

Beehan, Quinlan, M. Loneragan, and E. Little. The Rev. Father Patterson during the interval returned thanks, on behalf of the Bishop, clergy, and people, to the Sisters of Mercy for the splendid entertainment given by their pupils. It showed beyond doubt that the training in our schools was in advance of any other, and it behoved all to unite in supporting such excellent institutions.

PALMERSTON NORTH.

(From our own correspondent.)

November 3.

On Wednesday next, the 6th inst., a social is to be given in the Lyceum Theatre to our popular organist, Mr Percy Tomba. He has at all times given his best efforts to all matters in connection with the Church, and all wish this deserving social every success.

The ladies of the Altar Society are busily engaged working up a social, to take place at the Theatre Royal on the 20th inst. As that society has lately invested in some new and much-needed vestments, it is to be hoped the Catholic public and their friends will generously respond and aid them to clear off the debt unavoidably incurred in the purchase.

On Sunday next, the 10th inst., the Devotion of Forty Hours' Adoration will begin in St. Patrick's after High Mass, and will conclude with High Mass on Tuesday morning. Several of the Wellington clergy are expected.

Sir J. G. Ward is expected in Palmerston early next week for the three days' show, and townspeople are expecting a new post office as the result of his visit, the present building being altogether behind the needs of the town.

The new church at Ashurst is rapidly nearing completion, and the date of opening by his Grace Archbishop Redwood is fixed for the fourth Sunday of Advent. The pretty little spire, some 60ft in height, will be a pleasant departure from the usual style of country church.

WEDDING BELLS.

O'MALLEY—GALLAGHER.

An extremely interesting ceremony (says the *Inangahua Times*) took place on October 28 in the Sacred Heart Church, when, Miss Catherine Gallagher, eldest daughter of Mr. John Gallagher Cronadon, was united to Mr. Michael O'Malley, of Reefton, by Rev. Father Hickson. A large number assembled to witness the ceremony, the invited guests being accommodated with seats near the altar rails. The bride looked charming in a dress of white silk with long train, trimmed with lace, white veil and wreath of orange blossom, and carried a beautiful shower bouquet. The bridesmaids, Misses Gallagher (sister of the bride) and Smith, were attired in stylish costumes of cream nuns veiling with white picture hats. Mr. J. Moloney acted as best man. At the conclusion of the ceremony the bridal party drove to Cronadon, where they were entertained at the parental residence, at a garden party, between 60 and 70 guests being present. After the departure of the happy pair on the honeymoon trip, the auspicious event was celebrated by a ball and supper, the host and hostess vying with each other in dispensing hospitality and arranging for the enjoyment of their guests.

PATERSON—LAFRANCHI.

An event which created considerable interest in local circles (writes a Cardrona correspondent) took place on October 9, when Sergeant J. D. Paterson and Miss Ettie Lafranchi were joined in the bond of Matrimony by the Rev. Father O'Donnell. Fully a week before hand great preparations were being made to decorate the hall by the young people of Cardrona. Flags were flying everywhere. About 11 a.m. nearly all the Cardrona residents assembled to witness the ceremony, and punctually at 11.30 the bride entered leaning on her brother's arm. She was attended by three bridesmaids—Miss Fan McEntyre and her little nieces Misses Valarin and Silvia Lafranchi. The bride looked very pretty in cream surah silk trimmed with chiffon and pearl trimming and lovely veil and orange blossoms. She wore a pretty gold brooch with sapphire and pearls, the gift of the bridegroom. Miss McEntyre wore cream nuns' veiling, prettily trimmed with white satin, large black picture hat and pretty brooch, gift of the bridegroom. The little girls were dressed in cream cashmere. Sergeant Paterson was attended by Mr. Albert Lafranchi as best man. Never has there been a wedding in the Lakes district in which so much general interest was taken, both bride and bridegroom being very popular and great favourites. The wedding breakfast was laid at the residence of the bride's mother. The usual toasts were proposed, Rev. Father O'Donnell speaking in glowing terms of the young couple, to which Sergeant Paterson suitably responded. In the evening a social was given by Mrs. Lafranchi to a large number of friends, when a happy evening was spent by all present. The esteem in which the young couple are held was shown in the large number of beautiful presents received by them.

A notice with regard to train arrangements, fares, etc., on the Government Railways on the King's Birthday appears in our advertising columns.

Messrs. Izard and Loughnan, solicitors, Christchurch, and at Leeston and Southbridge, have money to lend in suitable sums and at current rates of interest...

Messrs. Laidlaw and Gray, Dunedin, return thanks to their numerous customers for their liberal patronage during the sale of Ritchie's stock, and take the opportunity of drawing attention to a new shipment of lawn mowers which will be disposed of at sale prices. Another cheap line now offered is sewing machines, which are well worth inspecting as the prices quoted are very low.

Obituary.

MRS. HICKSON, AUCKLAND.

(By telegraph, from our own correspondent.)

