

Pope passed, smiling benevolently, giving to each his hand to kiss.

The Archbishop of Westminster then read an address, which was signed by himself and all the other members of the English Episcopacy.

Father Dunford next presented the Holy Father an offering for £121 from the pilgrims. His Holiness had previously received £6000 as the jubilee offering of the Bishops, priests, and laity of England.

In his reply, the Holy Father, who spoke in Italian, thanked the pilgrims most warmly for their greetings and offerings, and expressing appreciation of the loyalty of the faithful of Great Britain. His Holiness dealt at length with the recent Eucharistic Congress, with which he again expressed his satisfaction and said: 'Far from you in body, I was in your midst in spirit, happy in the thought that the Eucharist should kindle in you the spirit which for ten centuries made of England a land of saints, and gave that title, still preserved, 'Defender of the Faith,' a title given by Pope Leo the Tenth to Henry the Eighth, who, in his rebellion, did not reach the point of denying the real Presence of the august mystery of Transubstantiation in the Eucharist.' In conclusion, the Pope trusted that the recent Eucharistic Festival, together with the continuous conversions of so many souls, would hasten Great Britain's happy return to the Church, and would re-establish, by the Grace of God, its full and perfect submission to the See of St. Peter. His Holiness then imparted the Apostolic Benediction to the pilgrims and their families.

The pilgrims and their friends numbered 1000.

THE IRISH PILGRIMAGE.

The Irish pilgrims, who with their friends numbered 300, were received in the Hall of the Consistory on the following day (October 27). They were introduced by the Right Rev. Dr. Sheehan, Bishop of Waterford, and were accompanied by Monsignor O'Riordan and the students of the Irish College. They were ranged along the sides of the long hall, and the Holy Father passed along, giving his hand to each to kiss. At the end he seated himself on the throne—the beautiful throne of which so much has been heard recently, as the jubilee gift of his old flock at Venice.

The Bishop of Waterford read the address in Latin, and Father MacDonald, Adm. Westport, read it in Irish.

Acknowledging the address, the Holy Father, after a few cordial words of thanks, said:

'On seeing here to-day Our beloved Irish children, and remembering having seen here yesterday the sons of England, We are reminded of the Gospel parable in which is told the story of a father who had two sons, and two good sons, but one day the younger, losing sight of the love due to his father, came before him to tell him that he desired to have the portion of the inheritance that was to be his, and to set out for a distant country. Nor could his father's tears and prayers prevail on him to stay. The misguided young man went on his way. Ere very long he squandered all his substance, so much so that he was brought so low as to become a mere swineherd. It was precisely while in this unhappy condition that he was touched by the grace of the Lord. Then the poor young man turned with penitent thoughts to the happy life spent in his father's house, to the abundance therein enjoyed by even the very slaves, and resolved to return to the father he had so ungratefully abandoned.

'There is little need, dear children of Ireland, for Us to point out the application of this parable. England and Ireland are two daughters of the one Mother, the Church—two daughters who received with joy the words of Eternal Life preached to them by their two apostles, Augustine the Monk, and Patrick the Bishop. The two daughters cherished the Faith, so much so, indeed, as to deserve to be known and called by two glorious titles—the one the land of Saints, and the other the Island of Saints. But one sorrowful day the younger daughter said to the poor mother: 'I will no longer recognise you as my mother. Give me the portion that is mine.' And thus did she cut herself off from the bosom of the Church, and set at nought the tears and prayers of the mother, who begged her to spare her such heartrending sorrow. And thus did the straying nation of England lead away with it from the right path the great part of its people. The other daughter, however, remained ever faithful, and gave a most noble example to her erring sister by her sacrifices, by her constancy in suffering, by her tears, by the blood she shed in the terrible persecutions she had to bear in remaining loyal to her Mother, and in this way incessantly called down the mercy of God on her sister's behalf, so much so as to give Us a hope, confirmed by the solemn Eucharistic Congress held recently in London, that she will return one day to the caresses of the Mother she ungratefully abandoned, and console her sorrow-stricken heart by the tenderest of joys.

