

CAMBRIDGE.

The visit of his Lordship Bishop Lenihan to Cambridge (says the 'Waikato Argus') was the occasion of a most successful function, when the parishioners of St. Peter's tendered him a hearty reception to which the public was invited. The Oddfellows' Hall presented a most picturesque and animated scene. Over the stage was the word 'Welcome' designed in laurel leaves. The stage was effectively arranged as a drawing room, and ping pong and card tables were grouped about the hall, giving a most sociable aspect. Fully 300 assembled, and what with games and the splendid musical entertainment provided, all tastes were catered for. Amongst the principal guests were Bishop Lenihan, the Mayor, Mr. Wells, the Town Clerk, the Misses Wells and Miss Brooks, the Rev. Fathers Benedict, O'Carroll, and Darby. The Cambridge orchestra was present under the conductorship of Mr. Edwards and greatly added to the enjoyment of all. Father Benedict manipulated a splendid gramophone, the records of which were eagerly demanded. A pleasant item on the programme was the address to the Bishop, very gracefully read and presented by Miss Minnie Vandylke. It was tastefully and neatly mounted with cardinal and pink silk, and read as follows:—

'May it please your Lordship,—We, the parishioners of the Cambridge portion of your diocese, on the occasion of your first episcopal visit, beg your acceptance of this address as a token of our hearty welcome to you, and as a token of our reverence and esteem. Though we form but a small portion of your Lordship's diocese we hope and pray, by God's blessing, that the continued prosperity of the district will so add to our flock as to merit a periodical return. Trusting that Divine Providence will spare your Lordship for many years and grant you health to carry on the duties to which He has called you,—We are, your Lordship's humble and devoted servants, (Signed) Robert McVeagh, N. J. Dougherty, Vincent Plescher, Henry Vandylke, Daniel Sheehan, on behalf of the parishioners.'

In thanking all for the hearty greeting of welcome attested by their presence, his Lordship said it tended to give him a more cordial feeling towards the people of Cambridge than he had had hitherto. He paid a graceful tribute to the Mayor, 'the father of Cambridge,' for his unremitting zeal towards the beautifying of the town. He expressed regret that he could not shake hands with every person individually, but, as that was impossible, he requested the Mayor, as the people's representative, to perform the ceremony on their behalf.

Mr. Wells, in complying, asked them all to join with him in a hearty acclamation of welcome towards his Lordship, which was vociferously acceded to. He also expressed regret that they did not oftener see Bishop Lenihan, and hoped that his Lordship would soon find way to fulfil his wish in that respect.

The following items were rendered during the evening: Songs, Mrs. Dixon, Rev. Father Darby, Messrs. Sheehan, McVeagh, Aislabie, Speakman, Dixon; violin solo, Rev. Father Darby; pianoforte duet, Misses Hanlon; recitation, Mr. Brown.

Southland News Notes

(From our own correspondent)

Substantial alterations to the Gore convent are now in a forward state, and will greatly improve the habitation of the Sisters of Mercy. Mr. Owen Kelly is the contractor, this being a sufficient guarantee that the workmanship, etc., will be of the best.

A social gathering was held in the Drill Hall, Bluff, last week, the proceeds to be devoted to the furnishing of a bazaar which is to be held in connection with the Bluff Convent, St. Mary's by the Sea. There was a very large attendance, and a varied programme was provided. In a progressive euchre tournament, conducted by Mrs. St. George and Mr. C. A. Tipping, the prizes were won by Misses Craig and Betand, and Messrs. W. Newman and J. Gifford. The prizes were the gifts of the president of the Ladies Guild, Mrs. Tipping, Mesdames McGrath and Rose, Mr. and Mrs. Tullock, and Mr. Lister. Great preparations are being made at the Port for the forthcoming bazaar, which is likely to surpass even the very successful one of last year.

A meeting to form a branch of the Hibernian Society is called for Saturday evening at Raeside's Rooms. A large number of names have been already sent in from all parts of Southland, and present indications point to the Hibernian Society being the strongest Friendly Society in Southland. It is to be hoped that parents will encourage their sons to become members of the only Catholic benefit Society in the Colony.

Owing to promotion in the Postal Department Mr. St. George, the popular postmaster at the Bluff, goes to the West Coast at an early date.

