

diversity of their opinions only helped to increase his doubts. He sought distraction from his thoughts in pastoral work, but try as he might he could not quiet his conscience, which kept urging him on to seek the light. Even when he felt that the Catholic Church was the true Church, worldly considerations held him back for a time, but at length he determined to take the final step, and in November, 1852, he resigned his see, and on the following Christmas Day, kneeling before Pope Pius IX., he made his profession of faith. Such in brief is the history of a man who, unaided, save by the grace of God, found the true faith by study and right reason. The lecturer was listened to with the closest attention throughout, and frequently applauded. In replying to a vote of thanks, proposed by Mr. T. Deehan, and carried with acclamation, Dean Burke said he was very pleased to be of service to the club, as he was the founder of the St. Joseph's Literary Society twenty-three years ago, and would be pleased to lecture before them next season if they desired it—an intimation that was received with applause. During the evening songs were contributed by Messrs. Hussey and Carolin, the accompaniments being played by Miss Drumm.

The following are the results of the theory examinations in connection with Trinity College, London, held at St. Dominic's Priory on June 13:—Senior honors, Tottie McMullin, 80. Senior pass, Ida Edmunds, 73; Elizabeth Murphy, 73. Junior honors, Margaret Callanan, 93; Madge Laffey, 86; Margaret Burke, 86. Preparatory pass, Nora King, 86; Helena Nolan, 73.

At this week's meeting of the Catholic Literary Club, Milton, there was a debate on Home Rule. The affirmative side was taken by Messrs. Keogh, Kean, and Curran; the negative by Messrs. Kirby, J. Curran, and Maloney. The Very Rev. Father O'Neill presided. The debate was conducted with great ability on both sides and was followed with a very lively interest by the goodly number of persons who were present. The affirmative side won on the voices, and the proceedings were unanimously pronounced very pleasant.

The following are the results of the examination in musical knowledge held in connection with Trinity College at Rosary Convent, Oamaru, on June 16, 1906.—Senior division, Millicent H. Potter, 72. Junior division, Cecilia Ormiston, 98 (honors); Annie Kay, 94 (honors); Aileen Welsh, 93 (honors); Mollie Dore, 91 (honors); Kathleen Gallagher, 84 (honors). Preparatory division, Ellen Pratt, 95; Grace Molloy, 86; Doris Preston, 85. Nine candidates were presented, all of whom passed.

Invercargill

(From our own correspondent.)

September 17.

The usual weekly meeting of the Invercargill Catholic Club was held on Tuesday evening last. There was a fair attendance of members, and the evening was devoted to a discussion on the accuracy of the prison statistics, which show a greater proportion of Catholics in prison, according to population, than any other denomination. The discussion was interesting, and the opinion of members was that the information imparted by these statistics was not reliable. The following members took part in the discussion: Messrs. M. Gilfedder, Collins, T. P. Gilfedder, Mulvey, Woods, Ryan, H. Grace, and Shepherd.

Interprovincial

There were 20,108,471 sheep in the Colony on April 30, 1906, the increase during the previous twelve months being 977,596. There are 10,609,731 sheep in the North Island, and 10,098,740 sheep in the South Island.

Mr. M. Nolan, of Christchurch, was in Glasgow when the last mail left, and intended remaining in Great Britain until the latter half of September, when he proposed to return to New Zealand, visiting Rome en route.

The unusual sight of a waggon-load of bees travelling between Springburn and Methven was to be seen last week. There were 72 hives on the waggon, and the bees reached their destination—a distance of fifteen miles—safely, and have settled down at their new quarters.

A large totara tree felled at Mangakahia, North Auckland, about sixty years ago, was split up the other day and found to be as sound as the day it was cut down.

The lambing season is in full swing in the Gore district (says the 'Standard'), and farmers generally are highly satisfied with the results. The fine percentage is attributable to the splendid season. On a number of farms there have been lambings of 100 per cent. and over.

Figures collected by the Tourist Department show that no less than 400 oversea visitors stayed at the principal hotels and boarding-houses in Auckland during the past month. Of these, 99 came from England, 148 from New South Wales, 49 from the United States, and 22 from Victoria. This represents an increase of about 100 on the preceding month, and illustrates the importance of the tourist traffic to Auckland.

Several trout at Masterton hatcheries are suffering from cancerous growths, generally in the vicinity of the gills, believed to be due to the fish not securing supplies of their natural food. The fish affected have been marked, and a special diet treatment tried, but although they have been treated for three months there is no appreciable difference in the growths, which in some cases are ulcerated and sloughing. Mr. Gilruth, chief veterinarian, is taking a good deal of interest in the matter.

The St. Mary's Catholic Club (writes our Wanganui correspondent) intend having an oratorical contest on Friday, September 28, on the lines laid down by the Federated Catholic Clubs' Executive. The quarterly Communion of the members of the club takes place on Sunday, September 30.—Wanganui people are proud of their sculler, Webb, and have sought in Australia, the home of champion scullers, for an opponent worthy of him. Stanbury, the late champion, has accepted a challenge to row Webb for £200.

At the weekly meeting of the Hokitika Catholic Literary and Debating Society on September 11 (writes a correspondent) the land policy of the Government was discussed. An excellent debate was the result, Mr. M. Daly upholding the leasehold, whilst Mr. W. Dixon favored the freehold system. Messrs. Dee, Wylie, Haurahan, Cuttance, and T. Daly were the other speakers. On a vote being taken, the meeting decided in favor of the leasehold. An oratorical competition will be held next meeting, for which a good number of members have entered.

The steamer 'Kumara,' which reached Wellington on Saturday, brought nearly 200 immigrants to New Zealand, 87 of the number being for Wellington. There were only a few laborers. There were farmers, joiners, carvers, clerks, drivers, and butchers in fair number, and amongst single representatives were a clergyman, a carter, a dressmaker, a navy, a seamstress, a storeman, a shepherd, a traveller, a miner, a wharfinger, a grocer, and a builder. There were half a dozen or so aged men amongst the immigrants, but the remainder were all youthful or in the prime of life.

The tourists who honor New Zealand with their flying visits are nothing if not critical, and it is interesting to glance through the comments they inscribe in the visitors' book at the Tourists Department's Office (says the 'Press.'). One man from Cheshire has recorded his opinion that New Zealand is 'a great country,' while a compatriot from across the border, sums the Colony up as 'a very good country, but boomed too much.' A gentleman from Basutoland, who was in Christchurch on August 8, found the place 'very cold'; but a later visitor from Gippsland thinks Christchurch has 'a delightful climate,' and is altogether 'a splendid city.' The climate also found appreciation in the eyes of a Sydney visitor, who has noted besides that the people of Christchurch are 'very English,' an opinion to which another gentleman from the same city also subscribes. One patronising traveller, who gives his abode as Liverpool, in looking for a few words of criticism found 'nil desperandum' suitable for the occasion, though whether it is the city or the Colony that should 'never despair' is not quite clear. The most enthusiastic of the recent callers at the Tourist Office was a lady from Melbourne who was so well pleased with her experiences here that she put it on record that 'everything in the place' is lovely.

'The publication of an advertisement in a Catholic paper shows that the advertiser not only desires the patronage of Catholics, but pays them the compliment of seeking it through the medium of their own religious journal.' So says an esteemed and wide-awake American contemporary. A word to the wise is sufficient.