

ously given their services to help the noble institution which was now an accomplished fact in their midst. The great work of the Sisters of Nazareth had already been begun in Christchurch, and so much good had already been done that the premises secured were all too small. The Sisters had informed him that day that the applications for admission were so many that they did not know where to lodge them. This was a fault on the wrong side, but it helped to show the necessity of the work for which the concerts had been established three years ago. He thanked the artists and the committee and everyone who had assisted in making the concert a success in his own name and in that of the Sisters. In conclusion, the Bishop stated that the Sisters would always be glad to receive any of the public who cared to visit the Home. The following was the programme:—Overture, 'Gems of Ireland,' Mr. H. Rossiter's Orchestral Band; song, 'Eily Mavourneen,' Mr. Charles Read; song, 'Off to Philadelphia,' Mr. A. Millar; song, 'Come back to Erin,' Mrs. Gower-Burns, violin solo, Herr Heinrich Kahn; song, 'Erin my country,' Miss Laura Treleaven; recitation, 'Shamus O'Brien,' Mr. Winkler Hall; national dance, Miss Alice Saunders; mandolin and guitar quartette, Mrs. Wright, Miss R. Francis, Messrs. Shephard and Wright; song, 'Kathleen Mavourneen,' Mrs. Gower-Burns; ballad, 'Irish folk song,' Mr R. Vincent; song, 'The dear little shamrock,' Miss Laura Treleaven; song, 'The Irish emigrant,' Mr. A. Medhurst; vocal quartette, Messrs. Cookson, Vincent, H. Hobbs, and A. Millar; song, 'The little Irish girl,' Mr. W. Densom. Miss Katie Young and Mr. R. A. Horne were accompanists, and Mr. H. Rossiter musical director. Recalls were almost universal, Mrs. Gower-Burns especially quite captivating the audience. Her artistically trained voice and charming rendition of those sweetest of Irish songs were indeed a treat to listen to, and one not often afforded at local concerts.

Timaru

(From our own correspondent.)

March 18.

The festival of our national Apostle was this year celebrated by a sports meeting and picnic in the Caledonian Grounds on Thursday, and a concert on Friday evening. The outing on Thursday was most enjoyable, and the 100 children and almost the same number of adults, who took part, spent a very pleasant day. Numerous races for substantial prizes were provided for young and old, and light refreshments were dispensed to all. The Garrison Band played some nice selections during the afternoon, which were much appreciated. Rev. Fathers Tubman, Kerley (Temuka), Le Floch, and Finerty were present during the day. The members of the general committee did splendid work in the way they carried out all arrangements, and doubtless are pleased at knowing that the gathering was the most successful held here for some years. The net result, after disbursing some £20 in prizes, etc., is £15, and this amount, along with the proceeds of the concert, something over £20, will be devoted to reducing the debt on the newly acquired sections next to the boys' school.

The Theatre Royal was crowded to the doors for the annual St. Patrick's night concert. The programme provided was a varied one, and was well up to the standard of former years. Its leading feature was the fine display given by the school children. A very pretty dumb-bell drill by sixteen lads, suitably dressed, was the best exhibition of its kind ever seen here. 'Erin, my country' was sweetly rendered by 70 girls, who, dressed in white with green rosettes and placed in three semi-circles with a woodland scene in the background, formed a pretty picture. A tableau, 'Ireland,' with recitation, was presented by a dozen girls, and got a good reception. The boys gave a couple of choruses with much spirit, their singing of 'Let Erin remember' being re-demanded. The Operatic Society went through their popular march of the vivandieres, the many pretty evolutions being further enhanced by the limelight, which made the most of the brilliant costumes worn. The vocalists were Mrs. Coombes, Miss McGuinness, Messrs. S. Gilchrist, Evans, Healey, and Chapman; they were all encored, and graciously responded. Misses E. McGuinness and N. Egan played a duet of Irish airs on two pianos, and later on, assisted by the Misses Denehy and Steward, played a march. Rev. Father Tubman took advantage of a short interval to thank the audience for their presence and the performers for the excellent programme provided. He particularly mentioned the Garrison Band, for their playing outside the theatre. Miss E. McGuinness acted as accompanist, and deserves recognition also for the arrangement of the programme. Mr. N. Mangos, the capable secretary

both of the picnic and concert, with his enthusiastic assistants Messrs. Wilson and O'Leary, are to be congratulated on the success that attended their efforts.

