. The authenticity of the relic is absolutely established.

The land of Calvin is becoming Catholic. The last Swiss census reports 1,183,823 Catholics; 1,716,548 Protestants; 8,069 Jews; and 9,039 members of other religions. Considering the progress made by the Catholics in the past half century, the next fifty years will see the end of the sway of Calvinism in Switzerland.

The death is announced from Paris of the Abbe Lesmayoux, parish priest of Boulogne-sur-Seine. During the Commune this brave ecclesiastic was arrested by the insurgents and imprisoned with the Dominicans of Arceuil. A picket led him to a barricade on the avenue d'Italie, and told him to take up a rifle and have a shot at the Versailles. The abbe fired in the air. The brutes struck him with the butts of their chassespots, and conducted him to the nearest post, where he was left in charge of the wounded whilst awaiting his turn to be shot. An hour after the army captured the post and he was saved.

Mr Charles Santley will shortly reside regularly part of the week at Manchester as principal professor of vocalism of the new Conservatoire of Music. The distinguished baritone, however, will not for some time bid farewell to the concert-rooms of the metropolis.

The remains of Simon Lyons, a member of the Fenian organisation who had taken an active part in the '67 movement, were interred at Ford, Liverpool, on May 2, in the presence of his sons and a number of sympathetic friends, including Mrs Merry, sister of the late John Boyle O'Reilly. Mr Lyons was arrested outside Dublin on the morning of the rising, and was kept in gaol for nine months on suspicion. Although Corydon knew him well, he refused to identify him, the reason being, as stated by Mr Lyons, that on one occasion he had been befriended by the prisoner, though at a time when Corydon's real character was unknown. In securing the escape of Kelly and Deasy, in connection with which the Manchester Martyrs were executed, Lyons took an active part, and he always retained their handcuffs as an interesting memento of the event.