

a part of the education of youth. Not only was Trinity College the oldest and first institution to hold examinations, but since its incorporation it had held 400,000 examinations, while above 25,000 candidates annually presented themselves for examination. All qualified teachers should be gratified at the presence of a centre in their locality.

A number of the parishioners of the Cathedral, at the invitation of the Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., met at the Bishop's house on last Monday evening. His Lordship the Bishop presided, and said the object of bringing them together was a proposal to fittingly recognise the faithful and gratuitous services rendered over the long period of forty years by Mr. E. O'Connor as church secretary. To enumerate the work done by Mr. O'Connor in the interests of the church and Catholic community was a task well nigh impossible. During that lengthy period of time he had scarcely ever been absent from his position, and had even denied himself holidays so attached was he to duty. Mr. O'Connor was now away on a holiday, the first real one in his (the Bishop's) recollection, and his absence afforded them an opportunity of arranging something in the nature indicated, which would not, they well knew, be possible under any other circumstances. The Very Rev. Father Price proposed that a testimonial in the form of an address and purse of sovereigns be presented to Mr. O'Connor on his return. This was unanimously agreed to. It was also resolved to arrange a complimentary conversation, at which the presentation will be made, and to secure the Alexandra Hall for the purpose. All present, with power to add to the number, were formed into a committee, with Mr. J. J. Wilson, as secretary, to carry out the event, which is fixed for Tuesday, June 1.

An influential deputation, consisting of the heads of denominations, head masters of public schools, members of Parliament, and prominent citizens, waited on Sir Joseph Ward on Thursday morning and urged him to introduce legislation to suppress the sale of immoral and obscene literature. His Lordship Bishop Grimes, who was the first selected speaker, said that when he was asked to join the deputation he readily consented to do so, not only because of its objects, which had his deepest sympathy, but also because he felt sure that as soon as Sir Joseph Ward was aware of the great evil that was growing up in the Dominion in connection with the spread of immoral, indecent, and filthy literature, he would do his best to put a stop to it. It was very easy to point out an evil, but it was often very hard to suggest a remedy. As, however, stringent and praiseworthy efforts were made to prevent the spread of contagious and other dreaded diseases, and as there was a Government department to control and prevent the introduction of contraband and dangerous goods, it seemed to the deputation that the Government in its wisdom could see its way to establish a similar department to take steps to prevent the growing evil of which the deputation complained. He had been informed that in England, in the past few months, it had been seriously proposed, in order to prevent the circulation of those filthy novels, to require that works of imagination should be licensed. He knew that 'censorship' was an ugly word, and it naturally created a feeling of dislike on the part of everybody. But he thought that there was a necessity for a society for protection from vice. In New Zealand there was a Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. A similar society might be established to deal with the immoral literature evil. If it had the support of the Government, people would be protected from the immorality of the sex novel and other wretched productions. He repeated that the word 'censorship' was an ugly one, and he did not like it. He had frequently gone out of his way to express his appreciation of the clean press, speaking generally, which existed in New Zealand. Still, he thought that the people were sufficiently enlightened to recognise the difference between the freedom of the press and shameless license. He thought that as municipal authorities had some control over places of amusement, it would be possible to establish authority to see that in all large centres books which were injurious and dangerous might be suppressed. He hoped that Sir Joseph Ward would find some means to do something in that direction.

Timaru

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

A most successful social was given by the Young Men's Club in their rooms on last Tuesday week, progressive euchre being the chief event of the evening. There was a large attendance, and a pleasant evening was spent. The prizes fell to Mr. J. Purvis and Miss Ryan, the consolation trophies going to Miss McAteer and Mr. D. Doyle.

On Wednesday evening the Avoca Hockey Club gave a return social in the girls' school. There was an overflowing attendance. At the close of the progressive euchre

competition an enjoyable supper was partaken of, and the prizes were awarded to Mr. Geddes and Miss C. Dunne.

Mr. M. Driscoll, of Kerrytown, a widely known and highly respected resident of the Kerrytown district, passed away on Sunday, May 9, in his 73rd year. The deceased was a great benefactor of the Pleasant Point church, and took a deep interest in public affairs during his long and useful life.—R.I.P.

The Timaru *Herald* inserted in its supplement of Saturday week the account of the 'escaped nun' which was shown by the *Tablet* to be a grossly exaggerated story. Evidently the *Herald* got acquainted with the untrustworthiness of its information after the supplement was printed, for in its issue of the same day it had the courtesy to contradict the story.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(By Telegraph from our own correspondent.)

May 17.

A complimentary concert is to be given by the Parnell parish to his Lordship the Bishop this evening. This was the Bishop's parish prior to his elevation to the See of Auckland.

A largely-attended meeting was held at St. Benedict's last evening in connection with the bazaar intended to be held in aid of the parish debt. Much interest is manifested in the proposal, and the undertaking is sure to be successful.

An estimable young lady, Miss Mary Ford, died last Friday. The remains were interred yesterday. She was a Child of Mary, and for years, though of retiring disposition, she was well known at the Cathedral. Her long and trying illness was borne with great fortitude and resignation. The remains were taken to the Cathedral. Rev. Father Meagher, assisted by Rev. Father Wright, read the burial service. The Children of Mary preceded the hearse to the Symond Street Cemetery.

At the Cathedral yesterday Father Meagher informed the parishioners that the *Tablet's* representative was now in the city, and he exhorted every head of family to subscribe to that admirable Catholic paper. He said it ranked foremost amongst the Catholic papers of the colonies, was a terror to slanderers of the Church, never missed an attack, and repelled it with ability and vigor. They should support the *Tablet* in its constant battle for Church, priests, and people.

OBITUARY

MRS. W. VEITCH, OAMARU.

On April 30 there passed away, at her residence, Towey street, in the person of Mrs. W. Veitch, a lady who was greatly beloved by all in the parish (writes our Oamaru correspondent). Mrs. Veitch was the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Barry, of Oamaru, and at the time of her death was only 30 years of age. The deceased was ever foremost in everything for the benefit of the Church, being a willing and energetic worker. For a number of years Mrs. Veitch was a prominent member of St. Patrick's choir, and an active member of the Altar Society and Children of Mary Confraternity. She was of a kind and gentle disposition, an affectionate daughter, and loving wife, and deep sympathy is felt for her bereaved parents and husband. During her long illness, which was borne with resignation and patience, she was attended by the Right Rev. Mgr. Mackay, V.G., and Rev. Fathers Farthing and O'Neill, and died fortified by all the rites of the Church. The remains were conveyed to St. Patrick's Basilica, whence the funeral proceeded to the cemetery, headed by the Hibernian Society, of which body Mr. Veitch has long been an energetic and zealous office-bearer. The cortege was the largest witnessed in Oamaru for many years, and testified to the respect and esteem in which the deceased was held, and to the sympathy felt for her relatives. The burial service at the graveside was conducted by the Right Rev. Mgr. Mackay, assisted by Rev. Father Farthing.—R.I.P.

Said Darby to his old wife, Joan,
"We, side by side, have aged and grown,
But here I tell you plump and plain,
You shall not poultice-me again!
There's something now to cure one faster
Of cough or cold than mustard plaster,
No more these blisters I'll endure,
I'll purchase Woods' Great Peppermint Cure."