

WEDDING BELLS.

SAUNDERS—STUBBS.

An interesting wedding (writes our Wellington correspondent) took place at St. Patrick's Church, Palmerston North, on Wednesday last, the contracting parties being Mr. Charles Osmond Saunders, son of Mr. Joseph Saunders of Wellington, and Miss Annie Stubbs, only daughter of Mr. James Stubbs, of Titoki, Kairanga. Rev. Father Tymons performed the ceremony. The bride looked charming in white brocaded silk trimmed with white silk lace, chiffon and satin, with veil and wreath of orange blossom. She wore a gold granny chain and carried a shower bouquet, both gifts of the bridegroom. The bridesmaids were Miss Saunders, sister of the bridegroom, and Miss Annie Stubbs, cousin of the bride. Their dresses were of cream silk, with picture hats to match. The former received from the bridegroom a gold brooch, and the latter a gold band ring. The bride was also attended by the Misses Cox, cousins of the bride, who were dressed in white silk with chiffon hats to match, and wore gold bar brooches, also the gifts of the bridegroom. The groomsmen were Mr. S. Saunders and Mr. F. Stubbs. Over 300 guests were entertained by Mr. James Stubbs at his residence when the health of the bride was proposed by Mr. F. Pirani, M.H.R. and duly honored. The honeymoon is being spent in Christchurch. Their future residence will be at Owahuri.

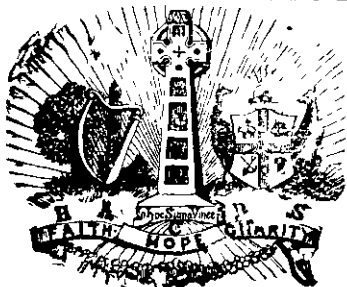
OBITUARY.

MRS. MANNIX, TAURANGA.

We regret to record the death of Mrs. Mannix, wife of Mr. John Mannix, which took place at her residence, Cameron road, Tauranga, on Wednesday, January 30, at the age of 76 years. Mrs. Mannix was born in County Limerick, Ireland, and came out to New Zealand 18 years ago. Deceased had a long and happy married life of 55 years, and leaves a husband, three sons, and six daughters to mourn their loss, for whom the greatest sympathy is felt.—*R.I.P.*

In Rome, an interesting family fete was held in the Municipal Council to celebrate the 103rd birthday of Signor Pacelli, the grandfather of the Catholic leader, Ernesto Pacelli. The centenarian was for some time director of the Pontifical Customs. Born in 1799, he has lived to see three centuries. He was present in 1808 at the removal of Pope Pius VII. from the Quirinal by Napoleon.

Mr. Edward A. Cudahy, who has come into prominence lately through the kidnapping of his boy, is one of the most prominent Catholics of Omaha, and the boy is a student at the celebrated Jesuit College, Creighton University. The four brothers who make up the Cudahy family are well known all over the United States as kings of commerce. Their combined wealth is estimated at 15,000,000dol. They began their career in Chicago with their father, who established a business there in the early day of the meat industry in that city.



HIBERNIAN-AUSTRALASIAN CATHOLIC BENEFIT SOCIETY, NEW ZEALAND DISTRICT, No. 3.

The Catholic Community is earnestly requested to support this excellent Organisation, for it inculcates a love of Holy Faith and Patriotism in addition to the unsurpassed benefits and privileges of Membership.

The Entrance Fees are from 5s to £4, according to age and time of Admission.

Sick Benefits : 20s per week for 26 weeks, 15s per week for the next 13 weeks, and 10s a week for the following 13 weeks. In case of a further continuance of his illness a member of Seven Years' Standing previous to the commencement of such illness will be allowed 5s per week as superannuation during incapacity.

Funeral Allowance £20 at the death of a Member, and £10 at the death of a Member's Wife.

In addition to the foregoing provision is made for the admission of Honorary Members, Reduced Benefit Members, and the establishment of Sisters' Branches and Juvenile Contingents. Full information may be obtained from Local Branch Officers or direct from the District Secretary.

The District Officers are anxious to open New Branches, and will give all possible assistance and information to applicants. Branches being established in the various centres throughout the Colonies an invaluable measure of reciprocity obtains.

W. KANE,
District Secretary,
Auckland.

THE BOER WAR.

NOTES AND POINTS OF INTEREST TO CATHOLIC READERS

GENEROUS ENEMIES.

