

Assembly commenced, Mr O'Connell making an efficient master of ceremonies, and Mrs and Miss Levien providing excellent music. During one of the intervals Mr Maginnity made a few remarks regarding the object of the entertainment, and the laudable and merciful work in which the ladies of St Mary's Convent were engaged. The management committee (Messrs McGee, Harris, O'Connell, Hyland, and Nash) worked hard, and it must have been gratifying to them to see the whole affair such a success. Besides those mentioned, there were a host of helpers, especially at the tea, and to these the committee desire to express their warmest thanks. One novel feature was a large plum pudding, which was sold in slices, and of which the Mayoress (Mrs Trask) cut the first slice. Altogether a handsome sum must have been realised for the building fund.

(Lake Wakatipu Mail, October 21.)

On Saturday evening a concert was held in the Athenæum Hall, Arrowtown, in aid of St Patrick's school fund. It affords us great pleasure to note that the entertainment was well supported, notwithstanding a heavy down-pour of rain. The hall was filled almost to overflowing, and if one may judge from the applause with which almost every item on the programme was greeted, it is pretty certain that all were greatly pleased with the entertainment provided for them. The programme, under the able conductorship of Miss F. M'Entyre (the school teacher), was also carried out in excellent style, and the affair reflects the highest credit on all those who were concerned in making it such a success.

The proceedings were opened by a piano solo, by Miss F. M'Entyre, for which she was much applauded. Mr Graham (Queens-town) sang in a very pleasing manner "The Quakers." The next item on the programme was a hornpipe by Mr B. Cotter, danced by that gentleman in his usual finished style, and much appreciated by the audience; while the musical portion of the fete was by Mr A. Anderson. Mr O. L. Mackenzie, by his humorous rendering of the song, "Ask the policeman," was very entertaining and received an imperative encore. The lady vocalist of the evening was Miss K. Robertson, and it goes without saying that that young lady sang with her usual good taste. "The wearing of the green," was sung very sweetly by the Misses Houlihan, Cotter and Aitkin. Miss E. Butler, with great archness of expression, sang the "Blue bells of Scotland," for which she was encored, and afterwards tendered a song of a very different description of which an expressive rendering was also given. The duet "Folly and fashions," by Mrs M'Carthy and Miss Butler was much appreciated, and listened to with rapt attention. A piano duet was also given by the Misses Cotter and Gilmour. The national anthem, "God defend New Zealand," was sung in a sweet and pleasing manner by the pupils of the school, their gentle and graceful movements on the stage—especially of the younger children—speaking much for the teacher as a disciplinarian.

During the interval the Rev Father Lynch came forward and, on behalf of the school, thanked the performers and singers for their services so kindly and admirably rendered. He also thanked the audience for their generous patronage.

The second part of the programme was a comedy "The Irish Tiger," the different characters being well sustained. Mr P. Healey, as Alderman Marrowfat, was all that could be desired, and his acting was really good, while Mr M. Tobin sustained the part of Bilberry, the flustering and obstinate old uncle. Mr F. Delany, as Sir Charles, showed himself a master of his part, and his personation of the masquerading young baronet was undoubtedly well executed, while Mr B. Cotter, as the young Irish groom, was simply gorgeous, and his antics elicited roars of laughter. Mr D. Shanahan, as John and general servant, also did very well. Miss S. Cotter and Miss T. M'Entyre, as Julia and Nancy respectively, displayed great culture, and were much admired for their skilful interpretation of the parts sustained by them.

It may be added that Miss F. M'Entyre, Miss E. Robertson and Miss T. Butler gave every satisfaction as extremely efficient accompanists. Financially also, the concert was a great success, £24 having been realised.

(Mataura Ensign, October 28.)

The seating capacity of the Gore Town Hall was taxed to its utmost limit on Wednesday evening for the concert in aid of the Roman Catholic Church Building Fund. The audience was a thoroughly representative one, and many of those present had come from considerable distances, attracted both by the programme of the entertainment and its object.

