

of the wedge of persecution. It was the business of everyone, and the work of each individual to strengthen and guard our schools from one danger or another which was for ever confronting them.

Greymouth

(From our own correspondent.)

July 28.

There was a large attendance at the weekly meeting of the St. Columba Club last Monday evening, when two new members were elected, and two candidates proposed for membership. The item on the syllabus for the evening was a 'Mock Parliament.' Mr. D. Butler, as Premier, showed he has a good knowledge of Parliamentary procedure, whilst Mr. W. Packer made an excellent leader of the Opposition. Mr. John Hannan was appointed Speaker. The proceedings were carried out in strict Parliamentary style, and a very amusing and instructive evening resulted. At the same meeting the secretary (Mr. R. C. Heffernan) was instructed to accept the challenge of the Trinity Club to meet in debate. Messrs. Wm. Duffy, D. Butler, P. White and W. Packer were chosen to represent the St. Columba Club.

The annual meeting of the Greymouth Catholic Band was held last Friday evening, when there was a full attendance of members. Mr. P. Deere occupied the chair. The report and balance sheet were read and adopted, and showed the finances of the band to be in a very satisfactory state. The election of officers for the ensuing twelve months then took place, and resulted as follows:—Conductor, Mr. R. Phillips; sergeant, Mr. P. Deere; corporal, Mr. J. Willis; secretary and treasurer, Mr. W. G. O'Donnell; custodian, Mr. S. Young; committee, Messrs. W. Sullivan, S. Ewart, C. Goodhall, J. Stuart, and S. Young. The conductor (Mr. R. Phillips) has presented a handsome gold medal for the most regular attendance during the next six months.

St. Patrick's Church, Greymouth, was the scene of a very pretty and interesting wedding last Tuesday, July 21, when Miss Kate Callinan, second daughter of Mr. John Callinan, of Brunerton, was united in the bonds of Matrimony to Mr. Richard Rodgers, second son of the late Mr. Patrick Rodgers, of Dobson Town. The ceremony was performed by the Very Rev. Dean Carew. The bride, who was given away by her father, was attended by her sister, Miss M. Callinan, and Miss B. Rodgers as bridesmaids. Mr. T. Fogarty acted as best man, and Mr. P. Rodgers as groomsmen. The bride was attired in a beautiful cream brocaded silk dress, trimmed with pearl and chiffon lace. From the church the party drove to the residence of the bride's parents, where the wedding breakfast was partaken of, and the usual toasts honored. The bridegroom's present to the bride was a gold necklet with gold heart attached, and to the bridesmaids gold brooches. The bride presented the bridegroom with a set of gold sleeve links. The presents were numerous and costly, and testified to the esteem and popularity of the happy couple.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(From our own correspondent.)

July 27

Further improvements have been effected at the convent schools, Hobson street.

The social gathering held by the Marist Brothers' Old Boys' Association in the Choral Hall last Friday evening was a great success.

An entertainment will be given in the new Royal Albert Hall, Albert street, on Wednesday next, August 1, by the Marist Brothers' Old Boys' Club, in aid of St. Patrick's Cathedral building fund.

Messrs. E. Mahoney and Sons, architects, will have the plans and specifications for the contemplated work at St. Patrick's Cathedral ready next week, when the tenders will be called for.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society intend holding a matinee on Wednesday, August 15, in St. Patrick's Hall, in aid of the society's funds. 'No organisation is better deserving of support.'

It is with great pleasure that I am able to say that Sisters Mary Celestine and Cyril, of the Sisters of Mercy, who have been for some weeks seriously ill at the Mater Misericordiae Hospital, are steadily improving.

Last evening in St. Bonaventure's Hall, Parnell, a successful euchre party was held, the net proceeds of which are to be devoted to the parish funds. The ladies and gentlemen with whom the management rested worked assiduously, and their efforts were well rewarded.

According to a statutory notice in the local papers his Lordship the Bishop is taking steps to get a private Bill passed through Parliament to empower him to dispose of certain land in the suburbs of Auckland, and with the proceeds thereof to erect a substantial orphanage and educational buildings at Takapuna.

At the conclusion of a lecture on 'Irish Wit and Humor' at the Leys Institute last Friday night, Very Rev. Dean Hackett paid a graceful tribute to the personal influence of his Majesty King Edward. King Edward, he said, was behind the legislation of the present day. If he were spared for the next ten years he (the speaker) was confident that the fair Emerald Isle would be restored to peace and happiness, in the conservation of which his Majesty played so prominent a part. King Edward was behind the gallant band of Irish representatives who stood on the floor of the British House of Commons. It was the great humanitarian King of England who was making for the peace of Europe, and the prosperity of his Irish subjects. When the history of our time became known the kindly part the King of England had taken at present in Ireland would be favorably written and commented upon. King Edward was not only a great statesman, but it was the power of his personal influence which was the means of promoting the remedial laws which must ultimately lead to a lasting peace between English and Irish people. As Prince of Wales he was always a friend of Ireland. 'God Save King Edward,' continued the Dean, 'Ireland's true and trusted friend, Europe's peace-maker.' King Edward would live in the warm Celtic hearts of his Irish subjects to the end. He was an Irishman to his finger tips, and had no hesitation in saying that to King Edward was due in a very great measure the liberal laws for Ireland that have been passed in England. King Edward was a constitutional monarch. He was more than that—he was a monarch of the people, and to the Irish people he had shown kindness of heart. He was not only the peace-maker of Europe, but he was in a special manner the peace-maker of Ireland.

The accommodation of the Leys Institution was taxed to its utmost on the occasion of the lecture on 'Irish Wit and Humor,' by the Very Rev. Dean Hackett. Mr. T. W. Leys presided, and in regretting that the hall was not larger, announced amidst applause that the Dean had kindly consented to deliver the lecture again on a future date. Dean Hackett, who was greeted with cheers on rising, then said he had been so accustomed to begin with a text he had got into the habit of it. His text that night would be, 'A little nonsense now and then is relished by the best of men.' They had been told this was a great scientific age. 'It is a laughing age,' declared the Dean, '(but it is none the less wise on that account. The greatest fools he ever met were men who could not laugh. The world had been too long on its centre of gravity, and it was time it had a little change, and got on its centre of levity. He believed there was a smile in everything if you could only figure it out. A 'lecture,' he thought, was too dignified a term to apply to what he was going to tell them. They could hear lectures in church, and married men would probably hear them when they got home. He then proceeded to give a definition, so far as a definition could be given, of the terms 'wit' and 'humor.' Pure wit, he said, was of the intellect, and consisted of a union of the ideas so as to cause within us surprise and delight. Humor, on the other hand, could be defined as wit of the emotions, and consisted of a fusion of contrasting emotions of an opposite character, thus producing a delightful sense of humor. False rhetoric was the whole character of the American humor. 'I'm an Englishman,' he said, 'and he will just turn round, tell you to go to Halifax, turn on his heel, and walk away. He has no time for you. Answer a Scotchman, and he will tell you to go to the same place, but will stay growling at you in broad Scotch; but anger an Irishman, and he will not only tell you to go there, but will accompany you the greater part of the way with a fire of false rhetoric. Eyes sparkling, and bubbling over with merriment, Dean Hackett then entered into a friendly chat redolent of reminiscence and anecdote, and kept his audience highly amused from start to finish.'

The Rev. Father T. Cleary has been transferred from Yass to Goulburn. He has been in charge of Yass since the retirement of the Very Rev. Dean O'Keefe. His successor is the Rev. Father J. Leonard, of SS. Peter and Paul's Cathedral, Goulburn.

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