The Dublin correspondent of the London *Times* writes:—Mr William Holmes, son of Lord Justice Holmes, has given me leave to communicate a story which illustrates in a very striking manner Lord Roberts's chivalrous generosity towards a worthy foe. Mr Holmes is one of the many young Irish barristers who joined the Dublin Hunt Company of the Imperial Yeomanry, and took part in the affair at Lindley. In the last desperate bayonet charge of the company, the same in which the son of the Irish Master of the Rolls was killed, Mr Holmes was shot through the leg, and lay for some hours on the battlefield. During all that time he was tended by a Boer named Vandersluis, who treated him with extreme kindness, and after nightfall walked four miles in search of a waggon in which to bring Mr Holmes into Lindley. On the following day Lord Methuen recovered the town, and Mr Holmes was given over to the care of British doctors and nurses. It was found necessary to amputate his leg, and he lay for many weeks in the hospital. Meanwhile his friend Vandersluis, who had gone on commando with Prinsloo, surrendered with that general, and was deported to Ceylon. From there he addressed a letter to Mr Holmes in Dublin, reminding him of their acquaintance at Lindley, and expressing an earnest desire for permission to return home. In the absence of Mr Holmes, who was still in South Africa, the letter reached Lord Justice Holmes, and was forwarded by him to Lord Roberts, with the assurance that the statements were quite correct. Last week the Lord Justice received a reply, in which Lord Roberts said that he had read of with particular appreciation the Boer's kindness to Mr Holmes, and had given immediate directions that Mr Vandersluis should be brought back from Ceylon to South Africa and reinstated in his farm.

DOUBTFUL POLICY.

The wiser heads of the military authorities have, according to the *Manchester Guardian*, convinced themselves that the policy of devastation has brought many hundreds of Boers into the field as regular fighters who in the earlier months of the war spent a good deal of their time on the farms. The farms have been destroyed, their owners have lost all, and they have gone back to the commandos ready to submit to far tighter discipline than they endured in the early stages of the war. The result is that Botha's influence over his whole army is suspected to have increased, while in De Wet and Delarey he has found lieutenants at once more pliable and abler than the older Boer leaders, most of whom have disappeared. Even the number of the fighting Boers have not, it is now feared, been so seriously diminished as is generally supposed here. From November, 1899, to July, 1900, there were not, according to the calculations at the Boer headquarters, more than 25,000 men in the field at one time. Now, deducting prisoners and losses, it is thought that between 15,000 and 20,000 are still available.

INVALIDED HOME.

Father Rockcliffe, who had been under fire on many occasions in South Africa, is now in London in the Officers' Hospital. During the fighting at Riefast a shell struck a rock near to Father Rockcliffe, who was hit by a piece of stone that was sent flying, and he was invalided home.

A REQUIEM MASS FOR THE SOLDIERS WHO FELL IN THE WAR.

At the Church of the Benedictines, at Farnborough, a Solemn Requiem Mass took place on Wednesday, December 19, for the soldiers who fell in South Africa. Among those present were Lieut. General Sir W. Butler and Lady Butler, Lieut.-Colonel Ross of Bladenburg, and M. Pietrie and Mdlle. D'Allonville, representing the Empress Eugenie. The Mass was sung and the impressive service conducted by the members of the French Benedictine Priory.

EX-PRESIDENT KRUGER AND THE NUNS.

The late Mother Mauritia, who died recently in South Africa, used to give an amusing account of an interview she had with ex-President Kruger, to whom the very name of the Catholic Church suggested the 'Scarlet Woman.' It appears that his State owed her convent at Potchefstroom some £40. For some reason or other the amount was withheld, and the good Sisters at Potchefstroom looked upon its recovery as hopeless. The good offices of Mother Mauritia were sought, and she bearded the lion in his den. It is hardly necessary to say that she mollified the old President, and came away with the cash, or at least an order for it.

THE ATTITUDE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER.

Dr. Kolbe, the well-known Catholic priest, speaking at the Africaner Congress, said if Great Britain persisted in her present policy, the Afrikaners would make South Africa the most uncomfortable corner of the Empire until the injustice done to South Africa was recognised and remedied. He declared, with no desire to be personal, that the present High Commissioner's attitude was not what the attitude of a Governor should be.

The personality of the late Sir William Stokes, of 5, Merrion Square, Dublin, Surgeon-in-Ordinary to the Queen, etc., who died at Pietermaritzburg on August 18, is entered at £11,046 8s 11d. Letters of administration to the deceased's estate have been granted to his widow, Lady Jane E. Stokes.

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