

ceremonial. The total number confirmed on the two occasions was thus 412.

Encouraged by the conspicuous financial success, as well as the pleasurable effects, of the last 'garden party' given under its auspices, the Cathedral School Committee are getting busy in promoting another similar event the date of which is fixed for Saturday, January 20, in the spacious grounds enclosing the Cathedral and episcopal residence, which are now looking exceptionally beautiful. The afternoon and evening are to be devoted to the object, and at intervals Derry's Brass Band, one of our best local musical combinations, will perform selections. With an extensive re-building programme mapped out for the immediate future, the school committee is in need of all the assistance it is possible to offer, and in this regard its confidence in the generosity of the parishioners (whose interest in Catholic education is strongly in evidence) is certain not to be misplaced.

Very genuine sorrow is felt by the many friends and acquaintances of the late Mr. J. W. Kennedy, whose demise was announced in the last issue of the *Tablet*, and appreciation of the graceful tribute to his memory which also appeared in that journal to which he was so sincerely devoted. In his earlier years he was well known in this city, principally in his active membership of the Catholic Literary Society in its most brilliant days, under the presidency of the late Mr. W. B. Maskell. The late Mr. Kennedy, during his long term of office as sub-editor of the *Tablet*, was a real friend to correspondents, ever vigilant lest by some mischance one should drift into the 'shoals and quicksands,' an ever present danger, and a by no means impossible achievement, were watchful guidance lacking.—R.I.P.

The Christchurch Catholic Club on last Wednesday evening entertained its lady friends to an enjoyable 'social.' The president (Mr. J. R. Hayward) welcomed the guests, and the following contributed to the programme:—Vocal solos, Misses M. G. O'Connor and Nottingham, Messrs. A. MacDonald and B. Renner; instrumental quartet, Misses Ward (piano and violin), Mr. H. H. Loughman (cello), and Mr. Ward (violin); recitations, Misses A. Donnell and M. Higgins, Messrs. F. McDonald and F. Rowe; cello solo, Mr. A. C. Nottingham. Miss K. O'Connor and Mr. P. C. Angarde accompanied. Refreshments were served, and during the interval a guessing competition from clues was instituted, the objects being the names of two books and two songs, all four being correctly guessed by Miss M. Canavan, who was handed the prize by the Rev. Father Murphy. Advantage was taken of the presence of his Lordship the Bishop to present him with a cheque for £14, representing the result of the club's recent concert to aid the funds of the Cathedral School Committee. In expressing his grateful acceptance of the cheque on behalf of the committee his Lordship warmly commended the loyalty of the club members and their evident willingness to at all times assist in promoting the interests of religion and Catholic education. Very cordially thanking those who had contributed to the evening's entertainment, which had been most enjoyable, his Lordship complimented the club on its command of such talent, which in point of numbers and efficiency would be difficult to surpass.

On Sunday afternoon last (Sunday Within the Octave of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception) the open-air procession of the Blessed Sacrament (transferred for weather reasons from the Feast of Corpus Christi) was held in the grounds of the Cathedral and episcopal residence, and thence through those of the adjoining Convent of the Sacred Heart. Devotions were commenced in the Cathedral at 3 o'clock. The procession was formed of many sections, and reverently wended its way along the drives and avenues to the centre of the grounds, where Benediction was given. Reforming, the convent grounds were entered and traversed, all finally assembling on the spacious lawn of the convent before a second altar from which Benediction was given a second time. Finally the procession again entered the Cathedral for the closing impres-

sive ceremonial. The day was calm and excessively sultry, conditions, combined with the surroundings, that were ideal for the occasion. Some thousands of all ages participated in what was the most imposing spectacle yet witnessed here. Inscribed streamers, archways, banners, and bannerettes were to be seen in all directions, whilst the processional ways in the convent grounds were prettily festooned and garlanded in an elaborate manner. The altars, too, were tastefully adorned, that at the convent being uniquely featured by having two little girls so placed as to represent adoring angels. His Lordship the Bishop officiated, with the Very Rev. Father Graham, S.M., M.A., and Rev. Father O'Hare as deacon and subdeacon respectively. The Rev. Father Murphy, B.A., was master of ceremonies, the clergy of the Cathedral and St. Mary's Church assisting in the sanctuary. At the conclusion of the ceremony his Lordship the Bishop spoke in grateful terms of that afternoon's splendid manifestation of faith, and very cordially thanked the many devoted workers whose excellent and effective preparations had so enhanced the really magnificent pageant in honor of our Divine Lord in the Blessed Eucharist.

DIocese OF AUCKLAND

(From our own correspondent.)

Very Rev. Father O'Connell, S.M., of Wellington, arrived in this city on Thursday. He said Mass at the Cathedral on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. During his stay he was a guest at St. Patrick's Presbytery.

Three hundred women approached Holy Communion at the Cathedral at the early Mass on last Sunday morning, in which were included the members of the Children of Mary, Guard of Honor, and Holy Family Confraternities.

At the various city and suburban churches on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception large congregations assembled, this being particularly so at the Church of the Sacred Heart, Ponsonby. The large number of communicants in the several parishes was certainly evidence of a virile faith and devotion.

In the 'knock-out' cricket competition for boys under twelve, below 4th standard, the Marist Brothers' team is doing very well. Playing Napier street, they won by 3 runs. A. McMahon and Tucker were the destroying element with the ball. Against Belmont in the 2nd round, they made 75 for 4 wickets—Pell 25, Ruddy 16. Belmont were all out for 24, A. McMahon clean bowling four batsmen with his first four balls. In the 3rd round they made 43 against Newmarket—Lack 17. Newmarket were unable to cope with the bowling of McMahon and Pell, and were all out for 13. The youngsters from Vermont street are now in the final. The senior team is to play the final in the A grade next Saturday against Mt. Eden.

At the Sacred Heart College on last Saturday evening a most interesting and instructive competition took place amongst the third and fourth form students for possession of the Hackett Medal. The Rev. Brother Benignus (Director) presided, and on his right sat Mr. P. J. O'Regan, of Wellington, who kindly adjudicated on the occasion. There were ten contestants, viz., Masters P. McQuilkin, C. McManaway, M. Graham, G. Johnson, O. Jackson, V. Mulgan, J. Rankin, B. Goldwater, B. Howe, and A. Cheater. The subjects for competition were (1) prepared subject, (2) recitation or poem, and (3) impromptu speech, each contestant engaging in all three. The subjects were wide and varied, and were delivered in the order of the students' names given above. The impromptu subject was 'Sport.' At the conclusion Mr. O'Regan said that where all had acquitted themselves so well his task of singling out the winner was no easy one. The talent displayed was a credit to the students engaged and to their tutors, the good Brothers. He prophesied that many of them were destined to play important parts in the various walks of life to which they may be assigned. He was