

Brother John, Provincial of the Marist Order, spent a few days in Auckland, and left by the Mararoa last Monday for Sydney.

His Lordship the Bishop celebrated Mass at the Orphanage, Lake Takapuna, and at Devonport last Sunday morning. Dr. Lenihan stayed at the former place throughout Sunday, and returned to the Palace, Ponsonby, on Monday morning.

The Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly while in Sydney, and at the request of his Eminence the Cardinal, preached at High Mass in St. Mary's Cathedral. Mgr. O'Reilly has returned to the Colony, and is at present paying a short visit to his relatives in Napier, and is due in Auckland in a few days.

The necessary legal transfer of the Catholic Institute to the Hibernian Society, Auckland Branch, has been nearly completed. The bargain is most advantageous to the branch, which intends to renovate its newly-acquired property throughout. It will, it is thought, yield a handsome revenue.

At St. Patrick's Cathedral on last Sunday afternoon at three o'clock the children of the parish renewed their baptismal vows. They mustered a short time previously at the convent school grounds, Hobson street. With them were the orphans from the Star of the Sea Orphanage, Ponsonby, and the Confraternities of the Children of Mary and the Guard of Honor. In processional order the whole proceeded to the Cathedral, where the Rev. Father Corcoran delivered an appropriate and short address, explanatory of the vows they were about to renew. The vow of renewal was very distinctly then read, on behalf of the children, by Miss Mary Sheahan. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament followed, given by the Rev. Father O'Carroll, the appropriate music being supplied in a very creditable manner by the children. At the conclusion of the service the procession reformed and returned to the convent grounds. In the evening the church was crowded, many having to go away unable to gain admission. After Vespers Father O'Carroll delivered a fine discourse on the important subject of mixed marriages.

## DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

October 15.

I regret very much to learn that the Very Rev. Dean Chervier is lying dangerously ill at Leeston. Mention of the sad circumstance was made in the Pro-Cathedral on Sunday, and the prayers of the congregation were asked for the sufferer.

Mr. R. Hayward, vice-president, occupied the chair at the weekly meeting of the Christchurch Catholic Club held on Tuesday evening, when the question of whether women should be eligible for election to Parliament was fully debated, the majority being of opinion that the existing disabilities in the direction indicated should at the earliest opportunity be removed. The trend of the discussion, too, lay in this direction.

On Tuesday last the ladies of St. John the Baptist Branch of the Hibernian Society entertained a party of ladies of the Order of Foresters at a social in the Hibernian Hall. Songs were contributed by Misses J. Cronin, Wathaw, Courtney, and Duncan, and Mr. M. McNamara, and recitations were given by Mr. J. Finlay. Amongst those present were the Very Rev. Dean Foley (chaplain) and Mr. A. J. Malley (president), of St. Patrick's Branch, H.A.C.B.S. Refreshments were provided, various games and pastimes indulged in, and a very enjoyable evening was passed.

The Catholics of Halswell gave a most successful social in the public schoolroom in that locality on Friday evening last in aid of the church building fund. The committee who were entrusted with the event did all that was needed for the enjoyment of their patrons, and it is pleasing to know their efforts were amply rewarded. The duties of M.C. were capably performed by Mr. Smith, and the programme was interspersed with items as follows:—Song, Miss Anderson (Prebbleton); song, Mr. F. Evans (Christchurch); song and dance, Mr. Green; recitations, Mr. J. Finlay.

The dramatic and musical entertainment recently given in St. Aloysius's Hall, in aid of the renovation fund of the Marist Brothers' School, realised about £20, a result largely due to the careful supervision of the manager, Mr. John McAuliffe. In noticing the event in a previous issue, by inadvertence the active part taken by Mr. McAuliffe in organising and training the company was omitted. Mention also should be made of the services rendered in the musical part of the entertainment by Miss Violet Falvey and Mr. D. Roche, whose songs were a very pleasing feature of the event and so much appreciated that they were frequently recalled.

His Lordship the Bishop preached to a crowded congregation in the Pro-Cathedral at Vespers on Sunday evening on the subject of the great Catholic Congress lately held in Sydney, and the dedication ceremonies in connection with St. Mary's Cathedral in that city. Referring to the statements attributed to Archbishop Redwood on that occasion, and the criticisms in the public Press and elsewhere, his Lordship said if those people for the sake of controversy or notoriety sought to involve him or any Bishop in a newspaper controversy they were very much mistaken. He (his Lordship) and priests were willing and even anxious on any occasion to impart to those, who in their hearts desired to know and learn the truth, the necessary knowledge. He did not profess to speak for the Archbishop, as his Grace was quite capable of answering for himself, and no doubt would in his own way on his return.

