

Rev. Father Murphy, Adm., took the opportunity of thanking the audience for their attendance, congratulating the children on the success of the entertainment, and complimenting the Dominican Nuns on the very evident signs of careful tuition displayed by the performers.

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

October 4.

The Marist Brothers' Old Boys' Association have assumed control of St. Patrick's Hall and intend making several improvements in the building.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament was held at St. Joseph's Church on Sunday last. Haydn's Imperial Mass, with a full orchestral accompaniment, was rendered in an excellent manner by the choir. At the offertory Mr. Turner sang. The usual procession of the Blessed Sacrament was held after Vespers.

The Education Department has presented St. Joseph's Orphanage with a New Zealand ensign. The ceremony of unfurling it will be performed next week by the Hon. Mr Walker, Minister of Education.

The annual social of the Hibernian Society was held at the Druids' Hall on Wednesday evening. There was a large attendance, among the visitors being the Rev. Father O'Shea. The arrangements were in the capable hands of the following gentlemen:—Messrs O'Callaghan, Krohn, Mahoney, Taylor, Gleeson, Gosling, and J. Stratford, and those present spent a most enjoyable evening.

An enjoyable social reunion, given by Mesdames Keefe and Swan, was held at the Druids' Hall on Tuesday evening, to raise funds for the furnishing of their stall at the bazaar, which takes place next Easter, in aid of the Church of the Sacred Heart. The financial result will, it is anticipated, be highly satisfactory.

The following pupils of St. Bride's Convent, Masterton, were successful in passing the practical examination in music, conducted by Mr Mistowski, examiner for the Trinity College, London:—Preparatory division—Piano, Ruby Frost; violin, Maggie Robins. Junior division—Piano, Vida O'Connell, Hettie Robins, Ettie Frost. Intermediate division—Singing, Bride Falvin; piano, Minnie Buckeridge, Elsie Richards (honors).

The report of the examination by the Government Inspector of the Palmerston North Convent school is now to hand. In all the classes a maximum number of passes was obtained, and in the class subjects the following was the marking: Grammar, good; geography, very fair; drawing, good; science, object lessons, very satisfactory; recitation, excellent; singing, excellent; needlework, excellent; drill exercises, satisfactory. In addition to those presented in standards, 60 infants were also examined by the Inspector, to whom the results gave evidence of most careful training.

The report of Messrs Pops and Bird, Government Inspectors, on St. Joseph's Orphanage is a very satisfactory one. Fifty-five pupils were presented and the whole number passed. In the class subjects from standard I. to V. geography is marked weak, drawing very good, grammar very satisfactory, domestic economy and object lessons both good, recitation good, kindergarten work good. In the additional subjects drill, exercises, and singing are marked pleasing. In the higher standards all subjects are marked well advanced. The inspectors concluded their report by saying the order and tone were generally satisfactory and reflect credit on all concerned.

The following pupils of the Palmerston North Convent School were successful in passing the musical examination held last Saturday by Mr Nott, examiner for the Royal Academy and Royal College of Music, London:—Senior local centre—Piano: Florence O'Connor (honors), Margaret Waldegrave, Annie Jack, Berta Valentine, Nellie Hopwood. Higher school—Piano: Eveline Rawlins (honors), Lizzie Brophy, Lizzie Coles; singing: Amy Chandler. Lower school—Piano: Trix Waldegrave, Annie Follas. Elementary—Singing: Oelia Rush; piano: Rhoda Sollitt.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

October 6.

His Lordship the Bishop went south to Waimate by Friday morning's express.

His Grace Archbishop Redwood is to lay the foundation stone of St. Mary's presbytery on the morning of Sunday, October 19th, and in the evening will preach in the Pro-Cathedral. During his stay in the city the Archbishop will be the guest of the Right Rev. Dr. Grimes at the episcopal residence.

The great colonnades of the Cathedral will be in position and capped, including the pillars which support the gallery, within a month. There will be 150 of these columns in the entire building. The contractors expect within six months to commence the roof of the Cathedral.

The municipal open air band concerts which were so successfully carried out last year are to be continued, and the first of the present season was given on Thursday evening by the Garrison Band. Thousands of people avail themselves of these musical treats.

With the approbation of the Right Rev. Bishop Grimes the lecture on 'Hell and Eternal Punishment,' by the Very Rev. Father Le Menant des Chesnais, S.M., V.G., recently published in the *Press*,

and reviewed in last week's TABLET, has now been issued in pamphlet form by the Press Company, and copies may be obtained from the clergy and principal Catholic booksellers.