The first part was opened by a pianoforte duet by Miss Green and Mr Brett, and the second by a piano solo by Miss Green. Both the numbers were played in such a manner as to evoke hearty applause. Mr Bowler was the first singer on the list. He gave a spirited rendering of Poniatoski's "Yeoman's Wedding," and did not respond to an undeniable encore; and in the second part his contributions were "Here upon my vessel's deck," given with great fire and effect, and "Anchored," in response to the recall by the audience, who were clearly determined not to be denied this time. Miss Kate

Blaney, the first stranger to appear, sustained the reputation that had preceded her. She has a sweet and sympathetic, though not very powerful, voice, and "Fiddle and I" proved a most enjoyable number. But it was in the second part that the lady was most successful, singing Böhrend's "Daddy" with a rare appreciation of the sentiment of the beautiful and touching song, this number being accounted by many of those present the "gem of the evening." The old favourite "Robin Adair," was given in response to the demand for more. Master Outred followed Miss Blaney in the first part with an Irish jig, which he gave with great spirit and abandon, and this and a clog dance later on in Mr George Gleeson's best style were amongst the most popular items on the programme with the majority of the audience, both being encored. Mrs Dolamore's "Apart" was an enjoyable number, and Miss Mary Blaney's violin solos, "Blue bells of Scotland" and "Life let us cherish," were both deservedly warmly received. Miss Rose Blaney is the fortunate possessor of a very powerful and highly cultivated soprano voice. In the first part her artistic rendering of "Killarney" was rewarded by a vociferous recall, and "Coming thro' the rye" was given with all the archness the famous old song demands. In the second part Miss Blaney was equally successful with "Close to the threshold." Mr Macedo's robust baritone was heard to advantage in "Queen of the earth" and "True to the last." Mrs Lynch is an old favourite, and received a warm welcome. "Eileen Alannah" was encored, and the lady was quite as happy in her treatment of "Dublin Bay," while later on "When sparrows build" was also favourably received. Miss Stockwell was only down for one number, "Carissima," and the audience would gladly have heard her again. The same remark applies to the duet by Misses B. and K. Blaney, "Friendship," which was a rare treat. Mr F. Anthony brought both first and second parts to a termination with comic songs, "Where one goes, we all go" and "I've worked eight hours this day." Both were encored, and the singer obliged with "Home, boys, home," and "McCormack."

Mr Brett played most of the accompaniments in his customary skilful and sympathetic manner; Miss Green accompanied Mrs Lynch; Miss Rose Blaney her sister; while Misses Mary and Kate Blaney played violin obligatos for several songs. Mr Brett had sole charge of the musical part of the programme, and it could not have been in better hands.

Before the farce commenced Father Newport, in happy terms, thanked the audience for their patronage.

The farce, "Rum's from Rome," was then put on the stage, the characters being taken as follows:—Miss Chump, Miss d'Eterte; Old Mr Chump, Mr G. Allen; Julius, Mr G. Gleeson; Captain Smith, Mr Domigan; Mr Chips, Mr Macedo; Joe, Mr C. Grant. The farce, such as it is, was well played, but it is exceedingly idiotic and very stale, and we fancy the audience would have been better pleased to have had some more of their recalls responded to, and to have heard the Misses Blaney in another duet or two, which would also have permitted of the entertainment closing at a reasonable hour. As it was, the curtain did not fall till about twenty-five minutes to twelve.

The entertainment went off without a hitch, thanks in a great measure to the excellent arrangements made by the secretaries, Messrs Carr and Poppelwell.

The concert drew one of the biggest houses ever known in Gore—total takings said to be about £50.

(Wanganui Chronicle, October 20.)

The grand Catholic bazaar in the Drill Hall was opened last night by his Grace Archbishop Redwood. After "God Save the Queen" had been sung, his Worship the Mayor introduced the Archbishop. Mr Parsons said that the object of the bazaar was to provide funds for the formation of a Marist Brothers' school. He thought it spoke volumes for the people of this district that they would combine in helping in such an undertaking. He had hoped that his Excellency the Governor would have been present at the opening, but as his arrangements were made he was unfortunately unable to stay. He had asked him to express his regret, and as a token of his sympathy with the object he had handed him the very handsome donation of £5. However, if they had not the pleasure of the Governor's presence, they had the honour of his Grace Archbishop Redwood's. The Archbishop, having been introduced, spoke as follows:—"Mr Mayor, ladies and gentlemen,—First of all, I am very grateful to his Worship the Mayor for offering me the very great pleasure of opening these proceedings. The pleasure is enhanced by the fact that everything promises so complete a success. It is always a pleasure to have to deal with any business which promises to be a thorough success, and I think that even in spite of the weather this bazaar will be such. That result will of course be due to the well-known generosity and goodwill of the Wanganui public, and the readiness they show in helping any good object. I do not think there is any part of my diocese in which I have found more generosity or kindness than in this town of Wanganui. I do not know whether it is owing to the magnetic attraction of Father Kirk or not, but that may have something to do with the matter. He seems to have the happy power of gaining the good opinion of all, and if we look over this city we can see what work he has done through the generosity of