The external appearance of the boys' school has during the last few weeks been very materially altered for the better. Much needed repairs to the main building have been effected and the principal portions repainted. The surroundings have been generally improved, and to keep in line with the other schools of the district, a flag pole has been erected on the gable end next the street. This was the centre of attraction on last Saturday afternoon when a large crowd of people, including the children and their parents and

friends, assembled to take part in the ceremony of 'hoisting the flag.' A guard of honor was provided by a detachment of the Imperial Rifles and the Woolston Brass Band discoursed music suitable to the occasion. Bishop Grimes opened the proceedings by making a speech, in which he said that some time ago an Old Boys' Club had been formed, and the members had thought it a fitting time on his (the speaker's) return from Sydney to hoist a flag over a building which they regarded as their *alma mater*.

Mr. W. Reece, Mayor of Christchurch, who presided, referred to the history of the British flag and the bravery of New Zealand soldiers in South Africa, and said that the lady who would hoist the flag that day was the mother of one of the brave lads fighting in the Transvaal.

Mrs. Tasker then hoisted the New Zealand flag, and the volunteers presented arms and fired three volleys, while the band played 'God Save the Queen.'

The Mayor then called for three cheers for the Queen and the flag, and cheers were given.

Mr. Donnelly addressed the assembly on the progress and extension of the Empire.

Rev. Brother Arthur said that he felt sure that the lads present had the proper patriotic feeling and would be true sons of the land of their birth and of their flag. He called for three cheers for the Mayor, who he said had kindly assisted. He knew that they had no kinder friend than their worthy Mayor.

Cheers were given and the Mayor returned thanks, and the proceedings terminated.

## OXFORD.

(From an occasional correspondent.)

The annual concert in aid of the Catholic Church and grounds improvement fund took place on Friday evening, October 5, in the Town Hall, East Oxford. The weather, however, was not so propitious as on former occasions, and consequently the audience was not so large, yet what it lacked in numbers it made up in enthusiastic appreciation of the various items. The introductory piece was an instrumental quartette by Miss A. Parish (piano), Mr. Cloudeley (violin), Mr. Hooper (cornet), and Mr. Hoare (piccolo), rendered in a very pleasing manner, and warmly applauded. Mr. Thomas Hunter in his vocal items, 'Just as the sun went down' and 'The young brigade,' was very effective, and received the warm applause of the audience. Mrs. Mead (Christchurch), in 'Killarney,' 'Twilight lullaby,' and in the duets 'In the dusk of the twilight' with Miss Bryant, and 'The cousins' with Miss Gertie Duncan, sang beautifully, her contributions being most enjoyable. In the duets 'The sailor sighs' and 'Larboard watch' Messrs. Harbidge and McCormack were very successful, rendering the items in their usually correct style. The violin solos, 'Les Cloches de Corneville' and 'The Gondoliers,' given by Mr. Cloudeley, were artistically played, and added very considerably to the success of the entertainment. In the club swinging exhibition and the dramatic scene, 'Times are changed,' Miss A. Lynskey and Miss Menzies were particularly good. The club exhibition was very well done, and the scene created great amusement. These items were a special feature of the performance. Mr. McCormack in his songs, 'Ora pro nobis' and 'The outpost,' with violin and cornet obligati, excelled himself, the items being specially well sung. Miss Bryant (Christchurch), in her rendition of 'Ashore' and 'Remember me no more,' made a decidedly favorable impression, more especially in her duet with Mrs. Mead. Miss Gertie Duncan contributed 'Because I love you' in a finished manner, her singing being highly appreciated. She also took part in the duets, 'What are the wild waves saying' with Mr. McCormack, and 'The cousins' with Mrs. Mead, in both of which she scored a decided success. The final item on the programme was 'The shamrock of Ireland' given by Mr. McCormack, in which the audience relieved him of the necessity of singing the chorus. In response to an imperative encore he was about to give an additional verse, composed by himself specially for the occasion, when Mr. Ingram craved leave to express on behalf of the audience their great appreciation of the treat which had been provided for them, and proposed a vote of thanks to the conductor. Mr. McCormack briefly thanked Mr. Ingram and the audience for the compliment paid him, and said that the arranging of the concert had been a great pleasure to him. Mr. McCormack then responded to the redemand, and the singing of the National Anthem brought the concert to a close. The accompaniments during the evening were played by Miss A. Parish in her usually efficient manner. It may be here mentioned that the whole of the arrangements, the tasteful decorations of the stage, and the conducting of the concert were in the hands of Mr. McCormack, who had the great satisfaction of seeing his labors crowned with a full measure of success. A committee of ladies of the parish provided a liberal supply of refreshments.

A little wonder is the Broadcast Patent Seed-sower sold by Morrow, Bassett, and Co. For sowing turnip, rape, grass, and clover seed it has no equal, while for oats, wheat, and barley you have only to see it to know its value. A boy can work it. Sow four acres per hour, and any quantity up to six bushels per acre. Price only 20s.—\*.\*

MYERS AND CO., Dentists, Octagon, corner of George street. They guarantee highest class work at moderate fees. Their artificial teeth give general satisfaction, and the fact of them supplying a temporary denture while the gums are healing does away with the inconvenience of being months without teeth. They manufacture a single artificial tooth for Ten Shillings, and sets equally moderate. The administration of nitrous-oxide gas is also a great boon to those needing the extraction of a tooth. Read advertisement.—\*.\*