

of the poor of Rome has its headquarters in the poor boys' school and club. This club,' says the 'Review of Reviews,' 'developed by him for years with unflinching energy, now contains hundreds of members, many of them saved from ruin by its influence. With these poor urchins and their families Cardinal Merry del Val is a hero and a saint. This is the kind of work to which, beyond others, he would wish to devote his whole life.'

DIocese OF DUNEDIN

The Dunedin Catholic schools picnic took place at Evansdale yesterday (Wednesday).

The retreat of the clergy closed at Holy Cross College on last Friday morning. The annual Diocesan Synod was held afterwards.

A mission for the women of St Joseph's Cathedral congregation is being conducted this week by fathers Roney and Morrogh, S.J. The mission for the men opens on Sunday evening.

At St. Anne's Church, Waikouaiti, on Wednesday of last week, a presentation of a watch, etc., was made to Miss E. Pickup by the congregation in testimony of their grateful sense of the valuable services which she had rendered for several years in the care and decoration of the church. The presentation was made by Mrs. P. Toomey on behalf of the congregation.

The following clerical changes have taken place in the diocese of Dunedin: Rev. J. O'Malley goes from Oamaru to St. Joseph's Cathedral; Rev. P. O'Neill from Holy Cross College to Oamaru; Rev. D. Buckley from St. Joseph's Cathedral to Holy Cross College; Rev. J. Liston, who was ordained on last Sunday, goes to Holy Cross College. The Cromwell mission has been divided. The Rev. John Ryan has been placed in charge of Cromwell, and the Rev. George Hunt has taken over Alexandra, where he now resides.

The Rev. James Liston was raised to the priesthood on last Sunday by his Lordship the Bishop at the eleven o'clock Mass in St. Joseph's Cathedral. The cathedral was densely packed. The occasional sermon was preached by the Very Rev. J. Ryan, S.J. The following clergy were also present at the solemn ceremony: Very Rev. J. O'Neill (Milton), Rev. J. Roney, S.J. (Sydney), Rev. P. Murphy, Adm., Rev. J. Coffey, Rev. P. O'Neill, Rev. D. Buckley, and Rev. H. W. Cleary. The newly-ordained priest was the recipient of many congratulations from lay and clerical friends in various parts of New Zealand.

Another meeting of the committee in charge of the movement to raise funds to repair and ultimately rebuild the Christian Brothers' School was held on 31st January, when it appeared that matters were well in hand, and that the actual canvassing both in Dunedin and out of it should begin this week. Already a number of the ex-pupils have associated themselves with the movement either by attendance at the meetings or by subscriptions or promises. Among them are the following gentlemen—The Rev. Fathers P. O'Neill, Buckley, Liston, Messrs P. and J. Hally, A. J. Sullivan, J. J. Connor, Junr, T. J. Hussey, Jas Hill, W. Fitzpatrick, C. Columb, Junr, F. Heley, J. J. Dunne, W. H. Haydon, Junr.

A private letter written by the Right Rev. Mgr. Mackay on December 26 to a clerical friend in Dunedin conveys the information that the Monsignor had at that time been two months in Rome. He was the guest of his old friend and class-fellow, Monsignor Fraser, Rector of the Scots College, and greatly enjoyed his stay in the Eternal City, visiting day by day every place of interest. He also visited Lourdes, Monte Cassino, and Naples. At the last mentioned place he met Bishops Reville (Bendigo), Higgins (Rockhampton), and Gallagher (Goulburn), and Dean Slattery (Newtown, Sydney). He called upon the New Zealand students at Propaganda College, and reports them in excellent health. On the week after Christmas, Monsignor Mackay was to set out for Scotland by Florence, Venice, Milan, Lyons, Paris, and London, and then (said he) 'on board for dear old New Zealand.' He expects to be back in Oamaru about Easter.

A man's business may be a success, and yet the man a failure.

