

and Rev. Father Galerne. Traversing the convent grounds under floral arches, a beautifully decorated and illuminated altar was finally reached, from which Benediction was given. During the procession from and to the church appropriate hymns and canticles were sung by the choir. The regalias of the Hibernian Society, and various confraternities, added to the banners and other decorative emblems, rendered the spectacle a particularly striking one. When the congregation were again seated in the Pro-Cathedral the Rev. Father Richards preached an impressive discourse on the Holy Eucharist.

In the Choral Hall, on Wednesday evening last, a musical and dramatic entertainment was given in aid of the Catholic schools in the presence of a fairly large audience, including a number of the clergy. The first part consisted of a concert programme. Songs were contributed by Mrs. Fisher, Miss Maud Graham, and Mr. E. McNamara, each of whom would certainly have received recalls for their respective items had encores been allowed. Two instrumental trios were given in faultless style by Miss Katie Young (piano), Mr. H. H. Loughnan (cello), and Mr. R. Loughnan, jun. (violin). Recitations by Mr. Winter Hall were much enjoyed. A feature of this part of the programme was the tableaux depicting scenes in Shakespeare's 'Midsummer Night's Dream,' admirably staged under the direction of Mrs. George Deamer, with limelight effects by Mr. E. W. Seager. Undoubtedly they were the most beautiful stage pictures yet seen here. Part second consisted of the amusing comedietta, 'Family Jars,' performed by members of the Christchurch Amateur Dramatic Club, the characters being filled by Misses Hettie Wells and Lempfert, Messrs. H. Hayward, C. Buchanan, A. Zachariah and R. Petersen. Miss Katie Young acted as accompanist in her usual finished manner. Most of the labor of organising the entertainment was undertaken by Mrs. Mead and members of the Hayward family, and the ladies especially are deserving of very sincere thanks for their efforts in making the event the success it was.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND.

(From our own correspondent.)

June 6.

An entertainment in aid of the Sisters of St. Joseph's school, at Newmarket, takes place at St. Benedict's Hall at an early date.

His Lordship the Bishop is due next Sunday at Pukekohe, where he will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation. This parish is in charge of the Rev. Father Aherne, and the Rev. Father Benedict, O.P., is just concluding there a most successful mission.

News has been received of the sad death of Mrs. Le Bret, eldest sister of his Lordship Bishop Lenihan, which took place at Brussels on March 12. The deceased lady leaves a husband and three children to mourn their loss. Much sympathy has been extended to them and to his Lordship Dr. Lenihan.

The three little girls, Leonore, Eva, and Nina Johnston, who perished in the flames at the Grand Hotel this day week, were for a long time boarders at St. Mary's High School, Ponsouby. Arrangements had actually been made for them to go back to the Sisters. They were not of the Faith. In his sermon last Sunday night the Bishop incidentally alluded to the three little ones, all of whom he knew well. The Bishop was one of the first the morning after the fire to call and condole with the sorrowing parents.

Once more an indignant public protest in unmistakable manner at the shockingly inadequate equipment of our fire brigade. Warnings without number have been given our civic authorities. Death itself now knocks at their doors. Imagine a body of men tugging behind them to a fire in our hilly city appliances weighing 30 tons, and expecting them, after such exertion, upon reaching the scene of the fire to cope successfully with it. Another danger is want of fire escapes in our three and four-storied hotels. The majority of them are veritable death-traps. Then our water supply is deficient. The whole thing is a disgrace to the people of the largest city in the Colony.

The census returns, the official and corrected returns, give the populations of the four principal cities with their suburbs as follow: Auckland, 67,265; Dunedin, 55,294; Christchurch, 49,154; and Wellington, 46,093. Commenting on these figures the *Herald* says: 'How does the present Government act towards this great district? Does it not freely build railways all over the South, but grudge every mile of line to the North? Does it not purchase estates in the South for closer settlement while it delays the throwing open of Crown lands in the North?' Isolated though we certainly be, Auckland prospers in spite of it.

His Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan was at the cathedral last Sunday night, where, to a crowded congregation, he delivered a very fine discourse on Faith. He defined in terse and forcible language what faith really is, its power and its efficacy, the mighty and apparently insurmountable objects it has overcome, and the lasting good it has accomplished in a world which mocks at it, and professes to ignore its potency. To those Catholics who professed the faith, but conveniently put it aside when mundane considerations rose paramount, his Lordship administered a timely and telling rebuke. 'I turn,' said the Bishop, 'to Plato and Socrates and Cato who each in his turn says: "My life whilst in the world was what it should be, morally, socially, and politically. To my fellow-men I was ever honest. I obeyed the laws of the country, yet I possessed not faith like unto you Christians in the world to-day. Although you profess the faith you do none of these things. You, on the contrary, lead bad and wicked lives." His Lordship contended that few would deny that this charge was warranted. Procession of the Blessed Sacrament through the church followed, the Sacred Host being borne by the Rev. Father Patterson, deacon Father Buckley, subdeacon Father Russell, master of ceremonies Father Moore. The canopy was borne by four of the

Marist Brothers. The choir, under Mr. P. F. Hiscocks, as usual, mustered in strong force, and acquitted themselves in admirable style.

