

Stokes and N. Milligan; 'Ireland a nation' by Bro. W. Kelly, replied to by Bro. Callaghan, Mr. Edwards, and the chaplain; the 'Officers,' by Bro. J. Warren, responded to by Bros. J. Milligan (P.), P. Callaghan (V.P.), J. Moye (S.), E. Power (T.), H. Smith (W.), and M. Ballinger (G.); the 'Past Officers' by Bro. W. Casserly, responded to by Bros. N. Milligan, Murphy, O'Connor, and T. Moye; the 'Absent Members' by the chaplain, and responded to by Mr. Edwards, sen., on behalf of absent members; 'Our Guests' by Bro. Murphy, and replied to by Messrs. Edwards, Trehey, Carr, and Vinsen; the 'Government' by Bro. W. Power, replied to by Messrs. Trehey and Carr, the 'Westport Coal Co.' by Bro. J. Cari, replied to by Bro. N. Milligan; the 'Ladies' by Bro. M. Casserly, responded to by Bros. R. Edwards, Jas. Moye, and F. Frank, the 'host' by Bro. N. Milligan, replied to by Bro. Callaghan; the 'Chairman' by Bro. Murphy, responded to by the chaplain, Father Molloy. During the proceedings the Rev. Father Molloy (chaplain) made a presentation of a very handsome gold medal, on behalf of the members, to Bro. J. Edwards, jun., who is now in Dunedin. Mr. Edwards, sen., who received the presentation on behalf of his son, very feelingly responded. The chaplain, in making the presentation, referred to the great interest taken in the affairs of the branch by Bro. Edwards. It is the intention of the members of the branch to make the breakfast an annual affair.

Masterton

(From our own correspondent.)

December 2.

The pupils of St. Bride's Convent are to give a concert in the Town Hall on December 11 for the purpose of raising funds to pay off the debt on St. Patrick's School.

A meeting of the executive committee of St. Patrick's Day Sports Association took place on Saturday evening, the president (Mr. G. Watson) presiding. It was decided not to hold a concert and social on St. Patrick's night. A committee, consisting of Messrs. M. C. O'Connell, B. J. Dolan, and J. C. McKillop were appointed to try and get a permanent secretary and report at next meeting. General regret was expressed that the present secretary (Mr. P. J. O'Leary) found it impossible to continue in that capacity, owing to pressure of business. The sports committee are to submit a programme of events and prize money for approval at next meeting.

The Rev. Father Kelly, while driving to Eketahuna on Saturday, had a miraculous escape from death. He encountered a severe gale and, together with the horse and trap, was blown off the road and into a gully. As the vehicle turned over, Father Kelly was thrown underneath, and the buggy dashed into a stump, thus saving the occupant. The vehicle and horse rolled about 60 feet down the gully, and Father Kelly was picked up unconscious by a passer-by and conveyed to Eketahuna. The horse escaped without injury and the vehicle was scarcely damaged. Father Kelly is suffering from a number of bruises.

Wanganui

(From our own correspondent.)

December 2

The stall-holders and their assistants at the late bazaar were entertained by Dean Grogan at a social gathering in St. Mary's Hall on Thursday, November 30. Songs, musical items, parlot games, etc., were indulged in, and altogether a most enjoyable time was spent. Dean Grogan took the opportunity of thanking the stall-holders and their assistants for their splendid work in preparing for and carrying out the bazaar. The success of the bazaar was due in the first place to them, and he wished to express his deep gratitude.

Temuka

(From our own correspondent.)

December 1

The tenders for the alterations to the presbytery have now closed, and a meeting is called for Friday evening to discuss the same.

At a public meeting held here recently it was unanimously decided that steps should be taken to raise the necessary funds for providing the borough with an up-to-date hall for concert and theatrical purposes.

The Rev. Father Peoples, formerly of Temuka but now of the Cathedral parish, celebrated Mass in St. Joseph's Church, Temuka, on Sunday morning last, and preached a fine sermon. In the evening he also preached to a large congregation. Latest news to hand from Auckland regarding the health of the Very Rev. Dean Foley is anything but encouraging.

