

it has to look after everything. Its dominion is seated in the consciences of men—of its followers to be sure, but then, its followers are everywhere. With many others, I was myself invited the other day to appeal to the influence of the Papacy, in favor of certain Protestant denominations who believed themselves oppressed by the system of marriage laws existing in one or two of the South American republics. The answer from the Papal Court was that the South American republics could, of course, make their own laws, and that nobody could prevent them; but that so far as the influence of the Pope could go it should be exerted in favor of absolute religious equality in all nations. I mention this fact merely as a matter of illustration. No one would think of appealing to the German Emperor to interfere with his influence on behalf of certain populations, not German, in some of the republics of South America. The influence of the German Emperor is exerted merely on behalf of his own emigrant subjects, or his own fellow-countrymen in some foreign and distant State. It would be regarded as sheer impertinence and folly, if he were to interfere between the rulers of a South American republic and any native body or section of the subjects of such a republic. But nothing could possibly seem more natural than to appeal in such conditions for

The Intervention and Influence of the Pope.

The Pope is understood to have an influence and a right of intervention, so far as advice goes, in every country in the world. There is not a parish priest appointed in Ireland without the knowledge and authority of the Pope. There is not a Catholic bishop named in any country in the world, civilised or uncivilised, without his authority and his approval. He nominates the men who are to risk their lives in preaching the Gospel in China, and the men who are, as missionaries, to brave the terrors of death in spreading the light of Christianity over countries still less civilised, and far more barbarous, than China. The Vatican is compelled to have its eye and its intellect and its heart fixed on every nook and corner in the world. There is no administrative system on earth which has anything like the same widespread and watchful and necessary superintendence. The network of the Papal authority has a mesh wherever men are living. The Vatican is, in this sense, the centre of the earth. I am well aware that a great many of my readers may think this a deplorable fact. I am not concerned to argue the question. My present purpose is fully satisfied if I can persuade them to admit that, whether deplorable or not, it is still the fact. Civilisation has to reckon with that vast all-pervading influence. The innermost glooms of uncivilisation cannot withdraw themselves from some gleam of its light.

The Empire of the Pope is not merely greater than any other empire. It folds in all the empires and all the monarchs and all the republics of the world. From this point of view, even if we were to regard it from none other, it will be seen what a vast jurisdiction is that which falls to the lot of the Pope to administer. The Pope must take account of every movement in modern thought and modern society. He must compare the conflicting forces; he must have a keen eye for the new struggles which are breaking out every day in the civilised world.

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

September 27.

Rev. Father Holley left on Friday morning for Stratford to collect for the Cathedral.

Ven. Archdeacon Devoy (Provincial) left for the West Coast on Monday last. He will be absent until November next.

On the feast of Our Lady of Mercy Mass was celebrated at the convent chapel by Rev. Father Holley. The following music was rendered at Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament in the evening: Steinforth's 'O Salutaris,' Haydn's 'Tantum Ergo,' Vincent's 'Ave Maria,' Oakes' 'Divine Praises.'

The annual football match between past and present students of St. Patrick's College resulted in a highly interesting and exciting game. The old boys were represented by a fairly strong team, and won a remarkably fast game by 16 points to 15. In the first spell Eccleton and Brebner scored tries for the old boys, and Brebner potted a goal and Quill scored for the College. In the second half Brebner and Eccleton again scored for the old boys and Blake and Redwood touched down for the College, Pohau converting one of the tries. M'Donald potted a goal. A social evening was spent at the Col-

lege, when Mr. S. Moran contributed a recitation, and songs were sung by Rev. Fathers Hills, Ainsworth, and Moloney, Messrs. Butler, Gamble, and Kenny, the last named also acting as accompanist. Under Mr. Lawrence Watkins the College choir sang two songs very creditably, and graphophone selections, the machine being manipulated by Mr. W. Beck, completed a very enjoyable programme.

Miss J. Reid, third daughter of Mr. N. Reid, was married at the Church of the Sacred Heart on Thursday last to Mr. William Strang, of Orowa Downs, Manawatu. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Father O'Shea. The bride was given away by her father, and wore a gown of white duchess satin, trimmed with art lace and chiffon, with the orthodox veil. Misses Gertrude Reid (sister of the bride), Ethel Green, Dorothy Strang (nieces of the bride), and Miss Hetta Cargill were the bridesmaids. The two first named wore dresses of cream voile, trimmed with lace, with Tuscan hats trimmed with pink and green, and the two others were attired in white silk and poke bonnets. The bride's travelling dress was of blue voile with a large black hat, trimmed with blue. The bridegroom's gift to the bride was a gold necklet with a diamond and pearl pendant, and each of the bridesmaids received gold brooches set with turquoises. The bridegroom was attended by Mr. Walter Reid (brother of the bride). At the conclusion of the ceremony a reception was held at the residence of the bride's parents, Upper Willis street.

WESTPORT.

(From our own correspondent.)

September 22.

His Grace Archbishop Redwood arrived in Westport by the 'Mapourika' on Friday, the 18th inst.

The following pupils of the local Convent of Mercy were successful in passing the theoretical examinations in connection with the Trinity College:—Misses Winnie Struthers, 98 (distinction); Lily Stitt, 83 (distinction); Amy Locke, 79 (pass); Gertrude Scott, 78 (pass).

The pretty little church at Charleston, which is dedicated to Ireland's patron saint, has recently been renovated, and in exterior and interior appearance the sacred edifice is now greatly improved. The committee who have been so successful in accomplishing this very necessary work, are entitled to great praise for the energetic manner in which they worked for so laudable an object.

The quarterly meeting of St. Canice's branch, of the H.A.C.B. Society was held in St. Canice's Schoolroom on September 16. The president, Bro. T. Enright, occupying the chair. After the ordinary business was transacted, an appeal from the Sisters of Mercy to the branch was considered. The new convent, which is a magnificent structure of very considerable dimensions, having been completed, it is the earnest wish of the Sisters of Mercy that the grounds should present an appearance somewhat in keeping with the handsome building. The Rev. Mother Superior therefore wrote to the local branch of the H.A.C.B. Society asking if the members would be willing to render any assistance towards this very urgent requirement. It is most gratifying to record that the Society has responded generously to the good Sisters' appeal, as the members have undertaken to carry out the laying out of the grounds. The Society is to be highly complimented on their prompt action, and it may be confidently anticipated that the work will be a lasting credit to all concerned.

The Inspector recently conducted the examination of the children attending St. Canice's School. It is pleasing to note that the examination was entirely satisfactory, a high average being maintained in the different standards. Mr. Strachan was much pleased with the work done, and complimented the good Sisters thereon. The Sisters of Mercy are to be congratulated on their success. The Rev. Father Malloy, who takes a keen and kindly interest in the welfare of the children, thoughtfully presented five handsome silver medals for general proficiency. The following pupils were successful in obtaining the medals presented:—Masters Alfred Cullen, James Flynn, James McGlone, Frank Ryan, and James Forman.

During the course of his eloquent sermon at St. Canice's Church last Sunday morning, his Grace the Archbishop, in referring to the new convent of Mercy, said, 'it was not only an ornament to the town, but a credit to the devoted Sisters of Mercy, and the Catholic body of Westport.' His Grace also highly eulogised the good Sisters for their zeal, piety and charity and the sacrifices they made in the cause of education.

The great importance of giving our Catholic children a religious education was strongly impressed upon the congregation by the Archbishop at St. Canice's Church last Sunday morning. His Grace said that it was absolutely necessary that the young should be well grounded in the holy Faith, especially at the present time when society was impregnated with infidelity.