

when the family, to their great surprise, found that their supposed swagger was no other than their parish priest. As another example, take the case of Father Seon. It happened that whilst he was engaged on one of his missionary journeys to North Canterbury a man, seeing that he was travelling quietly on foot from place to place, offered to join him and to carry his (Father Seon's) swag. The offer was accepted, and they journeyed together like mates, sleeping and eating together in the same places. It so happened that this same man was urgently wanted by the police. He was not personally known to them, neither was Father Seon, but both were carefully watched until the true culprit was identified. Many of the Fathers had missions which

Extended Over a Whole Province.

The hardships they had to endure were greater and of longer duration in comparison than mine (states the Very Rev. Dean Binsfeld, S.M., whose narrative now follows):—After my arrival I stopped for a short time with the Vicar-General, the Rev. Father Petitjean, at Wellington, who, although already advanced in age, was yet as busy as a bee. His day time was devoted to the administration of the diocese (Bishop Viard being at Rome), and his parish work, whilst a great part of his night was passed on his knees, reading theology and the history of the Church. I soon found out that it was not a safe thing to disagree with him on one of these subjects. He was a student. New Plymouth was my first temporary appointment. The Maori war was not yet over, and the few European Catholics, like the whole of the European population, lived mostly within the boundaries of the town, as life in the country was unsafe. About half a regiment of soldiers of the 18th Royal Irish was quartered in the town. A great many of the soldiers were Catholics, and to their credit be it said their conduct was exemplary. Father Binsfeld was their military chaplain, and the officers congratulated him, as well as themselves, on the good behavior of the men. Before their arrival the garrison had been maligned, for which they retaliated in a practical manner. During the whole of their stay in New Plymouth they kept strictly aloof from any business intercourse with the civilians. They entered no publichouse and no shop, but confined themselves to their own canteen and commissariat. The few incorrigibles who would break through this self-imposed rule had a rather unpleasant time of it, and their comrades would keep them confined until the effect of their insobriety disappeared. These soldiers practised their religion well, and they volunteered to spend much of their spare time in forming a road up to the church, and laying out the grounds. Father Binsfeld spent a pleasant time with them. The townspeople, too, had learnt to like the 18th Royal Irish, and when in March, 1870, they were recalled from New Zealand a great crowd assembled at their departure, and praised them for their good conduct.

Father Rolland, as has already been mentioned, was missionary rector of this district. He attended the whites and Maoris alike. Father Binsfeld merely replaced him for a while in his absence. When the Maori war broke out in the New Plymouth district Father Rolland was the only minister of religion that followed the soldiers into the battlefield, and there he showed great bravery. During the engagements he was at the front, and as men dropped down he crossed the lines offering to carry away the dying, and administer to them the rites of the Church, no matter were they whites or Maori. He had many narrow escapes during the campaign, and on one occasion a bullet passed through his hat, almost grazing the crown of his head. His name is mentioned in the history of this campaign as one of its heroes. In later years the Government of New Zealand gave him a recognition (paltry enough, it is true) for the service he had rendered to the colony. He was most intrepid, and most unsparing of himself. He lived, as it were, in the saddle, and a description of the hardships and dangers he went through would make an interesting narrative. He returned to New Plymouth in March, 1870, and Father Binsfeld started for Greymouth, to which place he had been appointed before he went to New Plymouth.

(To be continued.)

Do you wish to send a Christmas or New Year Memento or Parcel to any relative or friend either in the Home Country or some other country abroad? If so, you will find the New Zealand Express Company's system the cheapest, best, quickest, and surest method. Parcels called for and delivered anywhere. Reduced tariff. Branches and agencies everywhere.

## Diocesan News

### ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

December 4.

On December 26 the Catholics of the Hutt District will hold their annual picnic in the Very Rev. Father Lane's grounds, Lower Hutt.

The gross takings at the recent Catholic fair at Otaki were over £260, resulting in a net profit of £170—a record for any similar function at Otaki.

Mr. H. St Aubin Murray, who was sent Home by the Canterbury Amateur Athletic Association to compete at the Olympic Games, returned to New Zealand on Tuesday.

The members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society will make their quarterly Communion on Sunday next, and in the afternoon are requested to attend the quarterly meeting at St. Patrick's Hall, Boulcott street, at 3 p.m., when it is expected his Grace the Archbishop will be present.

The Very Rev. Father Bannon, Superior of the Redemptorist Order in Australasia, who is accompanied by the Rev. Father McGrath, C.S.S.R., arrived in Wellington on Wednesday. They will remain in New Zealand for a few weeks, and are at present staying at the Mount St. Gerard Monastery, Oriental Bay.

Another old resident of Wellington, Mr. Patrick Dalley, died at the Hospital after a long illness. He leaves a widow and four children. His remains were taken to St. Joseph's Church, and from there for interment to the Karori Cemetery. Sincere sympathy is felt for the sorrowing relatives in their sad bereavement.—R.I.P.

The annual cricket match between St. Patrick's College and Wellington College took place at the Basin Reserve on November 30. The wicket was in excellent condition. Wellington College captain won the toss and put their opponents in. St. Patrick's College made 129 and 70 runs, and Wellington College replied with 189 and one wicket for 18, winning by nine wickets. The top scorers for the losers were Young 47, Dwan 27, B. Ryan 26, Kane 22, and Doherty (4 wickets for 74) and B. Ryan (5 wickets for 43) bowled well. The Wellington College boys were entertained at luncheon in St. Patrick's College.

Mr. B. Leydon, a member of the Wellington Catholic Club, left last Thursday for Marton to take up a Government position. He has been connected with the club for the past three years, during the latter part of which he has been on the executive. By his departure the Catholic Club has lost one of its most popular and energetic members. Mr. Leydon always displayed great enthusiasm in whatever part he was allotted in the club's affairs. He was a prominent member of the junior debating society and cricket club. Whilst regretting his departure the members of the club congratulate Mr. Leydon on his promotion, and wish him every success in his future career.

A concert to seamen was held in the Sailor's Rest on November 30, under the auspices of the Wellington Catholic Seamen's Conference. The following contributed items to the programme:—Misses Burns (violin), Casey (piano), Hamilton (song), Kells (recitation), Murray (song), Rosengrave (song), and Messrs. V. Cole (violin solo), Falvey (song), J. McGowan, M. O'Kane, and Pfaff (recitations). Miss Casey played the accompaniments in a finished manner. The manager of the Rest, on behalf of the seamen, Wharf Laborers, and Waterside Workers, returned thanks to the performers and organisers for the excellent evening's entertainment they had provided. It is the intention of the Catholic Seamen's Conference to give entertainments to the sailors more frequently in future.

### Hastings

(From an occasional correspondent.)

The beautiful Church of the Sacred Heart, Hastings, was the scene during the past week of two impressive and edifying ceremonies. On last Sunday his Grace Archbishop Redwood, assisted by Very Rev. Father Regnault,

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