The schools of St. Mary's parish, Christchurch, were examined recently by the inspector appointed by the Government—Mr Baldwin, headmaster of the Sydenham school—who reports as follows: The schools have passed, on the whole, a very satisfactory examination in the different subjects of the Government syllabus. In some classes the work may appear uneven, yet, considering that the syllabus was a heavy one, some good sound work has been done. The number on the roll 285, of this number 222 passed. The general behaviour of the pupils during the examination was very good, and the teaching staff, the Sisters of Mercy, are congratulated on the success attained.

On Sunday last (Rosary Sunday) the annual collection for the diocesan charities was made and the proceeds will be devoted, as customary, towards the support of Mount Magdala Asylum. At the Pro-Cathedral the Very Rev. Vicar-General made an eloquent appeal on behalf of this noble institution, which has at the present time 133 inmates. Extra accommodation has from time to time been added, new industries are introduced, and, on the whole, great and glorious work is being accomplished with very slender assistance from outside sources.

The grounds surrounding the episcopal residence and adjoining the new Cathedral are being remodelled and planted with ornamental trees and flowering shrubs. A magnificent avenue of limes is being planted with a walk 10ft wide, intersecting the whole area. This will be used for outdoor processions. The scheme will embody approaches to the Cathedral and the various institutions within the enclosure. The work is being carried out under the supervision of Mr J. Joyce, the well-known landscape gardener, who has laid out the grounds of most of the principal residences in the city and suburbs. Those under notice, when the work is completed, will provide one of the beauty spots of the city.

TIMARU.

(From our own correspondent.)

The Rev. Father Tubman visited the Waimate parish on Sunday to be present at the laying of the foundation stone of the Makikihi Church, a ceremony performed by the Right Rev. Dr. Grimes on Sunday afternoon. There was a large attendance and the ceremony was successful from every point of view.

The tenders for the St. Andrew's Church have been accepted. Mr Turnbull is the architect and the building will be a most commodious and substantial one.

The St. John's Club has added yet another victory to its unbeaten record in ping pong for the season. On Thursday last the Waitohi Club (a crack one) journeyed to Timaru to try conclusions. The visitors were entertained at St. John's Hall, and the game, which was highly interesting and keenly competed, resulted in St. John's being declared victorious by something like 60 points.

The St. John's Tennis Club opens the season on Thursday, and judging from the enthusiasm of the members and the personnel of the management committee its success is assured.

Mr T. J. Kennedy died on the 2nd inst. Mr Kennedy, a native of Victoria, was trained for the stage in that colony by the well-known actor, Mr W. Hoskins. True to his teaching he always interpreted his parts in a masterly manner. Coming over to New Zealand about 33 years ago, he fought in the Maori wars, gaining the medal. Mr Kennedy was ever to the fore in assisting at benefit concerts for the poor and distressed. About ten years ago he formed a G.V.B. dramatic club in connection with the Catholic Literary Society, and ran the theatre for four nights, producing eight different plays, each an unqualified success. He was 66 years of age. The late Mr Kennedy was a staunch member of the Church, and died fortified by its rites. His funeral was largely attended by all circles in the community.—R.I.P.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND.

(From our own correspondent.)

October 2.

A malady is prevalent in town and suburbs just now which keeps our medical practitioners very busy. It is believed by many to have come from South Africa.

The fortnightly social of the Guard of Honor connected with St. Patrick's was held last evening in the Hibernian Hall and was highly successful. The annual social is fixed for the 14th inst.

At the Cathedral one evening last week, after devotions, five aspirants were received into the Confraternity of the Children of Mary by the spiritual director, the Rev. Father Buckley. This excellent society has the great advantage of the advice and care of the Sisters of Mercy stationed in the parish.

At St. Benedict's Church on Sunday Masses were said at 6.30, 7.30, 9.30, and at 11 o'clock. Throughout the week the Very Rev. Father Benedict, O.P., had conducted a successful mission which was fittingly terminated by him at Vespers in the evening. The Sacrament of Confirmation was administered by his Lordship at three o'clock in the afternoon. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament took place from last Mass until the close of Benediction in the evening.

An excellent entertainment was given yesterday afternoon in the Federal Hall in aid of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. The programme was carefully arranged, and each item called forth loud applause from the large gathering. The performers were Mesdames Hamilton, Hodges, Clive Collins, Miss Lynch, Very Rev. Dr. Egan, O.S.B., and Mr P. Darby, Jun. A viola solo by Master Ralph, accompanied by Mrs Ralph, and a piano duet by Mrs and Master