

The special certificate of the Royal Academy of Music has been awarded to Miss Crowther, who has been successful in passing the lower and higher division (school examinations), also the intermediate and advanced grade (local centre) for violin playing. Miss Crowther, who is the first in the district to get such honors, received her whole course of training from the Sisters of Mercy at the local convent.

Recently sixteen young ladies were received into the sodality of the Children of Mary, the Ven. Archpriest Walshe officiated at the ceremony.

## DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

June 26.

The annual social gathering in connection with St. John's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society was held on last Wednesday evening week in the Southbridge Town Hall, when there was a good attendance of members and visitors.

There was First Communion of the children at St. Michael's Church, Hornby, at the Mass celebrated by the Rev. Father Hoare, S.M., at 9.30 a.m., on last Sunday week, when twenty-one children approached the Holy Table. They were entertained at breakfast by the ladies of the congregation.

At Mass, celebrated on the feast of Corpus Christi in the Church of St. John the Evangelist, Leeston, by the Rev. Father Taylor, S.M., twenty-one children made their First Communion, and were afterwards entertained by the Sisters of the Missions at breakfast. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was given at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, and among the devotions was the renewal of baptismal vows by the children. There were large congregations.

Playing in the junior flag Rugby football competition on last Saturday, the Marist Brothers' Old Boys easily defeated Canterbury College on the grounds of the latter by 26 points to 3. Tries were scored for the winners by Mills (4), O'Malley, and Doherty, Bree, Mahoney, O'Malley, and Woodham converting. Playing on the Old Boys' ground in the fourth class contest, the Marist Brothers' Old Boys' team easily defeated the High School by 24 points to 3. For the winners tries were scored by Lagan (3), McDonald (2), and McCormack, McGreal converting two and Lagan one.

At St. Mary's Church, Christchurch North, Vespers were sung at 3 o'clock on last Sunday afternoon by the Rev. Father Dignan, S.M., followed (in honor of the Feast of Corpus Christi) by an imposing procession of the Blessed Sacrament, in which the sodalities and societies of the parish participated. His Lordship the Bishop preached an impressive discourse and officiated at Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The Rev. Fathers Hoare, S.M., and Quinn, S.M., were in attendance, and there was a crowded congregation.

The feast of St. John the Baptist, patronal feast of the diocese and of his Lordship the Bishop, was observed in the Cathedral on Sunday last. At 11 o'clock Solemn Pontifical High Mass was celebrated by his Lordship the Bishop, the Rev. Dr. Kennedy being assistant priest, the Rev. Father Quinn, S.M., deacon, Rev. Father Haurahan subdeacon, and Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., master of ceremonies. Prior to briefly addressing the congregation on the Epistle of the day, his Lordship gave a statement of the present financial position of the Cathedral liabilities. When speaking on the subject at this time last year (said the Bishop) the principal amount owing then was £12,668 1s 1d, during the year intervening, together with paying up the interest (itself a considerable item) the debt has been reduced to £8968 1s 5d. This, continued his Lordship, is exceedingly satisfactory, for which he expressed gratitude to the devoted priests who had helped him in the collection of subscriptions, the diocesan clergy, religious communities, and all who had so generously subscribed. His Lordship imparted the Papal and episcopal blessing. The music was efficiently rendered by the choir, Mr. A. W. Bunz at the organ. The sanctuary and high altar were as usual on festival occasions tastefully adorned, together with the chapel of St. John the Baptist, and in the evening brilliantly illuminated. Solemn Vespers, in the presence of his Lordship the Bishop, were sung by the Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., attended by the Rev. Dr. Kennedy and Rev. Father Haurahan. The occasional sermon was preached by the Rev. Father McDonnell from the text: 'There was a man sent by God.' His Lordship the Bishop pontificated at Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. There was again a large congregation.

Anticipating, through force of circumstances, by a few days, the feast-day of his Lordship the Bishop, an artistic and most enjoyable entertainment in honor of the event was given in St. Joseph's schoolroom on last Wednesday afternoon by the pupils of the Sisters of the Missions. His Lordship was accompanied by a number of the clergy, and there was a crowded audience, among whom were Messrs. Foster and Brock, and Dr. Denham, inspectors of the North Canterbury Board of Education. The following programme was rendered in excellent style, and earned the plaudits and warm compliments of the visitors:—Duet, 'Old measure,' Misses. M. Turner, M. Mathers, J.

