

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON.

(From our own correspondent.)

May 10.

His Grace Archbishop Redwood and the Ven. Archdeacon Devoy, Provincial, returned to Wellington on Monday last.

Being the first Sunday of the month Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament was held at St. Mary of the Angels' on Sunday last. The 11 o'clock Mass was celebrated by Rev. Father Cooney, of Lyttelton. In the evening the Rev. Father Herbert preached on the Blessed Virgin to a large congregation.

Mr. S. Cimino, jun., has been appointed conductor of the choir of the Church of the Sacred Heart. Steps are being taken to establish a permanent orchestra.

The Very Rev. Dean Mahoney left by the Athenic on Thursday for a trip to the Old Country. Several priests came to Wellington to bid him good-bye. The Dean was accompanied down the harbor by several of the local clergy, who spent the best part of an hour on board the Home liner. Between 50 and 60 parting messages were received by the Dean prior to his departure.

The opening session of the Literary and Debating Society, in connection with the Marist Brothers' Old Boys' Association, was celebrated by the members holding a *conversazione* in St. Patrick's Hall on Monday last. The hall was tastefully decorated. Various games were indulged in, and the following ladies and gentlemen contributed to the musical part of the programme:—Misses Lawless and M. Twobill, and Messrs C. Gamble, Flanagan, Liardet, Sievers, and Eller. Mr D. A. Kenny acted as accompanist and also contributed the dance music. Extras were played by Miss J. Gallagher.

The great event of this week was the coming of Miss Amy Castles. The young lady, accompanied by her concert company, arrived in Wellington on Sunday last. She received a splendid reception from the public at both of her concerts, and her singing will long be remembered by the Wellington people as that of an accomplished artist. During her stay here she paid a visit to St. Mary's Convent. His Grace the Archbishop and several of the local clergy called on her.

The additions to St. Patrick's Church, Masterton, were solemnly blessed and opened by his Grace Archbishop Redwood on Sunday last. A procession, in which the clergy, cross-bearer, and acolytes took part, was formed from the presbytery to the church. Solemn High Mass was celebrated by the Very Rev. Father Keogh, B.A., with the Very Rev. Father Lewis, V.G., as deacon, and Very Rev. Father Lane as sub-deacon. His Grace the Archbishop preached, and chose for his text, 'The Lord thy God only shalt thou adore.' Before beginning his discourse he spoke of the pleasure it gave him to be present to open the enlarged portion which, by the generosity of the people, had been so beautified. It was a credit to their pastor and everyone concerned. To the architect and builder he gave the greatest praise, for so complete were the alterations that the entire church really looked like a new building. He concluded by asking the congregation to give generously towards extinguishing the debt. Under the conductorship of Mr A. R. Bunny the choir rendered Mozart's 'Seventh Mass.' Miss Pender (of Wellington), Miss Pinches (late of Wanganui), and several gentlemen rendered valuable assistance to the choir. The collection made during the day amounted to £72. In the evening Vespers were sung by Ven. Archdeacon Devoy, when the Very Rev. Father Keogh preached on the Blessed Virgin. The total cost of the alterations amounted to £750, which has been reduced now to £82, which speaks well for the generosity of the people.

O K A T O.

(From an occasional correspondent.)

May 4.

The Okato Universal Fair, held in aid of the building fund of St. Patrick's Church and presbytery was a great success. It was opened on Monday evening, April 21, by our popular M.H.R., Mr E. M. Smith, who, notwithstanding the very unpleasant weather, drove from New Plymouth, thus placing the ladies who had charge of the undertaking under a deep obligation to him. The large marquee erected close to the church was not sufficient to hold the large number who attended from all the surrounding districts. There were four stalls, all of which were artistically decorated, and well supplied with goods. The following is a list of the stalls and stallholders:—Irish—Mesdames Daly, O'Sullivan, and O'Connor. Colonial.—Mesdames M. Brophy, P. Duggan, and Misses E. Carpenter and A. Daly. Continental—Misses K. and H. McNamara, K. Ryan, and Mesdames Metcalfe and A. Clarke. Polynesian—Mesdames Judge, McReynolds, Aylward, and S. Jones. In the last-mentioned stall was exhibited a very comprehensive collection of curios and works of art sent by friendly South Sea Islanders. Close to the entrance was the refreshment stall managed by Miss Dunn, and Mesdames Barrett, M. Fleming, and Heather. Each of the stalls was draped and fitted up with flags denoting its nationality.

At the appointed time the Rev. Father Cognet opened the proceedings with a few complimentary remarks regarding the inconvenience which Mr. Smith had put himself to in order to be present. Mr. Smith then addressed the audience at some length, and compared the self-reliant spirit of this Colony with the conservatism prevailing in the Old Country. He referred to the impetus soon to be given to the iron-sand industry, and also dealt with the

necessity for certain local and provincial improvements. Having complimented the ladies on their splendid display of goods, he declared the fair open. On the call of the Rev. Father Cognet three hearty cheers were given for Mr. Smith. Then the stallholders and their assistants went to work and to the credit of our Okato community be it said a most liberal response was made to their appeal.

