

NEW HEADFORD, LINCOLN.

(From an occasional Correspondent.)

THE Feast of the Holy Rosary was celebrated here last Sunday in a very impressive manner and on much the same lines as last year. Preparations were made during the week by a seven days' mission conducted by our esteemed pastor. The weather was not everything that could be desired, which means a lot in a country district, yet the mission was well attended and brought to a fitting conclusion on Rosary Sunday. The children to the number of forty, who were preparing for their first Communion, received at first Mass at 9 o'clock, being followed by a general Communion of the whole congregation. I have witnessed a good many edifying ceremonies in the Church of the Reparation, but never anything to approach what took place last Sunday morning. To see bench after bench file out and approach the rails is a sight seen in few churches. The Rev Father delivered an imposing address to the children on the awful majesty of the sacrament they were about to receive. The ladies of the Altar Society provided a bountiful spread for all and sundry after each Mass. At 11.30 a *missa cantata* was celebrated, in the rendering of which the choir excelled themselves. The members of the Hibernian Society, who, conspicuous by their gay regalia, occupied the first street, made their quarterly Communion at this Mass. The Rev Father invited all present to remain for the concluding ceremony in the afternoon. This was commenced at 3.30 p.m. by a procession of the Blessed Sacrament. Preceded by the cross-bearer and acolytes, it wended its way out by the western door in the following order—girls in white, ladies of the Altar Society, boys with white sashes, men of the congregation, Hibernians marshalled by P.P. Bro McVeigh, choir, altar boys, and finally Rev Father Foley, bearing the Blessed Sacrament, in front of whom were four little angels strewing flowers. The procession passed along the footpath in front of the church into the presbytery grounds and back into the church by the eastern entrance. After the first communicants had received souvenirs of the memorable epoch in their lives marked by that day's proceedings, they made a renewal of their baptismal vows, as did also the congregation present. The Rev Father then delivered an eloquent sermon on "Perseverance," the day being brought to a close by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

During the week the Rev Father Goutenoire of Mount Magdala assisted in hearing confessions, the confessionals being open till close on midnight.

Since my last writing to the TABLET, a great change has taken place in the church and surroundings. The tottering old turret and belfry have been pulled down to make room for a more substantial tower. The main building has been roofed and generally repaired both inside and out, added to which an ornamental fence has been put up along the frontage to the main road, along which a footpath has been laid down. A new coach-house and stable have been built and the lower part of the presbytery re-roofed. The grounds too, have been subjected to a new laying out and planted with shrubs. To one who has been absent for a few months the renovation is very striking, giving the place a very pleasing appearance.

Next to the mission the chief topic of interest has been the Female Franchise.

The executive of the election committee formed here some time ago by the direction of the bishop of the diocese, have been busy enrolling the fair electors. The thought has occurred what a marked difference it would make were the registrars to demand the ages of the claimants for enrolment. As it stands it is a rather delicate matter for those who remained in their teens beyond the stipulated period allowed by Old Father Time.

The church committee have, through their chairman, petitioned the Right Rev Dr Grimes to deliver a lecture here in aid of the school fund, some time this month. I hope his Lordship will favour this appeal.

We beg to draw our reader's attention to an opening announcement by W. J. Sullivan, tailor and habitmaker, Christchurch. Mr Sullivan has had twelve years' experience in the leading establishments in Sydney, and as he is prepared to make suits from a very low figure, those persons who are about to speculate in the tweed line will do well to give him a call.

We publish in another place the answer of Mr George J. Bruce to a requisition that he should offer himself as a candidate for the representation of the Waikouaiti electorate.

MYERS AND CO., Dentists, Octagon, corner of George street. The guarantee highest class work at moderate fees. Their artificial teeth give general satisfaction, and the fact of them supplying a temporary denture while the gums are healing does away with the inconvenience of being months without teeth. They manufacture a single artificial tooth for Ten Shillings, and sets equally moderate. The administration of nitrous oxide gas is also a great boon to those needing the extraction of a tooth. Read—[ADVT.]

Correspondence.

(We are not responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.)

NOTES FROM WELLINGTON.

TO THE EDITOR N.Z. TABLET.