MYERS and CO., Dentists, Octagon, corner of George street. They guarantee highest class of work at moderate fees. Their artificial teeth give general satisfaction, and the fact of them supplying a temporary denture while the gums are healing does away with the inconvenience of being months without teeth. They manufacture a single artificial tooth for Ten Shillings, and sets equally moderate. The administration of nitrous-oxide gas is also a great boon to those needing the extraction of a tooth. Read advertisement.—***

Artificial Rain-making

A few days ago we were informed by cable that a Dr. McCarthy, of Melbourne, had succeeded in producing rain by means of columns of gas. The Melbourne 'Age' of May 20 gives the following particulars of the experiments conducted by the inventor:—

The experiments made by Dr. McCarthy in certain drought-stricken parts of Victoria with an invention, by which it is claimed that rain can be produced within 32 hours, have reached a stage meriting examination by all interested in the future of this continent. Judgment as to the reality of the success at present achieved must of necessity be suspended. The inventor and his friends, however, express confidence in its efficacy. Interviewed, Dr. McCarthy said:—'I claim to produce rain by sending up, continuously from three centres, a column of gas made by certain chemicals. The gas, if sent up for a maximum of 32 hours, will produce rain over a range of 90 miles at any altitude, with any sky, and with the wind from any quarter. I do not need to wait until the wind is from a usually rainy quarter. In one experiment I made, the barometric conditions were quite unfavorable, yet I produced the rain. The gas, you see, causes in the different strata of the atmosphere a vacuum. This vacuum is the centre of a heat storm, and is filled by the dense clouds that contain the rain. These clouds come down until within the gravity of the earth, when rain descends. The rain is different from the ordinary rain found in the districts in which the experiments have been made. It is a tropical rain, coming from very lofty regions, being slight at first, and then, later, descending in heavy showers and buckets full. My operations have been conducted in an enclosure, 12 feet by 8 feet. Though I cannot, of course, give away my secret, I may tell you that the chemicals used have to be charged in accordance with the altitudes.'

In the presence of the members of a syndicate which has been formed to exploit Dr. McCarthy's invention, the doctor gave an account of the experiments he conducted on April 24 on an estate managed by Mr. Ross, at Serpentine, near Inglewood. These experiments resulted, it was alleged, in a tropical downpour of over 1 inch of rain in a district whose rainfall during the past eight years has been only 65 points. Messrs. Teesdale and Ballentine, members of the syndicate, who accompanied the doctor during his work, confirmed his narrative; stated that every stage of the atmospheric changes witnessed had been predicted before the experiments began; and declared that Mr. Ross assessed the improvement to his land caused by the artificially produced rainfall at £500. The effects were, it was further explained, secured with only one gas centre, and the rain came down after the heavens had been bombarded by the secret gaseous batteries for fifteen hours. It was announced that the doctor will visit other parts of Victoria on a rain-producing mission if the owners of the properties likely to be benefited guarantee a given sum on the process proving efficacious.

A Wonderful Clock

Perhaps the most interesting gift to the Pope on his Pontifical Jubilee was an ancient clock, in the form of a planisphere, dating from 1725. It was constructed at Plaisance by the mathematician Barnardo Facini, who presented it to the wife of Philip II. of Spain. The planisphere gives the hours and the minutes, according to the Italian and Spanish style; the length of the days and nights, according to the seasons; the daily position of the sun, according to the signs of the Zodiac; solar and lunar eclipses, the real seasons and the seasons according to astronomy. Notwithstanding the enormous progress made in mechanics since its construction, the movement of the wheels is absolutely unknown. When it broke down on one occasion no one, it is said, was found able to repair it.

The very worst cough or cold succumbs to Tussicura. Obtainable from all chemists and storekeepers.—***

Morrow, Bassett and Co. have been appointed sole agents in New Zealand for the Cochshutt Plough Company's famous 'Excelsior' arm implements. Champions all over the globe. Send for catalogue.—***

At this season everybody is liable to Coughs and Colds. Avoid all danger by taking TUSSICURA.—***

The 'Excelsior' plough is 'Champion of the World.' On hillside, lean, swamp, tussock, or stubble, it is equally at home.—Morrow, Bassett, and Co., sole agents in New Zealand.—***

For Absolute Strength, Extreme Simplicity, Freedom from Weak or Undesirable Points, and abundance of Excellent Working Features throughout, EXCELSIOR PLOUGHS are UNRIVALLED. They will do perfectly the work that can be expected of any plough, and are guaranteed to give satisfaction in any soils where a plough can work. They have extra length of land beam, specially made mould boards, and steering gear of the most complete and approved kind. Revolving swivel steel circular coulters. Double furrow, £11 10s; three furrow, £16 10s.—Morrow, Bassett, and Co., sole agents in New Zealand for Cochshutt Farm Implements.—***

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