

simply were irresistible, and all the time they kept singing "God save Ireland." One huge red-haired son of Erin having broken his rifle, got possession of a German officer's sword, and everything that came in the way of this giant went down. I thought of Wallace. Four hundred and seventy Germans were killed and wounded, and we took seventy prisoners. Had it not been for the Irish I wouldn't be writing this, and when it comes to a hand-to-hand job there is nothing in the whole British Army to approach them. God save Ireland and Irishmen.'

DIocese OF DUNEDIN

The annual meeting of St. Joseph's Ladies' Club will be held in St. Joseph's Hall on Wednesday evening.

On Saturday last, St. Joseph's Harriers ran from St. Joseph's Hall, as the guests of Mrs. Jackson and her lady friends. The run was over the usual course adopted at the combined run, and was enjoyed by all. In the final sprint home P. O'Farrell and J. Flanagan were first and second respectively. Later on the members sat down to an excellent tea provided by the ladies. During the evening a successful entertainment was held, to which the following contributed items:—Pianoforte solo, Mrs. Burke; songs—Miss E. Murphy, Messrs. F. T. Tourell, A. Nelson, and A. Ahern; recitations—Messrs. J. O'Farrell and C. Moloney. Much of the success of the entertainment was due to the assistance given by Miss E. Murphy as accompanist. The captain thanked the ladies, especially Mrs. Jackson, for the way she had catered for the members, and also referred to her long connection with the club. On behalf of the ladies Mr. A. E. Ahern suitably replied. After three new members and one hon. member had been elected, the evening was brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem. Next Saturday the club will run from the residence of Mr. J. B. Callan, jun., Roslyn.

CATHOLIC SEWING GUILD.

At the meeting of the Catholic Sewing Guild for Belgian relief on Wednesday donations were received from the following:—Mrs. Dunne, 5s 6d; Mesdames Horne, Graham, Dunne, Hayne, Crawford, Shiel, Clark, Cumming (Arthurton), Kennedy, Brown, Meehan, Miss Connor.

BELGIAN RELIEF FUND

The following sums have been received so far by Very Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., as the result of the collection in the diocese of Dunedin for the relief of the Belgians. Other lists will be published as they come in:—

Dunedin	...	...	...	...	£134	15	0
Lawrence	...	...	...	...	86	0	3
South Dunedin	...	...	...	...	55	0	0
Gore	...	...	...	...	48	3	0
Mosgiel	...	...	...	...	20	5	6
Milton	...	...	...	...	13	3	6
Riversdale	...	...	...	...	12	12	0
Port Chalmers	...	...	...	...	11	15	9
Omakau	...	...	...	...	11	0	0

Christchurch North

April 26.

The Rev. Father Hoare, S.M., leaves on a short holiday for the West Coast on Tuesday.

Mr. Girling-Butcher, secretary and organiser of the Catholic Federation, will speak in St. Mary's on Sunday next on the aims and objects of the Federation.

Mr. McGowan, of Willowbridge, who has a New Zealand reputation as one skilled in the culture of the potato, has obtained a yield of 19 tons to the acre (says the *Timaru Herald*) from one variety, the seed of which he imported from Home.

THE BELGIANS' 'ALMA MATER'

'Nowhere is the Church more intimately identified with every form of intellectual, political, and social progress than in Belgium,' writes John G. Vance, in the *British Review*. He attributes this (says the *Sacred Heart Review*) to the enlightened policy of the Belgian Bishops in fostering a great modern University. In 1834 the undergraduates of Louvain numbered only 84; within the last year there were 3000, which is about the number of students at Cambridge University. Commenting on the great expense of maintaining the University of Louvain, which had no subsidy or grant of any kind from State, province, or commune, Mr. Vance asks, and answers, the question:

'Whence, then, does the governing body of Bishops derive the means to finance the whole University and to pay its professors? It will seem strange to many when they learn that the work is due entirely to the devotion and sacrifice of the Belgian Catholics. Rich and poor have contributed now for some eighty years to build up the University, which has been a common charge and a common burden.'

The University is 'Alma Mater' to every Belgian Catholic, 'whether he be farm laborer or barrister,' and at great personal sacrifice the work has been maintained, with the result that, we are told:

'The effect of the University on the influence and standing of the Catholic body and of the Catholic religion has been quite extraordinary. It is impossible for even the most prejudiced observer to suggest that Catholic faith and science are at variance in a country whose chief University is manned by priests and laymen, theologians, biologists, physicists, philosophers, medical men, and professors of law, all working harmoniously together, and all equally jealous in guarding the one Catholic faith. Louvain, then, is a stumbling-block of considerable magnitude to those who hate Christianity. It is also, and above all, a source of incalculable strength to the Catholic body.'

This writer does not see in the town of Louvain the resemblance to Oxford and Cambridge that some writers claim for it. It lacked the air of wealth and ease, of exclusiveness, and the old buildings of the English Universities:

'Its charm lay elsewhere. It attracted and captivated the attention of all who loved its traditions, because it stood for a mighty ideal which had been courageously pursued and fostered at the cost of many a sacrifice.'

Mr. Vance concludes his interesting paper with the hope that Louvain will once again take its place among the Universities of Europe—a hope that his readers share with him.

Waipawa

(From our own correspondent.)

The mission that is being preached by Rev. Father Grogan, C.S.S.R., in the parish is progressing most satisfactorily. The first five days are being spent in Waipukarau, where the faithful are attending the daily exercises of the mission in large numbers and with great fervor.

On Thursday evening, April 22, a meeting parishioners was held after Benediction, whereat Mr. J. Duggan, parish secretary of the Catholic Federation delivered a short address on the aims and practical working of the Federation, making special mention of the church and social hall now in course of erection at Trentham Camp, and also of the projected girls' hostel in Wellington. On behalf of the Waipukarau congregation, Rev. Father Bergin returned thanks to the speaker for his earnest and enthusiastic address.

The mission in Waipawa commences on Sunday evening, May 2.

CRUSADE OF RESCUE

We have received the following donations for Father Bans' Crusade of Rescue, London:—J. L. Field, Clifden, 10s; 'Two Orphans,' 2s.