

energy and generosity of the scholars. These improvements and additions his Lordship would shortly see for himself, when he (the Director) would show him over the premises.

The Rev. Brother then called on Masters O'Neill, Delany, and Hall to present the following address, which was read by Master O'Neill:—

"Lord Bishop,—We, the pupils of the Christian Brothers' School, St. Joseph's, Dunedin, respectfully approach your Lordship, to bid you a hearty welcome home again.

"It seems but as yesterday since, in this very room, we got your farewell blessing on the eve of your departure for Ireland, the country of our fathers, for Rome, the centre of Catholic unity, the residence of Christ's Vicar on earth. Our hearts were then pressed down with sorrow, taking leave of you, our beloved Pastor and Father; but now that we see you in our midst again we are filled with joy, whilst we return our fervent thanks to God for having heard our humble prayers and restored you once more to your beloved children.

"We are likewise glad to see that your Lordship has not returned alone, but that you have brought with you so many good and zealous priests and religious. We trust they will be the means of lightening the labours of your Lordship and of helping on the holy cause you have ever had so much at heart—the cause of Christian education.

We now beg your Lordship to accept the accompanying photograph of ourselves and the school, which we respectfully present to you. It is indeed but a small mark of the love and esteem we entertain for your Lordship; owing, however, to many other objects to which we were obliged to attend in the absence of your Lordship, we cannot do all that our hearts would wish on so joyful an occasion.

"In conclusion, we fervently pray that you, our beloved Bishop, may be long spared to us, to our parents, and to all the flock that God has entrusted to your fatherly care.

"We remain, your Lordship's devoted children, the Pupils of the Christian Brothers."

On the conclusion of the address, which was particularly well delivered, the boys presented his Lordship with a handsome photograph of the school buildings, taken in their usual finished style by Messrs. Burton Brothers. The address presented also had been beautifully illuminated by Mr. Haweridge (NEW ZEALAND TABLET Company).

His Lordship in replying alluded to the many schools that he had seen during his recent visit to Europe. Nowhere, he said, had he seen a better appointed school than theirs, or one whose boys more plainly showed in their appearance the good effects of the teaching given them. So far as he could judge, in finish of speaking and diction, in accuracy of singing, and in perfection of reading, he had witnessed nothing anywhere that was superior to what he had witnessed that day; and he had no hesitation in saying that, all things considered, it would be hard—even impossible—to find any school that was superior to that one. The Bishop also referred to the pleasure it had afforded him to receive the good account of their behaviour during his absence given him by the Rev. Brother Director. His Lordship further mentioned a copy of St. Joseph's Prayer Book, a work especially prepared by the Christian Brothers for the use of their boys, that had been sent to him for presentation to the Holy Father. The copy had been presented, and he was pleased to say that it afforded great gratification to the Holy Father. His Holiness had been especially pleased with the hymn for the Pope, which he had read attentively. They could, therefore, have the privilege of knowing that they had given the Holy Father pleasure in his affliction, who sent back to New Zealand his blessing for the book, his blessing for the religious community that compiled it, his blessing for the pupils of that school, and his blessing for all who used the book. On the conclusion of his Lordship's reply, he was loudly cheered by the boys. Some other musical items were then given and afterwards the Bishop, who had first gained the applause of the boys by giving them half a holiday for the next day, was shown over the premises. An athletic display took place for his Lordship's inspection, in the gymnasium, with which the Bishop and clergy who accompanied him expressed themselves highly pleased. The proceedings then terminated.

On Wednesday the Bishop visited St. Patrick's school, South Dunedin, where also the pupils of the Dominican nuns had prepared for him a hearty reception. A song of welcome was first sung, and a chorus, "The boat song," followed. A pianoforte duet, "Happiness"; a vocal duet, "Gathering flowers"; a pianoforte solo by a three weeks' pupil, a vocal duet, "Slowly and surely"; and the choruses, "The wearing of the green," and "Hail, glorious St. Patrick" completed the programme. The following address was repeated by Master John Murray, a very little fellow, who performed his part bravely and to the admiration of all who heard him.

"To the Most Rev. Dr. Moran, on his first visit to St. Patrick's School after his return from Europe," October 9, 1889.

"Most Rev. and Dear Father.—*Cœd mille falthe*.—We all unite with joyful hearts in saying these words of welcome in the language of that land of faith and patriotism from which you have just arrived. Since your Lordship left us we have missed your frequent visits and instructions, though we have been well looked after in your absence. We felt the loss of the good bishop who built this school for us, gathered us into these classes, and taught us, too, three years before the nuns took charge of us. Though we were formerly far from being as good as we should be, we have tried to be better and more studious during your Lordship's absence. Now that you have returned to Dunedin, we promise to make still greater efforts to improve both in virtue and in science.

"Moreover, we, the boys of St. Patrick's School, have determined, with the aid of God's grace, to avoid bad company and never to act disloyally towards the Church which we all love and obey.

"Begging your Lordship's blessing on our good resolutions, and thanking God for having brought you safely back to us, we are, your Lordship's grateful children of St. Patrick's School."

His Lordship in reply thanked the children for the entertainment they had given him, and for their address. He expressed his

pleasure at being once more among them, and said he noticed that an improvement had taken place in the school even during his absence.

CATHOLIC CEREMONIES IN DUNEDIN.

