

wood, and Miss McKenny were the accompanists, and their playing left nothing to be desired. The ladies' committee worked earnestly, and contributed in no small measure, to the success of the gathering. Others who assisted were Messrs. T. Quirk, E. Sullivan, R. Dooley, J. P. Beech, J. Igo, and J. A. Walsh, (secretary).

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

October 28.

On Sunday last, the feast of the Holy Relics, the relics of saints (martyrs, confessors, etc.) possessed by his Lordship the Bishop were exposed to the veneration of the faithful on the altar of the chapel set apart in the Cathedral. The central reliquary was the one containing the relic lately presented to the Cathedral by our Holy Father the Pope.

The tennis court at St. Mary's, Manchester street, is to be formally opened for the season this week. The event is occasioning pleasurable anticipations among the numerous votaries of the exhilarating pastime in the northern parish.

The Rev. Father Hoare entertains St. Mary's boys' club with lantern views and incidental descriptive lecture on this (Monday) evening. Opportunity will be taken of the occasion to start the members on a literary and debating programme.

At all the Masses and at Vespers in the Cathedral on Sunday next appeals will be made in aid of the funds of the Cathedral Conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. A special charity sermon will be preached at the eleven o'clock Mass. The annual report for the last twelve months (the publication of which was delayed owing to intervening circumstances) appears in the present issue of the "Tablet."

Trafalgar Day was observed in Christchurch with a fair amount of expressed patriotism. Outward appreciation of the Empire's greatness was exemplified by the display of the National and Dominion ensigns from numerous buildings, including the Marist Brothers' schools. His Lordship Bishop Grimes, as one of the selected speakers at the public demonstration in Victoria Square, delivered the following address:—

The patriotic words uttered by the great Admiral whose bravery we commemorate to-day, 'England expects that every man will do his duty!' give the key note to the life and actions of the hero of Trafalgar. He was a patriotic hero in the true and full sense of the word. Right well and meet, then, is it that we should cherish his memory and the deeds which made his life so memorable. Right well and meet is it that we gather in such goodly numbers in a truly patriotic spirit, too. But what, let me ask, is 'true patriotism?' The bare word denotes the idea, 'love of country.' But the idea is something more. Is it not also the love of the blood that flows in our veins? Is there not between the land of our birth and the blood flowing in our veins a secret harmony which the Almighty would have us treasure and preserve? If I love my native land, it is not merely the land with its rugged or smiling shores, its storm-tossed or tranquil seas, its lofty hills, or fertile plains, it is above all the blood flowing in the veins of myself and my fellow-countrymen; the blood flowing in the veins of the race planted in that beloved land, the land of our predilection. Three or four elements go to the moulding of the true patriot, (1) His native soil; (2) his native blood; (3) his national genius; (4) the God of his fathers. There is no true race of people without God, as there is no true society without religion, nor a single race without religious worship. This is no less true of ancient than of modern nations. If we study the history of Asia, ancient Greece, or Rome, we invariably find that besides the soil which the patriot dearly loved, besides the blood flowing in their veins, or their national genius for the arts and sciences or that of ruling, there was an element which these races put far above the rest—that of their gods. Never did they undertake any great enterprise, never did they return from victory without paying what they deemed the sacred rites at the altars of their religious shrines. The hero of Trafalgar was a patriot who, as was well put in an interesting article in one of our locals to-day, might aptly be styled, 'the embodiment of duty'; 'God and my country' was his motto during life; 'God and my country' were his dying words. The genius of our race is amongst others that of ruling the waves, and successfully colonising the remotest lands on the earth, and to those lands is carried the genius of liberty

and independence. Does it not behove us to do all in our power to keep up this genius? Should we not be enthusiastic in this endeavor? Surely we should, for true patriotism is a very passion as well as a virtue. It is a very passion, a sort of magnetic fluid which flows through our inmost being. This passion was wonderfully displayed of late by the Japanese, with whom patriotism and religion are synonymous.

Was not the passionate patriotism the secret of their marvellous success on sea and on land? Every time our native land, our common blood, our national genius, the God of our fathers, are attacked; at the critical moment of outrage or danger, do we not feel an indescribable something stirring our inmost soul, whilst our patriotism is roused to a feverish degree? But patriotism is a virtue as well as a sentiment. It is a virtue whenever it calls for the sacrifice of self—a sacrifice not blindly and impetuously made, but with a calmness and vigor the outcome of deliberate reflection, as the rights and obligations binding us to the land of our sires. A true patriot will ever be forgetful of self in the interests of his country or of his fellow countrymen. Ulysses of old preferred, from a true spirit of patriotism, the bare and barren Ithaca, his native land, to the flower-clad and luxurious isle of Calypso. Seeing one of his brethren slain by an Egyptian, the patriotic spirit of Moses was roused like a very lion. Rushing to the desert, he exclaimed, 'I will be the saviour of my people!' Forty years later, he returned and summoned Pharaoh to let his people depart. Pharaoh refused. But Moses had a Divine power at his command. He let loose the ten plagues upon Pharaoh and his kingdom, and he led his 600,000 Hebrews across the Red Sea into the burning desert. What cared they for the flesh pots of Egypt, or the tables of the Pharaohs. They had their wives and their children, but their chains were broken. In smiling Egypt they were slaves, in the desert they are free. Let me recall one beautiful, the most beautiful of all patriotic examples, beautiful because Divine, that of Jesus of Nazareth. Who has not felt his patriotism aroused at the recollection of the Saviour of mankind weeping over the doomed city of Jerusalem. Of all the nations in the world England has the most need of a splendidly equipped navy. No nation has more to dread from an incompetent one. Hence: no efforts should be left undone to secure such a navy, the wooden walls, as they are called, of old England; and above all patriotic men to guard and defend them. Does it become my cloth to encourage such steps? Should I not go out of my way to preach peace? Most certainly. But is not the surest way of securing peace to be prepared for war. 'Si vis pacem para bellum' is as true to-day as when uttered long centuries ago. If we wish for peace, let us be prepared for every emergency. No matter our rank or profession, let us always cherish the patriotic spirit that roused the great Nelson, and every other true patriot, the sentiment that has fired every other patriot since, and that will cease to resound only when the last patriot expires. Let our battle cry be that prompted by a deep sense of patriotic duty—'Pro aris et focis.' For our altars and our hearths, for religion, for God, and our country!

(From an occasional correspondent.)

October 27.

A large and enthusiastic meeting of the Christchurch Catholic Club was held on Friday evening last, Mr. Eric Harper presiding. It was unanimously decided to form an amateur athletic club, under the title of the Christchurch Catholic Amateur Athletic Club, and to affiliate to the N.Z. Amateur Athletic Association. The subscription was fixed at 5s per annum for members of the Catholic Club, and 7s 6d for non-members. The colors of the club will be pale blue and white. The following officers were elected: Patron, Sir George Clifford; captain, Mr. J. R. Hayward; vice-captains, Messrs. D. F. Dennehy and J. L. Leydon; vice-patrons, Messrs. D. Edmonds, J. Devonport, E. T. Harper, J. Power, W. Hoban, W. Hayward, Dr. O'Brien, and Dr. Gribbin; committee, Messrs. P. McNamara, D. McIntosh, G. Gill, P. Crooke, and J. McNamara; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. J. L. Leydon; delegate to Centre, Mr. J. L. Leydon.

Messrs. Tribe and Co., High street, Christchurch, direct attention to their Eureka suit made to measure at the very low price of 45s. Patrons can select their own materials and have suits made in the most fashionable styles. Those who cannot conveniently call should write for patterns and self-measurement charts, which the firm will have much pleasure in forwarding to any address....