

headed by the Garrison Band, lined up to form a guard of honor for his Excellency the Governor, who drove up punctually, attended by the Hon. C. Hill-Trevor and the Hon. C. Butler. The Right Hon. H. J. Seddon and the Hon. J. G. Ward were also present. On his Excellency's arrival the Garrison Band played the National Anthem, and the Vice-Regal party were received at the entrance by his Lordship Bishop Grimes, Sir George Clifford, and the members of the Executive Committee. Passing through the building to the great marquee, where the performances are held, the party were escorted to a dais, which contained besides the Governor and suite, Bishop Grimes, Sir George Clifford, Right Hon. the Premier, Hon. J. G. Ward, Messrs W. W. Collins and G. W. Russell, M.H.R.'s, the Very Rev. Father Lemanant des Cheneais, Rev. Fathers Marneac, Price, and Richards.

On his Excellency entering the audience rose and sang the National Anthem.

Bishop Grimes, who was warmly received, then addressed the gathering, prefacing his speech by stating he had received several apologies for non-attendance, including one from his Worship the Mayor, who expressed his intention of attending with the Mayoress at a later period. A little more than 12 months ago, he said, the clergy and laity of the Catholic diocese of Christchurch, resolved to do all in their power to erect, instead of their present pro-Cathedral, a temple more worthy of the most High, and more in keeping with the beauty of the City of the Plains. Though by no means richly endowed with worldly wealth, their first step was to contribute with a generosity that had won them universal admiration. As they embarked on this enterprise, they at once proposed to celebrate the Jubilee of the province by holding a carnival which would unite them with their fellow-colonists in praising and thanking an all-bountiful Providence for the countless blessings received during the last half century, whilst it would, they flattered themselves, furnish them with an agreeable means of considerably swelling the fund the nucleus whereof they had so recently started. His Excellency had done them the high honor of coming to open their festivities, and words failed him to adequately express their grateful recognition of this most gracious act, which, they were confident, would ensure the unqualified success of their undertakings. They deeply regretted the forced absence of the Countess of Ranfurly, and ventured to ask his Excellency to convey to her their gratitude for the unexpected but tangible proof of her interest in the work they had in hand by her gift of a beautiful landscape oil-painting. After loyal reference to his Excellency's visit to Christchurch, Bishop Grimes went on to say that the century now drawing to a close had been great in numberless ways, but to his mind one of its chief claims to greatness was the fact that it was the great Victorian era. Few there were who would not feel that the venerated name of her Majesty should evoke sentiments of the deepest respect and loving admiration. In speaking thus, he not only re-echoed the feelings innate in the breast of every true Briton, but was following the example of a great sovereign; one who ruled over the minds and hearts of well-nigh 300,000,000 of subjects: the illustrious Leo XIII., who lately declared to the world that no monarch in modern times had done more to promote peace among nations, whilst fostering the prosperity of peoples, than Queen Victoria. He had good reason to affirm, that no sovereign was held in higher esteem and affection by the Pope than their own great Queen. What, from their youth, the Catholic clergy had been taught by their Church, they, in turn, taught those confided to their pastoral care, loyalty to their God, loyalty to their Queen and country. Whilst claiming a share in the rights and privileges of British subjects, they would not for a moment shrink the grave responsibilities such rights and privileges carry with them. In the hour of their country's need, no one worthy the name of Catholic British subject would, he thought, be found base enough to shrink from the faithful discharge of his duty. In England's recent call to her Empire, when an ill-advised people, who were indebted to Great Britain for the very independence they enjoyed, forced the Mother Country to take up arms in defence of the rights of those who claimed their protection, the Catholics were proud to see their people give unmistakable proofs of true loyalty. Though sincerely deploring the need for the prolonged warfare, they were proud to see young men, once boys, reared in their schools, go forth at England's call. No less proud were they to find that no few of their own kith and kin distinguished themselves during that campaign. They were proud to see the name of a Norfolk, a Talbot, a Clifford, a Molyneux, and a Vaughan, and a host of others no less valiant, though less known, among the first and the boldest of the brave. Proud were they during the late national crisis to see the noble part taken by his Excellency and his responsible advisers, the chief and foremost of whom they were glad to welcome amongst them that night. After referring to the lead taken by New Zealand in despatching troops to South Africa, Bishop Grimes, in a few concluding remarks, thanked his Excellency, and the Premier, the Minister of Railways, and the other members of Parliament, for their patronage and presence too. He thanked the members of the Committee for their indefatigable work during the last few weeks, and the stallholders for their great good will, and all friends, especially the clergy of South Canterbury, and one of the most zealous in the North, and the convents throughout the diocese, for their generous contributions. He then asked his Excellency to speak to the large assembly, and declare the Jubilee Carnival opened.