The annual concert in connection with the Kerrytown school was held on Thursday, November 23, and proved to be one of the most successful of the many good concerts yet held there. When the curtain rose the building was filled with one of the largest audiences yet seen in Kerrytown. Special features of the evening's entertainment were the items by the children, which certainly were above the average of those generally connected with such concerts, and they reflected the greatest credit on their teachers, the Sisters of St. Joseph. The following is a detailed list of the programme:—Overtures, Professor Kearsley; dumb-bell drill, Masters T and W. Fitzgerald, J. and M. Brosnan, Louis Brosnan, Dan Brosnan; song, Miss K. Daley (encored); dialogue, Masters F. Connell and J. Brosnan; song, Rev. Father Rockliff (encored); Spanish dance and drill, Misses Coughlan, K. and L. Brosnan, M. Brosnan, M. and G. Nolan, A. Brosnan; recitation, Mr. B. P. Ginders (encored), skirt dance, Misses Tale, O'Connell, Tozer, Scannell, Wall, Brosnan, N. Brosnan; song, Miss K. Spring; dialogue, 'Women's rights,' Misses M. Scannell, N. Brosnan, J. Connell, N. T. Brosnan, M. Fitzgerald, B. Tozer, N. Brosnan, K. T. Brosnan, K. H. Brosnan; song, Miss Stevenson (encored); Irish jig, Mr. J. L. O'Callaghan (encored); song, Mr. C. Spillane (encored); sketches and recitations, Mr. W. Fitzgerald (encored); horn solo, 'The ash grove' (Nelson test piece), Professor Kearsley. The programme concluded with a laughable comedy, entitled, 'The Hypo-Chondriac,' the following boys taking part: Masters F. O'Connell, T. and M. Brosnan, W. Lynch, J. Brosnan. The accompaniments during the evening were played by Misses Spring and Scannell and Professor Kearsley.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(From our own correspondent.)

December 1.

The Rev. Fathers Lawlor and Kennedy, O.F.M., Waverley, N.S.W., returned from Rotorua a few days ago, and left for the South shortly afterwards en route to Sydney.

The annual entertainment given by the students of the Sacred Heart College is fixed for the 12th inst. and that of St. Patrick's Convent School will take place in the Federal Hall on Friday, December 8.

Mr. F. A. Walker, Inspector of Industrial Schools, conducted the examinations at the Ponsonby and Takapuna schools during the week, and expressed himself highly pleased at the high standard of excellence attained in both schools.

Very Rev. Father Lewis, S.M., V.G., Wellington, arrived in Auckland from the Hot Lakes district last Saturday, and was met and welcomed at the railway station by the Rev. Father Holbrook, Adm., and stayed at St. Patrick's Presbytery while here. He celebrated first Mass on Sunday morning at the Cathedral. On Monday the Bishop took Father Lewis for a tour round the city and suburbs on his motor car, and visited the Very Rev. Dean Foley at the Mater Misericordiae Hospital. In the afternoon Father Lewis left by the West Coast for Wellington.

His Lordship the Bishop has arranged that on the fourth Sunday of each month the Stations of the Cross and the devotions of the 'Bona Mors' are to be recited instead of Vespers at St. Patrick's Cathedral, and whenever a fifth Sunday occurs in the month the Bishop has requested the choir to render a sacred concert. Last Sunday evening the Bishop from the pulpit gave out the Stations of the Cross, the Rev. Father Edge, accompanied by the altar boys, visiting each station, subsequently reciting the devotions of the 'Bona Mors.'

The electoral contest waxes warm in Auckland, and in both town and country feeling is running very high. A warm political duel is proceeding between the two daily papers. The morning paper, described by the Premier when last here as the 'political Bible of a great portion of the rural population,' fights for the Opposition, the evening paper for the Government. 'Codlin is your friend, not Short' is the motto of each. The notable thing in the contest is the fact that the Opposition shows more vitality and fight this time than it has done for many years past. Nearly every candidate has been sent a string of questions by the Protestant Defence Association, each one bristling with simulated dread of the 'Romish Church.'