SOUTHLAND NEWS NOTES.

(From our own correspondent.)

Diphtheria is prevalent now in some parts of Southland—Balfour to wit—and already two deaths have resulted from it, and what makes the sad occurrence still more melancholy is the fact that both victims belonged to one home—that of Mr. Cooney. Very great sympathy is everywhere expressed, and the bereaved parents have the heart-felt condolence of every man and woman in Balfour.

Over 250 farmers met at Gore lately and elected the nine directors required by the articles of association of the Southland Farmers' Co-operative Society, but in making the selections the claims of those who were most instrumental in forming the Society appear to have been altogether ignored—at least they are not on the new directorate.

Mr. W. Kelly, of Riversdale, has relinquished possession of the Railway Hotel, Mr. Walker, of Otama, being the new proprietor.

The people of Orepuki are greatly concerned over the effects which arise from the gas, etc., of the shale works. In the evening all buildings and painted objects may look the pink of order and taste, but in the morning the gas has discolored everything, and made the nicely-painted houses a dirty brown. Besides, the smell is unpleasant. Water left exposed soon gets an oily surface, also after rain tanks contain traces of the oily substance. How far this will affect vegetable life I cannot say, but Orepukeites hazard the opinion that it will be pernicious. One man complains that the oil affects the grass that much that his butter now tastes of it.

INTERCOLONIAL.

Tenders have been accepted for the erection of a new Catholic Church at Galong, the price being about £1000.

The Sisters of the Good Samaritan have received £75 from his Eminence Cardinal Moran, the amount being donated by the St. Patrick's Day sports committee to the Manly Orphanage.

At the Royal levee at Government House, Sydney, amongst the guests were the Right Rev. Dr. Murray, Bishop of Maitland, the Very Rev. Dr. O'Haran, and Right Rev. Monsignor O'Brien, President of St. John's College. Through indisposition, his Eminence Cardinal Moran was unable to be present.

The members of St. Mary's Cathedral choir, Sydney, presented Very Rev. Dr. O'Haran recently with a handsome dressing case in recognition of kindness displayed on various occasions to the donors, and as a mark of their sympathy with the recipient in the trouble he had passed through.

The first bells to peal the arrival of the Duke in Sydney Harbor were those of St. Mary's Cathedral. As the royal yacht *Ophir* cast anchor they burst forth riantly and led all the bells of the city in a pean of joy; and as the royal equipage came in view, along the Domain avenue, they rang out again and chimed their Highnesses all the length of the procession.

The annual report of St. Vincent's Hospital, Sydney, which is under the care of the Sisters of Charity, shows that during the past year nearly 1700 patients were admitted into the institution, whilst close on 10000 outside patients were treated. The finances were reported to be in a satisfactory state. A new operating building will be commenced shortly, the Government having granted £1000 for this purpose.

The death is reported of Mr. William Lynch, one of the leading solicitors of Melbourne. Mr. Lynch arrived in Port Phillip in 1842 with his parents, being then a child of three years of age, and the early growth of this city, with its rapid development at the period of the discovery of gold, were all within his recollection. Educated at Lyndhurst College in Sydney, he returned to Melbourne and was articled to Mr. Edward Murphy, a leading solicitor, entering upon practice himself in 1861. From the first Mr. Lynch's reputation steadily grew, until he occupied the first rank as a lawyer, and attained so high a position that even in the best-informed legal circles in London his opinion had great influence. But to his clients Mr. Lynch was more than a lawyer. A sympathetic, generous spirit, and a high sense of honor and fair dealing imbued all his counsels, and, added to these, was the power of impressing his own broad and charitable views upon those who sought his advice. Mr. Lynch was born in Ireland, and always took a warm interest in the affairs of his native land.

Messrs. Hordern and White, the proprietors of the Dunedin Carriage Factory, call the attention of our readers and the general public to their large and superior stock of single and double buggies, station waggons, waggonettes, spring carts, etc. Messrs. Hordern and White received a first award for carriages at the New Zealand and South Seas Exhibition, 1889-90. The firm has a well-established reputation for excellent workmanship, the use of the best materials, and durability of all kinds of vehicles made by them. A substantial increase in business of recent years testifies to practical appreciation by the public...