

"TABLET" SUPPLEMENT.

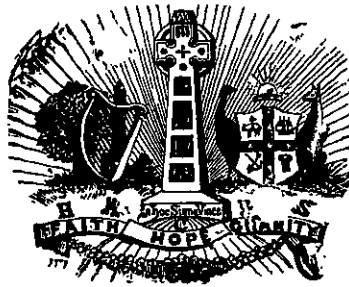
H.A.C.B.S.

Branches forming the Otago and Canterbury District.

CHRISTCHURCH,

LYTTELTON,

OAMARU,



NASEBY,

DUNEDIN,

LAWRENCE,

INVERCARGILL.

Second Annual Meeting of the Otago and Canterbury District.

THURSDAY, 24TH JANUARY, 1878.

HIBERNIAN AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BENEFIT SOCIETY.

The Annual Meeting of the Otago-Canterbury District of the H.A.C.B. Society was held at the Australian Hall, Princes-street, Dunedin, on the above date.

Present—The District President (Brother Edward Carroll) presided, supported by Brothers Connor and Connellan, District Secretary and Treasurer.

The following delegates produced their credentials, and took their seats at the board :—

DUNEDIN.....	Brother JOHN BRENNAN.
OAMARU	Brother JOHN DUNGAN.
LAWRENCE	Brother JOHN YOUNG.
NASEBY	Brother P. BOURKE.

Brother DUNGAN, Delegate from St. John's, Oamaru, acted during the Session as Recording Secretary, taking the minutes and report of proceedings.

The District Secretary notified to the meeting that he had received official intimation that Brother Dillon had been appointed a Delegate from St. Joseph's Branch, Dunedin.

On his name being called, there being no response,

The PRESIDENT said that in the absence of a written apology, there was no other alternative than to inflict the fine.

A fine of 2s. 6d. was therefore imposed.

The District Secretary then read telegrams from the Christchurch and Lyttelton Branches, notifying that both Lodges had decided not to appoint delegates; and Invercargill, although written and telegraphed to, had made no provision for representation.

All three Branches were therefore fined, in accordance with Rule 52.

On the proposition of Brother BRENNAN, seconded by Brother YOUNG, Brother Patrick Bourke was elected District Vice-President during the Session, *vice* D.V.P. Brother O'Connor, resigned.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

The following is the address of the District President :

BROTHER OFFICERS AND DELEGATES.—It may be supposed that this is our First Annual Meeting; such is, however, really not the case, for virtually it is the second. Although it gives me great pleasure to be able to preside to-day under such favorable circumstances, and after the difficulties by which the District was beset, on the other hand, I regret to say I am far from being in bodily health. As a report has been printed and circulated amongst members of the progress of the District during the first half year of its existence, it is unnecessary for me to go into detail, but I cannot help alluding to one or two points. Owing to the painful complaint under which our late lamented Secretary suffered, even from the establishment of the District, he was not able to take the active part in the management of its affairs which his spirit and inclination would have led him to, and consequently for some months before his death a mass of work had been accumulating, and the general affairs of the District were in considerable muddle. I had some delicacy in troubling Brother Cantwell for a settlement and arrangement of his affairs in his then precarious state, and consequently on his decease both myself and brother officers felt ourselves somewhat in a dilemma. However, knowing that Brother Connor had not only evinced a warm interest in the success of our Society, but was also possessed of considerable experience in matters relating thereto, I asked him to come to our assistance, impressing upon him the necessity of active steps being taken. To his credit he quickly responded to the appeal, came to the rescue, and to his indefatigable energy and industry does the District not only owe its extrication from the difficulties which then surrounded it, but its present financial success. From the time of his election at the half-yearly meeting, he has fulfilled his duties faithfully, honestly, and fearlessly, and in my opinion the District owes him a deep debt of gratitude for his unwearied efforts on its behalf. Although supposed to have but six months' work, there was almost twelve months' correspondence to be attended to, as a glance at the letter-book would prove. Another matter which I may touch upon, and which will be brought before you during the Session, is the difficulty experienced in obtaining a refund of the money held in trust