

The following particulars taken from my diary will show the work that has been done by the united effort of priests, religious, and people during the year. You will note that besides the money collected for purely parochial purposes as stated above, the Sisters of St. Joseph have freed the debt of their convent site at Newton, costing £600; the Sisters of the Mission at Pukekohe have enlarged their schools at a cost of £1000, the Sisters of Mercy at Parnell have built a new convent at a cost of £630; the Marist Brothers have opened their new college at Ponsonby, costing £6000, the Sisters of the Poor have accepted a contract for their new building, which is to cost £6187; total, £14,417. This does not include the convent and schools built by the Sisters of Mercy at Ormond, nor the property bought at Te Aroha by the Sisters of Mercy for school and hospital works, particulars of which are not to hand.

(After referring to the various events that had taken place in the diocese during the past year his Lordship concludes as follows):—

During the year 1903 we lost five priests to the diocese, three by death, the Revs. James Mackintosh, William J. Croke, and William B. Purton, O.S.B. May God have mercy on their souls. Rev. A. Russell left for a new sphere of duty, and the Rev. M. Egan was ordered by his medical adviser to take a prolonged journey. While regretting the loss of these, we welcome in our midst the Revs. M. Meagher, A. J. McMillan, J. Duffy, and Thos. P. Lynch.

Your prayers are asked for the repose of the souls of Sister Mechtild, of the Sisters of St. Joseph, Mother Victoire, of the Sisters of the Mission; and Sister Barbara, of the Sisters of Mercy, who died during the month of January of this present year. May they rest in peace.

The Lenten Dispensations are to be read to your people on Quinquagesima Sunday. Kindly place in the porch of your churches the large sheet with explanation of Fasting and Abstinence.

Given from Bishop's House, Ponsonby, on February 7, 1904, and appointed to be read on Quinquagesima Sunday. The collection for the Diocesan or Bishop's Travelling Fund will be made on the first Sunday of Lent, or following Sundays.

✠ GEO. M. LENIHAN,
Bishop of Auckland.

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

February 20.

Rev. Father Johnson, of Waipawa, left for Europe by the 'Paparoa' on Thursday last.

A bazaar will be opened at the Oddfellows' Hall, Lower Hut, on Monday evening next by Sir Joseph Ward to raise funds for the installation of gas in the church, presbytery and school. The ladies of the parish have been working hard for several months past, and a fine collection of works of art, needlework, etc., will be displayed on the stalls.

At the half-past ten o'clock Mass on Sunday last a three weeks' mission began at the Church of the Sacred Heart. There was a large congregation present. A short address was given by his Grace the Archbishop, who declared the mission opened. Mass was then celebrated by the Very Rev. Father Lewis, V.G. The sermon was preached by Rev. Father King, C.S.S.R. In an eloquent discourse he stated the object of the mission, and explained that the one about to be preached had the approval of his Holiness Pius X. and his Grace the Archbishop. At the evening devotions the church was crowded. The sermon was preached by Rev. Father MacDermott, who spoke on the importance of eternal salvation. Solemn Pontifical Benediction was given by his Grace the Archbishop, assisted by Fathers MacDermott and King. The morning and evening services during the week have been well attended. Special services have also been held during the week for the children, concluding to-day with First Communion. Confirmation will be administered by his Grace the Archbishop to-morrow.

At the Druids' Hall on Tuesday evening the welcome home tendered to Dr. Cahill by his numerous friends passed off most successfully. A representative gathering was present, including members of the Ministry, representatives of the Legislature and the medical profession. Dr. Martin occupied the chair. On his right were the guest of the evening, Sir J. G. Ward, Very

Rev. Father Keogh (Rector of St. Patrick's College), the Hon. T. Kennedy Macdonald, M.L.C., Dr. Collins, and Mr. J. Holmes. On his left were the Right Hon. the Premier, the Hon. Mr. Mills, Very Rev. Father Lewis, V.G., Mr. A. McDonald, Mr. Nicholas Reid, and Dr. Ewart.

