

DIocese OF CHRISTCHURCH

SILVER JUBILEE OF HIS LORDSHIP
BISHOP GRIMES

REMARKABLE PROGRESS OF THE DIocese IN TWENTY-FIVE YEARS

(From our Christchurch correspondent.)

The celebrations in connection with the episcopal silver jubilee of his Lordship Bishop Grimes were continued last week, marked enthusiasm being apparent at every function. On Monday morning, his Lordship, who was accompanied by a number of visiting and resident clergy, was entertained at Nazareth House, where the children of the institution gave a very pretty and artistic musical programme, varied with other pleasing items, whilst the inmates generally entered into the rejoicings of the occasion.

In the evening the episcopal party visited Mount Magdala, and were entertained to dinner. An address was recited by one of the children of the orphanage. The Bishop replied to the children, and gave them a week's holiday. Later in the evening an address of welcome was read by one of the inmates of the institution, and a tableau presented. This was followed by a drama in seven scenes, entitled 'Pizarro,' the principals being inmates of the home. At the conclusion of the drama, Bishop Grimes and the visiting priests were entertained at supper.

On Tuesday his Lordship and visiting clergy, together with his Lordship Dr. Cleary, Bishop of Auckland, who had that morning arrived to participate in the celebrations, were entertained at dinner at St. Mary's presbytery, Christchurch.

In the afternoon a charming entertainment was given in St. Joseph's Schoolroom by the pupils of the Sisters of the Missions of the Sacred Heart Convent, Lower High street. Besides their Lordships of Christchurch and Auckland, a large number of clergy were in attendance, and also a crowded audience of friends of the Sisters and children. The following excellent programme was presented:—Duet, 'O'er hill and dale,' Misses G. Stewart, M. Murphy, J. Poff, I. Huoks, M. Mather, V. Wilson, C. O'Malley, M. Neale, harmonium—D. Bradford; jubilee greeting (with tableau); drama—'May Brooke's Trials,' Misses B. Fanning, K. O'Connor, E. Moloney, R. Buchanan, I. Bradford, E. Cronin, K. Redmond; instrumental selection—'Divertiments,' violins—Misses W. Brick, C. Coakley, E. Poff, V. Isherwood, K. Murphy, piano—Miss A. Payne, 'cello—Miss R. Isherwood, harp—Miss S. Ansen, harmonium—Miss K. Haydon; chorus, 'Village minstrels,' junior pupils; duet, 'Marche des tambours,' Misses K. Haydon, A. Payne, C. McElroy, C. Bell, E. Poff, G. Baker, M. Wall, S. Dromgool; action, 'The mosquito,' junior pupils; instrumental selection, 'Melodie d'amour,' violins—Misses W. Brick, C. Coakley, E. Poff, V. Isherwood, P. Badham, K. Murphy, 'cello—Miss R. Isherwood, harp—Miss S. Ansen, harmonium—Miss M. Mills, piano—Miss A. Payne; chorus, 'The mermaid's song,' senior pupils; 'cello solo, 'Priere,' Miss R. Isherwood; song, 'One word, mother,' junior pupils; instrumental selection, 'Melody,' violins—Misses E. Poff, W. Brick, C. Coakley, V. Isherwood, K. Murphy, 'cello—Miss R. Isherwood, harmonium—Miss K. Haydon, piano—Miss A. Payne; duet, 'Marche militaire,' Misses N. Murphy, R. Mahon, M. Strouts, N. McGurk, M. O'Malley, G. Wilson, M. Murphy, E. Poff; finale, 'God defend New Zealand,' pupils. A feature of the entertainment was a unique presentation, consisting of a 'joy bell,' covered with gold and silver coins, representing a considerable amount. His Lordship Bishop Grimes, in kindly and appreciative terms, thanked the children for their beautiful and generous gift, and warmly congratulated their teachers and pupils on their most enjoyable entertainment. To mark the event, his Lordship added an extra week to the midwinter vacation, which at a later stage had still another week added by his Lordship Bishop Cleary

who, in an address of an aptly humorous nature, quite captivated his young hearers, and greatly delighted the audience generally. Subsequently the episcopal party were the guests of the community.

