

cannot reproduce the glacier for our readers. No doubt one of these days he will make a film representing our tour, thither and back, with the intention of showing it to his friends. A reward will be offered to anybody who brings us convincing proof that he has stolen or destroyed the said film. That, however, is by the way. The fine weather that made our visit to the glacier a golden day continued on our way back to Ross, where, after seeing Ianthe, Mapourika, and Waihapu at their best, we arrived, behind our weary Rosinante, two days before Christmas. Our Yuletide was spent in Grey-mouth, where we saw the fine church filled with our good friends for the Midnight Mass. Then, reluctantly, on Boxing Day, with the soft rains falling, we climbed the Otira and went down once more to the monotonous plains on the hither side of wonderland. We bear with us a lasting memory of two things for which one must go to the West—the unrivalled scenery and the warm welcome that two Irish *sagarts*—Sinn Feiners both—met with all the way from Nelson to Waiho. A last word now: we censured the present member for West-land, and we hope the censure will be continued until bridges are built along that lovely road which a moderate expenditure would make fit for a regular motor service, advantageous to tourists like ourselves, but a hundred times more so to the farmers who are so neglected by a Government that can find thousands to squander whenever the wowsers will it; and to that censure we add another for the Tourist Department, which does so little to encourage visitors to see the grandest and loveliest scenery in the world.

A TRIBUTE TO CONVENT MUSICAL TRAINING.

In its comments on the recent concert given by the Christchurch Orchestral Society, a local daily paper has this to say of the artistic ability of a young Catholic performer:—“The young performer to whom was allotted the heroic task of soloist was Miss Agnes Lawlor, a pianist of force and temperament, with wonderful powers of both tone and execution. In the beautiful middle movement her close fingering passages were the perfection of graceful accuracy, constituting the most finished portion of her performance, although her virile grasp of the whole concerto (Tschaiakowsky's first pianoforte “Concerto”) was equally admirable from the point of view of musical mentality. This girl of 21 has the material from which eminent soloists are made, and when, with further development, the deeper side of her art becomes more in evidence, she will add one more to the list of executants of whom New Zealand may be justly proud.” Miss Lawlor studied for eight years under the Sisters of St. Joseph, Waimate, and subsequently under Mr. A. J. Bunz, organist and choirmaster of the Catholic Cathedral, Christchurch.

INSTITUTE OF NOTRE DAME DES MISSIONS, CHRISTCHURCH.

The Sisters of the Institute of Notre Dame des Missions, Christchurch, have just received from Canada the sad news of the death of Rev. Mother M. St. Gabriel (Margaret McCormick, of Ashburton), who left the Provincial Mother House and Novitiate, in Christchurch, just 15 years ago, to join the community of her Order in that Dominion. We extract the following additional particulars from our Canadian exchanges regarding the deceased religious:—

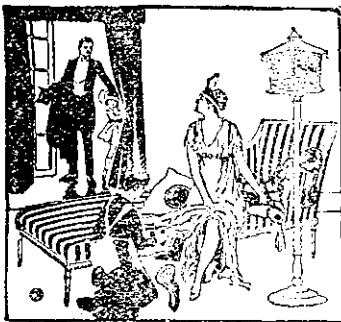
The Sisters of St. Michael's Academy have suffered a severe loss in the death of their beloved sister in religion, Rev. Mother M. St. Gabriel, who passed away on Sunday evening, November 1. Mother St. Gabriel had worked in Brandon as principal of the High School studies for the past eight years. She was beloved by all who came in contact with her, both children and parents, and the whole parish feels the severe loss of her death. Since her arrival in Canada she has been to many missions of the Order, and founded the Sacred Heart Academy, Régina, in 1905, and St. Edward's School, Winnipeg, in 1900.

Mother St. Gabriel gave her lessons as usual on Friday, October 31, also gave painting and music lessons until 6 o'clock, a proof of her zeal and unlimited devotedness, which were the principal traits of her character. She then complained of being tired, although she rarely made any complaint. Her illness rapidly assumed an acute form, and pneumonia setting in, she passed peacefully away as above stated. To all who had the good fortune to meet her, the memory of this deeply-revered religious, who labored so long and devotedly in Canada, will long endure. Solemn Requiem Mass for the repose of her soul was celebrated at St. Augustine's Church on Tuesday, November 2, after which the funeral proceeded to Brandon Cemetery, where the interment took place.—R.I.P.

There was a profession ceremony in the convent chapel on January 6, when four Sisters made their first vows and three perpetual vows. His Lordship the Bishop presided, and was assisted by Very Rev. Dr. Kennedy, Adm.; the Rev. Father J. Hanrahan, Rev. Father Andersen, and Rev. M. Klimeck being present in the sanctuary. His Lordship preached a beautiful sermon, comparing the three vows to the offerings of the Magi.

In Spain 192 Catholic Labor unions for men, and 43 for women, recently held a congress at Madrid. More than 60,000 workers were represented. They founded a national federation of Catholic unions.

Westminster Cathedral in London is the seat of two new activities. On Thursday evenings in the Cathedral itself there is given a series of lectures on Catholic doctrine of an explanatory nature, which are becoming popular with non-Catholics. On Wednesdays in the Cathedral Hall a number of men and women gather for training as public speakers on the Catholic evidence platform, a platform erected in the public parks and in town halls, where the laity can take the lead.



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