Very general regret was felt by the Catholics of Auckland on Saturday morning when it became known that Mr. Hickson, relict of the late Inspector Hickson, was dead. The deceased lady had passed through a long and painful illness which she had borne with much patience and Christian resignation. Mrs. Hickson was born at Shanagolden, County Limerick, in 1811, being a relative of the noted Irish writer, Gerald Griffin, and at an early age left her native place for Victoria. She was married at Kilmore in 1862, and a few years later left with her husband for New Zealand. The late Mr. and Mrs. Hickson were well known in different parts of this Colony, having resided at various times in Hokitika, Greymouth, Christchurch, Clyde, Invercargill, Dunedin, and Auckland. Mrs. Hickson passed away in the presence of members of her family and two Sisters of Mercy. There are four sons and three daughters left to mourn the loss of a devoted mother. Of the sons the Rev. Father Hickson is at Reefton, Mr. Joseph Hickson is Clerk of the Magistrate's Court at Hokitika, Mr. Thomas Hickson resides in Victoria, and the fourth, Mr. John Hickson is in the Railway Department, Auckland. Messages of condolence were received from his Lordship Bishop Grimes, Ven. Archdeacon Devoy, Rev. Father Holley, and Rev. Father O'Shea (Wellington). Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly, Very Rev. Dean Hackett, Rev. Fathers Murphy and Cleary (Dunedin), and Rev. Father Kimbell (Greymouth). A Solemn Requiem Mass was said in the Church of the Sacred Heart on Monday morning by Very Rev. Dr. Egan. The funeral took place in the afternoon, when the burial service at the church and graveside was read by the Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan, assisted by Rev. Fathers Patterson, Buckley, and Dr. Egan. The interment took place at the Pilmure Cemetery, the remains being placed beside those of the late Inspector Hickson. There was a large concourse of mourners present to pay their last mark of respect to the memory of a pious and practical Catholic lady.—R.I.P.

NEW ZEALAND: GENERAL

THE following pupils of the Sisters of Mercy, Christchurch, have passed the drawing examination:—Freehand: Florence Thompson, Gertrude Smith, Madge Butler, Henry Haughey, and Frank Ryan.

We have to thank the Chief Health Officer, Dr. J. M. Mason, for a little pamphlet on 'Enteric or Typhoid Fever: how it is spread and how to prevent it spreading.' The brochure should be in the hands of every household in the Colony, as it contains a great deal of valuable information within a small space, and is written in a style which brings it within the understanding of every reader.

THE following is the list of successful candidates from the Convent of Mercy, Christchurch, at the recent examination in music conducted by the representative of the Royal Academy and Royal College of Music, London:—Singing (higher division), Maud Buchanan. Pianoforte (lower division), Muriel Brown, Lizzie Joyce, Gertrude Smith, Florence Thompson, and Nellie Turner. Violin (lower division), Hilda Flynn. Pianoforte, (elementary examination), Bessie Bower, Aileen Mahon, and Kathleen Molloy (honors). Violin, (elementary), Hilda Flynn (honors).

The following are the results of the practical examination in music held at the Convent, Wanganui, on October 28, by the representative of Trinity College, London:—Senior division—honors, Miss Amy Hyde (singing); pass, Miss Minnie Barrie (pianoforte) and Miss E. Pinches (singing). Intermediate division—Pass, Miss Maude Mitchell (pianoforte). Junior division—Pass, Misses Bessie McGovern, Nellie Rigalsford, Levinia Summers, and Elga Wells (pianoforte), Miss Ella O'Reilly (singing). Preparatory grade—Pass, Misses Mildred Ryan, Winnie Neylon, Eileen Perrett, and Master N. Bignell (pianoforte).

SERGEANT O'Grady, who has retired from the police force, and intends taking up farming, was presented on Thursday night by the residents of Oamaru with a purse of sovereigns. On the previous day he was the recipient of a similar gift from his fellow officers and the officials of the court. The public meeting, which was attended by a large number of business men, was held in the Alliance Hotel, Mr. Waddell presiding. The chairman said he had always admired the thorough and painstaking manner in which Sergeant O'Grady had attended to his many duties. He congratulated him upon the successful termination of long and faithful service to the Colony, and was pleased to know that he intended to settle in the district among the friends whom he had made during his fifteen years' service in Oamaru. Mr. Cagney was then called upon to make the presentation. He also bore testimony to Mr. O'Grady's worth as a citizen and a public officer. The esteem in which Mr. O'Grady was held in Oamaru, was shown by the readiness with which all contributed towards the presentation. Messrs. Craig, McDairmid, Grave, and Singleton also briefly spoke of the happy relations they had with Sergeant O'Grady in his various capacities while in charge of the Oamaru district. Mr. O'Grady thanked the speakers for the flattering things they had said of him, and he also thanked the donors for their goodness in making the presentation. During the 15 years he had been amongst them he had always received the greatest kindness from the people of Oamaru, and now that he was leaving a service in which he had spent 41 years, he made up his mind to spend the rest of his days amongst the friends he had made in Oamaru.