

## Diocesan News.

### ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON.

(From our own correspondent.)

December 1.

At St. Mary of the Angels' Church on Sunday last Miss Lili Sharp sang as an offertory piece Council's 'Ave Maria,' M Rafalewski played a violin obligato, Mr. McLaughlin accompanying on the organ.

The Rev. Father Tymons generously donated the proceeds from the sale of goods left over at Palmerston bazaar to the hospital in that town. With the Government subsidy added, the funds of the institution will benefit to the extent of about £20.

Rev. Father Ainsworth is finishing the mission in the Hutt district this week. He then goes to the West Coast to give a mission in Westport, on his way to spend Christmas with his parents in Greymouth.

Miss Gwen Flanagan has been successful in obtaining the silver medal given by the Board of the Royal Academy of Music, London, for the second highest marks obtained in the Australasian colonies for singing. Miss Flanagan is a pupil of St. Mary's Convent.

At a representative meeting of Catholics held at St. Patrick's Hall on Sunday last it was decided to hold the annual picnic for the children at the Very Rev. Father Lane's grounds on Boxing Day. A strong committee was formed to draw up the sports programme. The Very Rev. Father Lewis, Adm., is chairman, and Mr. Hyland secretary.

The ceremony of ordaining four deacons and subdeacons was performed by his Grace the Archbishop at Meane on Friday, the feast of St. Andrew. One of the deacons to be ordained a priest to-morrow is the Rev. Francis Kerley, for many years a student at St. Patrick's College. He is a native of Geelong, Victoria, and a nephew of the Rev. Father Marnane, pastor of St. Mary's, Christchurch.

The weekly meeting of the Marist Brothers' Old Boys' Literary and Debating Society was held last Thursday evening, the Rev. Father Goggan being in the chair. The evening was devoted to original papers. 'The Press of the Colony,' by Mr. McKeown, and a very able paper, 'Our State system of Education,' by Mr. E. Fitzgibbon, caused a great deal of discussion. At the next meeting the parts will be allotted for 'Trial by Jury,' which the Society is to produce.

On Sunday last Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament was held at St. Joseph's Church. A *Missa Cantata* was sung by Rev. Father Hills, the choir rendering Weber's Mass in G. The soprano solos were sung by Miss Hickling, who is at present in Wellington. At Vespers the church was well filled, the usual procession of the Blessed Sacrament taking place. Rev. Father Herbert preached an excellent sermon, taking for his text, 'Woe to him by whom scandal cometh.' The services concluded with Benediction.

Lieutenant R. W. Collins who, it will be remembered, was wounded in the left wrist at Zeerust some time ago, returned from South Africa on Wednesday. His injuries were much more serious than previous advices had shown. The invalided officer is fortunate in only losing the use of one finger, the army surgeons at first considering amputation of the forearm a necessity. It will be some time before he will be able to take up the commission recently offered him in the Imperial forces.

The Sisters of Mercy have for some years past been laboring under the disadvantage of not having a convent attached to their school at Newtown, which is undoubtedly the most rapidly growing district of Wellington city. This long felt want has at last been supplied and a handsome two-storey building, which should admirably meet all the requirements of the nuns, has just been erected. The new convent is 40ft by 36ft and has access by both Riddiford and Daniel streets. A flight of steps leads up to the entrance hall, part of which is screened off with lead-lights and embossed glass, which enhance considerably the appearance of the place. Off the vestibule, and at the back of the reception room, is the chapel, which, besides being reserved for the devotion of the inmates, will be open to those who may desire to attend early Mass. The refectory stands to the right of the hall and is connected by means of a slide-panel with the kitchen which is fitted up in the most approved style. Conveniently situated at the back are the scullery, pantry, storeroom, etc., all of which are also up to date in style. An ornamental and massive staircase leads to the upper floor, where the rooms and sleeping apartments are all well lighted and ventilated—the cells number seven. Throughout the ceilings are panelled and are finished off in an artistic manner, with neatly moulded cornices in the angles. The paper on the walls is of the latest design and electric light is installed throughout. As a whole the building is unique, and reflects great credit on those concerned in its erection. The cost is about £1000.

The Crown Prosecutor this week notified the withdrawal of the remaining charges against Brother Kilian in the now famous Stoke cases. The hearing of the charges against Brother Wybertus was postponed from Monday until Thursday on account of Mr Skerrett breaking his collarbone; the result of an accident at polo last Saturday. He was, however, able to resume charge of the defence when the cases were called on. In the first charge of indecent assault against Brother Wybertus, Mr. Bell, for the Crown, asked that the Judge would direct the jury to bring in a verdict of acquittal before the evidence of the first and principal witness was concluded. This, he explained during the hearing of the second charge, was 'because the boy told an incredible story.' The case, therefore, on the admission of the Crown, broke down ignominiously. In the second charge of a similar nature the evidence of the prin-

cipal witness was altogether unsatisfactory. Having his attention drawn to a glaring discrepancy on what was probably the most important feature of the case between his version in the Magistrate's Court and that he had just given he said that the copy of his former evidence was wrong, and that though when after having given it, it was read over to him and he noticed the error, he never made any correction but signed it as a true copy. Counsel on each side pointed to the seriousness of the question, and the judge when summing up said that if the jury took as valid an excuse such as that given society would never be safe. After about a quarter of an hour's consideration a verdict of 'not guilty' was returned. In the first case of common assault against the same accused the Crown Solicitor, after hearing the evidence of Brother Wybertus this morning again asked the Judge to direct the jury to acquit. The remaining charges are to be begun on Monday.

