

places. The following were the signatures: Messrs. J. J. Meldon, M. Franklin, A. O'Donnell, Kearns Bros., E. Long, J. Burke, jun., C. Garrigan, and M. Bolger.

Mr. Franklin also asked Father O'Dwyer to accept a purse of sovereigns and a watch guard and gold sovereign case, as tokens of the esteem and admiration in which he was held by the Manaia parishioners, and accompanying the gift was the sincere hope that the Rev. father would be spared to enjoy a long and happy life in his adopted country and remain many years amongst the Manaia parishioners.

Mr. J. Bourke, jun., as president of the Hibernian Society, referred to the good advice that Father O'Dwyer had given to the organisation.

Mr. B. McCarthy (representing Mr. P. McCarthy, one of the founders of the church at Manaia) endorsed the sentiments expressed by preceding speakers, and by the address, concerning the good work accomplished by the Rev. Father O'Dwyer. It was worthy of special attention that during Father O'Dwyer's administration of parish affairs he had extinguished the indebtedness of the Manaia church with the co-operation and assistance of the parishioners. Father Power would no doubt be pleased to find on his return that Father O'Dwyer's work had been so keenly appreciated, and that the Manaia church was free of debt, while Hawera's indebtedness had been reduced to £211.

Messrs. M. Bolger, A. O'Donnell, E. Long, and D. J. Hughes also spoke in appreciation of Father O'Dwyer's qualities as a priest and his labors in the parish.

Father O'Dwyer, in acknowledging the gifts, said he did not know how to express his feelings. Words could not adequately express them. If they could then he would be able to thank the people for their kindness. He was filled with feelings of gratitude to the chairman and the other members of the congregation, who had spoken such kind things of him. He had not been quite three years in the district and it had been a happy time for him. He hoped he had performed his duties in a manner pleasing to Almighty God and also to the Catholics of Manaia. The large and representative gathering that evening, and the generous gifts which they had been good enough to give him, told him that he had done some good in the district; or, at least, what he had done had been pleasing to the people. To the absent pastor some of the credit had to be given, for he was the guiding star in all these undertakings, and the speaker was sure no one would be more pleased than he, when, on his return, Manaia would present him with a parish free from debt. Father O'Dwyer also acknowledged that a great deal of the success was due to the Catholics of Manaia. They were a happy and a united people, a religious and well-conducted people. He again thanked the people for their generous gift, and hoped God would pour His choicest blessings on the people of the Waimate Plains.

During the evening songs were sung by Misses Hilles, Milner, and Condon, and Messrs. Lambert, Cosgrove, and Hughes. Mrs. Hilles and Miss Milner played the accompaniments. The ladies provided supper, and a pleasant evening was terminated with the singing of 'Auld lang syne.'

### St. Dominic's College

The annual distribution of prizes to the pupils of St. Dominic's College took place on Friday afternoon. The Very Rev. Mgr. O'Leary (Lawrence) presided, and there were also present Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., Rev. Fathers Cleary and Corcoran, and Rev. Brother Brady. At intervals during the distribution choice musical items were contributed. The following was the programme, a feature of which was the exceptionally clever pianoforte playing: Chorus, 'Bird of the north'; piano solo, 'Valse'; violin solo, '2nd Romance'; vocal solo, 'Song of thanksgiving'; piano solo, 'Rondo brillant'; vocal trio, 'Evening.'

Monsignor O'Leary in crowning Miss Ethel George, spoke a few words of hearty congratulation, and hoped that she might 'long wear the crown.' When the girls grew older, he said, they would, on looking back, consider themselves happy in having been placed under the care of the Dominican Nuns, who for the last forty years had devoted to the interests of education all that was best in them. Throughout his many years of priesthood he had invariably been able to recognise in any assembly those who had been Dominican pupils. There was a modesty and a goodness about them which, as it were, set a stamp upon them. It must, he said, be a gratification to them to feel that after a year of earnest work they might now look forward to a period of comparative leisure. There were those, he said, who thought that learning must cease with school life. This was not so; on the contrary, the pupils

while at school were merely learning how to learn. After again offering his congratulations, Monsignor O'Leary called on Rev. Father Coffey to read the college report, which was as follows:—