Waimate

(From our own correspondent.)

March 20.

The St. Patrick's school children's annual outing took place on March 7, when they were taken to Caroline Bay, Timaru. Refreshments and games were provided for them, and a very pleasant day was spent. A good number of parents also accompanied the excursion.

Friday being St. Patrick's Day, Masses were celebrated at 7 o'clock and 10 o'clock. The panegyric of St. Patrick was preached on last Sunday by the Rev. Father Regnault.

The usual St. Patrick's Day entertainment took place in the evening in the Oddfellows' Hall, when the members of St. Patrick's Dramatic Club produced to a crowded hall the comedy, 'Her Second Husband.' The members are to be heartily congratulated on the successful performance they gave. All the parts were well filled, each performer fitting into the character portrayed in a remarkably clever manner. The large audience were simply delighted with the piece from beginning to end, laughter and applause alternating as the comedy developed. It will be remembered as one of the most successful performances produced here for a long time. The names of the performers who entertained their audience so well are Messrs. E. Costello, J. Sims, J. Hickey, S. Reid, T. Pearse, Misses H. Crowley, A. Patterson, L. Kent, and M. Costello.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(From our own correspondent.)

March 16.

Rev. Father Heath, of Sydney, is at present here, having arrived last Sunday.

The local branches of the H.A.C.B. Society are to approach the Holy Table at St. Patrick's on Sunday, 26th inst. A Mass for the repose of the souls of deceased members will be offered on the occasion.

The organisation termed the Protestant Defence Association has been holding high revel during the last fortnight, but confined to themselves. Copious advertising in the papers and on the tram cars, notifying the presence of the 'Great Protestant champion,' ended, in theatrical parlance, in a 'frost.' To find in the papers the reports of the proceedings you would require a microscope and search-warrant.

At St. Benedict's last Sunday evening the Rev. Father Gillan delivered one of a series of sermons, entitled, 'The Necessity of Penance.' In language the most earnest and convincing the Rev. Father showed the great necessity which existed of practising penance in order to subjugate our passions and control ourselves against the waywardness of the flesh. The choir was augmented by Mrs. Orr, of Gisborne, who sang very nicely an 'O Salutaris.'

The members of the Young Men's Club to the number of sixty approached the Holy Table in a body at the 9 o'clock Mass at the Cathedral last Sunday. His Lordship the Bishop came down specially for the occasion. After Mass the members sat down to breakfast in St. Patrick's Hall, Rev. Brother George presiding. The Bishop addressed those present, and said it gave him much pleasure to see such a fine gathering of young men turning out to show to all the faith that was in them. It was a good augury for the future. The club was fulfilling the aims and objects for which it was founded. Let them see to it that its mission would be continued. Up to the present he had not called upon the members for any special work, but later on he would ask them to rally round him and assist in completing their Cathedral. He wished the club every blessing and success. A hearty vote of thanks to the Bishop for his attendance and kind remarks was carried by acclamation. Short addresses were given by Brother George and Messrs. W. Tole and D. Flynn. Rev. Father Holbrook (spiritual director) was also present.

Signwriting, general decorating, and pictorial sign painting are done to the satisfaction of customers by Mr. J. H. Oliver, Moray Place, Dunedin.

The Commissioner of Crown Lands notifies that a number of allotments in the Greenfield Settlement will be open for selection on April 11, at the District Lands and Survey Office, Dunedin, the Courthouse, Balclutha, and the Survey Office, Lawrence, and that the ballot for the same will be held on April 15 at the Survey Office, Lawrence.

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