

ner to Father O'Malley on Sunday, 10th inst., in the Avondale Town Hall.

Father O'Carroll has arrived from Ireland, and has been appointed curate at Te Aroha.

Father Wright, before leaving Waihi to take charge of Ponsonby parish, was tendered a valedictory social on Friday, April 8. A presentation of a purse of sovereigns was made to him by Mr. G. Ritchie, Town Clerk, who referred to Father Wright's popularity and his great work on behalf of the poor.

After the 11 o'clock Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday, April 11, Mr. Leo Whittaker, late conductor of the Cathedral choir, was presented by Father Forde with a cheque on behalf of the Bishop, priests, members of the choir, and laity of St. Patrick's, and wished him *bon voyage* and a happy return to take up his work again. Mr. Whittaker responded, and heartily thanked all his friends who during the past few weeks have heaped favors upon him.

DIocese OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

April 18.

The sum of £250 was collected at the recent opening of St. Joseph's Boys' Home. The Rev. Mother and members of the community of Sisters of Nazareth desire to convey their sincere gratitude to all who assisted to make the function such a great success.

An enjoyable social was held in the Hibernian Hall on Tuesday evening last, under the management of Mrs. Ives and Mrs. Burns, in aid of the orphanage at Middleton, and proved a financial success. Misses E. Gleeson and W. Harrington have made arrangements for a similar function with the same object in view. St. Matthews' (ladies') branch of the Hibernian Society will be specially interested in this social.

The garden fete held at Middleton on Saturday, the 9th inst., proved a successful function. During the afternoon and evening the attendance was most satisfactory. The Christchurch Tramway Band, which gave its services gratuitously, played excellent music, and Mr. Lane's electric lighting arrangements were very satisfactory. Mr. T. Cahill (secretary) made excellent arrangements for conveying patrons from the trams to the grounds. The Rink Taxis, Ltd., Messrs. Walter Clifford, M. Walls, and J. Rugg very materially assisted in this direction also.

Timaru

(From our own correspondent.)

April 18.

The Oamaru Celtic Football team played a match with the local Celtics on Anzac Square last Thursday, in the presence of a large number of spectators. After a fast and interesting game the home team won by 8 points to nil. The visitors were hospitably entertained during their stay by the Timaru Celtic Club.

The members of St. John's Tennis Club held their first social of the season on the 14th inst., when there was a large attendance. The girls' school hall was effectively decorated with red and white streamers (the club's colors) for the occasion. The social was a great success.

In view of the fact that the representative of the *Tablet* was then in Timaru, complimentary references were made at all the Masses on Sunday to our fine Catholic paper, and the parishioners were urged to support this valued journal. The *N.Z. Tablet* is considered a splendid antidote to the insidious printed matter which is being so widely disseminated; while, as a medium for conveying sound Catholic teaching and truthful intelligence on Irish and general matters, it is a publication our people cannot afford to be without.

GREY LYNN CONVENT REBUILDING FUND

Pastor and People, Waikiwi	...	...	£20	0	0
Rev. C. Harnett	...	...	10	0	0
J. F. Howard	...	...	1	0	0
"Sympathiser"	...	...	1	0	0
P. O'Connor, Christchurch	...	...	1	0	0

IRISHMEN'S POPULARITY

From London, under date February 24, Mr. John Hughes writes to the *Sydney Referee* as follows anent the England v. Ireland Rugby football match played at Twickenham. There are still some English sportsmen!

Watching the Irish match one could not help being struck by the popularity of the Irish fifteen. There was a great crowd of 40,000 English spectators, with their sympathies, naturally enough, resting with their own players; but they gave the Irishmen a tremendous reception; and no one who was there could fail to understand the motive underlying such a generous and friendly gesture. One dislikes touching in a sporting article, even in the slightest degree, on politics, but that the great mass of Englishmen are genuinely grieved at the tragedy of their sister isle, and are out of sympathy with the reprisals at present being carried on in Ireland by the British Government, no detached and impartial observer can for a moment doubt.

All through the game at Twickenham Ireland was cheered; two or three times, indeed, when the Irish forwards swept impetuously towards the English line, the cheering could not have been greater had the English and not the Irish team been the subject of it; it is indeed a thousand pities that moderate men from both sides of the Channel cannot get together and get the Irish and English nations to settle their political affairs as they settle their athletics; sport is the greatest of all solvents when feelings run high and quarrels have to be settled. English and Irishmen can play the game on the Rugger field; surely, surely, they can play it in other fields, too! That, at any rate, was the unspoken thought of thousands of Englishmen at Twickenham a fortnight ago, and lay at the back of the warm applause that greeted Erin's footballers when they took the field, and when the King shook hands with them all before the kick-off. The air was electrical—surcharged with emotion—one could not help feeling that; it was self-evident.

AMERICAN REPORT ON GOVERNMENT OF IRELAND

The report of the Washington Committee of One Hundred on the Government of Ireland has been published, and it has evidently created a great sensation (says an exchange). The members of the committee of inquiry were the most eminent men and women of America, and included statesmen, university professors, Protestant bishops, Jewish rabbis, and men of letters. The report contains 30,000 words, giving examples of British unfairness and cruelty, and declaring that the Government incited the troops to acts of violence in Ireland, killing the innocent, torturing prisoners, and destroying the means of existence of the Irish people. The report asserts that the Irish nation is a proper subject for the concern of the United States and declares that intervention is inevitable. A message from Washington states that the British Embassy has issued a statement commenting on the report, and denying its conclusions. We must remember that the British Ambassador was invited to give evidence, but he declined to do so. He also refused to issue passports to members of the Commission to visit Ireland and make investigations on the spot. England also put obstacles in the way of witnesses, and Lord Mayor O'Callaghan, of Cork, who was invited to give evidence, had to visit America as a stow-away. The Commission did not come from an Irish source. It was organised by the *New York Nation*, one of the leading intellectual weeklies of the United States, and in the personnel of the Commission the Irish element was remarkably small.

You go into the church to obtain mercy; first, show mercy. Make God your debtor, and then you may ask of Him, and receive with usury. We are not heard barely for the lifting up of our hands. Stretch forth your hands, not only to heaven but to the poor. If you stretch out your hands to the poor, you touch the height of heaven; for He that sits there receives your alms. But if you lift up barren hands, it profiteth nothing.—St. John Chrysostom.

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