

Sunday, November 8, and closed with another procession, this time within the church, on the following Tuesday morning. A fresh and much-admired feature of the processions was the new canopy just made by the deft hands of the Sisters of the Mission, who have also made two beautiful sets of vestments, white and red, for the Star of the Sea Church, in Kaikoura town. Some members of the talented Howard Vernon Company assisted the choir both during Mass and at the processional singing through the grounds. Mr. Mead, one of the company, and a devoted Catholic, had come in due time to the presbytery to offer the services of the company for the solemn occasion. There was an overflowing congregation, augmented by many of our separated brethren, who were highly edified. Though people are very busy at this season with more than ordinary work, the attendance of adorers during the Forty Hours was very good. As usual, the Sisters of the Mission were to the fore with the school children, in keeping watch the whole day long for our Blessed Lord, and this, in spite of school and other duties. As for their decorations of the high altar, they were perfection itself. Willing and valued aid was given by the Children of Mary, who also formed a most pleasing feature in the procession with their beautiful regalia.

Greymouth

Mr. J. F. Dunhill, examiner for the Royal Academy of Music, London, conducted the practical examination in Greymouth. Seventeen pupils from the Convent, Greymouth, were presented, all being successful. The following is the list:—Local centre: Advanced grade (total 150, pass 103)—Kathleen Martin, 123; Grace Mallinson, 116. Intermediate grade (total 150, pass 103)—Lena Higgins, 127. School examinations: Higher division (total 150, pass 100)—Christie Baybutt, 125. Lower division (total 150, pass 100)—Veda Michel, 131; Maria Robertson, 128; Norah Okeby, 125; Vera Hannan, 121. Elementary (total 150, pass 100)—Nellie O'Leary, 128; Vera Hannan (violin), 128; Teresa Greaney, 126; Mary Higgins, 123. Primary division (total 150, pass 100)—Winnie O'Neill, 128; Nellie Hudd, 123; Elsie Grant, 121; Inga Hannam, 119; May Hansen, 110.

The Sisters of Mercy also sent up fourteen candidates for the Trinity College examination, all of whom passed.

WEDDING BELLS

McMURTRIE—SCANLAN.

The marriage of Mr. John McMurtrie, second surviving son of Mr. John McMurtrie, sen., Milton, to Miss Ellen Scanlan took place in St. Mary's Church, Milton, on Wednesday morning of last week (says the *Bruce Herald*). The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Father Farthing, assisted by the Rev. Father Howard. Nuptial Mass was celebrated by Father Farthing. The bridesmaid was Miss A. Scanlan (Dunedin), while Mr. D. Kirby acted as best man. Mr. and Mrs. McMurtrie left Milton by the evening express, en route for Mangatoki, Taranaki, where the happy couple take up their abode, accompanied by the good wishes of their very many Milton friends. A number of people assembled at the railway station to farewell the wedded couple.

Last week a representative of this paper was favored with a demonstration, on a small scale, of the powers of the Natrass churn, and on the occasion in question the cream was converted into butter in exactly 45 seconds. We do not profess to speak as experts, but in point of simplicity, cheapness, and speed, the Natrass churn is certainly wonderful. For particulars see advertisement....

HOW TO PAINT A HOUSE CHEAP

Carrara Paint White and Colors. Mixed Ready for Inside and Outside Use. CARRARA retains its Gloss and Lustre for at least five years, and will look better in eight years than lead and oil paints do in two. USE CARRARA, the first cost of which is no greater than lead and oil paints, and your paint bills will be reduced by over 50 per cent. A beautifully-illustrated booklet, entitled 'How to Paint a House Cheap,' will be forwarded free on application.

K. RAMSAY & CO., 19 Vogel street, Dunedin.

Reception of Bishop Verdon

A representative meeting of the Catholics of the Cathedral and South Dunedin parishes was held in St. Joseph's Hall on Friday evening for the purpose of making arrangements for the reception of his Lordship the Bishop on his return from Europe. The Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., presided, and the following clergy were also present:—Rev. Fathers Howard and D. O'Neill (South Dunedin), Hearn (Port Chalmers), M. Ryan and D. Buckley (Holy Cross College), Cleary, and Corcoran. Apologies for unavoidable absence were received from the Right Rev. Mgr. Mackay (Oamaru) and the Very Rev. Mgr. O'Leary (Lawrence). Messrs. W. P. Rodgers and J. O'Connor were appointed secretaries.

The Rev. Father Coffey said the meeting had been called to take steps to give a fitting reception to his Lordship the Bishop on his return to his diocese. It was close on twelve months since his Lordship had left for Europe, and during that time he had been engaged in the work of the diocese. It was not likely that at his age he would undertake such a long journey were it not that it was absolutely necessary. Every Bishop, unless excused for some cause, had to proceed to Rome every ten years and present a report on his diocese, and this being the jubilee year of the Holy Father his Lordship felt it his duty to attend the celebrations which took place in Rome on last Sunday. It is a rule of the Catholic Church that every Bishop when away from his diocese be tendered a reception on his return. This had always been the case in Dunedin, and he had no doubt that the people of Dunedin would accord the Right Rev. Dr. Verdon an enthusiastic reception on his arrival here about the middle of January. His Lordship during his visit to Ireland had made efforts to secure the services of one or two priests for the diocese, and had hopes of being successful. This would entail considerable expense, in addition to which his expenses during the last few years had been very heavy, and these had to be met by his private funds, which were very limited. The expenses of the upkeep of Holy Cross College had been very great indeed, but it was an institution for the benefit of the people, and was started at the express wish of the Holy Father. It was intended to give his Lordship a suitable reception on his arrival, and present him with an address and substantial testimonial, and he was sure the Catholics of Dunedin would not be behindhand in this work. Other parishes in the diocese had already made a move in this matter.

The Hon. J. B. Callan, M.L.C., said, speaking from long experience, it had always been the custom for the Catholics of Dunedin on the return of the Bishop from Rome to present him with an address and a handsome testimonial. This had been the custom since Dunedin had been under the jurisdiction of a Bishop, and he took it that the same course would be followed and the same enthusiasm exhibited on this occasion. His Lordship had not gone for pleasure, but on the business of the diocese, and he could not travel without spending money, and as this was spent in the interests of his flock it was their duty to reimburse him for the expense he had been put to. He proposed that an address expressive of the people's gratitude for his safe return, accompanied by a purse of sovereigns, be presented to his Lordship.

This was agreed to.

All present then formed themselves into a general committee to carry out the object of the meeting.

The following were appointed a sub-committee to arrange the details of the reception, etc.:—Rev. Fathers Coffey, Cleary, and Howard, Hon. J. B. Callan, M.L.C., Messrs. J. B. Callan, jun., C. A. Shiel, T. Deehan, F. Loughnan, J. J. Marlow, J. Saunders, P. Hally, D. Corcoran, F. W. Petre, and Dr. O'Neill, and the secretaries.

It was decided to publish the names of subscribers in the *Tablet*.

On the suggestion of the Hon. J. B. Callan it was decided to receive subscriptions for the testimonial at the church door on Sunday, November 29, and following Sunday. Rev. Father Coffey was appointed treasurer of the fund. It was decided to meet his Lordship at the railway station, and from there proceed in processional order to the Cathedral, where the addresses are to be presented. Subscriptions amounting to £50 were received at the meeting.

The annual spiritual retreat for ladies at the Convent of the Sacred Heart, Timaru, begins on Monday, January 4, and ends on Saturday morning, January 9....