

devotions on Sunday evening, the members of the choir were the guests of his Lordship the Bishop and Very Rev. Administrator at a pleasant reunion in St. Joseph's Hall, when the choir, choirmaster, and organist were cordially thanked for their devoted services during the year.

The ladies responsible for the decoration of the high altar at St. Joseph's Cathedral deserve to be complimented on their tasteful and devoted work as evidenced on Christmas Day. The "crib," as usual, was very realistically arranged, and proved a popular centre of devotion.

St. Joseph's Cathedral

At St. Joseph's Cathedral on Christmas Day Masses were celebrated continuously from 6 till 9 o'clock in the presence of large congregations, and practically the whole of those at the respective Masses approached the Holy Table. There was Pontifical High Mass at 11 o'clock. His Lordship the Bishop was celebrant; Very Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., assistant priest; Rev. Fathers Mitchell, C.S.S.R., and Spillane, deacons of honor at the throne; Rev. Fathers Kaveney and Silk deacon and subdeacon respectively of the Mass; and Rev. Father Marlow, master of ceremonies. A sermon on the subject of the day's festival was preached by Very Rev. Father Coffey. Gounod's "Messe Solennelle" was very capably rendered by the choir, Mr. A. Vallis conducting and Mr. F. Stokes being organist. As an Offertory, Novello's arrangement of the "Adeste Fideles" was sung.

In the evening after the Holy Rosary, the choir gave a sacred musical recital, when the following numbers were rendered:—Novello's arrangement of the "Adeste Fideles," choir (soloists, Mrs. Sandys, Miss A. McCreedy, Messrs. D. Fogarty and F. Heley); "Ave Maria" (Schubert), Miss A. Vallis; "Pater Noster" (Niedermayer), Mr. H. Poppelwell and choir; "Redemptor Mundi" (Mozart), Mr. F. Woods; "Ave Maria" (Hoben), Miss O'Sullivan; trio and chorus, "Credo" (Haydn), choir; "If With All Your Hearts" (Mendelssohn), Mr. M. Coughlan; "Inflammatus" (Rossini), Mrs. Sandys and choir; duet, "The Crucifix" (Fauré), Messrs. F. Heley and H. Poppelwell; "Nazareth" (Gounod), choir. Mr. A. Vallis presided at the organ and Mr. T. Hussey conducted.

His Lordship the Bishop afterwards officiated at Pontifical Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament; Rev. Fathers Lynch and Kaveney being deacon and subdeacon respectively, and Very Rev. Father Coffey, master of ceremonies. Mr. D. Fogarty sang Bordese's "O Salutaris" and Lambi-lotte's "Tantum Ergo" was given by the choir.

St. Joseph's Glee Club, Dunedin

The final meeting for the season of the above took the form of a social evening in St. Joseph's Hall on Monday, the 19th inst. During an interval in the proceedings, the chairman (Mr. J. Seymour) took the opportunity of making, on behalf of the members of the club, a presentation to the conductor (Mr. Anthony) and the accompanist (Miss M. Sandys). He remarked, *inter alia*, that the club purposed giving four concerts next season, the first of which would be in aid of the St. Vincent de Paul Orphanage. He would like to express the club's appreciation of his Lordship the Bishop's interest in the club, and notes with pleasure that his Lordship purposes attending some of the rehearsals of the operetta which will be staged for the orphanage. Mr. T. J. Anthony thanked the members for their gift, and looked forward to a successful season next year. He thanked Mr. M. Coughlan for the interest he has taken in club affairs, and stated that it was wholly owing to his endeavors that the club is now on a sound basis. Mr. Coughlan upon relinquishing the position of secretary, a position which he has held for the last three years, thanked the members for the help they have given him, and hoped that they would work together and make the forthcoming concert a huge success, as the proceeds were being devoted to a worthy object. Musical items were rendered during the evening by the following: Mrs. Coughlan, Misses Dillon, Green, Kilkeary, and Spillane, and Messrs. Seymour, Anthony, and Rodgers (songs), Misses Wilson and Metcalfe (recitations). Miss M. Sandys presided at the piano.

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Professor Dickie Criticised

(From a correspondent.)

Apropos of your comments on Professor Dickie in the *Tablet* of the 22nd inst., Mr. P. J. O'Regan made amusing references to the same gentleman when speaking on the Irish situation in the Paramount Theatre, Wellington, recently. Alluding to the cable message giving the purport of the Professor's article, Mr. O'Regan said that although the *National Review* was in some respects an interesting production, most people would agree that it was a peculiar medium for a Professor of Moral Theology to expound his views. He had not the pleasure of Professor Dickie's acquaintance, but he believed that he occupied the chair of Moral Theology at Knox College, Dunedin. By way of commentary on his statement that the policy of the Catholic Church in this country and Australia was anti-Imperialist, it was interesting to recall the fact that the first and greatest anti-Imperialist in these colonies, was a Presbyterian clergyman—if not a Professor of Moral Theology, at least a Doctor of Divinity. (Laughter.) He alluded to the Rev. John Dunmore Lang, D.D., of Sydney, who nearly seventy years since had written a book advocating an Australian Republic. So anti-Imperialist and anti-monarchical was Dr. Lang that he defended his "position" on Scriptural grounds, and Protestant principles." (Renewed laughter.) The only divinely ordained government ever known on earth he argued was a republic, the Jewish Republic founded in the wilderness of Sinai, and when at a later stage in their history, the Jews demanded a king like other nations, the Prophet Samuel rebuked them and warned them of the evils of monarchy! Nevertheless, continued Dr. Lang, the Jews in their hardness of heart, preferred a king, a possibility which had been foreseen by Moses, who had thereupon made provision against such a contingency by surrounding the monarchy with certain constitutional safeguards. Finally, Dr. Lang argued, although a monarchy in Israel was tolerated by divine permission, the republic had been instituted in the first instance by divine authority. Mr. O'Regan continued that it would be conceded that Dr. Lang, whose memory was still fragrant in Australia, like a good Presbyterian, knew his Bible well, and they might under the circumstances, leave his brother Presbyterian, the Professor of Moral Theology in Dunedin, to answer him if he could. In the meantime it was abundantly clear that, even admitting that Irish Catholics were anti-Imperialists, they would find themselves in company with some excellent Presbyterians. (Renewed laughter.)

Obituary

MRS. J. C. HICKEY, OPUNAKE.

With profound regret we announce the death of Mrs. J. C. Hickey, Opunake, who passed away peacefully in the New Plymouth Hospital, on Wednesday evening, December 21, fortified by the rites of the Church. Deceased lady, who was in her sixty-fifth year, was born in Co. Cork, and came to New Zealand many years ago. She leaves to mourn her a large family of sons and daughters and her bereaved husband, to all of whom we offer our deep sympathy in their loss. Mrs. Hickey was a grand type of sterling Irish Catholic womanhood, and her life was beautified by solid piety and strong faith. One of her daughters is Sister Mary St. Domitilla, of the Sisters of the Mission, in whom, as in all her children, she has left the best monument to a noble Christian life.—R.I.P.

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