

At the Academy of Music, Gisborne, a most successful concert was given recently by the pupils of St. Mary's Convent. There was a large attendance. The programme opened with a chorus by the pupils entitled, 'Come birdie, come,' which was given in excellent style. The pianoforte duet, 'Prince Imperial,' played by Misses Barry, Wyllie, K. Martin, and M. Martin, was a splendid item, the young ladies being heartily applauded. The violin selection played by Misses L. Power and D. Booth was a pleasing number, as also was the song by a number of the junior pupils. Misses Martin, Maynard, and Nicholson (2) contributed a pianoforte duet, and Miss L. Power created a favorable impression with a violin solo, 'Carnival de Venice.' The second part of the programme opened with a pianoforte duet by Misses Liddell, Somervell, Currie, and Solvander, and was of special merit. A capital item was the recitation, 'The spider and the fly,' given by Miss D. Martin, who has promise of becoming a clever elocutionist. Miss D. Booth was deserving of much praise for her violin solo, 'American airs,' and Miss E. Law gave a charming rendering of 'The carnival,' for which she received rounds of applause. Other excellent items were pianoforte solo, 'Chopin's Nocturne, op. 62,' by Miss Liddell, and 'The fisherman's hornpipe,' by the pupils. Intermingled in the programme was a cantata of three scenes, entitled 'Too bad,' and the acting of the young people (says the local paper) elicited much applause. The characters were represented by the following: Misses L. Power, E. Law, N. Martin, P. Maynard, and K. Martin. An appropriate chorus by the pupils, entitled 'Good night,' closed a most successful concert, and the Sisters of St. Mary's Convent are to be congratulated upon the result.

At a general meeting of the Otago Agricultural and General Laborers' Union on Saturday, Mr. Vernon (vice-president) presented Mr. J. A. Scott (president) with a handsomely-framed illuminated address, expressive of the feelings of the Union, and with a very serviceable travelling rug. Mr. Vernon, in making the presentation, made eulogistic reference to the very valuable services their president had rendered in the formation and carrying on of the Union since its inception, and stated that the success of their Union was largely due to the services rendered by Mr. Scott as president. Mr. Scott said that when he came to the meeting he had no idea that such a surprise would be sprung upon him. He assured them that he felt really proud of their beautiful gifts. As a Union they had always been a particularly happy family. From their formation until the present time they had never at any of their meetings had the slightest trace of unpleasantness or discord of any kind. Their kind gifts would serve as a memento therefore of their pleasant gatherings, of their friendly intercourse, and of the mutual confidence and respect which that intercourse had developed amongst them.

DIocese OF AUCKLAND

(From our own correspondent.)

October 8.

Special services to commemorate the opening of St. Benedict's, after the new internal improvements, were held last Sunday morning and evening. His Lordship the Bishop was present at the 11 o'clock Mass and at Vespers. The Bishop expressed his great pleasure at seeing their fine church at last finished internally. It was a credit to the great energy of Father Gillan and to his people. A debt still remained upon the improvements, and he hoped that by their generosity this would soon be cleared off. Rev. Father Gillan also spoke, and urged upon all those who had not already contributed to do so. A sum of £40 was received. The total cost of the improvements amounts to £400, of which £200 have been already subscribed. The choir, aided by an excellent orchestra, rendered in fine style Gounod's 'Messe Solennelle.' The Rev. Father Benedict, O.P., preached after Vespers, and also expressed gratification at the splendid appearance the church presented. The energetic parish priest, Father Gillan, solicits subscriptions from all those disposed to help a good work.

At St. Patrick's last Sunday afternoon the children renewed their baptismal vows. Although the weather was inclement there was a large muster of children. In the evening a procession of the Blessed Sacrament took place, in which the confraternities and the children joined. Four of the Marist Brothers bore the canopy. The choir, under Mr. P. F. Hiscocks, rendered the music most admirably.