'It is then Our pleasant duty, beloved children of Ireland, to rejoice with you in that in spite of trial and suffering you have remained ever faithful to the Faith preached to you by your holy Apostle, St. Patrick. The Church has ever prayed for you, and has ever admired the constancy, the firmness, and the courage with which you have defended the Faith received from your forefathers. May this Faith be yours all your life. Prefer this treasure to all earthly goods. You may be poor, but through this poverty, which is so dear to Jesus Christ, for Whose sake you have despised the riches of the earth, you have laid up treasures of eternal blessings in the Kingdom of the Blessed. You may have had to suffer, yet because of this tribulation you will securely tread the path of salvation. Nor can you ever lose the peace of your souls, and may the blessing of the Lord never fail you, and may it never fail your dear country, your families, and all those who practise the teaching of the Catholic Church; and find therein their sweetest consolation and most precious comfort.

'Returning, then, to your fatherland, you will tell your fellow-countrymen that the Pope bears them all close to his heart, that he wishes every good gift to them, and especially to those who prove themselves to be truly Catholic by the faithful observance of the law of God. And now, may the Divine Benediction descend upon the whole Irish Hierarchy, beginning with his Eminence the Cardinal Primate; on the clergy, to whom I have already given the Greeting of Peace and Love; on the parents, that they may bring up their children in the fear and love of God; on the children, that they may ever show respect and reverence to those who have given them birth; on both rich and poor, that they may tenderly love and cherish one another; on the whole Irish people, so that all, with the assistance of Divine Mercy, may one day find themselves united in the enjoyment of that reward which the Lord has prepared for the souls He has redeemed.'

As his Holiness finished, the pilgrims started Dr. Murray's famous 'Song for the Pope,' and sang it with much feeling.

The pilgrimage was organised by the Catholic Young Men's Society, Dublin, and the address was signed by Canon Fricker, Chevalier Sheeran, Mr. John Rochford, K.S.G., Father F. O'Loughlin, and Mr. P. S. Walsh.

THE CHURCH IN NEW ZEALAND

MEMOIRS OF THE EARLY DAYS

(Contributed.)

Greymouth.

The Rev. Father Binsfeld, S.M., arrived in Greymouth in April, 1870, just before Easter of that year. It was not an easy matter in those days to reach the goldfields of Westland by sea. There was no harbor all along the coast. A regular line of steamers between Wellington and Melbourne took passengers for the three centres of the Westland goldfields—the Buller, Greymouth, and Hokitika—and transhipped them into tenders at these places when the weather was favorable; if otherwise passengers and freight for the goldfields were taken on to Melbourne, a voyage of four or five days' steaming, afterwards being brought back in hope of better luck. I did not meet with such a disappointment on my journey to Greymouth (states Father Binsfeld), but our landing was a new experience to me. A heavy surf was on at the time, and in descending from the steamer we were put under deck of a tender, the hatches being carefully closed over us. The little craft steamed away, up and down like a child's kite, and presently struck the shingly bottom on the bar through which it ploughed with a vigor that made the boat labor and creak in every joint, whilst the waves swept over the deck. None of my fellow-passengers exhibited alarm, they were accustomed to it; it was the way to the goldfields of those days. Greymouth was yet in a primitive state of formation. There were scarcely any streets, the quay was the only one, where houses were joined to each other, public houses predominating. The present site of Greymouth was yet an impenetrable forest. Catholics formed about one-third of the population, and Father Binsfeld was heartily welcomed on arrival, the principal men among the community coming to the presbytery as a deputation to express their great satisfaction at having again a priest among them. There was a good spirit among them; they were united and assisted well at the services of the Church, and it was a pleasure to preach and minister to them. Their pastor received their confidence from the beginning. It may not be out of place to here remark that the Irish miners in Westland in those days came from the comparatively well-to-do classes at home. Free immigration had not yet come into force,

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