

Rev. Fathers Le Floch, Finnerty, and Kerley were present during the evening. A special word of commendation should be given to Mr. J. Venning, secretary of the celebration committee, and Rev. Father Le Floch, the chairman.

DIocese OF AUCKLAND

(From our own correspondent.)

June 22.

The annual social in aid of St. Patrick's parish funds is fixed for August 9 in the Federal Hall. An active committee of ladies has the matter in hand, and success is assured.

Mr. W. H. K. Redmond, M.P., has joined the Perth branch of the H.A.C.B. Society. Mrs. Redmond joined the women's branch. The initiation ceremony was made of public interest, several Ministers of the Crown attending. Subsequently in Sydney Mr. Redmond attended the annual Communion and marched in the ranks wearing his regalia.

Last Sunday evening the Cathedral choir, under Mr. P. F. Hiscocks, repeated 'Gems from Elijah' in lieu of the Vesper service. Prior to the performance the Bishop from the pulpit explained to the congregation the Bible history of the events of which the oratorio treated. The performance was in every detail artistic, and ran more smoothly than on the first production. The solos and concerted pieces were excellent, while the choruses were most effective. On Sunday evening his Lordship the Bishop assisted with his cello.

At the meeting of the local branch of the H.A.C.B. Society last Tuesday nomination of officers took place. Two new members were initiated, and five candidates proposed. Mr. Baume, M.H.R., was present, coming with Bro. P.J. Nerheny. The president, in welcoming him, referred to Mr. Baume's commendable action in regard to 'Warner's History' book, now in the public schools of the Auckland District. Mr. Baume thanked the president and members for their kindly welcome. In regard to Warner's book he felt very warmly, and on his part no stone would be left unturned to put it out of the schools.

As a result of the correspondence in the morning and evening papers complaining of the insulting character of 'Warner's History' towards Catholics, which is now in use in the public schools in the Auckland Educational District, Mr. F. E. Baume, one of the members for Auckland City, sent the following telegram last Monday to the Premier:—'I understand Auckland Education Board is applying to retain 'Warner's History' for use in this district. Trust the request will not be acceded to, as the book contains passages dealing with religious matters in a manner repugnant to the feelings of a large section of the community.' It is to be hoped that the Minister of Education will comply with Mr. Baume's request. No more insulting references have emanated from an Orange Lodge. In one page dealing with Mary Queen of Scots Warner says: 'Mary was a Catholic, and what was worse,' etc. The inference is plain.

The Rev. Father Duffy, who was for a time curate to the late Monsignor Paul at Onehunga, and in charge of the Church of the Assumption until relieved last week by Father Mahoney, was the recipient of an address and purse of sovereigns recently. He is at present confined to the Mater Misericordiae Hospital, suffering from an injury to his right foot. It was at this institution that the presentation was made, on behalf of the congregation, by Messrs. R. Vance and J. and M. Brennan. The address read as follows:—'Before leaving us to take up your duties as parish priest of Puhoi, we desire, on behalf of the congregation of the Church of the Assumption, to make known to you the high regard and esteem in which we hold you as a devout priest and guide. We recognise that you have had no small difficulty in following in the footsteps of the late Monsignor Paul, and we wish to place upon record our appreciation of your ministry during the short time you have been amongst us. Your kind attention to the sick of the parish has, we assure you, been highly and gratefully appreciated. With these few remarks, and wishing you every blessing in your new parish, we beg you to accept this small token as a mark of our esteem.' Father Duffy, in a few brief and appropriate words, feelingly acknowledged the presentation of the address and accompanying purse. He said he would long cherish pleasant memories of Onehunga. Father Duffy has been appointed to the charge of Puhoi parish, vacated by Rev. Father Mahoney.

The Bishop's Crozier

In the course of his reply to the address presented to him when he was enthroned as Bishop of Ballarat, the Right Rev. Dr. Higgins referred to the symbol of his office, which the Church places in the hands of a Bishop at his consecration. The episcopal crozier (said his Lordship) consists of three parts, the crook at the top, the staff in the centre, and the sharpened point at the end. Now, these three parts are intended to possess an interesting and instructive meaning for the holder. By the curved top he is reminded of his duty to draw the wayward and the wanderer from the by-ways of error and sin into the straight paths of Christian virtue, and the faithful fulfilment of Christian duty, and to hold them safe in the haven of peace and security. The straight, strong staff of the centre, while serving to support his own tottering steps in the hour of trial, will also indicate that he must sustain the good in the pursuit of honesty and justice, respecting the rights and privileges of their fellow-men, and rendering dutiful obedience to all legitimately-constituted authority; while the pointed end conveys the unpleasant warning that, when the traveller loiters on the narrow road that leads to eternal life, or the laborer flags in his cultivation of his Master's vineyard, he must be urged to duty, not only by gentle persuasion, but also by something more pungent, if necessary. I have no apprehension that such necessity shall arise.

The Persecution of the Dead

The twenty-one Ursulines of Caen, who, after lying quietly in their graves, some for thirty, some for forty years (writes a correspondent of the 'Catholic Times') were expelled by the Liquidator, have at last been laid to rest. The Bishop of Bayeux, Monsignor Amette, had asked the permission of the municipality to effect the ceremony of transfer. This was at once courteously granted. The Bishop sent out notices of the day and hour of the ceremony. The Freemason Prefet thereupon declared that on no account could he tolerate any religious ceremony. The coffins were left locked up. No one was admitted to pray or watch by them.

The Prefet intended to bury them by night civilly on Easter Tuesday, and the Freemasons were already invited to assist at this cheap triumph of their principles. A spirited journal, however, the 'Moniteur du Calvados,' led such an energetic campaign that the Prefet capitulated. The Catholics kept perpetual watch: as soon as the first coffin appeared, the alarm was to be given, and a great crowd of the faithful would have followed, reciting aloud the prayers for the dead. The Prefet was further acted upon by several startling demonstrations made in front of the Prefecture by the people, exasperated by this hateful and foolish persecution of the dead. Finally, common-sense prevailed, and on the morning of April 25 the translation took place with great pomp. The coffins, covered with wreaths and flowers, and followed by an immense and sympathetic crowd, by the Mayor and all the members of the Municipal Council, and a great number of priests, were taken to the Cemetery of St. Gabriel, and there reverently interred, the Bishop delivering a moving address.

Tuesday, June 20, was the nineteenth anniversary of the death of the Most Rev. Dr. Goold, Archbishop of Melbourne.

Victorian industries show an increase of over 2000 hands in 1901. This represents an increased wages bill of £170,000 over 1903.

The nomination of the Marchioness De La Bedoyere (Lord Greville's sister) for the office of District Councillor in Westmeath recalls the sad fate of her ancestor, the Marquis De La Bedoyere. This young man, having served Napoleon gallantly, adhered to the Bourbons at the Restoration. He was sent to fight against his old master when the Emperor escaped from Elba. When within a day's march from Napoleon's camp, La Bedoyere broke open the regimental drum, took from it hundreds of tricolor cockades there concealed, decorated with them his soldiers, and hurried onward to join the Emperor. He fought gallantly at Waterloo, but in the second Restoration he and Nev were arrested, and shot for high treason. Their execution was never forgiven to the Bourbons. They were 'blunders worse than crimes.'

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