Lord Ranfurly said it gave him very great pleasure to be present that evening. The message of loyalty and words spoken in reference to his Most Gracious Mistress he felt he would be bound to submit to her. He did not forget a similar message delivered on another occasion by his Lordship. With regard to the Colony's loyalty and readiness to assist the Mother Country, men had come forward nobly when called upon. He was sure also that their men had not gone to the front for the sake of filthy lucre, but, at any rate in ninety-nine cases out of the hundred, in a true spirit of patriotism, and when they returned they would imbue this spirit in

the people of the places to which they returned. He desired to congratulate the Bishop heartily upon the present effort. It was most fitting that on such an occasion as that of the present jubilee, such a fund should be started. He wished the Bishop every success in his undertaking, and desired to apologise for the absence of Lady Ranfurly, who, as he had explained last evening, was on her way to England. He had much pleasure in declaring the carnival open.

After the formal proceedings were over, Signor Borzoni introduced some really magnificent tableaux and marches. Nothing could be better than the combination of colors of the dresses of the girls or the rapidity and precision with which they executed the most complicated evolutions. 'A scherzo in black' was given by a number of boys who were described as 'our friends the Basutos.' A Highland reel was well danced by 16 Highland lassies, and a grand military march by 150 performers provided a very pretty spectacle. The greatest credit is due to Signor Borzoni for the training of the children, and his Excellency expressed himself to Signor Borzoni as being highly delighted with the performances. A number of mounted troopers then entered the tent, escorting the carriage of a lady who represented her Majesty the Queen in her carriage to review the troops. As the carriage left the tent, she was loudly applauded by the audience.

The Hon. J. G. Ward, on behalf of those assembled, congratulated Signor Borzoni on the excellence of the displays he had arranged, and also the 'Acting-Queen' on the courage she had displayed. He said he trusted that the carnival would be well patronised, and that numbers of people would come in from the country, and so benefit the revenue of the Railway Department.

Lord Ranfurly and his party and the Hons. R. J. Seddon and J. G. Ward shortly afterwards left the carnival.

After an interval during which the stallholders and their assistants made the most of their opportunities, the second part of the programme, comprising more dances by Signor Borzoni's pupils, was gone through.

The orchestra was under the direction of Mr. Harry Rossiter.

## DRAMATIC ENTERTAINMENT AT ST. PATRICK'S COLLEGE.

(From a Wellington correspondent.)

THERE was a very large audience present at St. Patrick's College on Wednesday evening, November 1, when the drama, 'The Two Orphans,' was performed by the students. This is a play in four acts from the pen of the Abbé Margeret, a Marist Father and a versatile writer. As presented on Wednesday evening it was more an adaptation than a mere translation so as to suit local requirements. The play reveals the constancy and fidelity of two children, made orphans by the death of their father. Their mother had died when they were very young. Their father's deadly enemy seizes the children, usurps the father's rights, changes his name from Sphodrato to Albergini and his homage from Christ to Mahomet, and strives to impose his own apostate faith upon the two boys. The acts, however, are proof against temptation, for they prove themselves worthy sons of a father who had died as a Crusader in the Holy Land. Throughout the play there breathes the noblest sentiments of Christianity—the Cross triumphant over the Crescent. The proceedings began by the college orchestra playing 'William Tell' a most fitting overture. From the time the curtain rose until it dropped the audience, by repeated rounds of applause, showed their appreciation. It would be invidious and prolix to mention the individual excellences of each player when all did so well. The performers had, during their hours of recreation, devoted themselves to a quiring a knowledge of their parts and speaking those parts well, the result being due to the indefatigable efforts of the Rev. Father Herbert, who is to be complimented on the highly successful manner in which the drama was produced. The incidental music was well arranged and admirably played by Mr. Trowell, assisted by the other members of the orchestra. The scenic artist, Mr. Hoskins, supervised the stage, while Mr. Ritchie kindly assisted in installing and controlling the electric lighting. Several ladies assisted in adorning the stage, and providing costumes. To them the college authorities return their sincere thanks. The sale of tickets realised over £17. The proceeds are for the purpose of clearing the debt contracted by the erection of the new stage. The following was the cast of characters:—Lord Albergini (formerly known as Sphodrato), Hugh O'Neill; Luigi (dearest son of Count Spietra), Eugene McArdle; Paolo (brother of Luigi), Lynch Dignan; Iago (a Moorish accomplice of Albergini), Daniel Twohill; Geronimo (squire to Count Spietra), Leo Whitaker; Pazzino (a Sicilian fisherman), Thomas McCarthy; Lorenzo (his son), Fred White; Arnaldo (a Captain of Albergini's soldiers), T. Segrief; Alfieri (first fisherman), Henry Sullivan; Orlando (second fisherman), Thomas Collerton; Pietro (vage to Albergini), John Dignan.

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