### PALMERSTON NORTH.

An occasional correspondent forwards us further particulars, supplementing those which appeared in our last issue, regarding the very successful bazaar held recently in Palmerston North. The 'Attractive and popular Bureau,' in charge of Mrs Oakley, had, besides many other articles of interest, several fine pictures executed by Miss Oakley. In addition to the list previously given, Mesdames Cottle, Buick, and Palmer assisted in the stall. Mr Percy, of the Pollard Opera Company, was responsible for the idea of the Mikado stall, which was arranged from a design specially prepared for the Children of Mary. The following assisted in the young men's stalls in addition to those mentioned last week:—Messrs Dallow, O'Reilly, Tymons, Misses May and Cissie Sullivan, and Gertie Sexton. The musical programme was entrusted to Messrs Gamble, Dallow, and Brophy. Vocal items were rendered by Mr Gamble, Misses Sullivan and Wallace, whilst several choruses were sung by the pupils of the Sisters of Mercy. A popular item of the programme was a Highland reel by the following young ladies in appropriate costume:—Misses Maggie and Mabel Greaney, Cissie Quinn, Cissie Sullivan, Cissie Hodgkins, Annie Mullins, Nellie Scanlan, and Mary Campion. The 'Stephanie Gavotte,' danced by a number of little mites, was also greatly appreciated. Great credit is due to Miss Cissie Sullivan, of Wellington, for the painstaking manner in which she instructed the performers in these dances. Messrs Power, Hanlon, and Hickey had charge of the entrance.

Over 2000 persons paid for admission, and the total receipts amount to £600, which will defray all expenses and leave the convent entirely free from debt. A large number of articles which remained over have since been disposed of by auction.

The committee were fortunate in securing the services of such an able and energetic secretary as Mr William Ryan, whose tact throughout did much to bring the undertaking to a successful issue. The painstaking efforts of the Sisters of Mercy deserve special mention in supplying many and valuable works of art. The result of the bazaar must be highly satisfactory to the congregation and to the Rev. Father Tymons, whose energy and resourcefulness in promoting the welfare of the parish are evident from the fact that since assuming charge of it—barely twelve months ago—the school has been rebuilt and other improvements have been effected at a cost of about £500, the parish being now financially clear.

### DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

December 3.

The ordinary meeting of the St. Patrick's Branch H.A.C.B. Society was held on Monday evening last. Three new members were duly initiated by Bro. A. J. Malley (president).

His Lordship Bishop Grimes is to deliver a lecture to-night (Monday) in the concert hall of the exhibition on 'Venice, the queen of the Adriatic,' and 'Disentombed Pompeii.'

A brother of Mr. J. Daly, a respected resident of Kaiapoi, has been returned unopposed as a member of the House of Commons for South Monaghan.

Mr. Stanislaus Moran, brother-in-law of Mr. P. J. Nolan, of the *Press* newspaper staff, is now on a visit to Christchurch. Mr. Moran is an ex-pupil of St. Pataick's College, Wellington, and recently passed his preliminary law examination.

At the Pro-Cathedral on Sunday there was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from High Mass until after Vespers, when the usual procession took place. His Lordship the Bishop delivered the first of his series of Advent sermons on the subject 'Are we Catholics guilty of the crime of idolatry?' to a large congregation.

In his address at Hawarden his Lordship Bishop Grimes incidentally stated that if nothing unforeseen transpires the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the new cathedral will be performed on the second Sunday in February by his Eminence Cardinal Moran, in the presence of a number of Australian prelates.

The Jubilee Imperial Carnival, after an extension of four days from the original date decided upon for its termination, was brought to a close on Tuesday evening last, when there was an attendance of over 500 persons. Just before the end of the programme his Lordship the Bishop briefly addressed the audience and expressed his gratification at the success of the undertaking. The performances of Signor Borzoni's pupils were undoubtedly the greatest feature of the event, and as a memento of the occasion and slight recompense for the untiring energy displayed by this talented director he (the Bishop), on behalf of the committee, had great pleasure in presenting Signor Borzoni with a valuable gold antique ring. His Lordship also referred in complimentary and grateful terms to the labors of the hon. secretary, Mr. E. O'Connor, who had virtually managed the carnival, to the ladies in charge of stalls and