

In the course of an address to the congregation Rev. Father Cahill gave the parishioners a general outline of the financial condition of St. Mary's church during the three years of his administration. The furnishing and repairs to St. Mary's presbytery amounted to about £162 10s. This amount was raised by subscriptions, and the proceeds of three entertainments, two of which were held at Carterton, and one at Greytown, and which realised £31, £18, and £30 respectively. The next undertaking was the purchase of a new church site in Queen street. Mr. J. A. Dudson generously donated the corner site a quarter of an acre, on which the church now stands, and other five quarter acre sections cost, on an average £46 each, or £230. The expenses in connection with the removal of the church were very heavy, owing to a series of unfortunate complications. The hire of the traction engine alone was £34. The cost of dealing with the telegraph wires was £16 18s, and other expenses were in proportion. It was perhaps one of the most difficult undertakings ever carried out in the Wairarapa. The cost was about £230. The total outlay on the new church site to date, including fencing, stabling, and planting, had been about £500. The new iron gates were the gift of Mr. H. O'Leary, blacksmith, of Masterton, and the gate posts were the gift of Mr. M. Riley, of Carterton. How was the money raised? The bazaar last year, which undoubtedly held the record for Carterton, realised £315. The reopening ceremony was responsible for £12. Three entertainments last year—at Carterton, £16 8s; Greytown, £28; and Martinborough, £24 7s—realised about £69, besides generous donations from some of the non-Catholics of the district. The total indebtedness at present on St. Mary's Church is £110 3s 11d, which about represents the cost of two sections, the fencing and planting of the same, and the water service connection at the church and presbytery, which amounted to £10 16s.

DIocese OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

March 13.

The syllabus of the Catholic Club for the meetings, commencing on next Tuesday evening, and for the four months in advance, comprises a smoke 'social,' 'lecture,' 'card tournament,' 'concert,' 'debate,' 'ladies' evening' (musical), 'lecture,' and a 'character social' a prize being allotted for the best delineation.

At Vespers in the Cathedral on Sunday evening, the Rev. Father Mahony assisting the choir gave a very fine rendering of 'Attende Domine et miserere,' the choir taking up the response. The superb acoustic properties of the great Cathedral greatly enhances the effect of solo singing, and from the pulpit every word uttered by the preacher was distinctly heard even at the main entrance.

Apropos to the stage Irishman and the commendable way in which the 'Tablet' writes him down, a local daily paper copies the following comment from the 'Globe':—'No race, probably, has ever been so maligned on the stage as the Irish. There was never on sea or land such a man as the stage Irishman, with his scarlet hair and shillelagh, and his "Bedad" and "Bogorrah." The real Irishman is a man to laugh with, not to laugh at.'

In compliance with the recommendation of the Federated Catholic Young Men's Societies' Executive committee, made at last conference held in Dunedin, members of the Christchurch Catholic Club approached the Holy Table in a body at the seven o'clock Mass in the Cathedral on Sunday last. They were afterwards entertained by the patron, Sir George Clifford, at breakfast in the Club rooms. The Rev. Father S. Mahony (chaplain) was present and also Sub-Inspector Dwyer. When the breakfast was over the Rev. Father Mahony expressed his gratification at the role formulated with such a worthy object, as that which made the compliance with the Easter precept one that all the young men of Catholic clubs and societies could carry out in the most edifying and convenient manner. Although it could have been better attended, still he was pleased at the way the numbers had turned out that morning. In apologising for the unavoidable absence of Sir George Clifford, Mr. P. O. Duncan (president) said their patron had expressed deep concern at his inability to be among them that morning. He (Mr. Duncan) had much pleasure in proposing a hearty vote of thanks to Sir George Clifford for the splendid way

in which the members had been entertained. This was carried by acclamation.

A very attractive programme has been arranged for the concert in Canterbury Hall in celebration of St. Patrick's Day. As the tickets are widely distributed and selling well, a full house seems assured. The vocal items will be given, amongst others, by Mrs. Burns, Miss Treleaven, Messrs. Millar, Reid, Vincent, Medhurst, and Densem. Mr. Winter Hall will recite, and Herr Kahn will play a violin solo. Mr. Rossiter's orchestra will play a selection, and there will also be a vocal quartette a banjo quartette, and Irish dances. All the items will be of a national character.

DIocese OF AUCKLAND

(From our own correspondent.)

March 9.

His Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan left town last Saturday morning, and next day blessed and opened a new church at Waipipi.

It may prove interesting to learn that the ring worn by his Grace Archbishop Kelly was formerly owned and worn by the late deeply lamented Pope Leo XIII.

His Grace Archbishop Kelly left for Sydney last Monday evening. During his short stay here he made quite a large circle of friends, who were won by his genial manner.

The Rev. Father King, whose demise was reported in the 'Tablet,' was born in the parish of Dunhoyme, County Meath, and educated in Paris. He was stationed in the Dublin archdiocese for some time, and from there came to the colonies, and labored in Rockhampton and Wilcannia, and subsequently came to New Zealand. He was for some years at Ahaura, on the West Coast. He came to Auckland about two years ago. For a short while he was at St. Patrick's, whence he was appointed to the Pukekohe parish, in which he worked until death suddenly overtook him. He was buried at Pukekohe, where the Bishop and a large number of the clergy took part in the obsequies of the departed priest.—R.I.P.

His Grace Archbishop Kelly, of Sydney, arrived from Rotorua last Saturday afternoon, and, owing to the absence of the Bishop at Waipipi, where he was blessing and opening a new church, his Grace stayed at St. Patrick's presbytery. He celebrated the early Mass at the Cathedral on Sunday, and attended in the sanctuary at 11 o'clock Mass, which was celebrated by the Rev. Father Power, of Fitzroy, Melbourne. At Vespers the church was thronged to overflowing, when his Grace preached a very fine discourse. He exhorted the congregation to love and honor their Church. He urged them to join the sodalities and societies. The young men should join the Hibernian Society, and the young women the Children of Mary. To Catholic parents and guardians his Grace eloquently and earnestly appealed to send their children to the Catholic schools. A procession of the Blessed Sacrament then followed. The choir, under Mr. P. F. Hiscocks, rendered the music in a manner most satisfactory.

The Solomon Islands Mission

Venerable Rev. Father E. Bertreaux, Prefect Apostolic of the Southern Solomon Islands, who is on a visit to Australia, relates (says the 'Freeman's Journal') how a massacre was averted in October last. It was at Loongoo, on the south-west of Gaudalcanar. Several bush boys returned from Queensland, and were landed with their boxes. Father Chatelet protected them against the coast natives, who, in revenge, organised a conspiracy by which a hundred natives were to attack the station and murder the priest. Father Chatelet, having been warned, armed converts with old guns, and the natives retreated. Mr. Woodford, the Commissioner, suppressed the trouble by arresting the ringleaders. Father Bertreaux said that the Marist mission station at Rua Sura, an island off Gaudalcanar, was established six years ago, and since then they had established five stations in various parts of the adjacent islands. These stations are in charge of priests, of whom there are nine now engaged in the work; also two Sisters of the Third Order of Mary. The natives treat the whites as friends, and everything is now going smoothly. Last year alone 500 converts were made. Since the arrival of the Sisters 200 native women have been received into the Church. Father Bertreaux is visiting Sydney for the purpose of having the Bible and other religious literature printed in the native language.

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