

## DEPARTURE FOR EUROPE OF THE BISHOP OF DUNEDIN.

On Monday evening the pupils of the Dominican Convent High School, Dunedin, gave an interesting though hastily prepared entertainment in honour of the Most Rev. Dr. Moran, prior to his departure for Europe. His Lordship who was present, accompanied by the Rev. Fathers Lynch and O'Donnell, was first the recipient of an address in which it was mentioned that by a singular coincidence the day was the anniversary of that on which eighteen years ago his Lordship together with the venerable Archdeacon Coleman, and ten Dominican nuns, had arrived in this city. A brief review was given of all that had since taken place in connection with the Catholic mission, and the gratitude of the pupils to his Lordship was gracefully expressed. The Bishop made a suitable reply in which he promised that the children of his schools should be constantly in his thoughts during his absence. Some extremely beautiful *tableaux vivants* followed in which the various fortunes which Ireland has experienced were portrayed. One represented a baptism of a royal princess by St. Patrick, thus showing the initiation of Erin's true glories. A second showed an eviction scene in which the effect was very realistic and touching. A third showed Erin triumphant, leaning at graceful ease upon her harp and receiving the crown of victory.

On Tuesday afternoon, his Lordship the Bishop paid a parting visit to the Christian Brothers' schools, where a musical entertainment was given and an address presented to him by the boys. His Lordship took up his seat on a raised platform at the top of one of the principal class-rooms, with the Rev. Fathers Keenan, O'Leary, and Lynch at his side—and a well-selected programme of songs and choruses was gone through with by the Young Cecilians, who, as usual, performed their various parts in a most pleasing manner. On its conclusion, the following address was read by Master Murphy, and afterwards presented to his Lordship by Master O'Neill:—

"May it please your Lordship,—We the pupils of the Christian Brothers' school, St. Joseph's, Dunedin, having learned of your Lordship's intended departure for Europe, cannot allow you to leave us without expressing our heartfelt sentiments of love and reverence for the person of your Lordship, and our devoted attachment to the Vicar of Christ, our Most Holy Father, Pope Leo XIII.

"We feel deeply grateful for the very great interest your Lordship has ever taken in our spiritual welfare, and for all you have so kindly and so generously done for the improvement of our school and playgrounds. We gladly avail ourselves of this opportunity to return, therefore, to your Lordship our most hearty thanks.

We know full well that it is only a matter of the very greatest importance that could induce your Lordship to leave your beloved people even for a short time, and we, therefore, earnestly hope that you will be very successful in carrying out the designs for which you are now about to visit Europe. That our Heavenly Father may crown your efforts with complete success shall be the object of our daily prayers during the absence of your Lordship.

In conclusion, we humbly beg the "Giver of every good gift" to grant you a safe, prosperous, and pleasant voyage, and to bring you back soon again in the full enjoyment of health and happiness to Your Lordship's ever devoted children, the pupils of the Christian Brothers."

The Bishop, in reply, said he had not expected to receive this address. He was, however, very grateful, and thanked them for it. He thanked them also, on his own part and that of all who were present, for the entertainment they had given. It showed their training, their attention to their lessons, and the way in which they had availed themselves of the advantages given them. They possessed very great advantages in having such schools. It was hardly conceivable that they could be favoured with a greater advantage than that of being under the care of the Christian Brothers, who expended all their energies in looking after their best interests. He had done the little he could to help the good work, and had done it cheerfully and with gladness. If possible, more would be done, both by the speaker and the Brothers, in the near future. All, however, was still in the future, and it would, meantime, be his (the most rev. speaker's) duty to work in the cause, and that of the boys to pray for its success. His Lordship said hardly anything gave him greater pleasure than to look around their school-rooms and see how well appointed everything was. They had also the advantage of having a suitable playground, and everything outside in keeping with it. He was glad to be able to believe that the pupils corresponded with the care given them and the interest taken in them. He was happy to say the boys as a body were well conducted. They were also fairly industrious, and there was an *esprit de corps* among them. They took a pride in their school, which was a very great advantage. During his absence it would be a great source of edification for him to have the assurance that they would deteriorate in nothing, but would, on the contrary, continue to advance. They should do their work thoroughly, so as to advance day by day. He trusted that their conduct would be good—that they would be obedient and industrious. They should play in the same way as they worked. Let them follow the old maxim, *age quid agis*. What they did, let them do with all their energy. Their conduct outside the school bounds should also be invariably good. He hoped that there would never be any misconduct on their part in the streets, but that they would deserve the approbation that became the pupils of the Christian Brothers. Let them be always manly, always well-conducted and above reproach—that was the standard which should always be in vogue among them, and to which he expected them all to conform. His Lordship concluded by adding a word of testimony as to the work of the Christian Brothers. They had, he said, a thousand claims to the gratitude and consideration of their pupils, who, according as they were capable of understanding what they had done for them, would appreciate it properly.

The Young Cecilians then sang "A Song for the Pope," and the proceedings terminated by the school's kneeling down to receive the Bishop's blessing.

