

should be fully observed. He added, that unless the French Government wished to contend that the French Bishops were mere State officials, entirely withdrawn from the jurisdiction of the Pope—a contention that could never be admitted—he did not understand how any offence could be taken at the Pope's advising resignation or calling Bishops to Rome to answer for serious ecclesiastical crimes. This explanation appeared to satisfy M. Delcasse, the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

(To be concluded next week.)

## The Irish Delegates

### NELSON.

Mr. Donovan delivered an address in the Theatre Royal, Nelson, on Saturday evening, January 26. The Mayor (Mr. Piper) presided. Before the proceedings began the Citizen's Band played selections outside the theatre. On the platform were Mr. R. Reeves, M.L.C., Rev. Father Clancy, Councillors; Atmore, Grace, Hounsell, Turner, Messrs. Hayes (hon. secretary), F. Hamilton, Lock, and Seymour.

The Chairman having introduced Mr. Donovan to the audience, said that at this distance the people were not very familiar with British politics, and doubtless their visitor would enlighten them greatly. He bespoke for the visitor a hearty welcome and an attentive hearing, and referred to Professor Newman's work on the division of the United Kingdom into seven parts, with local government and Imperial Control.

At the conclusion of Mr. Donovan's address, which was similar to that delivered in other centres the hon. R. H. J. Reeves, M.L.C., moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Donovan, with eulogistic comments on the excellence of the address, trusting that the time was not far off when Orange and Green would blend together, and Ireland would have Home Rule.

Mr. John Graham, M.H.R., seconded the motion, and described the address as an intellectual treat. Saturday night was not a good night in Nelson for a large meeting, but if the people had only known the treat in store for them they would have filled the hall. Mr. Graham declared that Ireland should have self-government like other parts of the British Empire, and said the resolution should go further and express sympathy with Mr. Donovan's cause. The loyalty of Ireland could not be doubted, and she should be given an equal right with other British provinces to govern herself. He hoped the Irish cause would prosper, and that soon Ireland would have Home Rule.

The motion was carried unanimously.

The proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman, moved by Mr. Donovan, and carried with acclamation.

A sum of over £51 was Nelson's contribution to the Home Rule fund.

### BLLENHEIM.

St. Patrick's Hall (says the 'Marlborough Herald' of January 29) was well filled with an eager, enthusiastic audience last night, who had assembled to hear an address on Home Rule for Ireland by Mr. J. T. Donovan, one of the Irish National delegates now visiting the colonies.

The Mayor (Mr. E. H. Penny), who was accompanied on the platform by Fathers Fay and O'Reilly, Messrs. R. McCallum, A. Wiffen, H. V. Browne, F. Shaw, J. Barry, and C. O'Sullivan, said he had great pleasure in welcoming a distinguished visitor from Ireland. Before calling on Mr. Donovan to place before them the facts concerning Home Rule, they had a little pleasing duty to perform in the way of presenting two addresses to the speaker, one from the citizens of the town and another from the Hibernian Society.

The addresses were read out by the Town Clerk and Mr. Curry respectively, and presented to Mr. Donovan. That from the citizens of Blenheim was signed by the Mayor and about forty other prominent residents of the town and district. The address from the Hibernian Society was signed on behalf of the members by Bros. A. Curry (president), G. W. O'Sullivan (secretary), W. Morrison (treasurer).

Mr. Donovan said that he was profoundly grateful and deeply touched by the presentation of two beautiful addresses. He expressed his warm thanks to the Mayor and Town Clerk and the leading citizens for their interest and presenting him with an address on behalf of the burgesses. He likewise thanked Mr. Curry and the Hibernian Society for their generosity

and the kindness which prompted them to tender him an address. He thanked one and all, from the Mayor downwards, for the flattering welcome accorded him. The present would be the last address given by him in Australasia.

After some musical selections by the Hibernian Band, the Mayor called on the envoy to address the audience. From the few words they had heard, they could realise he was an orator. His country was almost a guarantee of that. He felt quite sure Mr. Donovan would be able to touch their heartstrings.

Mr. Donovan then delivered an eloquent address similar to that given in the South after his arrival, and fully reported in our columns.

At its conclusion the Mayor said he was confident of the justice of Ireland's demands, and that the National Party's efforts would be crowned with success.

After a selection of Irish melodies by the band, Councillor Wiffen, in a sympathetic speech, referred to the unavoidable absence of Father Holley through a sad bereavement, and moved: 'That this meeting begs to tender a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Donovan for his very able, eloquent, and scholarly address, and assures him of its deep sympathy with the cause of Home Rule for Ireland, of which he is so able an advocate.'

Mr. R. McCallum seconded the motion, and referred to Scotland's claim for self-government.

The motion was carried by acclamation.

Mr. Donovan returned thanks in a brief speech.

A vote of thanks to the Mayor and 'God Save the King' closed a most interesting and instructive evening, which passed off smoothly and harmoniously, and on the success of which all concerned are to be heartily congratulated.

To say that the address delivered by Mr. Donovan was a liberal education on matters pertaining to the good or rather bad, or no government, of Ireland would be to put the matter in the baldest fashion (says the local 'Herald'). Mr. Donovan, as a speaker truly said, inspires his hearers as he goes along. We can truly say that no audience in Blenheim was ever so thoroughly carried away by a lecturer before, and no hearer came away who not only was not fully convinced but felt enkindled in his breast a just indignation and resentment at the treatment meted out to the Irish people. Mr. Donovan made of his subject all that a great artist makes of his canvas when he sets about reproducing there some great and worthy subject. Some of his periods were those of a rhetorician and logician of the highest standing. His earnestness and eloquence are beyond all question, and the audience that for nearly two hours were carried away by both will never forget the intellectual treat that was afforded.

### WAIHI.

(From our own correspondent.)

January 29.

Mr. J. Devlin, M.P. for West Belfast, arrived in Waihi from Te Aroha (where he had been enjoying a few days' holiday) shortly after five o'clock on Monday evening. He was met at the station by members of the committee, and driven to Mr. Kelly's hotel, which was decorated with evergreens and flags. At the hotel he was met by his Worship the Mayor and Town Clerk, and dined with a number of guests who had been invited to meet him.

There was a very large attendance at the Academy of Music, and the Irish envoy was accorded an enthusiastic reception. His Worship the Mayor presided, and on the platform were Monsignor O'Reilly (Thames), Dean Hackett (Paeroa), Father McGuinness (Te Aroha), Father Brodie (Waihi), Messrs. H. Poland, M.H.R., G. Crosby, R. J. Cotter, M. D. O'Regan, J. Barrett, J. Quinn, A. Connolly, and Max D. King. Visitors came by special train from Paeroa, Kerangahake, and Waihino. Prior to the address the Waihi Federal Band played selections outside the hall.

His Worship the Mayor, in a short speech, introduced Mr. Devlin. He said that many knew not the condition of Ireland, and the lecturer would now make it clear to them.

Mr. Devlin, whose address was on the lines of those delivered elsewhere, carried the large meeting with him from the start, and the applause was frequent and prolonged.

It was a somewhat rather unusual occurrence that after an address by a speaker of Mr. Devlin's ability all the other speakers got a most patient hearing, and their remarks were received with great applause. Mr. Max D. King, in a neat speech, moved 'That this meeting of Waihi citizens, having heard Mr. Devlin's address on Home Rule for Ireland, expresses its entire sympathy and hopes that the Home Government will