In the evening the Cathedral was illuminated as on the previous Sunday, and at seven o'clock the combined meeting of the arch-confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament was addressed by the Rev. Father Coffey, Adm. (Dunedin), who gave an impressive discourse on the subject of the Blessed Eucharist and the doctrine of the Real Presence.

At the episcopal residence on Wednesday the Bishop was entertained by the diocesan clergy at dinner. The toast of his Lordship was proposed by the Very Rev. Dean Hills, S.M., V.G. His Lordship the Bishop in responding proposed the toast of his Lordship Bishop Cleary, coupled with that of Mr. Martin Kennedy, Wellington, each of whom responded. A large number of visiting and diocesan clergy was present.

Soon after seven in the evening members of St. Patrick's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society mustered in large numbers in regalia, and with the full strength of the Marist Brothers' School Cadets formed a guard of honor from the episcopal residence to the street. On his Lordship's appearance he was greeted with very hearty cheers. Accompanied by Bishop Cleary, his Lordship took his seat in the splendid equipage provided. The Hibernians and cadets, headed by the Stanmore Band, escorted the episcopal carriage through the main streets to the Olympia Rink. On either side of the carriage were outriders in livery, and what was really a triumphal progress was witnessed all along the route by closely packed spectators, whilst a large crowd had also assembled at the starting point. At the Olympia the guard of honor was reformed. The whole turnout was most creditable to those concerned, and gave most unmistakable evidence of loyalty, affection, and religious fidelity.

Within the Olympia there was an immense gathering, well towards 3000 persons being present. Viewed from the platform, the great crowd presented a wonderful spectacle, and as a public tribute of the citizens it evidently made a deep impression on his Lordship. On the episcopal party entering, the vast assemblage at once rose and remained standing until the Bishops reached their seats. An exceptionally fine concert, of which the following was the programme, was then commenced:—'Overture, 'Semiramide,' Orchestral Society; song, 'A song of faithfulness,' Miss Vera Humphries; song, 'The ringers,' Mr. Farquhar Young; scena, 'Jewel song' ('Faust'), Mrs. Gower Burns; instrumental trio, 'Elegy and final movement (Arensky), Mrs. Roy Twyneham (violin), Mrs. R. Carey (piano), Mr. H. H. Loughnan ('cello). Part 2.—Intermezzo, 'Jours passes,' Orchestral Society; song, 'A song of thanksgiving,' Mr. George March; duet, 'Nocturne,' Miss Daisy Parsons and Miss Vera Humphries; songs, (a) 'Prelude (From the "Cycle of Life"),' (b) 'Nymphs and fawns,' Mrs. Gower Burns; recitation, 'Being lonesome,' Mr. Farquhar Young. Mrs. Percival Smith acted as accompanist.

The services of all who contributed to the programme were given gratuitously. It was not alone a rich musical treat, but also one of the most striking features of the celebration. The committee are deeply indebted to the firms of Messrs. A. J. White for so completely furnishing the front portion, and seating the great building throughout, and Messrs. Turnbull and Jones for the magnificent electrical illuminations at the Cathedral.

The Convent, Barbadoes street, was beautifully illuminated on the departure of the episcopal party to the Olympia, every window in the large building being lighted.

Among those present were the Right Rev. Dr. Cleary (Bishop of Auckland), Very Rev. Deans Regnault, S.M. (Provincial), O'Shea, S.M., V.G. (Wellington), Smyth, S.M. (Rector St. Mary's Seminary, Greenmeadows), Power (Hawera), Tubman, S.M. (Timaru), Hills, S.M., V.G. (Christchurch), Carew, S.M. (Greymouth), Hyland (Rangiora), Rev. Fathers Coffey, Adm. (Dunedin), Very Rev. Father Price,