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## DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

The devotion of the Forty Hours' Adoration began in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Mosgiel, on Friday morning of last week, and was brought to a conclusion on Sunday.

There should be a very large attendance in the Garrison Hall on Monday evening, when the pupils of the Christian Brothers' School will give their annual entertainment. An excellent and varied programme has been prepared for the occasion, and, judging by the standard of past years and by the marked ability always displayed by the pupils of the school, the entertainment should prove one of the best that has been given in the Garrison Hall for a considerable time.

We greatly regret to announce the death of Mrs. Lynch (of Inchindrisla, near Wungarvan, Ireland), mother of the Rev. Fathers James and John Lynch, of this diocese, and sister of the very Rev. Dean Burke. The account of the esteemed lady's death was received by the Rev. John Lynch on Wednesday morning. A solemn Requiem for the repose of her soul will be celebrated in St. Joseph's Cathedral on Friday morning at 9 o'clock. R.I.P.

All the pupils sent up by the Sisters of Mercy, South Dunedin, were successful at the recent musical examination held in connection with the Associated Board of the Royal Academy and Royal College of Music, London. The following is the list:—Primary division—Mary Brennan, 130 (distinction); Cedric Dawson, 127; Kathleen McDevitt, 124; May Curtin, 114. Elementary division—Rose Fitzpatrick, 130 (distinction); Isabella McDowall, 125; Nora Mee, 125; Mary O'Kane, 125; Mary Kovalevske (Mosgiel), 111.

The results of the examinations in practical music conducted by Mr. J. F. Dunhill, examiner for the Associated Board, at St. Dominic's College on December 1 were as follow:—Licentiate, Associated Board, performers' certificate—Alda Ralph, L.A.B. Advanced Grade (pass)—M. J. O'Connell, 114. Intermediate Grade (honors)—W. Hawcridge, 130. Higher School Grade (distinction)—E. Paton, 134; L. Wyinks, 134. Elementary Grade (distinction)—J. Sonntag, 131; pass—D. Godby, 128; D. Sweeney, 127; M. Wilson (Milton), 127.

The Druids' Hall, Mornington, was crowded on Monday evening on the occasion of the annual entertainment by, and the distribution of prizes to, the pupils of the Sunday school conducted by Miss D. Purton. The Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., presided, and there were also present Rev. Father Corcoran and Rev. Brother Brady. The stage was very tastefully decorated, a prominent feature of the decorations being a well-laden Christmas tree. The entertainment, which was most enjoyable and highly creditable to Miss Purton, who arranged it, and to the children who took part in it, consisted of a Christmas pantomime, in which such popular characters as Father Time, Old Father Christmas, the Old and the New Year, Kris Kringle, and Santa Claus appeared appropriately costumed. The principal characters were sustained by Misses Power, Plunkett, Jelly, McKeuzie, Cantwell, and Masters O'Neill, Dougherty, McKenzie (2), McFarlane, Brady, and Jelly. The various performers were letter-perfect in their parts, and acted and sang and danced in a manner which elicited hearty applause from the audience. As a wind-up to the play toys of all kinds were distributed to the younger children. The Rev. Father Coffey, assisted by Miss Purton, then distributed the prizes, consisting chiefly of books, to the senior pupils to the number of 35, each of whom received a gift. At the conclusion the Rev. Father Coffey said he could not let the opportunity pass without congratulating the children for their very excellent entertainment. He had not enjoyed anything so well for a long time. The Mornington Sunday school had been an undoubted success. The manner in which the children had been taught was a matter of sincere congratulation, and it was pleasure to the priests and parents to know that such good work was being done there. Owing to the large attendance at the school and to the number of Catholic residents in the district, the question of providing a church or school would

have to be considered in the near future, so as to perfect the good work that had been done there by Miss Purton. Not alone did the Catholics of the district owe Miss Purton a debt of gratitude for her work in the Sunday school, but there was scarcely a Catholic family in the district that was not indebted to her for some kindly action, whilst her activities did not end here, for no sooner did a Catholic woman come to reside in the neighborhood than Miss Purton got in touch with her and saw that she attended to her religious duties. He could only describe the work which she did for the Church as marvellous, considering that she had other duties to perform. She deserved all possible praise for her work, and there was not a Catholic in the district who did not appreciate at its full worth what she had done for the children. In concluding, on behalf of himself and the other priests of the parish and of the parents of the children, he sincerely thanked Miss Purton, and from his heart he wished her a Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year, and a bright future. A hearty vote of thanks to Father Coffey for presiding brought the proceedings to a close.

## The Founder of the Society of Mary

On Friday last news was received by cable from Europe by the Very Rev. Father Regnault, S.M., Provincial of the Society of Mary, that the founder of the Order, Father Jean Claude Colin, had been declared venerable by the Congregation of Rites at Rome. Jean Claude Colin was born in France in 1790, and whilst in college preparing for the priesthood he conceived the idea of founding the Marist Order, which received the approbation of the Holy See in 1836. Among the first members of the society were the blessed Peter Chanel, the Venerable Father Champagnat, Father Bataillon, and Father Servant. The Venerable Jean Claude Colin died on November 15, 1875. A more extended notice will appear in our next issue.

## Cromwell

The annual concert in connection with the Cromwell Catholic School (writes the correspondent of the *Otago Daily Times*) took place in the Athenaeum Hall, which was filled, on Wednesday evening, December 9, and, as usual, was a thorough success, financially and otherwise, and amply demonstrated the skill and patience exhibited by the Sisters in their training of the pupils, musically and vocally. The piano duets by the Misses Amy and Annie Thomas, Ivy Mitchell and Cissy Thomas, and Martha Mitchell and Kathleen Thomas were exceptionally well rendered, especially by the last-named two young ladies, who have attained high degrees of proficiency on the instrument. A pianoforte solo ('Come back to Erin') by Master Alfred Neill comes under the same category, and he did ample credit to his careful tuition. 'Darby and Joan' caused no end of merriment by the thorough manner in which their respective roles were filled by two little tots—George Scoles and Kitty McNulty—and which really would have done credit to youngsters of a more mature age. Bell drill by a class of lads was gone through faultlessly, and displayed the careful training in calisthenics which they had undergone. A humorous recitation, 'How Uncle Rodger hung a picture,' by Master Vincent McNulty, fairly brought down the house, and was followed by an oporetta, 'Queen Mab,' the principal role being filled by Miss Evelyn Scott, who acquitted herself remarkably well considering her extreme youth. Marie McLaren also went through her part with much grace and ability. All the girls were letter-perfect. The gem of the evening was a ballet entitled 'A visit to Spain.' It was a spectacular treat, and the perfect waltz time kept by the girls was a credit to their careful training. Miss Maggie Cahill acted as accompanist in her usual artistic manner. A farce, 'He Would be a Soldier,' followed. Among the lads who distinguished themselves were Masters Alfred Neill, Vincent McNulty, and William Mitchell. During the interval Father Hunt suitably returned thanks to all present for their patronage.

The 1908-session of the Oamaru Catholic Club was brought to a close on Friday evening, December 4, with a mock breach of promise case, in which the characters were taken by club members, assisted by lady friends. Owing to the lateness of the season, many of the members were engaged in outdoor pursuits, and the attendance suffered in consequence, but those who were present thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and the evening passed off very successfully.

Parents and others will find a splendid stock of seasonable presents at Messrs. Brown, Ewing, and Co.'s, Limited, Princes street, Dunedin....