SIR,—In last night's issue of the *Evening Post* appears the reply of the Most Rev Dr Moran to your question *re* womanhood suffrage. I have every reason to believe that during the campaign of the general election this reply of Dr Moran's will be used by our enemies to prove that Dr Moran, in speaking to the Catholics of New Zealand, has clearly stated that they are only expected at the coming election "to vote for the candidates they may conscientiously consider most capable and willing to promote the interests of the Colony." Now, when we have such faddists as Sir Robert and dodgers as "Our Georger," those men will go so far as to say: Your venerable champion has not *here* (in quoting local) said a single word regarding Catholic claims. But, you will say, Catholics should at this stage know their duty as regards the education question. Yes, but we have also the history of the past before us, and know well during the excitement of an election how easily men are turned away from the path of duty. His Lordship dwelt only on the exercising of the privilege. But, as I have said, our enemies will use it against us, for all who are not with us are against us. The very fact of this appearing in the columns of the *Evening Post* reminds me very forcibly of the reply of the great Dr Doyle (J.K.L.). A gentleman made the remark that the introduction of the Bible into the schools would play the d—l with the children. No, said Dr Doyle, but the d—l would play his pranks with the children by means of the Bible.—Substitute local in E.P. for Bible, and the knight for devil, and the free and independent electors for children, and you won't be far out.—I am, etc.,

WELLINGTON CATHOLIC.

[The leader in our present issue should make the trick our correspondent speaks of impossible.—Ed. N.Z. TABLET.]

A CORRECTION.

TO THE EDITOR N.Z. TABLET.

SIR,—*Re* your leader of last week, what the Hon Mr Seddon's "admirers" say of him is not true. It is true that Sir Robert Stout is "king" in New Zealand of the Grand Orient of France, which is responsible for the persecution of Catholic religious Orders, the secularisation of Catholic schools and hospitals, and now the enforced military service of Catholic priests. If the "patriotic" Stout be "king" in the coming Parliament, and remain true to his allegiance to a foreign secret power, Catholics, as a body, cannot expect anything from one who is a decided freethought member of an aggressive atheistic society. It is not true that Mr Seddon was Grand Master of the New Zealand Orangemen. That is a calumny spread abroad with evident object of discrediting him with the Catholic people: Catholics will, doubtless, weigh Mr Seddon in the balance, and if they find him wanting will not hesitate to act accordingly. But truth is truth. It is true that he is a Freemason belonging to one of the British constitutions, but it is not true that he is a member of the Orange Society. I have it on the very reliable authority which I hereby give that Mr Seddon was never in an Orange Lodge in his life, and knows nothing about them.—I am, etc.,

TAX.

The usual contrast between our missions and those of another well-known church is pointed out in the following letter sent to the Allahabad *Morning Post* and dated Pobyat in the Karen country (East Burma), July 13. h.—The Roman Catholics have established a mission here and are working with a zeal and energy, coupled with a self-sacrificing self-denial, found nowhere outside the Church of Rome. They are Italians, from the Milan Seminary, and are under the orders of the Right Rev Lord Bishop Rocco, Vicar-Apostolic of Eastern Burma, with headquarters at a place called Leikho, in the Karen hills, east of Toungoo. Their work and self-denial is in strong contrast to the pretence of another foreign mission who were first in the field and whose members, some of them, lived continuously in Toungoo, varied by trips to a sanitarium or the sea shore during the hot weather, and who, once in a blue moon, pay a flying visit up here from sheer necessity which never lasts for more than a few days (either the visit, or the necessity, according to their own ideas) in order that they may not be compelled to submit an account *a la* Gulliver to their home board. Many of the members of this precious set have gone in for filthy lucre, beyond their handsome salaries, and make no secret of foisting upon the Karens patent medicines put up by their (the missionaries's) impecunious relatives in the home land. To this they add scents, soap, cheap calico, and even betel nut; they also sell milk which upon at least two occasions has been found to contain pollywogs or tadpoles, etc. There are, however, some true souls among them who mourn over these iniquities, but seem powerless to prevent them.

NEW CYCLE BUSINESS Christchurch—BECKWITH & DITFORT beg to announce that they have commenced Business as Cycle Manufacturers, &c., in premises next Mr Horsley, Tuam street, opposite Nelson, Moate's, and trust to receive a share of public support. Repairs receive best attention. Charges moderate. Victory Cycle Works.