

hold me now in the middle of the forest, with the hope of soon coming across a house; but in vain. The longer I walked the more I sank into the mud, which had now become knee-deep. The darkness of the night was complete, and my way was now only a miserable bit of a path where I pulled like an ox in order to release my feet from the mire. I understood then that my friend the Scotchman was right. After four hours more of walking I at last left the mud behind me, and soon reached again the summit of the mountain, where more than ever it was impossible to find a road or a house; so I sat down under a bush, and my little sack served me as a bolster; and as I was almost on the summit of the snow-covered mountain, I had no other protection from cold save my umbrella. At 4 o'clock I had no difficulty in rising, and behold me again on the path I had lost the evening before, which was only two steps from my couch! At 10 o'clock in the morning I arrived at "Cherry Farm," on the border of the sea, where there were three or four houses. (Can any reader of these Memoirs locate this "Cherry Farm"?) I knocked at the door of one, and asked for a piece of bread, and found that the woman was a Catholic. She gave me a piece of bread and a cup of tea, but no more, for it was Friday, and she had only meat to offer me. Eleven miles further I found at Goodwood a hotel, with a better table and a bed on which to rest my weary limbs, for I had walked forty miles. The following day I reached Mr. G——'s at Moeraki. Alas! it was too late. Mr. G—— conducted me to the room, and on opening the door said to me, "Come and see." We knelt down before the coffin, for Mrs. G—— had passed away ten days before. The following day, Sunday, we recited together the Office of the Dead, and the funeral prayers. The interment will take place in three or four months' time in the family vault at Sydney. All that they told me about the good woman made me believe that my presence here was not necessary. Two years previously this good man had sold for £60,000 his property in Australia in order to come to this country for the benefit of his wife's health. He had time to build a fine house in a cluster of trees bordering on the sea, and in the middle of an estate 100,000 acres in extent, on which he had already 9000 sheep and some hundreds of horses and cattle.

## Diocesan News

### ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

September 11.

The half-yearly Communion of the members of the Wellington H.A.C.B. Society will be held on Sunday, September 26, at St. Joseph's Church, Buckle street.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament took place at St. Mary of the Angels' Church on last Sunday from last Mass until Vespers.

At St. Anne's Club rooms on Tuesday evening the Rev. Father Bartley, S.M., B.A., gave an interesting lecture on Cardinal Newman.

The Very Rev. Dr. Kennedy, S.M., Rector of St. Patrick's College, gave a lecture on Thursday evening at Blenheim in aid of the local church funds. A large and appreciative audience was present.

The several Conferences of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in Wellington have arranged for a combined social in the Town Hall on Tuesday, October 12. The object is to raise funds to still further extend the Society's usefulness amongst the poor of Wellington.

The retreat for the Children of Mary Confraternity, Newtown, was terminated last Wednesday evening. The retreat was attended by 90 members. Fourteen aspirants were received and ten new members admitted into the confraternity.

The finals in the boxing tournament, conducted by the boys of St. Aloysius' Club, which was held at St. Anne's Club rooms on Wednesday evening, resulted as follows:—Leary was winner of Class A, O'Donoghue of Class B, and Wareham of Class C. The judge was Dr. Napier McLean.

His Grace Archbishop Redwood leaves for Sydney on Friday to attend the Catholic Congress. His Grace will be accompanied by the Rev. Father Venning, S.M., who is to represent the St. Vincent de Paul Society, the H.A.C.B. Society, and the Wellington Catholic Seamen's Conference.

Great interest is being manifested in the dramatic and musical entertainment by the members of the Wellington Catholic Club in St. Patrick's Hall on Monday, September 20. As the sale of tickets is exceeding expectations, the

programme will be repeated on Tuesday, September 21. The proceeds will be devoted to the fund for the erection of the new Catholic Hall.

On Wednesday evening, September 8, the annual social gathering in aid of the schools of Te Aro parish was given in the Town Hall, Wellington, and proved a great success. The ladies of the parish provided the refreshments. The committee worked very hard for the success of the function, and it is expected that about £100 will be realised.

