

### The Plight of the Belgian Nuns

His Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne (the Most Rev. Dr. Carr) has received the following letter, which throws an interesting light on the plight of the unhappy nuns of Belgium, on the need for help, and on the profound gratitude with which assistance is received:—

Bishop's House,

St. George's Road, Southwark, S.E.

My dear Lord Archbishop, Allow a humble brother in Christ, the Auxiliary Bishop of his Eminence Cardinal Mercier, Archbishop of Malines, to send you the hearty expression of his deep and respectful gratitude for the generous assistance which your Lordship conveyed, through his Eminence Cardinal Logue, to our poor nuns in Belgium. I have the great honor to acknowledge two drafts, each of £500, for that purpose. I have already distributed a part of the first cheque. How happy and grateful they looked! There are hundreds of them in the United Kingdom, deprived of everything. Their convents and schools are burned; their spare money in many cases was found by the Germans; they had no clothes but what they were wearing at the moment of the flight. All our cloistered nuns at Malines and in some other small towns had to flee, as well as the others; it was a very sad sight to see the crowded streets and roads filled with groups of old and crippled nuns, dragged along by their younger and stronger Sisters. Rumors had been spread about the bad behaviour of the Germans towards the nuns, and the poor creatures fled for their lives and their more precious purity and integrity. I could not say how far these rumors were grounded, but the fright was tremendous. Well, my dear Lord Archbishop, your extreme kindness and generosity afford some comfort to these poor souls. I'll forward, of course, the amount of the two drafts to Cardinal Mercier, but I presumed to relieve already here in various instances the poverty of our afflicted nuns. I beg to remain, my dear Lord Archbishop, with the deepest respect, your very humble brother in Christ.

A. DEWACHTER.

Auxiliary Bishop and Vicar-General of his Eminence Cardinal Mercier.

I am the guest of the most hospitable Mgr. Amigo, Bishop of Southwark, S.E.

December 30, 1914.

### DIocese OF DUNEDIN

Mr. J. A. Macedo, who for some years had been in business in Dunedin as a Catholic bookseller, died recently in Buenos Aires. R.I.P.

Mr. F. Cullen, who had been stationed in Dunedin for some time as Receiver of Land Revenue, has been promoted to a similar position in Auckland.

In anticipation of the Feast of St. Patrick, the members of the St. Joseph's and St. Patrick's branches of the Hibernian Society approached the Holy Table at the 9 o'clock Mass on Sunday at St. Patrick's Basilica, South Dunedin.

On Sunday at St. Patrick's Basilica, South Dunedin, there was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from the last Mass until after Vespers, when there was the usual procession, followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Next Sunday the collection in aid of the distressed Belgians will be made at St. Patrick's Basilica.

On yesterday, the Feast of St. Patrick, Solemn High Mass, *Coram Episcopo*, was celebrated in St. Patrick's Basilica, South Dunedin. Rev. Father Liston (Rector of Holy Cross College, Mosgiel) was celebrant, Rev. Father Corcoran deacon, Rev. Father Falconer sub-deacon, and Rev. Father Buckley master of ceremonies. The panegyric of the National Apostle of Ireland was preached by Very Rev. Father O'Donnell (Gore). Amongst the clergy present in the sanctuary were Very Rev. Father Coffey and Rev. Father Edge, of the Auckland diocese.

Sincere regret was felt in Dunedin on Monday afternoon when the sad news was received by cable from Sydney, that his Lordship Bishop Grimes had passed away after undergoing an operation in the Lewisham Hospital. The clergy and people of Christchurch have the sympathy of the Catholics of Dunedin in the great loss they have sustained by the death of their beloved and zealous Bishop.—R.I.P.

The St. Kilda and Musselburgh stallholders, in connection with the forthcoming bazaar, in aid of St. Patrick's School, South Dunedin, held a very successful drawing-room entertainment and gift evening on Friday last, at St. Patrick's School. There was a large attendance, and the entertainment was of a high order of excellence, and every item had to be repeated. The following contributed:—Mrs. Wyatt's pupils (character songs and dances), Misses Millon (piano solo), Heffernan, Leonard, Davis, and Scott (songs), Neenie Kenny (recitation), Messrs. J. Rodden (songs), C. McKenzie (dance), and D. Fitzpatrick (cornet solo). The accompanists were Misses Heffernan and Millon. Many useful and dainty gifts were received.

A number of friends and schoolmates of Lieutenant E. Salmon, of the Hibernian Cadets, met at the Fire Station on Wednesday evening to bid him farewell on the occasion of his departure for Trentham. The Rev. Father Buckley, on behalf of a large number of friends, presented Lieutenant Salmon with a handsome wristlet watch and sovereign belt, and wished him a safe return to his home. At Messrs. Mackerras and Hazlett's, Mr. T. Hussey, on behalf of the employees, presented Lieutenant Salmon with a dressing case, fountain pen, and a case of pipes. The Green Island platoon of the National Reserve also sent a handsome cigarette holder. Sergeant H. J. Salmon, a brother of Lieutenant Salmon, left with the third reinforcements.

### CATHOLIC SEWING GUILD.

There was another very good attendance of the Catholic Sewing Guild for Belgian relief on Wednesday, and a large amount of good work was done. Donations were received from the following:—Mrs. Court, 10s 6d; March, 5s; Miss Fahey, 10s; Mrs. Brent, Mrs. Carter, Mrs. Court, Mrs. Dunne, Mrs. Frazer, Mrs. Fenton, Mrs. Hogan, Mrs. Heffernan, Miss Hegarty, Mrs. Hayes, Mrs. Hoare, Miss Lamb, Mrs. Marlow, Mrs. Mead, Miss Murphy, Miss Mullins, Mrs. Noonan, Mrs. Nelson, Mrs. J. O'Brien, Mrs. J. O'Neill, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Rodden, Mrs. Robertson, Mrs. W. Shiel, Mrs. Tonner, Miss H. Wheelan, Mrs. Young.

### DIocese OF AUCKLAND

(By telegraph, from our own correspondent.)

March 15.

Very Rev. Father Clune, C.P., is at present at Rotorua.

Rev. Father Stephenson, of Maitland, returned from his southern tour on Saturday afternoon, and leaves for Sydney to-morrow.

His Lordship Bishop Cleary was at Maketu during last week, from where he telegraphed, regretting his inability to attend the St. Patrick's Day celebrations.

Sincere regret was felt here when the sad news of the death of Bishop Grimes was received. His Lordship was well known locally, having officiated at many important ceremonies in this diocese.

A Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of Mr. B. O'Brien was celebrated at the Sacred Heart Church on Sunday morning at the request of the members of the Marist Brothers' Old Boys' Club, who attended in large numbers, and also received Holy Communion, which they offered for the repose of the soul of their late comrade. Rev. Father Murphy was celebrant of the Mass.

Mr. Frederick James Moore, one of the most ardent local Irish Nationalists, passed away suddenly last Saturday morning, while bathing at his summer resort, Waiheke Island. In connection with every Irish dele-