

A large and representative meeting of Catholics, at which Ven. Archdeacon Devoy presided, was held in St. Patrick's Hall on Sunday. The object of the meeting was to arrange for a social in aid of the Sisters of Compassion in the city. A strong committee of ladies undertook to dispose of tickets, and a musical committee was elected to arrange the concert part of the programme. The great work of the good nuns is becoming more widely known, and a record attendance is confidently expected.

In honor of the feast of the rector on the previous day the students of St. Patrick's College enjoyed a holiday last Monday. In the evening a private entertainment, including a magic lantern display of beautiful slides portraying the scenery of Ireland, together with her history as told in her ruined monasteries, cathedrals etc., was given at the college. A few vocal items lent variety to the programme, which was brought to a happy conclusion with three cheers for the operator, Rev. Father Clancy.

The work of fitting up the gymnasium apparatus for the Marist Brothers' Old Boys' Association in St. Patrick's Hall is now completed, and the formal opening took place last night. The Ven. Archdeacon Devoy occupied the chair. Songs and recitations were contributed by Messrs Naughton, G. Butcher, Ellison, and Jones. Messrs Doyle and Jones, the honorary instructors to the club, gave exhibitions in gymnastic work, club swinging, and weight lifting.

The management committee of the late Easter Carnival entertained the lady stall-holders and those who took part in the spectacular display at a social in the Sydney street schoolroom on Wednesday evening. The stage reserved for onlookers was neatly decorated with pot plants and ferns, etc. During an interval in the dancing the Rev. Father Lewis took the opportunity of thanking those who had helped in any way at the bazaar. He had also, at the request of his Grace the Archbishop, to thank all the workers and to congratulate them on the great success of the bazaar.

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN.

There are now six students in Holy Cross College, Mosgiel, and several others will, within the next week or two, be added to the number.

A collection was taken at St. Joseph's Cathedral and at the Sacred Heart Church, North-East Valley, on Sunday, in aid of the Indian Famine Fund, when the sum of £18 15s 6d was received.

The Sisters of Mercy, South Dunedin, acknowledge with thanks receipt of £1 from the Catholic Sunday school, Balclutha, and 10s from 'a child of Mary' for the St. Vincent de Paul orphanage.

The annual concert in aid of the St. Vincent de Paul Society will take place in St. Joseph's Hall on Thursday evening, May 21. Apart from the fact that an excellent programme has been prepared for the occasion, there should be a crowded attendance, as the Society is deserving of the most generous support. It is doing an immense amount of good in a very unostentatious manner, and its sphere of usefulness could be greatly extended were it not for lack of funds.

A splendid picture in oils is now being completed at the Convent of Mercy, South Dunedin, for the forthcoming art union in aid of the funds of St. Joseph's Church, Queenstown. The subject is that favorite and delightful one, the Lower Lake of Killarney. The canvas measures six feet by four, and it is enclosed in a massive gilt frame nearly a foot in depth. This frame is to be studded with precious ornaments in the shape of nuggets of gold, and the picture should, in every sense, form a centre of great attraction at the approaching bazaar.

From a private source we learn that the Very Rev. Mgr. O'Leary left London for Naples on March 16 by the Orient steamer Ortona. On arriving in Naples he proceeded to Rome where he intended to stay for about a fortnight. His departure from Ireland was delayed through the illness of his mother, whose life hung in the balance for about 10 days in consequence of a serious attack of influenza. He arrived in Melbourne by the Orizaba and left for Dunedin by the Tarawera, which was released from quarantine yesterday (Wednesday), about the time we went to press.

The visitors to the House of Commons during the week (says the *Catholic Herald*, March 17) included Monsignor O'Leary, of Lawrence, Dunedin, one of the best known and most popular of the Irish priests of New Zealand. Monsignor O'Leary is on his way home from Ireland, and will call at Rome to obtain the privileges of the Jubilee Year. He is a native of Clonduhid, Macroom, and emigrated shortly after his ordination at Clonmel, a quarter of a century ago. Monsignor O'Leary took an active part in the meeting organised beneath the Southern Cross on the occasions of Mr. John Dillon's visits some years ago and of Mr. Davitt's more recent one; and the title of Monsignor was recently conferred upon him by his Holiness on the recommendation of the Bishop of the diocese, Most Rev. Dr. Verdon.

A meeting was held in St. Patrick's School, South Dunedin, on Wednesday night of last week for the purpose of forming a Catholic Men's Society, when there was a representative attendance. The Rev. Father Coffey, who presided, gave an interesting address regarding the necessity for and the benefits that would result from having such a society. The Rev. Father O'Donnell and Messrs F. W. Petre and Marlow also addressed the meeting in support of the proposal. It was eventually decided to form such a society, and his Lordship Bishop Verdon was elected patron. The election of officers resulted as follows:—President, Rev. Father Coffey; vice-presidents, Rev. Father Cleary and Messrs F. W. Petre and W. A. Shields; secretary, Mr. J. H. Dee; committee—Messrs Marlow, Mullins, Foster, S. and A. Miscall.