At the gathering in honor of the seventh anniversary of the Right Rev. Lenihan's consecration, it is intended to present him with a motor car. It has been ordered from New York, and is due by the next inward 'Frisco' mail steamer. It will cost £300, the whole of which sum has been collected entirely by the Rev. Father Paterson, Adm.

The committee which is organising the bazaar in aid of the Sisters of Mercy is working assiduously to make it a success. It opens on Saturday, November 7, in the Federal Hall, and will be preceded by a garden party on Saturday, 31st inst., in the convent grounds of St. Mary's, Ponsonby.

The pupils of the Marist Brothers' school, Pitt street, intend holding an entertainment shortly for which they are at present rehearsing.

The superiority of the San Francisco mail route was clearly demonstrated this week. The Suez mail left London on August 28, and the 'Frisco' mail on September 5, both mails arrived in Auckland last Sunday within an hour of each other. The Takapuna took them south. The 'Frisco' mail should arrive in Wellington on the day it was due in Auckland.

A social conducted by the Guard of Honor, St. Patrick's parish, and which terminated the series of the season, was held in the Hibernian Hall last evening, and was a most unqualified success. The hall was tastefully decorated, and the attendance was exceptionally good. The committee of ladies, who worked so hard, not only now but throughout the season, is deserving of the highest commendation for its zeal and devotedness.

Waimate

(From our own correspondent.)

October 12.

The enthusiasm shown in Hibernian circles in Timaru has evidently reached Waimate. At a meeting on Monday evening of the St. Patrick's branch, Waimate, there was a large attendance of members, who came to do honor to twenty new members who were to be initiated. The president (Bro. A. Harriss) occupied the chair. The chaplain, Rev. Father Regnault, and Rev. Father Aubrey were also present. After the initiation ceremony was over the Rev. Father Regnault thanked the members for attending. He was very pleased to be at the meeting, and rejoiced at the gathering. He hoped the members would never regret the step they had taken. The Rev. Father Aubrey and Bro. Harriss also spoke. Bro. Corrigan, on behalf of the newly-elected members, thanked the branch for the kind reception given. After the meeting was formally closed refreshments were handed around. The following vocal, instrumental and other items were given during the evening:—Song, Bro. McAleer; jigs, Bros. Twomey, Cooney, McAleer, and McDonough; instrumental items, Bro. D. Kennedy, and Rev. Father Aubrey. The members initiated all come from the Malvern district, a deputation from the Waimate branch having waited on them about three weeks ago, with the result that 23 names were procured, with a hope of getting about another 12. Another deputation go to Makikihi at the end of the month to see what success awaits them there. The branch is now about 60 strong, and is in a good financial position. It is hoped to double this number before another year is out.

St. Patrick's College, Scholarships

An important notice with reference to scholarships at St. Patrick's College, Wellington, appears in this issue. Two scholarships of the yearly value of £25 each, tenable for four years, and two scholarships of the yearly value of £25 each, tenable for two years, will be offered for competition in December. These scholarships are open to all Catholic boys attending the parochial schools of the Colony. In the former case candidates must be under the age of 14 on the first day of January next, and in the latter under the age of 16. The examination will be held at centres to suit the general convenience of candidates, who must make application before November 10. Further particulars will be found in our advertising columns.

Dr. E. O'Neill has removed to 232 George street, Dunedin....

Messrs. James Shand and Co., wine and spirit merchants and general importers, Christchurch, are agents for most of the principal lines of Scotch and Irish whiskies and French brandies....

Kaitangata coal is sold by all coal merchants in Dunedin, and is a favorite with housewives, who are well acquainted with its excellent qualities....

The Record cycle, on sale by Messrs. Cook, Howlison and Co., George street, Dunedin, is described as the gem of the market. The Jubilee cycle (built to order) is an excellent machine at £14 10s, whilst the firm will supply motor cycles at £50 and upwards....

IT WILL PAY YOU
TO GET A

MASSEY-HARRIS BICYCLE.

DEY & STOKES, Agents, 121A George St., DUNEDIN.