On Tuesday evening, in St. Joseph's Cathedral, the Rosary of the Blessed Virgin was repeated as usual, after which the weekly meeting of the Confraternity of the Holy Family took place—the Bishop, at the request of the Rev. P. Lynch, Adm., spiritual director, making a parting address to the members assembled, of which there was a large attendance. His Lordship alluded to the pleasure and edification he felt at the contemplation of the religious societies connected with his cathedral, its glory and crown, and the fruits of whose association were weekly apparent in the number of communicants who approached the altar. His Lordship then went on to speak a few words on the Blessed Eucharist, exhorting his hearers to continue still regular in the reception of this the greatest gift of God. On the conclusion of this meeting, at which the hymns sung were "God of mercy and compassion" and "To Jesus' Heart all burning," a procession of the Blessed Sacrament took place. The altar had been splendidly adorned for the occasion by the Dominican Nuns, and has never at any time been exceeded in beauty or brilliancy, the arrangement of a magnificent collection of flowers being indescribably beautiful and artistic, and the lights extremely numerous. The order of the procession was as follows:—Crossbearer, Rev. Father O'Donnell, and acolytes; men of the Confraternity of the Holy Family, each wearing the ribbon and medal of the sodality, and carrying a lighted taper in his hand, the prefects bearing at intervals banners of various significations, and the whole forming a long line nearly completing alone the circuit of the church, the clergy, consisting of the following members:—Very Rev. P. O'Leary, Revs. J. O'Neill, J. Hunt, M. Keenan. Acolytes with lighted tapers; little girls in white with wreaths and veils scattering flowers; acolytes with thurifer; the Most Holy carried beneath a canopy by his Lordship the Bishop, attended by the Very Rev. J. Mackay, as deacon, and the Very Rev. M. Walsh, as sub-deacon; the Ven. Archdeacon Coleman, conductor of the procession, assisted by the Rev. W. Burke. The canopy was borne by Messrs. F. W. Petre and J. B. Gillan, representing the congregation, and Messrs. D. W. Woods and J. F. Perrin, representing the religious societies. The *Pange Lingua* was sung by the congregation, and the whole ceremony was most devout and edifying in every way. The church was thronged with worshippers. On the termination of the procession and the Benediction which followed the Blessed Sacrament was removed to the side altar, and an address and presentation were made on behalf of the confraternities to the Bishop. The presentation took place within the sanctuary, where the address was read by Mr. J. F. Perrin, and the presentation made by Messrs. D. W. Woods, J. F. Connor, and W. F. Petre. The gifts presented consisted of a large and admirable collection of views of New Zealand scenery, and of St. Joseph's Cathedral, contained in two handsome morocco leather cases, and with an outer case made of honeysuckle and red pine, beautifully polished, and forming a splendid specimen of work in native woods. The cases were suitably inscribed. The address was as follows:—

"Lord Bishop.—We should consider ourselves guilty of gross ingratitude were we to permit you to take your departure for Europe without addressing to you a few words of affectionate and respectful farewell. The shortness of the notice given of your impending visit, for which, doubtless, your Lordship had good reasons, alas, we understand, prevented any general demonstration from being made. We shall, however, look forward hopefully to this on the joyful occasion of your return.

"Meantime, we, the members of the various religious confraternities attached to your cathedral, may claim without presumption fairly to represent, not only these confraternities, but the whole Catholic congregation of the city, in whose name, as well as our own, we therefore address you.

"You go once more, Lord Bishop, to give to the Vicar of Christ an account of the high office entrusted to you, and we are happy in congratulating you on having an account only to render of duties well and faithfully performed. Under your fostering care and able administration religion flourishes in your diocese. The great work of Catholic education is carried on zealously and effectually—more especially by the devotion of the Christian Brothers and the Dominican Nuns; additional accommodation in church and school is continually being provided; the ceremonies of the Church are regularly and becomingly celebrated; the sacraments are constantly administered and fully attended, and everything testifies to the consistent, self-sacrificing, and incessant labours of a perfect bishop and pastor of his people, and of one who not only oversees but also takes an active personal part in the work so well and zealously done. You will, therefore, have an acceptable account of the state of religion in your diocese to render to the Holy Father, and you will also be able to aid in consoling him in the heavy trials he bears and the dangers that surround him by assuring him of the love and sympathy of his children on these distant shores. We have watched with sorrow and indignation the men's offered him and the injuries done him during recent years, and our highest privilege would be to take any part possible to us in measures approved for his delivery and restoration to his rights. Whatever may befall, whatever devices may be adopted by open foes, or pretentious but injudicious and self-interested friends, of the Papacy, nothing shall ever weaken our allegiance to the See of Peter, or chill our devotion to the person of the Sovereign Pontiff.

"We are told also that it is your Lordship's intention to visit Ireland for the purpose chiefly of obtaining priests to reinforce the missions of your diocese. In this we sincerely hope you may meet with success. Your Lordship, it is true, already possesses a body of priests who cannot be too highly commended, and whose unsparring zeal and unflinching energy almost make up for any deficiency there may be in their numbers, but, fortunately, the needs of religion are growing every day, and while the fields become white for the harvest, it is imperative that labourers should be provided in due time. We shall then gladly welcome the devoted band that the land of St. Patrick cannot fail to yield to your solicitations, and who will find among us the familiar and friendly faces, and the responsive, sympathising, and understanding hearts of their fellow countrymen—of those whose Christianity had a common origin with theirs, and who are partakers in all the particular sentiments and traditions to which