

tirely by private contribution. Keep Church and State forever separate. The business of teaching religion God has committed to the Church, not to the State. The State may educate the children to make them citizens, but not saints. Moral instruction has been committed to other hands.

The demand that the State shall teach religion augurs no good. It is a backward step. It indicates a retrogression on the part of the family and the Church,—that those who profess to be followers of Christ are forgetting Christian principles, and walking in false ways. The turning of the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers (Mal. 4: 5, 6) is the only true remedy for the situation.

Diocesan News

DIocese of CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

October 10.

Miss Cissie O'Brien has been appointed organist of St. Mary's Church in place of Mr. G. R. Fleming, resigned.

The recent entertainment in aid of improvements to the Marist Brothers' School and residence is estimated to result in a credit balance of £50.

The Sisters of Mercy at Darfield accidentally omitted from their recent list of musical successes the name of Miss Maggie McMullin, who passed the intermediate Trinity College theory examination.

Those Sisters of Our Lady of Missions who visit the Jubilee Memorial Home state there is a pressing demand on the part of the inmates for Catholic books and good Catholic literature. Possessing a full knowledge of the benefits to be conferred, they are most anxious to supply these necessities. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is helping, and the Catholic Club intend passing on at intervals its suitable newspapers and magazines. Further donations from private friends will be thankfully accepted by the Sisters, and the best use made of such in respect to the institution under notice. Similar contributions may be sent to the convent, or presbytery, Barbadoes street.

Ashburton

The Ashburton Catholic Literary Society (says the 'Mail') held their annual banquet on Thursday at the rooms of the Society. There was a large attendance, Mr. D. McDonnell (president) taking the chair.

The first toast to be honored was that of 'The Pope and King.'

The toast of 'The Federated Catholic Societies' was then proposed by Mr. F. K. Cooper, who, in a neat speech, outlined the history of the Ashburton Catholic Literary Society during the past six years, and the history, aims, and influence of Catholic literary societies generally.

The toast was responded to by Mr. J. Turton (ex-president), who dwelt on the benefits accruing from the federation of Catholic societies, and complimented the Ashburton Society upon its progress since its inception.

The chairman then proposed the toast of the 'Ashburton Catholic Literary Society,' and in doing so thanked the Society for electing him president. The Society was popular, and its membership was increasing, and everything augured well for a successful future.

Mr. Muller, in responding, referred to the good work done by the Society in bringing young people together. The good example set by the Catholics had been followed by nearly every other denomination. He advocated an extension of the social side of the Society's work.

The following toasts were also duly honored:—'The Bishop and Clergy,' proposed by Mr. P. Hanrahan, and responded to by the Very Rev. Dean O'Donnell and the Rev. Father Creed; 'The Hibernian Society,' proposed by Mr. J. Turton, and responded to by Mr. P. Hanrahan; 'Past Presidents,' proposed by Mr. M. J. Burgess, and responded to by Messrs. F. K. Cooper, L. Hanrahan, W. Soal, A. J. Muller, and J. Turton; 'Subscribers to our Funds,' proposed by Mr. W. Soal, and responded to by the Chairman and Mr. A. J. Muller; 'Kindred Societies,' proposed by Mr. S. Madden, and responded to by Mr. J. Moison; 'The Visitors,' proposed by Mr. T. Brophy, and responded to by Messrs. Moriarty and Stanton; 'The A. and P. Association,' proposed by Mr. F. Scrint, and responded to

by Mr. D. Crowe; 'The Ladies,' proposed by Mr. P. Healy, and responded to by Messrs. J. Turton and F. Healy; 'The Press,' proposed by Mr. Stevens, and responded to by the newspaper representatives present; and 'The Incoming Officers,' proposed by Mr. F. K. Cooper, and responded to by the chairman.

During the evening the following musical programme was gone through: Pianoforte solo, Mrs. Crowe; songs—Miss M. Madden, Messrs. F. Healy, J. Healy, P. Healy, V. Madden, M. J. Burgess, T. Brophy; recitation—Mr. F. K. Cooper.

Waimate

The ceremony of unveiling the Troopers' monument at Waimate took place on Thursday afternoon in the presence of a representative assemblage including the scholars of the District and St. Patrick's Schools. Among those on the platform around the monument were the Rev. Fathers P. Regnault and O'Connell. The Mayor, performed the ceremony, and Mr. Manchester, in the course of his speech, said that their work that day was the result of a general and united expression of Waimate town and country, first of deep, heartfelt, and general sympathy with Mr. and Mrs. Whitney and their family on the occasion of the death of Trooper Alfred Whitney, who fell resisting with his comrades of the Canterbury division of the Fourth Contingent the night attack at Bothasberg.

Father Regnault (says the 'Oamaru Mail') referred in eloquent and heart-stirring words to the events which called them together, thus celebrating the noble sacrifice of the life of a young man, son of esteemed and respected neighbors, who died in the performance of his duty to his flag and country. Deceased was one of the 71 Waimate Volunteers who so freely stepped forward to join their brother colonials in helping the Old Country in time of stress and danger. On behalf of the large number of people present, and on behalf of the people of Waimate, he wished to convey to the parents and the brother and sisters of Trooper Alfred Whitney the expression of deep sympathy of the people with them in their bereavement. They all felt stirred by the noble spirit of patriotism and duty which moved New Zealand's young men to leave home and country; and he hoped the memory of their brave deeds and heroic deaths would inspire New Zealanders to be loyal to King and country. On the night of the 22nd and 23rd of February, 1902, at Bothasberg, the Boers made a dash to get out of the position in which they were held, but were met by the New Zealanders, and one of the severe engagements of the war was gallantly fought. Amongst the proportionately large number killed and wounded Trooper Whitney was found dead. The speaker closed his eloquent speech with a quotation from the general despatch to the Home authorities, in which was mentioned in glowing terms the gallant conduct in the severe action of the New Zealand Volunteers.

Palmerston North

(From our own correspondent.)

October 2.

On Sunday last the members of St. Patrick's Choir, with some outside assistance, gave a sacred concert in the Zealandia Hall in aid of the choir funds. The hall was crowded with an appreciative audience. The following programme was given: Grand march, 'Khar-toum,' by the orchestra, the 'Gloria' and 'Kyrie' from Mozart's eleventh Mass, with orchestra, the choir; song, 'There is a green hill far away,' Rev. Father Hills; violin solo, Mr. P. Mattson; song, 'O Divine Redeemer,' Miss C. Rush; saxophone solo, 'The lost chord,' Mr. F. Grubb; song, 'Prayer,' with violin obbligato by Mr. Mattson, Miss Clifford; cornet solo, with orchestral accompaniment, Mr. C. Pickering; song, 'Shepherd of the fold,' Rev. Father Hills; song, 'Ave Verum,' Mrs. Russell; song, 'The Holy City,' Rev. Father Hills; selection, 'Serenade,' orchestra. Mr. P. Tombs was conductor, and Miss Scanlon played the accompaniments. At the conclusion of the concert Mr. V. A. Dallow thanked the audience on behalf of the choir for their attendance and patronage.

The Rev. Father Tymons, with his usual thoughtfulness, entertained the choir and orchestra at supper after the concert.

(This letter arrived too late for insertion in our last issue.)

Father Ginisty, S.M., the successor of the late Father Le Rennelet at St. Patrick's, Sydney, was, like his predecessor, a soldier for a while, and saw active service during the Franco-Prussian war.