

An immense crowd had gathered in the neighborhood of St. Teresa's Church, at Clarendon street, some time previous to the arrival of the coffin. When the hearse, carrying the remains of the illustrious dead, reached the church, heads were reverently uncovered. Meanwhile all parts of the building were filling rapidly. The remains were received at the church door by the Rev. Father Coen, O.D.C., Prior of the Provincial, the Very Rev. Father Holland, and members of the community, and the passages through the central aisles were held by the members of the Arch-Confraternity of St. Teresa.

On Friday morning the coffin containing the remains of Mr. Davitt were taken from the side chapel and placed on a catafalque in front of the High Altar. The St. Teresa Chapel, where the remains rested during the night, was draped in black. At ten o'clock Solemn Requiem High Mass was celebrated, and the Office of the Dead recited. The church was crowded with people of all classes. Many of those in the congregation were in tears, and the deepest emotion was shown by all those present.

The funeral left the Carmelite Church, Clarendon street, on Saturday morning at ten o'clock, for Broadstone terminus. A special train left Broadstone for Foxford, County Mayo, at eleven o'clock, stopping at Claremorris.

The train reached Foxford at a quarter to four, almost to the exact minute timed for its arrival. A large concourse of country people and vehicles of several kinds awaited outside the station. The Rev. P. Hunt, P.P., Straide, and a large number of clergymen were present. Amidst a scene of touching impressiveness the coffin was conveyed from the train to the hearse. The funeral procession shortly afterwards started for Straide Graveyard, about five miles distant. The hearse was followed by carriages and other vehicles, countrymen on horseback, cyclists, and many walked the journey. The Davitt family burial place lies beside a beautiful old ruined abbey, said to have been built many centuries ago. The graveyard itself is that to which Mr. Davitt once made public reference as being one of those in which the bodies of those who died from hunger and disease in the dreadful famine days of the forties were interred in heaps and coffinless. A few hundred yards distant is the spot, now marked by two ash trees, where stood the Davitt homestead from which in 1852 Mr. Davitt's father and mother were evicted, Mr. Davitt at the time being about six-years of age.

The following is the concluding portions of Mr. Davitt's will:—'Should I die in Ireland, I would wish to be buried at Straide, County Mayo, without any funeral demonstration. If I die in America I must be buried in my mother's grave at Manayunk, near Philadelphia, and on no account brought back to Ireland. If in any other country (outside of Great Britain) to be buried in the nearest graveyard to where I die, with the simplest possible ceremony. Should I die in Great Britain, I must be buried at Straide, County Mayo. My diaries are not to be published as such, and in no instance without my wife's permission; but on no account must anything harsh or censorious written in said diaries by me about any person, dead or alive, who has ever worked for Ireland, be printed, published, or used so as to give pain to any friend or relative. To all my friends I leave kind thoughts; to my enemies the fullest possible forgiveness; and to Ireland the undying prayer for the absolute freedom and independence which it was my life's ambition to try and obtain for her.'

Letters and telegrams poured in on Mrs. Davitt and Master Michael Davitt, expressing sympathy with them in their great bereavement.

The Chief Secretary, Mr. James Bryce, wrote a letter to Master Michael Davitt, in the course of which he said:—'Will you permit me to express to you and the other members of your family my sincere sympathy with you in the great loss you have just suffered. I had known your father for many years. Widely as I differed from him in opinion, I felt what no one who knew him personally could fail to feel—a strong admiration for his vigorous intellect, his firmness of purpose, his striking independence of character. He loved his country with a passionate love; and there was nothing that he was not ready to do or to suffer for her sake. His country will long bear him in memory as one of the most remarkable figures she has produced in our time—a man strenuous and unselfish, full of earnestness and of courage.'

Mr. Higgins, of Napier, cabled to Mrs. Davitt:—'Sincere condolence from self and Irish people of Napier on your loss.'

Mr. John E. Redmond received the following cablegram:—'Wellington United Irish League requests you convey to Mrs. Davitt deep sympathy loss of her husband, who has rendered incalculable service to cause Nationality.—Kennedy, Healy.'

Catholic Peers and Their Heirs

A recent reference to the fact that the Catholic Laird of Lochneil is, after the male descendants of the late Duke of Argyll, next in remainder to the Scottish Dukedom and other titles (although not to the English honors), suggests some interesting reflections as to the position and prospects of the small body of Catholics in the enjoyment of peerages of England, Scotland, and Ireland at the present time (says the Edinburgh 'Catholic Herald'). The Catholic Peers number altogether forty-one, and they include one Duke, two Marquises, nine Earls, four Viscounts, and twenty-five Barons.

Not all of them, however, sit and vote in the House of Lords; for seven of the Irish Peers, and one Scotch one, have no hereditary seat in Parliament, while the English Barony of Beaumont is at present held by a little girl. Two, however, of the seven Irish Peers just mentioned, the Earl of Westmeath and Lord Bellew, have recently been elected Representative Peers (the first Catholics who have ever been so elected), and this brings the entire number of Catholic votes in the Upper House up to thirty-five. It appears probable, nevertheless, that there will be a considerable diminution in this number in the near future.

The Marquis of Ripon's only son and heir is a Protestant, and the last male of his line; and the Earl of Ashburnham's brother and heir-presumptive is also a Protestant. Lord Brampton, who will enter on his 90th year in a few months, has no heir; nor has Viscount Llandaff, who is 80, nor Lord O'Brien, who is 64; and the same is at present the case with Lord Acton and Lord Emly. Lord Vaux of Harrowden has three daughters and co-heiresses, between whom, failing a male heir, his barony will fall into abeyance; and should the Duchess of Norfolk have a son, the Scottish Barony of Herries (to which her little daughter is at present in remainder after her mother) will ultimately be merged in the Premier English Dukedom.

Against these prospective permanent losses or temporary eclipses is to be placed the fact that the little heirs-apparent to the Marquisate of Headford and the Earldom of Eldon are both Catholics; and so also is the brother and heir-presumptive of the present Viscount Strathallan, 'de jure' Earl of Perth. One Catholic priest is heir-presumptive to the Barony of Arundell of Wardour, and another is next in remainder, after his nephews and great nephews, to the Scottish Marquisate of Queensberry.

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

July 21.

His Grace the Archbishop returned on Monday from a visit to the Pahiatua district, where he opened a new church at Hamua, the site for which was given by the Maoris. His Grace also administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to a number of candidates.

The old boys of St. Patrick's College will be pleased to learn that the Old Boys' Association here is this year in a most flourishing condition as far as activity in its social life is concerned. Its third annual social gathering on Tuesday evening was a highly successful affair. The Sydney street schoolroom was charmingly decorated, the stage being elaborately curtained with tasteful drapings of blue and white (the colors of the Association). The stage was also richly carpeted and furnished, and the arrangement of palms and evergreens was most effective. The large gymnasium was transformed into a charming supper-room, the walls being draped with curtains and elaborate bunting. The tables were prettily decked with the colors of the society, early spring flowers, and palms. The electric lights were shaded with soft red shades, making the whole effect exceptionally pleasing. The committee (which consisted of Messrs. W. E. Butler, A. H. Casey (secretary), F. W. Crombie, B. J. Devine, B. Gallagher, G. Miller, F. O'Sullivan, and F. Ryan) deserve to be congratulated on a function that might well be described as one of the great successes of the social season. At a meeting of the committee on Thursday the hon. treasurer announced that the function had proved a financial success. It was decided to entertain the present boys at a social gathering at the College on August 15.