

Ceremony of Profession

(From our Auckland correspondent.)

On March 7, the Feast of St. Thomas of Aquin, at St. Mary's Convent, Ponsonby, the ceremony of profession took place during Mass, which was celebrated by his Lordship Dr. Cleary at 7.30 a.m. The young ladies who took the final step by making their vows were:—Miss Margaret McBride, Maitland (in religion Sister M. Gabriel); Miss Ruth Hanson, Rimu, Hokitika (Sister M. Vincent), and Miss Elizabeth Byrne, Courtown Harbor, County Wexford, Ireland (Sister M. Malachy). The convent choir rendered with devotional feeling the different portions of the Mass, and the psalms and chants incidental to the ceremony, terminating with the 'Te Deum' in full choir. Monsignor Brodie, V.G., was present in the sanctuary, also Rev. Father O'Doherty (master of ceremonies), Rev. Fathers Cahill, Furlong, Ormond, Clark, O'Malley, and Carran, and Chancellor Holbrook. On the conclusion of the religious ceremony, the Sisters, headed by the cross-bearer, filed in procession with lighted tapers through the sanctuary to the convent, where breakfast was served to the visitors. In the afternoon Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was given, and a special hymn in honor of the patronal feast of the Angel of the Schools was intoned.

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Invercargill

(From our own correspondent.)

March 16.

At the 8 o'clock Mass yesterday the members of the Hibernian Society approached the Holy Table in a body, and there was a large number present.

The local branch of the Hibernian Society entertained the conductor and members of the Hibernian Band at a smoke social on Tuesday last in Ashley's Hall. Past President Bro. Pound occupied the chair, and there was a large gathering present, including his Worship the Mayor. The chairman proposed the toast of 'Our guests,' which was enthusiastically honored. The usual toasts were honored, and several elocutionary and musical items were rendered. Quite a feature of the evening was the speech made by Mr. James Collins in proposing 'Ireland, a Nation,' and at the conclusion of the speech, those assembled sang lustily 'A toast to Erin.' Altogether the function was a most successful one and Conductor Wills and his men were much pleased.

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