Poff, P. Turner, V. Wilson, V. Berry, K. Haydon, A. Steward (harmonium), T. Mannion; 'Festal song and presentation,' pupils; 'Prologue,' Miss B. Murphy. The drama, 'Joan of Arc,' was very efficiently enacted with characteristic dressing, and all stage effects. Those taking part in it were Misses A. Payne, N. Cronin, C. Wildey, E. Murphy, V. McGee, R. Mahon, C. Brown, L. McArthur, E. McGrath, G. Wilson, K. O'Brien, K. O'Connor, W. Madden, A. Erek, F. Squire, R. Bradford, N. Cronin, H. Doherty, T. Nelson, G. Jarman, A. McCormack, P. H. Horan. Between the scenes the following musical selections were rendered by the pupils:—Quartet and solo, 'Ave Maria,' Miss C. Wildey, Miss V. Brick (violin), Miss M. Higgins (piano), Miss K. Haydon (harmonium); duet, 'Russian fete,' Misses A. Erek, C. Mellroy, C. Brandon, R. Mahon, G. Wilson, M. Rainton, G. Baker, M. Edwards, K. Haydon (harmonium); instrumental selection, 'Irina,' Misses V. Erek and W. Brick (violins), Miss S. Ansen (harp), Miss C. Erek (harmonium), Miss M. Higgins (piano); action song, 'The trunants, junior pupils; instrumental selection, 'Under the lattice,' Misses W. Brick and V. Erek (violins), Miss S. Ansen (harp), Miss C. Erek (harmonium), Miss M. Higgins (piano); chorus, 'Whispering hope,' the pupils; instrumental selection, 'Maypole dance,' Misses W. Brick and V. Erek (violins), Miss M. Higgins (harmonium), Miss C. Erek (piano); song, with instrumental accompaniment, 'O dry those tears,' Miss W. Brick, Miss V. Erek (violin), Miss M. Higgins (harmonium), Miss C. Erek (piano); duet, 'The carnival,' Miss C. Erek, C. Kiddy, F. Storey, G. McGrath, A. Payne, N. Cronin, M. Higgins, and M. Wall. The entertainment terminated with the singing of 'God save the King.' After the first item his Lordship the Bishop was presented on behalf of the Sisters of the Missions with two costly sets of reversible vestments, beautifully worked. In the course of an address his Lordship very cordially thanked the Sisters for their thoughtful and useful gift, and also for the evident successful efforts made in training the pupils who had so well distinguished themselves in the varied and artistic programme given that afternoon. He warmly congratulated the young performers, especially the junior pupils, the efforts of the whole being the more praiseworthy, seeing that the preparations were made in their leisure time, and quite apart from the ordinary school tuition.

## Timaru

(From our own correspondent.)

Mr. B. Moriarty, who has made such a success of the great church now being erected here, last week entered into partnership with Mr. T. Y. Lusk, A.R.I.B.A. The *Timaru Herald* in commenting on the new firm says:—'Mr. Lusk, who has had extensive Home and Dominion experience, is an associate of the Institute of British Architects, and is thoroughly in touch with all branches of his profession. Mr. Moriarty is well known to South Canterbury as a building surveyor. Under his care the Canterbury Farmers' magnificent buildings were erected, and his experience as the superintendent for the new Catholic church now nearing completion, has given him a thorough knowledge of the handling of large buildings. He has had a varied experience, being in charge of work at, among many others, St. Mary's final additions, Assembly Rooms additions, Dalgety's additions, Hay's Buildings, and a large number of private dwellings, one of which, Craigmore, deserves special mention. The additions to the Catholic Girls' School, which have come in for so much favorable comment, were designed and executed by him. The new firm, by their joint personnel, are prepared to design and construct any class of building to the wishes of clients.' Mr. Moriarty, whose capabilities as a building surveyor are widely recognised, is to be congratulated on this further step in his profession.

To the thousands of sickly, rundown, nervous, full-of-pain and suffering men and women, we recommend with all honesty and confidence this true friend, 'Dr. Ensor's Tamer Juice.'

The eightieth anniversary of the birth of Mgr. Pace, Archbishop of Rhodes and Bishop of Malta, has been celebrated with great rejoicings on the island. The Governor-General, Sir Leslie Rundle, K.C.B., and Lady Rundle were present at the High Mass offered up on the occasion. The Archbishop inspected the guard of honor amidst the clapping of hands, and on his way to the palace the people wished to pull his carriage themselves, but his Grace would not permit. There were general illuminations at night.

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