Messrs. Whitcombe and Tombs, Christchurch, and 97 George street, Dunedin, have just landed some beautiful medallion portraits of Pope Pius X and Leo XIII. As the price is only ninepence, they are within the reach of all. The firm have also a large stock of prayer books at the most reasonable prices.

NEW ZEALAND: GENERAL

From our Hokitika correspondent we learn that Father Aubrey, lately of Waimate, reached Hokitika, his new sphere of labor, on January 27.

We have received several communications in reference to pupils who won the St. Patrick's College scholarships, Wellington, but have been requested to await the complete official list which we hope to publish next week.

The list of successes at the recent N.Z. University examinations contained the name of Miss Maud Casey, who passed the medical preliminary. This young lady was prepared for her examination at the Convent of Mercy, Greymouth.

Our Wanganui correspondent writes: Among the successful candidates at the University examinations held in December last, I notice with pleasure the names of Misses M. Robson and M. Mitchell, both pupils of the Wanganui Convent. The former young lady passed in Latin, qualified for matriculation and solicitors' general knowledge. Miss Mitchell passed the matriculation examination. These were the only two candidates presented by the Sisters, and it is gratifying to find that both have been so successful.

At St. Patrick's church, Greymouth (writes a correspondent) on Sunday, January 24, two young ladies—Miss Gunan and Miss Parker—received the white veil of the Sisters of Mercy. The former young lady is now known in religion as Sister Mary Baptist and the latter as Sister Mary Claude. The ceremony was a very impressive one. The choir, under the conductorship of Mr. Guthrie, sang the music proper for the occasion, and the Rev. Father Mangan, C. S.S.R., preached a very able and appropriate sermon. The congregation was a very large one.

From the Napier (H.B.) 'Daily Telegraph' of January 23, we learn that on the previous Sunday, after Vespers, an address with accompanying purse was presented to Dean Binsfeld by the parishioners of Meanee. Dr. Kennedy presided and delivered a complimentary speech worthy of the occasion. Mr. Pothan read the address and presented the purse of sovereigns, which about doubled the Christmas dues, showing the generosity of the people and their appreciation of their late pastor. Dean Binsfeld warmly acknowledged their liberality, and especially drew attention to their hearty feeling towards himself during the eight years he had been in charge of the parish. As he had already said in his farewell address to them in the morning from the altar, he had always experienced from them respect, unvarying kindness, and docility.

PALMERSTON NORTH

(From our own correspondent.)

January 31.

The Rev. Dr. Kennedy, of Meanee College, was a visitor to Palmerston during the holidays. He was the guest of his brother, Mr. Matthew Kennedy, manager of the local gas works. On Sunday last at Vespers Dr. Kennedy preached an eloquent sermon.

The adjourned meeting of the local branch of the I.A.C.B.S. was held on last Wednesday, January 27. Bro. Fred Herring, president for the ensuing half-year, was in the chair, and there was a good muster of members present. The secretary presented the balance sheet from the branch's inception to date, which was passed as very satisfactory. A pleasing thing to note was the healthy state of the roll, there being now a little over double the number of financial members the branch started with in August. It is gratifying to see the financial support the Lodge is receiving throughout the district, there being now a good round sum to meet the many little necessities hitherto done without, and funds are still coming to hand. All this should tend to bring the branch into a flourishing state by the end of its first year. Mr. W. Ryan was proposed an hon-member. The meeting broke up at 10.30.

During the week great interest has been taken in the painting of St. Patrick's steeple, which, together with the rest of the church, is undergoing a complete renovation at the hands of Messrs. Brady and Fitzsimmons. The painting of the cross, which is over 150 feet from the ground, is, with the breeze that blows in Palmerston, somewhat of a steeple-jack performance. The work, however, is proceeding satisfactorily. On next Sunday a collection will be taken up for the purpose of defraying these expenses, and we feel sure it will meet with the best support of the parish.

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