

Mayo, where he was born in 1852. 'Having emigrated to Australia in boyhood,' says the *Catholic Who's Who*, 'he was apprenticed to a civil engineer at Melbourne, and here the future torpedo of England's navy was first conceived in the mind of its inventor when he was but twenty-two.' From that time until he was thirty-five, when the invention was purchased by the War Office, he was working night and day to bring it to perfection, and interest naval and military authorities in its power and potentialities.

He once made the rather curious confession (says the *Catholic Herald*) that as an inventor he was a pessimist. He worked away at his inventions, he remarked, until they became too strong for him, and he was convinced in spite of himself. Mr. Brennan has long been of opinion that the railway of the future must consist of a single rail, and for the sake of cheapness this rail must be laid on the ground, rather than overhead, which was his first idea. He has told how he came to apply the gyroscope to his mono-rail car. He gleaned the idea from some gyroscope toys which he saw a pedlar selling in Cannes, and evolved his plan from one which he purchased. Mr. Brennan resides at Gillingham, near Chatham.

DIocese OF DUNEDIN

On Sunday—the feast of the Patronage of St. Joseph—there was Solemn High Mass at St. Joseph's Cathedral at 11 o'clock. Rev. Father Corcoran was celebrant, Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., deacon, and Rev. Father Scanlan subdeacon. The occasional sermon was preached by the Rev. Father Coffey.

The annual meeting of St. Joseph's Men's Club was held in St. Joseph's Hall on Friday evening. The Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., presided, and there was a good attendance. The committee in their review of the work of the past session expressed regret that they could not report progress in any department except the Glee Club, which had a most successful season. The attendance of members at the debates, lectures, etc., was not what it ought to be, the average number present at such meetings being about 30. Mr. T. Dechan presented the balance sheet of the hall executive, which showed that the receipts about equalled the expenditure. The debt on the hall now stands at £400. The report and balance sheet were adopted. The question of popularising the club and increasing the membership was then discussed, and as many members desired to express their views on this subject it was decided to adjourn the meeting until next Friday night.

Oamaru

(From our own correspondent.)

April 18.

Miss Annie J. Lynch, pupil of the Dominican Convent, has been successful in securing an exhibition of six guineas awarded by Trinity College, London, to the candidate gaining the highest marks in pianoforte in intermediate division. The exhibition was competed for by candidates in New Zealand, Tasmania, and Canada. This is the second exhibition won by Miss Lynch; in 1908 she carried off the junior prize of six guineas. Miss Maggie Twomey, of the same school, has also secured a national prize of £5 awarded by Trinity College to the candidate obtaining, in the same year, honors in both practical and theoretical work in the senior division.

The appeal made on behalf of Shunter H. S. Hungerford, who lost a leg in a railway accident some eight months ago, elicited a hearty response last night (says the *North Otago Times*), when a big audience gathered at the Opera House, the occasion being the repetition of Boucicault's Irish drama 'Arrah-na-Pogue.' The St. Patrick's Dramatic Club, who provided the programme, are to be commended not only for the ready manner in which they responded to the call, but for giving a performance that did all concerned considerable credit. The drama went even better than on its previous presentation by the club. There was more life in the representatives of the various characters, who were evidently more at their ease and entered with greater spirit into their work. Mr. F. J. Mulvihill, as Shaun the Post, was again the central figure, and filled all the requirements admirably. Mr. J. Birss, as Michael Feeney, 'the dirty snake' of the piece, fairly divided honors with his stage manager. On the former occasion Mr. Birss, who then made his *debut*, was distinctly good, but last night he improved upon his previous good work, and displayed an aptitude for the delineation of character of a by no means agreeable description. Messrs. T. Ford (Colonel Bagenal O'Grady) and C. H. Molloy (Beamish McCoull) both achieved large measures of success, and Messrs E. J. Barry (Major Coffin), P. C. Corcoran (Lord William

