

speaks: 'Behold, I tell you a mystery, we shall all indeed rise again for this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. Then shall come to pass the saying that is written: death is swallowed up in victory; O grave, where is thy victory; O death, where is thy sting?' This is the hope and firm expectation that consoles us to-day, that softens the heavy blow that has fallen on this diocese. We shall rise again, and it is in our power, by co-operating with God's grace, to make our resurrection a glorious and a happy one, so that we may be reunited, never again to part from those whom we have known and loved upon earth. We are not, then, as those who have no hope, for in God's own time this happy reunion will come about.

I need hardly remind you that there is one great duty which you must not neglect. It is the duty of praying for his soul. Great, no doubt, were the graces that your late Bishop received from God; but great, also, were his responsibilities, and he may still stand in need of your help and assistance, of the help and assistance that you can afford him by your Masses and your prayers. I know and feel sure that you, with your strong Catholic belief in the efficacy of prayer for the dead, will, for the love you bear him, pour forth your prayers and supplications before the throne of God for the soul of your departed Pontiff, that the time of his purgatory may be shortened, and that he may soon be admitted to the joys of the Beatific Vision. And, though we say farewell to-day to all that is mortal of the first Bishop of Christchurch, we know that his memory will remain in benediction in the Church of this young land, in the Church which he has adorned by his virtues and helped so much by his labors. For, whether we look at him as a studious youth in the busy metropolis of the world, as a bright student at college, as a young priest working amongst the ravages of the fever in Louisiana, or as a holy and energetic Bishop devoted to his work, we always recognise his singleness of aim and purpose, and the supernatural nature of the motives that actuated him at every period of his life. And while we consign his body to the tomb, where it will fittingly rest beneath the dome of his own dear Cathedral, there to await the hour of a glorious resurrection, may his dear soul be soon received into the kingdom of the Blessed, there to reign with Christ for all eternity. Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION.

Although the whole ceremonial was impressive and mournful in the extreme, the final portions were, as may be easily imagined, the most touching. Descending in processional order from the sanctuary, the Archbishops and Bishops and other ecclesiastical dignitaries approached the casket containing the venerated remains, and upon which were placed the crozier and mitre of the departed Bishop. Taking their respective positions, the pontificating prelate, his Lordship Bishop Cleary at the foot of the coffin, his Grace the Archbishop and Very Rev. Dean Smyth, S.M., his Lordship Bishop Verdon and Right Rev. Mgr. Mackay on either side, each in turn gave the absolution, the Archbishop first, Bishop Verdon next, then Monsignor Mackay, Dean Smyth, and finally Bishop Cleary. Eight members of the Hibernian Society then reverently raised the coffin, and conveyed it to the Chapel of the Holy Souls. A dirge was sung, the last sacred rites were celebrated, and then the remains were silently lowered into the space prepared under the floor of the chapel, and deposited with the final *'Requiescat in pace.'*

As a recessional, Handel's 'Dead March' from 'Saul' was played, and thus concluded the most notable and impressive ceremony of its kind that has ever taken place in this city. It was sad and soul-stirring in its intensity, and the recollections of it will never be effaced from the minds of the present generation.—R.I.P.

MORE TRIBUTES FROM PUBLIC BODIES.

At the meeting of the Hospital Board last week the chairman, Mr. F. Horrell, referred to the loss sustained to the Catholic community by the death of Bishop

Grimes. He had been an honorable gentleman and had taken a very active interest in philanthropic work in the district. The Catholics still stood in the forefront of other denominations in regard to buildings for learning and for the relief of distress. He felt that the death of Bishop Grimes would be a loss to the whole community. He moved—'That the board convey to the Catholic community its deepest sympathy at the loss sustained by the death of his Lordship Bishop Grimes, a loss which also affected the whole community, inasmuch as he had always given the greatest assistance in any movement calculated to promote the welfare of the people.' Mrs. Wilson, in seconding the motion, said that she had been associated with Bishop Grimes on other boards and had always found him a courteous gentleman, and desirous of doing all he could to help the distressed. His death was a direct loss to the whole community. The motion was carried, the members standing.

A resolution of sympathy with the Catholic community in the death of Bishop Grimes was passed by the Canterbury Agricultural and Pastoral Association at its annual meeting last week.

At a meeting of the general committee of the Poor of Great Britain, Ireland, and Belgium relief fund, reference was made by Major Oakes to the fact that the late Bishop Grimes was a member of the committee, and had taken great interest in its work. He moved that the committee should record its regret at the death of Bishop Grimes. The motion was agreed to, all present standing.

Palmerston North

(From our own correspondent.)

I have to record with regret the death of Miss Winifred Drury, which took place on Saturday last. The deceased was but 21 years of age, and her death occurred after many months of ill-health. She had been a valued member of the choir and Children of Mary Society.—R.I.P.

In the December theory examinations of Trinity College of Music, London, the following pupils of the local Convent of Mercy were successful:—Advanced intermediate, Doris Millen. Diploma examination: Having completed the theoretical work Mrs. Goldfinch and Miss Barrie (Otaki Convent) were awarded the licentiate and associate diploma respectively, and Miss Vera Graham that of associate in singing.

Timaru

(From our own correspondent.)

March 29.

At the physical instruction camp for the training of teachers, held recently in Timaru, every attention was shown to the two Marist Brothers who attended.

At the recent horticultural show in Timaru, the first and second places for highest number of points were secured by Messrs. D. Pearce (35 points) and W. Cunningham (28 points) respectively. Both gentlemen kindly donated the value of their prizes and all their exhibits to the Belgian fund.

There was a very large congregation present on Tuesday morning last at the Solemn Requiem Mass which was celebrated for the repose of the soul of our late Bishop. Very Rev. Dean Tubman was celebrant, Rev. Father Kerley deacon, Rev. Father McDonald subdeacon, and Rev. Father Murphy master of ceremonies. The music of the Mass was rendered in a very impressive manner by the choir, assisted by Rev. Father Ainsworth, of Temuka.

The annual meeting of the Federated Catholic Clubs, to be held in Timaru, commencing on Holy Saturday morning, promises to be largely attended. In addition to the usual sections, there will be added this year for the first time a religious one, of which the inaugurator of the scheme, Rev. Brother Egbert, has been appointed judge. On Easter Sunday the delegates will be taken for a motor trip to Waimate, and every effort will be made to make their stay in Timaru enjoyable.