

Catholic Art and Progress.

In visiting the building on a recent afternoon, your correspondent found photographers busily engaged, under supervision of the Very Rev. Dean Phelan, in taking views of the building, both on the outside and within. A particularly interesting photograph, however, which may probably be looked upon as forming the 'chef d'œuvre' in its kind, will be that of the hall as it appears on Sunday forenoon, October 23, when a breakfast, following the General Communion of the members of the Catholic Young Men's Societies' Federation of Victoria, to take place in St. Patrick's Cathedral at the 8 a.m. Mass, will be held. This picture in itself should afford a manifest evidence of the growth and promise of Catholicism in this State. Visible evidence of a somewhat similar nature has, meantime, been taken in hand by the indefatigable layman who shares with the Rev. J. McCarthy the onerous burden of honorary secretary—that is Dr. A. L. Kenny. Dr. Kenny has placed himself in communication with the various architects and other authorities throughout Victoria so as to secure photographs and plans of the churches, charitable institutions, convents, and other ecclesiastical buildings erected in every part of the State, which, hung on the walls of the hall, will testify strikingly to Catholic progress. An opportunity will also be taken for a display of Catholic art, and notable in this connection will be an exceptionally touching set of Stations of the Cross exhibited by Architect Tappin. Specimens of stained glass will likewise be shown. Nothing, in a word, has been overlooked that can in any way serve to promote the success of the Congress or to insure its serving not only as an evidence of the standing occupied by the Catholic Church in these States but as a point of departure for further advance and a still higher elevation. The lasting and fruitful effects produced by the first Congress, that held in Sydney in September, 1900, are admitted. It may confidently be hoped that those to follow the Congress now approaching will be even more fully marked.

Various Improvements.

Comparisons are odious, as we know, and perhaps especially so must those be that should be made between the works or undertakings of religion. All of us, nevertheless, will unite in the desire that the success gained and the impression produced by the Sydney Congress may be surpassed, even a hundred-fold if possible, by the results of the Melbourne Congress. This will by no means belittle what has gone before but will testify, in a manner, to delight every true Catholic, to the vigor of the Church and the growth, intellectual as well as spiritual, that has attended on her course throughout the ages. We shall hope, indeed, that however brilliant may be the success of the second Congress, that of the third, wherever and whenever it may be held, will not throw it into the shade, but continue and vastly increase it.

An important improvement on the Congress at Sydney has already been announced in the character of the papers to be read in Melbourne, which have been pronounced by the Archbishop and Dean Phelan—competent judges, I need not say—of a higher standard. The volume also in which these papers are to be published will show a decided advance. It will be brought out in a much improved form. The arms of the reigning Pope on the back of the cover will, for example, be a notable addition.

As proof of the consideration that has been exercised I may add that a special edition of Sands and McDougall's penny diaries, provided with time-tables and a map of the heart of the city for the convenience of visitors, will be presented to the members. A detailed list of hotels and their tariffs in the city and suburbs has also been printed for distribution.

I hope, in conclusion, to recognise among those present at the opening of the Congress in the Cathedral Hall at 10 a.m. on Sunday, October 23, many visitors from Dunedin. The faithful efforts made by your Rev. Editor to promote the interests of the Congress have received the special acknowledgments and thanks of the Committee.

MYERS & CO., Dentists, Octagon, corner of George street. They guarantee the highest class of 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 advertisement.—**

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

October 7.

The Rev. Father Answorth, parish priest of Wellington South, is at present arranging for the formation of a tennis court and cricket pitch for the pupils of the parish school.

His Excellency the Governor has informed the bazaar committee that should arrangements permit he will be pleased to preside at the opening of the fête at Easter.

The State Inspector's report, with reference to his examination of the Te Aro parish schools, is, I believe, in every way satisfactory. Fault is, however, deservedly found with the accommodation, to remedy which the authorities are making all possible arrangements.

A cricket pitch is to be prepared this season on the St. Patrick's College ground at Berhampore for use by the college team. The Rector is endeavoring to arrange that all matches with the college should be played on their own ground, an arrangement that will no doubt find favor with the Cricket Association, of which the Rev. Rector is a vice-president.

Widespread regret has been caused here by the death on Thursday last of Mr. John Joseph Kelly, of Barrett's Hotel. Deceased was the second son of Mr. Thomas Kelly, and was born at Twelve Mile, Grey Valley. At the time of his death he was in his twenty-sixth year, and had only been married about six months.—R.I.P.

Mr. John Coyle, of the Post and Telegraph Department, has consented to act as a representative of the N.Z. Federated C.Y.M. Societies at the coming Congress in Melbourne. The delegates will leave on Saturday next. The secretary of the Victorian Federation has written to say that the necessary arrangements have been made for their accommodation when in Melbourne.

An illuminated address for presentation to Brother Mark from his Wellington friends has been sent to the executive of the Auckland Young Men's Club, who have been requested by the local club to arrange for its presentation. The address, which was executed by an old pupil of Brother Mark, Mr. S. G. Ross, of Willis street, is handsomely bound in the best morocco, and reflects great credit on all concerned. It contains the signatures of the 'old boys' of the school, members of the Catholic Young Men's Club, and friends. The sum of £15 has also been forwarded with the address. This amount will be devoted to the purchase of books for the library of the Marist Brothers' College.

The members of St. Patrick's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society met on Wednesday evening. The membership is rapidly increasing, six new members having been initiated at the previous meeting, while on Wednesday evening five candidates were proposed. After the routine business had been completed, the members of the branch entertained the Druids at a games' tournament. St. Patrick's Hall was filled and a most enjoyable evening was spent. Several songs and recitations were given by members of both Societies. The tournament ended in favor of the Hibernians, who thus reversed the result of the previous contest. An excellent supper was provided, and the proceedings were terminated with the singing of 'Auld lang syne.' By the kindness of the executive of the Catholic Young Men's Club, their fine billiard table and piano were placed at the disposal of the Hibernians. As a result of their recent social I understand that over £20 have been cleared, a sum that will be evenly divided between the men's and women's branches for the purchase of additional regalia.

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

October 15.

The executive of the Catholic Young Men's Federation is appealing by circular to the different clubs in the Colony asking them to endeavor to be represented at the annual Conference in Dunedin at Christmas.

Weather permitting, the Catholic Young Men's tennis court will be opened to-day. Great improvements have been made. A large increase in the membership is expected, and everything promises well for a highly successful season.

The Cricket Association has granted the members of St. Patrick's College Club permission to play their matches on their own ground at Berhampore. The

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