Duff), J. P. Cagney (Sergeant O'Sheridan), and J. McKenzie (Paul Winterbottom) were equal to their allotted tasks. Mrs. Mulvihill, as Arrah Meelish (Arrah-na-Pogue), supported the weight devolving upon her well, never overdoing the part, which offers allurements in that direction, but being natural throughout. Miss K. Hannon spoke her lines well as Fanny Power, and moreover looked the character. The remainder of those included in a long cast lent capable assistance, and the incidental songs and dances helped to make the performance go with a good swing. To the drama was added a short musical interlude. This served to introduce to Oamaru Miss Mary Woods, a musician of culture, hailing from Lawrence. Miss Woods is an accomplished pianiste, and for her solo she received a redemand that permitted of no denial, and another short solo was the result. But Miss Woods is also a vocalist of a high order. She is endowed with a voice of good quality, and has been well trained in its use. To these advantages she also combines an excellent natural taste, and her singing of Tosti's 'Good-bye' was listened to with delight and its conclusion greeted with hearty applause. In response to an encore, 'Angus McDonald' was given in a manner that confirmed the good impression already created. Mr. Frank Jones contributed 'Four jolly sailormen' in good style, and responded to a redemand with 'I know two bright eyes' with good taste. Altogether the performance was worthy of the worthy occasion.

Invercargill

(From our own correspondent.)

It will interest many of your readers to know that the bazaar in aid of the Dominican Convent, Bluff, will take place in the first week of May. The winning numbers of the principal prizes will be published in the *Tablet* soon after the close of the bazaar.

The annual meeting of the Invercargill Catholic Club will take place during the week. The committee has a very favorable report and balance sheet to present to members.

A social gathering will be held in Ashley's Hall on Wednesday in aid of the bazaar which is to be held shortly for the purpose of raising funds to improve the convent grounds.

Mr. Frank S. Byrne has been transferred from the Invercargill to the Wellington branch of the N.Z. Clothing Factory. During his stay here Mr. Byrne took a prominent part in most of our Catholic societies. He was treasurer of the local branch of the Hibernian Society, a vice-president of the Hibernian Band, and also of the Athletic Football Club, and was on the directorate of the Irish Athletic Society. Mr. Byrne takes with him the best wishes of a large circle of friends in Invercargill.

DIocese OF AUCKLAND

(By Telegraph from our own correspondent.)

April 18.

The bazaar in aid of the Marist Brothers' primary schools closed last Thursday evening, after a most successful season of three weeks. Those who had been connected with it had labored untiringly during the whole of the period. It is expected that over £600 will be netted. During the last few days the rooms were cleared, and this morning school duties were resumed.

Last evening the Rev. Father Holbrook preached at the Cathedral, and reminded the congregation that on this day three years ago the sacred edifice was opened, and they had with them then their beloved Bishop, who was overjoyed at the magnificence and completeness of the work—the building and completion of this fine church. Since then their beloved Bishop had been taken from them, but his work would remain a lasting memorial. To his priests and people it was consoling that his remains should rest in the shades of the Cathedral and amongst the people for whom he did so much, and whom he loved so dearly. Father Holbrook also referred to the presence on that occasion of the Very Rev. Father Clune, C.S.S.R., who preached both morning and evening. He, too, had left them, but to minister in another portion of God's vineyard, and for him their prayers and best wishes would be freely offered, because he had done incalculable good work for the people of this Cathedral parish.

The *Auckland Star*, commenting upon the political crisis at Home, and the vituperation with which the Irish Nationalists are assailed by the Unionists, says:—'We may remind them that the records of English government in Ireland have in past years been constantly stained by deeds that, judged by any known standard of public or private morality, were criminal in the highest degree; that if any of the Nationalists or their allies are or ever have been England's enemies, sufficient reason is to be found in the annals of England's tyranny over Ireland, and it is the most palpable hypocrisy to brand as disloyal the efforts of a brave, patriotic people to assert their right to manage their own affairs. Looking back on our shameful record of