In addition to the stalls there was a number of side shows all of which did good business, and provided considerable amusement. The fair was brought to close on April 24, the proceeds on that evening alone amounting to £87. The public were highly pleased with the proceedings throughout, and a word of praise is due to the ladies, who left nothing undone to secure the success of the undertaking. The prizes offered by the committee to the two most successful lady canvassers fell to Miss H. McNamara 1, and Miss J. O'Sullivan 2, the rest in order of merit being Misses K. O'Sullivan, M. Francis, A. Duggan, K. McNamara, M. McReynolds, Mrs P. Duggan, Misses K. Ryan, G. Murphy, A. Daly. During the fair Mr. Metcalfe, Miss G. Browning, and others contributed musical selections, and Mr Gill amused the audience with items by the graphophone.

The total proceeds will exceed £200, which is a very creditable amount for the Okato district. This will not alone be sufficient to wipe off the debt on the church, but will leave a handsome surplus towards the proposed church at Pungaretu.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

May 12.

The Rev. Father Cooney returned to Lyttelton during the week after a holiday spent in the North Island for health purposes.

According to a report presented to the City Council at its last meeting the providing of municipal music during the summer months by means of subsidised brass bands had proved a pronounced success. The season extended from October to April during which period 30 separate performances were given to ailing over 270 musical selections to an average attendance of 4000 of the public weekly, or estimated at 120,000 for the season.

The first monthly meeting of collectors, under the recently arranged scheme of sixpence per week subscriptions to the Cathedral building fund, was held on last Thursday evening, his Lordship the Bishop presiding. Upwards of thirty pounds (£30) was handed in as the result of the past four weeks' operations. Whilst at Lyttelton the Very Rev. Dean Foley established the system there, and also collected many previously promised contributions. The building of the Cathedral is going on apace and this week new machinery has been added for fluting and turning the massive columns, one already being finished.

Our Wesleyan friends are evidently fast becoming Catholicised if we may judge by the way Mass music is finding a place in their church services. I notice that at the opening of a local church last Sunday Mozart's 'Kyrie' and 'Gloria' formed prominent parts of the musical arrangements. It has become quite a common thing for our Mass music to be sung in Anglican churches; the Presbyterians, with characteristic caution, are introducing it, but so far principally at public gatherings other than church services, and the Methodists have long exhibited a hankering after the music composed by the great masters for the Catholic Church's most solemn office.

There was a good attendance at the Catholic Club rooms on Tuesday evening, when a most interesting lecture was delivered by Dr. Frengley on 'Plague and its history.' He traced it from the earliest days up to the present times, and dwelt particularly upon the modern methods for preventing the spread of the plague bacillus. A sketch showing the appearance of this bacillus, and also that of the typhoid bacillus, was shown. The lecturer, who has evidently become a thorough master of the subject, spoke of the countries where for ages the plague has found a habitation, its spread and more recent developments, including the possible source of its introduction to Australasia. The lecture greatly interested those present, and at the conclusion, on the motion of Mr Ronald Duncan, seconded by the Very Rev. Father Le Menant des Cheneaux a hearty vote of thanks was passed to Dr. Frengley, who, in reply, promised at another time to lecture on 'Typhoid.'

His Worship the Mayor (Mr A. E. G. Rhodes) is to open the Coronation Carnival at the Colosseum on Thursday. Elaborate preparations are being made for the inaugural ceremony. The carnival is to be continued over the ensuing 11 nights. There are eight stalls with the following ladies at the head:—(1) 'Highland Brigade,' Miss Somerville; (2) 'Royal,' Mrs W. Hayward; (3) 'Bengal Lancers,' Mrs J. C. Chase; (4) 'Floral,' and art union prizes, Mrs M. O'Brien; (5) '21st Lancers,' Mrs Burke; (6) 'Naval Brigade,' Mrs Hine; (7) 'Irish Fusiliers' (convent), Mrs Green; (8) 'Royal Artillery' (Ladies' Club), Mrs J. R. Hunt. A refreshment stall will be in charge of Miss Goggen and Miss Grady. Music will be provided each evening by the Woolston Brass Band and an orchestra.

After Mass on Sunday week, at Rangiora, an adjournment was made to the Catholic schoolroom for the purpose of making a presentation to Mr. Richard Anderson, of the Railway service, who recently removed to Christchurch. Mr. Anderson's connection with the Rangiora Catholic congregation dates back 33 years. At that time he was on the West Coast, and collected £15 towards the erection of the first church in Rangiora. Two years later he took up his residence permanently in the place, and up to the time of his removal, about a month since, has been a prominent and earnest supporter of the Church, and ever ready to further its interests. Mrs. Anderson and family have also been to the fore in church work, and they will be much missed. The present, which came from the congregation, and consisted of a purse of sovereigns, was handed to