Rev. Father S. Mahony, S.M., of St. Joseph's, Buckle street, has been transferred temporarily to Nelson to take the place of the Rev. Father Clancy, who is about to undertake a mission throughout the archdiocese of Wellington on behalf of the Stoke Orphanage. The annual collection for the Cathedral in Wellington will not be made this year, and its place will be taken by the collection for the orphanage. On Thursday evening the Rev. Father Clancy was presented with a purse of sovereigns by his parishioners.

Last night the members of St. Anne's Club and their friends had a great treat in the lecture on "Pond Life," given by the Very Rev. Dr. Kennedy, S.M., Rector of St. Patrick's College, in the club rooms. The lecturer told his hearers the story of the insect life in such a clear and concise manner that they were greatly interested in the facts placed before them. A series of micro-photographs were shown by means of a lantern. Dr. Kennedy was accorded a very hearty vote of thanks at the conclusion.

On Monday night the Sailors' Rest was crowded with seafaring men and their friends, who thoroughly enjoyed the concert which was given under the auspices of the Wellington Catholic Seamen's Conference. An excellent programme was gone through, the following contributing items:—Mrs. Mitchell (song), Misses Barry (song), O'Connor (song), Marshall and Waller (Irish jigs), Messrs. D. Bonner (song), N. Conway (song), G. W. Houchen (song), J. Murphy (Irish jig), Lansdowne (song), Seringeour (song), Somerville (song), Rawson and Clifford (comic duets). Special features of the programme were the patter songs by Mr. E. Kane, of London, and the clever caricaturing by Mr. Geoff Venning. The accompaniments were played by Mesdames Dunn and Mitchell, and Mr. Houchen.

The inmates of Ohiro Home spent a most enjoyable evening on Friday, 10th inst., when a surprise party, organised by some members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society and their friends, gave an entertainment. The following contributed musical and other items to the programme:—Misses Bailey, Bell, Jameson, and Reichel (songs), Doris Guise, T. Hyland, M. McMurrich, and Eileen Scanlon (dances), McCarthy (pianoforte solo), Messrs. F. Eller (song), F. and A. Hickmott (songs), J. Ross (song), F. Walshe (song), P. J. Lawlor (violin solo). Mrs. Dunn and Miss McCarthy played the accompaniments very capably. During an interval the old people partook of the light refreshments kindly supplied by the visitors. The donors, performers, and the matron of the home were heartily thanked for their kindness in giving the old people such a treat.

Among the speakers at the annual meeting of delegates of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, which took place in the Cathedral Hall, Westminster, on July 24 and 25, was Brother Reichel, hon. secretary of the Particular Council of Wellington, who gave an interesting address, in the course of which he said: "In New Zealand the poor were provided for, but it was in the spiritual order their work developed. . . They supported their own schools, worked in Sunday schools, visited gaols, distributed literature, visited ships, organised a Ladies' Guild of Mercy for unfortunate women, and reclaimed the fallen. In his city of 60,000 they had four conferences. . . One direct message, an earnest message, he brought: Catholics going out, let them immediately on arrival go to the Conference, the names would be given, and the society would help them in every way and try to get them work."

The annual meeting of the Wellington Catholic Seamen's Conference took place in St. Patrick's Hall on Sunday afternoon last, the Very Rev. Father O'Shea, S.M., V.G., presiding. Rev. Father Venning, S.M., was also present. There was a large attendance of members and friends. On the motion of Father O'Shea, seconded by Father Venning, the report and balance sheet were adopted. Father O'Shea congratulated the Conference on the great work they had done, the figures in the report being more than double those of any previous year. Father Venning expressed his pleasure at the splendid progress that had been made, and wished the Conference still greater success in the future. The election of officers for the next term resulted as follows:—Spiritual director, Rev. Father Venning; president, Mr. Jas. McCusker (re-elected); vice-president, Mr. E. J. Donoghue; hon. secretary, Mr. E. Reichel; hon. treasurer, Mr. A. Jackson; shipping reporter, Mr. F. Hickmott; librarians, Messrs. C. McKenzie and F. Venning; auditors, Messrs. D. Strickland and F. Hickmott.

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