

## LISMORE CATHEDRAL

### DEDICATION CEREMONY

Within the recollection of the oldest inhabitant no event in the history of the northern part of New South Wales ever created so much pleasant anticipation (says the 'Freeman's Journal') as the dedication of the handsome Cathedral of St. Carthage at Lismore on Sunday, August 18. The dedication of this stately Gothic structure will form an epoch in the history of the Church in New South Wales surpassing all other sacred edifices throughout the Commonwealth, with the exception, perhaps, of St. Mary's Cathedral in Sydney and St. Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne. Although the Cathedral at Lismore is not completed, still the work is sufficiently advanced to enable it to be dedicated, and this important ceremony was performed by his Eminence Cardinal Moran, in the presence of a brilliant assemblage of the leading dignitaries of the Catholic Church in New South Wales. Catholicism in the diocese has had a wondrous growth since his Lordship Bishop Doyle infused into his pastoral work his extraordinary energy and zeal. By his indomitable and persevering spirit the difficulties of his early labors were surmounted, and his exceptional administrative ability was quickly experienced in the advance and development of the Church in the Northern Rivers district.

It was in the year 1892 that the Right Rev. Dr. Doyle entrusted the work of designing the Cathedral to Mr. H. E. Wardell, of Sydney, who chose the early English style of architecture, and designed the building to be constructed of freestone, with roof of timber and slates. A foundation stone for the work was laid in the same year by his Eminence Cardinal Moran, but further progress in regard to the building was cut short by the financial crisis of the colony in the following year. When it was decided, in 1904, to resume building operations, it was found necessary, through the greater cost of freestone, to rearrange the details of the design, and to provide for carrying out the structure in brickwork. This work was also undertaken by Mr. Wardell, and the building has since rapidly progressed under the personal supervision of himself and Mr. Denning, his partner.

On account of the nature of the ground, the foundations have been built of solid cement concrete, going down in some portions to a depth of over 20 feet. Those for the nave and aisles were first completed, and as the response for funds after this was good, the remaining portions were soon put in hand also. The proposed tower and spire being an independent structure, its foundations have been omitted for the present. The superstructure is of brickwork, built in cement, and faced with open kiln bricks. The arches, mouldings, copings, and other features externally are in red double-pressed bricks. The design of the building is cruciform in plan, and comprises a nave and aisles, transepts, an apsidal chancel having chapels on either side, two large sacristies for clergy and acolytes, entrance porches, confessionals, etc. On the corner next the two principal streets, a large tower (for bells), with a high spire is proposed to be built, detached from the church, but connected by a short cloister to the main building from the entrance porch of the tower. The outside general dimensions of the Cathedral are:—Length, 165 feet, width, 72 feet; height, 80 feet; length of transepts, 112 feet. The distance from end of transepts over sacristies is 144 feet; height of transept, 70 feet; sacristies each 35 by 25 and 35 feet high; height of tower and spire, 200 feet above ground; which, in the surrounding country, will form a striking feature of the main edifice of a fine block of ecclesiastical buildings on one of the finest sites of the district. The building covers an area of about 14,000 feet, having seating accommodation for a congregation of 1200. The total cost of the Cathedral when completed will be about £30,000.

The dedication ceremony was performed by his Eminence Cardinal Moran, the other prelates present being the Right Rev. Dr. Doyle, Right Rev. Dr. Gallagher, Right Rev. Dr. Dwyer, and Right Rev. Dr. O'Connor. Pontifical High Mass was celebrated by his Lordship Bishop O'Connor, Rev. Father Battle being deacon and Rev. Father Darcy subdeacon. His Eminence the Cardinal presided, and there was a very large congregation present.

At the close of the Mass his Eminence Cardinal Moran delivered an eloquent discourse befitting the occasion, the subject being the divine credentials of the Catholic Church.

On the conclusion of the Cardinal's sermon Bishop Doyle addressed the congregation, and cordially thanked his Eminence for his kindness in coming to participate in the dedication of the Cathedral. The approximate sum received towards the cost of the Cathedral was £9000. A collection was then taken up, with the result that a sum of over £4000 was received.

Immediately after the dedication ceremony a banquet was held in St. Carthage's Hall, when there was an attendance of fully 500 persons. The Right Rev. Dr. Doyle presided, having on his right the Cardinal-Archbishop of Sydney, Count Morner (Consul-General for Sweden), and their Lordships the Bishop of Goulburn and the Coadjutor-Bishop of Maitland, and on his left the Mayor of Lismore and the Bishop of Armidale.

The Right Rev. Dr. Doyle, in proposing the health of his Eminence Cardinal Moran, said that there was no one better known in the Church, next to the Holy Father, than his Eminence, and it was a toast every one would be pleased to honor. He was not only known, but universally respected. When his Eminence commenced his work in Sydney, he was called home to have conferred upon him a higher honor, and in 1885 he was appointed Cardinal, and was now one of the senior Cardinals of the Church, and had only one senior, Cardinal Oreglia. From that time to the present the Cardinal has been actively engaged in work, not only in his own diocese, but throughout the Commonwealth, and his Eminence was engaged every Sunday in special functions in connection with new churches, schools, or convents. His life had been an active one, and he had never been absent from any function when any of the Bishops wanted him to attend.

His Eminence the Cardinal thanked his Lordship and the people for the enthusiastic manner they had received him. Fifteen years ago he had laid the foundation stone of the former Cathedral, and to-day they were carrying out the promise of that period. It was very pleasing for him to come to Lismore to complete the work of dedication of the sacred edifice. On the former occasion £3000 had been subscribed, and that day the people had provided over £4000. He found a number of his good old people of the Illawarra district had come to Lismore, bringing with them piety, devotedness, and enthusiasm, and among them he distinguished the Mayor of Lismore (Alderman Quilty). He had always endeavored to impress upon them the value of union and harmony among all classes, and when that was accomplished Australia would have a glorious destiny. He had no aim but the promotion of enlightenment and peace and the good of the country.

In the evening a mission was opened in St. Carthage's Cathedral by the Vincentian Fathers.

Mrs. H. E. Beveridge, George street, Dunedin, is now making a splendid display of seasonable novelties in millinery, laces, dress fabrics, blouses, underclothing, etc. Dressmaking a specialty....

The housewife should exercise great care in the purchase of a sewing machine, for if she gets a good one it will last a lifetime. An inferior machine will never give satisfaction, will spoil her work and temper, and will always be in the hands of the mechanical doctor. The well-known White machines, which are sold by Mr. W. Melville, George street, Dunedin, for cash or on the time payment system, are guaranteed for five years....

Acetylene v. Electricity.—We learn from the American Acetylene Journal that numerous electric tramcars in the States are now fitted up with acetylene lights. Electricity may be good enough to propel the cars, but only acetylene is deemed suitable to light them and to indicate their rapid progress along the roads. One of the pleasant things about acetylene is that where this light is properly installed in any given case it advertises itself so well that a demand is at once created for other equipments in the same locality. The town of Johnsonville has now decided to give the N.Z. Acetylene Gas Company the order to instal acetylene for lighting the streets and supplying the ratepayers....

## TO THE CLERGY.

### BAPTISMAL AND CONFIRMATION REGISTERS

ALWAYS KEPT IN STOCK.

Also, FORMS FOR BAPTISM CERTIFICATES.

PRICED ..... 5s PER 100.

N.Z. TABLET CO., OCTAGON, DUNEDIN.