At the fortnightly meeting of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour branch Dunedin Hibernian Benefit Society a very pleasing function was performed. Since the inception of the branch, upwards of

four years ago, Brother James O'Connor has acted as secretary without fee or reward. The members, through their president, Sister Ellen Miller, who presided, presented Mr. O'Connor with one of E. Ham's patent self-rising duplicators as a small token of their esteem and regard, and in recognition of his self-sacrificing labours on their behalf. The auditor (Brother J. Hally) also spoke of the secretary in complimentary terms, and congratulated the branch upon having such a diligent, honest, and straightforward officer. Brother O'Connor, who was greatly pleased with the present, thanked the members very heartily for their thoughtfulness.

The ordinary meeting of the Dunedin Catholic Literary Society was held on Monday evening, the 14th inst. The Rev. Father Murphy presided, and there was a fair attendance, including the Rev. Father Coffey. After the disposal of the minutes—the President apologised for the absence of Mr. C. E. Haughton, M.A., who, he said, regretted his inability to keep the engagement with the society for that evening, and hoped to be able to fulfil it at a subsequent meeting. A paper written by Mr. John F. Perrin, B.A. (so long and favorably known in connection with the N.Z. TABLET), entitled 'Manners Make the Man' was read. He pressed upon members the consideration of this old proverb, insisting that honorable feeling, kindness, honesty, and a courteous bearing were qualities that no true man could dispense with, and as such formed the substance of his character. He hinted at dangers to be avoided and instanced the case of 'mutual admiration societies,' and part of the paper was devoted to humorously discussing the meaning of that deep and time-honored expression 'kissing the Blarney Stone.' The writer concluded with some really excellent advice upon 'criticism.' Another paper was read entitled 'Literary Curiosities' by Mr. P. Carolin. It consisted mainly of an account of the struggles and labors of prominent literary characters in all ages and in different countries, their rewards, and their recreations. The genius of authors past and present was compared in terms detrimental to our contemporaries. Mr. Maurice Coughlan contributed a reading and Mr. Dan Rodgers a recitation. Messrs. T. Drumm, H. M'ormack, T. Hussey, E. Bush, L. Pastorelli, J. J. Dunne, and the Rev. Fathers, took part in the subsequent criticism, and even-handed justice was meted out to the various contributors who were accorded a vote of thanks. The programme for next meeting is a debate to be opened by Mr. T. Hussey, who will move 'That women should receive equal pay with men for equal work.' The other leaders appointed were Messrs. P. Carolin (affir.), P. Hally and T. M'ormack (neg.) The customary compliment to the chair was moved and the meeting closed.

The annual meeting of the Catholic Men's Social Club was held in St. Joseph's hall on Tuesday night, when there was an attendance of about fifty persons. Father Murphy, Adm., presided. The committee, in their annual report, congratulated the club on the great success attending its operations during the first year of its existence, and were confident that if the same measure of support were accorded this year the club would have a very successful session. The club opens this year with a small credit balance. Only eleven meetings were held last session. Four of these were open to ladies introduced by members, and from the success that had attended these ladies' evenings the incoming committee were recommended to give such gatherings their very earnest attention. The thanks of the committee were due to his Lordship Bishop Verdon for the use of the hall and gas free of cost, and to the Literary Society who met the club in a liberal spirit with regard to the use of the piano; to the ladies for their assistance, and to the Rev. Father Cleary and other members for assisting at the entertainments. The Rev. Father Murphy said they had every reason to be satisfied with the success of the club during the first year of its existence. Had all the members paid their subscriptions they would have been able to start this year with a substantial balance. He pointed out that the cost of gas, rates, and other expenses in connection with the hall amounted to about £100 a year, and that the club should assist in defraying a portion of this. In conclusion the rev. chairman referred to the great interest taken in the club by the hon. secretary (Mr. L. Pavletich), to whose energy its success was in no small degree due. After Mr. J. B. Callan and other members had spoken the report and balance sheet were adopted. His Lordship Bishop Verdon was appointed patron of the club. The election of officers resulted as follows:—President, Rev. Father Murphy; vice-president, Mr. J. B. Callan; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. L. Pavletich; committee, Messrs L. Clancy, A. J. Sullivan, T. Deehan, J. J. Dunne, and M. Rodgers, with the clergy as *ex officio* members. It was decided to hold the first meeting of the club on Friday evening in St. Joseph's Hall.

WEDDING BELLS.

O'CONNELL—CLAFFY.

A very pretty wedding was celebrated at Macraes Catholic Church on Wednesday, 25th April, the contracting parties being Mr. James O'Connell, Rock and Pillar, to Miss Ellen Claffy, Macraes Flat. The bride, who was given away by her father, looked very pretty in a charming gown of cream material trimmed with ruchings of chiffon, and the orthodox veil and wreath of orange blossoms. The bride was attended by her sister, Miss M. Claffy, who wore a dove-coloured costume trimmed with white silk and black bebe ribbon, and grey felt hat to match. Mr. John O'Connell acted as best man. Rev. Father Lynch performed the marriage ceremony. After the ceremony the guests were entertained at the residence of the bride's father. The happy couple left in the afternoon for Dunback en route for Dunedin, where the honeymoon was spent. The bride's travelling dress was a green cloth coat and skirt, cream silk vest, and green felt hat with white plumes.