The work of the college during the past year has been well up to the usual standard. The results of the Oxford Local Examination show that good work has been done throughout the classes, candidates in the various grades scoring creditable marks. A popular branch of study during the year has been that of human physiology, and in this regard the college staff and students desire to return thanks to Dr. Hastings, to whom they are indebted for the very interesting course of lectures delivered at the college during the midwinter term. In the school of music there were the usual successes. In the Trinity College, London, examination one candidate secured her diploma of associate pianist. An exhibition for pianoforte playing was also awarded to another candidate, and the highest marks for senior grade pianoforte playing (96) for the current year were gained by a pupil of St. Dominic's College. In the examination of the Associated Board of the Royal Academy of Music, London, one candidate was successful in obtaining her diploma of licentiate (solo performer), and four others secured honors in the various grades. The pupils presented in both colleges (24 in number), were all successful, eight of them carrying off honors. The art studio, which records a further increase of extern students, has produced attractive and artistic work, notably of Nature studies in flowers, animal and landscape painting. The usual thanks are due to the generous donors of medals and prize gifts.

Commenting on the report, Father Coffey expressed himself pleased with the work done, and especially pleased with the excellent conduct of the girls. He hoped that in their conduct in later life they would prove themselves ever true to Dominican precepts. Father Coffey wished those present a happy holiday, and urged on them the necessity of returning in good time on the first Monday in February.

#### PRIZE LIST.

Senior Oxford Class.—Class medallist and dux (gold medal), H. Bourke; mathematics, M. Helps; English history, H. Bourke; model and geometrical drawing, M. Helps; hygiene, M. Helps; special prize, M. Gawne.

Junior Oxford Class.—Christian doctrine (gold medal), M. Burke; Christian doctrine (prize), L. Finnerty; Gospel, E. Powell; class medallists (silver medals), J. O'Leary, H. Tighe-Umbers; French, I. Gaffaney; French (second prize), L. Finnerty; English (second prize), E. Powell; physiology, J. O'Leary, L. Moloney; composition, H. Tighe-Umbers; history, M. Geerin; geography and mapping, K. Hughes, L. Moloney; attention to studies, I. Gaffaney, J. O'Leary; arithmetic, C. Anderson, M. McKeay; order, M. Geerin; freehand drawing, H. Tighe-Umbers, K. Hughes.

Intermediate Class.—Gospel, E. O'Brien; class medallist (silver medal), K. Quill; next in merit (silver medal), M. Mackie; English (second prize), M. Nolan; composition, M. Coughlan; writing and composition, N. Millar; elocution, M. Thruston; arithmetic, M. Mackie; arithmetic (second prize), M. Gallagher; freehand drawing, M. Nolan; improvement in English and French, E. O'Brien; application, E. George; needlework (silver medal), K. Gallagher; attendance (silver medal), M. Nolan; order, N. Millar.

Preliminary Oxford.—Christian doctrine (silver medal), F. Millar; Christian doctrine (second prize), A. Caldwell; Gospel, A. Norris, H. McQuillan; class medallist (silver medal), M. Burke; English literature (silver medal), B. Callaghan; English literature (second prize), H. McQuillan; English grammar and composition, A. Moritzson; drawing and original design (silver medal), A. Norris; freehand drawing, A. Moritzson; arithmetic, L. Gilmour; French—A. Norris, B. Callaghan, I. Collie; English history, A. Norris; domestic economy, I. Collie; penmanship and calligraphy, E. Coughlan; needlework, A. Norris.

Division A.—Gospel, E. Brookes; French, N. Rings; geography—N. Nicholson, E. Brookes; freehand drawing, M. O'Halloran; writing, N. Rings; attention to studies, J. Sonntag, D. Sweeney, N. Caldwell.

School of Music.—Licentiate of the Associated Board (gold medal), A. Ralph (North Island); Senior Grade Trinity College (honors, silver medal), K. Quill (North Island); Intermediate Grade (violin), M. Burke; Elementary Grade Royal Academy (distinction, silver medal), J. Sonntag; Preparatory Grade Trinity College—violin (honors, silver medal), C. Millar; Preparatory Grade Trinity College (honors, silver medal), R. Chiaroni; application to music, K. Sullivan; musical knowledge: Intermediate Grade Trinity College (honors), K. Quill; Preparatory Grade—M. McKeay, J. Sonntag.

Good conduct prize (silver medal), I. Gaffaney. The wreath for amiability has been awarded, by the vote of the pupils, to E. George.

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