SOME months ago, the Confraternity of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour received from the Very Rev. N. Mauron, C.S.S.R., Superior General and Rector Major of the Redemptorists at Rome an authentic copy of the celebrated picture which is venerated at the Church of St. Alphonsus between the basilicas of St. John Lateran and St. Mary Major,—and which has been the source of many miracles. The picture is a remarkable one, and may at once be recognised as a Byzantine work of the middle ages. It is painted on wood, the ground being richly gilded. Our Lady is represented as of distinctly Eastern appearance, dark in complexion and of somewhat stern expression. Her head is covered with a dark blue veil which is laced with gold, and a golden border edges her dress of which the portion seen, under a mantle of the same colour as that of the veil, is red. The glory surrounding the head of the figure is elaborately ornamented, and beneath it is a star. The Blessed Virgin with one hand supports the figure of the Divine Infant, and with the other clasps his hands as if to hold him from the coming doom. The expression of the Infant's face is one not so much of fear as of the recognition of a terrible doom. The face, while that of a child, is full of a wisdom more than childlike, and the eyes seem fixed on something afar off. With his hands the child clasps that of the Blessed Virgin, as if clinging to her for protection. The upper part of his dress is green also laced with gold, around the waist is a red girdle, and the lower draping is dun-colour and gold. One foot wears a sandal, the other is bare, the sandal hanging loose underneath it. The head of the Virgin Mother and that of the Child wear each a richly jewelled crown, raised from the surface of the picture. Above the figures at the sides are respectively the Archangels Michael and Gabriel, painted in red dresses, on a much smaller scale, the one carrying a vase which contains the lance, the reed and the sponge, and the other holding out towards the Divine Infant the cross and nails. Some Greek letters, explaining the figures, complete the picture. The copy received in Dunedin is enclosed in a frame richly gilt and ornamented, and surmounted by a domed-shaped superstructure terminating in a cross, and which contains the monogram of the Blessed Virgin raised in gilt characters on a ground of azure, thickly sprinkled with stars, the whole elaborately decorated in gilding. It may be mentioned as a remarkable fact that on the voyage from Europe the picture had got loose in the wooden case in which it was enclosed and had been so knocked about that the cross on the top had deeply indented the wood on the inside of the case, and yet, although itself of gilt wood, and by no means of exceptional strength, it had not been broken or suffered any injury beyond a slight abrasion of the gilding on the extreme edge. As erected in the cathedral the picture forms a very beautiful shrine, occupying a position against the clustered pillar of the transept on the Gospel side and at about six feet from the ground. On either side of the picture is a wooden door, richly carved and gilt, and with the passion flower painted on it.—The design was that of Mr. F. W. Petre; the carving that of Mr. Godfrey; the wood work that of Mr. D. W. Woods, and the painting and gilding were done by Mr. Scott. The brass work was executed by Messrs. A. and T. Burt.—The doors, by which it is possible to conceal the picture if desired, are thrown wide open, and lay down on each of them a handsome branch of candlesticks is fastened. An arch of candlesticks of floral design, rises high over the picture, terminating in a crown, which, like the candlesticks, is of burnished brass, and from which a light and graceful, but rich, white veil, interwoven and fringed with gold, is let fall to the back of the picture. The bracket on which the picture stands is supported on wooden bosses, also richly carved and gilt—and, above these, in front of the picture, is a ledge on which vases of flowers are placed. When the candles of the branches and those on the arch above are lighted the effect is singularly beautiful. On Sunday, at 11 a.m., the picture, which had been erected in the cathedral, as described, a week or two ago, was unveiled—a covering of white silk having so far concealed the figures. The ceremonies commenced with a hymn, sung by the Young Ceciliaans, under the conductorship of their Brother Director. The music, the composition of the Rev. Brother, was given very sweetly and softly, or, if we must use musical terms, varied from *pianissimo* to *piano* with some *crescendo* movements, and as the air, though devotional and pleasing, was not very marked and the harmony was perfectly maintained, we do not know that we have ever heard a more successful effort made by the boys. The music thus rendered was a hymn to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour. The Bishop then entered the cathedral by the principal door, the "Ecce Sacerdos," being sung by the choir meantime, and, before the celebration of a Pontifical High Mass, proceeded to unveil the picture. The brief of the Holy Father authorising the erection of the picture in the cathedral, and granting a plenary indulgence, on the usual conditions, on the day of the unveiling, and other indulgences at other times was read by the Rev. Father Lynch, Director of the Confraternity of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, who wore on the occasion over his surplice the ribbon and medal of the Confraternity. The hymn "Come O Creator, Spirit Blessed," and that to our Lady of Perpetual Succour, were sung by the choir and congregation in union. High Mass was then commenced, his Lordship the Bishop acting as celebrant, with the Right Rev. Monsignor Coleman as assistant priest; the Very Rev. Father McKay and the Rev. Father Burke as deacons at the throne; the Rev. Father P. O'Neill, deacon; the Rev. Father M'Mullin, sub-deacon; and the Rev. Fathers Lynch and O'Donnell, masters of ceremonies. Farmer's Mass in B flat was rendered, the choir being accompanied by a string quintet, consisting of M. srs. Schacht (first violin), Ziels (second violin), Cameron (cello), Royce (viola), and Robertshaw (bass). Miss D. Moran, organist of St. Joseph's, played the organ. The vocal soloists were—Misses Corrigan, Woods, and Mills, (sopranos), Mrs. Angus and Miss Murphy (altos), Messrs. Carolin, N.