In proposing the toast of 'Our Guest,' the chairman said he had known Dr. Cahill since 1884, since when he had practically lived his whole life in the full blaze of publicity, and if he had made enemies it had been the enemies' fault. He had made many friends, and those friends he made at first were now a hundred-fold more his friends. In no public movement was Dr. Cahill in the rear; in any private movement he was always in the van—but no one ever knew it. His kindness of heart and his ever-ready charity were Dr. Cahill's greatest commendations.

Dr. Cahill, who met with a cordial reception, said he was deeply grateful and thanked them most heartily for the warm and kindly greeting they had given him. It was indeed a great pleasure to return once more to one's friends and to be greeted in such a generous manner. Dr. Cahill then proceeded to give a brief sketch of his travels through America, Canada, and the Old Country, making special reference to the wonderful scenery and almost boundless resources of Canada, and deplored that it was to such a great extent in the hands of monopolists and that it already contained a very large alien population. Regarding Ireland, he spoke with enthusiasm of the great change for the better brought about by the passing of the Land Act, and remarked that the Irish peasant was at last master of his own destinies, the shackles under which he labored were almost completely loosened, and he was now free to adopt his own methods for his own progress. The recent Land Act had done more to make friends between the English and Irish peoples than all the legislation for the past eight hundred years. Ireland, however, still needed a native Government. He was, he said in conclusion, delighted to get back to New Zealand, and he could confidently assure them that he had seen no more beautiful, no more prosperous country than the one we had the good fortune to live in, and he was sure that no country was ever inhabited by a more kindly and generous people.

In replying to the toast of 'Parliament,' proposed by Mr. J. Holmes, the Premier said it gave him great pleasure to join with them in extending a hearty 'cead mile failte' to Dr. Cahill. He went on to compare the laws of New Zealand with the laws of those countries that Dr. Cahill had visited, urging that the curse of monopoly and the millionaire could never be experienced here, and in regard to Ireland expressed the conviction that if there had been an Imperial Council in existence the troubles that existed in Ireland would have disappeared long ago. He also suggested that the land laws of New Zealand had had something to do with the passing of the Irish Land Act.

During the evening songs and recitations were contributed by Rev. Fathers Ainsworth and Moloney, and Messrs J. Holmes, J. F. Carr, J. Dykes, and Mr. Morgan. Mr. H. McKeown carried out the duties of honorary secretary in an efficient manner.

Napier

(From an occasional correspondent.)

The annual meeting for the election of a church committee held recently resulted as follows:—Messrs. P. Barry, P. Halpin, P. J. Kenny, J. McGrath, J. Higgins, M. Treston, C. O'Donoghue, J. McHardy, and P. Reidy.

Preparations are in progress for the holding of a Catholic bazaar, which is fixed for Carnival week, in October next. It will be known as the Empire Bazaar. The following are the stall holders:—Motherland stall: Mesdames W. Barry, McShane, Cameron, and Kelliher; Australia: Mesdames Higgins, Treston, P. Barry, Ruston, and Wells; Indian: Mesdames Halpin, Reardon, and O'Connell, Canadian: Mesdames Greaves, McHardy, Lloyd, O'Donoghue, and Shanahan; New Zealand (Kia ora): Mesdames Brophy, Malcolm, Moroney, and Misses Hunter and Flannery. Mrs. K. Condon was appointed hon. secretary. The ladies of the Indian stall are holding a concert for the purpose of raising funds.

St. Patrick's Day is to be celebrated by a social. Mr. M. Treston, a recent arrival from Auckland, has been appointed hon. sec.

Since his advent to this district two years ago, the Rev. Father Goggan has devoted himself with his characteristic zeal and energy to the work of the parish. Already during his short tenure many necessary and important improvements have been made, among the more important being alterations to the boys' school, the building of a new presbytery, and improvements of

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