

had been present at the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of a Catholic college in this Colony. He was present when the foundation stone of St. Patrick's College, Wellington, was laid. He saw no reason why the present college, when completed, could not do as good work as the one referred to. He concluded by heartily wishing the Brothers every success and prosperity.

The motion was carried by acclamation.

During the delivery of the addresses, collectors from the four city parishes made their way through the people and got together a sum much over £100, which will be added to within the next few weeks.

The Garrison Band, under Bandmaster Hunter, enlivened the proceedings by discoursing sweet music, notably a fantasia of Irish airs, and the Coronation March, a composition by Mr. Harry Hiscocks, the young organist of St. Patrick's.

The proceedings ended successfully about half-past four, and the whole arrangements were well thought out and executed, thanks to the energy and care of Brother Basil, Superior of the Marist Order in Auckland.

Hibernian Society, Christchurch.

(From an occasional correspondent.)

A representative meeting of Hibernians took place in the Hibernian Hall, Christchurch, on Friday, November 7, to tender to Bro. Gilmour, of New South Wales, an official recognition of the services rendered by him to the cause of Hibernianism. Bro. Dennehy and Brcs. O'Rourke and Ryan, from the Charleston and New Headford branches, were also present, as also were many of the pioneer members of the Christchurch branch.

The president, Bro. D. Edmonds, in rising to offer a very hearty reception to Bro. Gilmour, of N.S.W., first thanked the clergy, the Bros. of the New Headford branch, and visitors for their presence. They were here, he said, to join in doing honor to one of our Brcs., who has had the privilege and distinction of being one of the pioneers and promoters of Hibernianism in Australasia. He was fortunately one of those gentlemen who had brought with him the best traditions of the old country to the colonies. It was for this, if for no other reason, that he offered to him on behalf of the branch a 'cead mile failte,' and sincerely hoped that his visit to these shores would have beneficial results, that it would give him a new lease of life, and that he would carry away with him pleasant memories of his sojourn here. Bro. Gilmour may rest assured that the seed of Hibernianism which had been planted in Australia thrives well in the soil of New Zealand. That was very apparent when he mentioned the fact that the Bros. of New Headford branch journeyed about 12 miles to take part in the function of the evening.

Bro. Sellars, P.D.P., said the object of the gathering was of a two-fold character—viz., to extend to Bro. Gilmour, one of the founders of the society in New South Wales, a hearty welcome to Christchurch, and to present Bro. F. Doolan with a P.P.'s collar. Before dealing with the former, he mentioned that by a curious coincidence another visitor, Bro. Dennehy, one of the founders of the first branch in New Zealand (Charleston), had stolen a march on them and was also present. Speaking of Bro. Gilmour, he mentioned that that Brother was one of a number of men who in 1863 in Albany carried with them the traditions of the dear Old Land, and to perpetuate the same had donned the green on the 17th of March of that year, and assisted in the foundation of the first branch in New South Wales. The outcome of the sojourn and jeering at a number of Irishmen in Ballarat on St. Patrick's Day, 1861, was the foundation of the H.A.C.B. Society. To his credit their esteemed visitor had come through all successfully, being one of those who donned the green in 1861, and that from the day he joined to the present remained a member of the society. That he has always taken a keen and active part in the welfare of the society was fully demonstrated by the fact that he was up to date in all its transactions and worthy of their highest respect and esteem. On an occasion of the kind he made no apology in referring to the rise and progress of the society in the Colony. From the seed planted by these men three branches sprung in 1870—Charleston, Greymouth, and the Thames. Then in 1873 and 1874 eleven more off-shoots were formed—Auckland, Dunedin, Invercargill, Christchurch, Hokitika, Akaroa, Lyttelton, Oamaru, Naseby, Onehunga, and Wellington. According to last returns there were now 27 branches flourishing. This, he thought, was sufficient proof, and must be highly gratifying to Bro. Gilmour that the seed he helped to plant was sound and of the right color. It was also gratifying to know that the first three branches planted were still healthy and vigorous, and that they had in their midst the venerable Bro. Dennehy, one of the Charleston's first members. In connection with the progress of the society he hoped it would not be deemed egotistical on his part when he claimed that the Christchurch branch was the most progressive in New Zealand. The principal and most useful reforms introduced within the last 15 years emanated from this branch. He named among them the formation of one district for the Colony, the sliding scale of contributions, direct representation and movable meetings, and also the formation of female congenits. He would like also to mention, as a coincidence, of course, that the E.D. in Melbourne had in each case followed New Zealand in introducing the sliding scale of contributions and direct representation. Referring to the financial status of the society, he said that at the annual meeting of the society held in Melbourne in 1897 he read a tabulated statement setting forth the amount per member in the different districts. This placed New Zealand at the head of the list, consequently if the registrar's opinion that the financial position of the New Zealand district was not good, it followed that the other districts in Australia are bad. Notwithstanding that the E.D. officers and influential men in Sydney

assured him the actuaries had reported favorably on their respective districts, he felt such was not the case, and urged them to take the matter up and thoroughly investigate it. As an answer to cavillers as to the unprofitableness of sending representatives to these meetings, he might say the sprinkling of mustard seed he had dropped when in Sydney had already borne fruit, as in a year or two after his visit, the district had, so he was informed by Bro. Gilmour, decided to increase its contributions by one penny to twopence per member. He apologized for referring to these matters, but maintained it was in the interest of every member, that the society, as a whole, should be in a sound position. A reference to the annual report of the Friendly Societies for 1901, somewhat confirmed his contention, as New Zealand heads the list of different societies in Australia. In conclusion, he again referred to the good work done by the pioneers of the society and said that what was dear old Ireland's loss, was the colonies' gain, in having amongst them men of the stamp of their respected visitor.

Bro. Nelson, a veteran member of the local branch, said he was privileged in being in the company of one who fought so hard to plant Hibernianism in Australasia. He endorsed heartily what had been said by the president and secretary. He was pleased also to see present the oldest member of the West Coast, Bro. Dennehy, of the Charleston Branch, and that one of the oldest members of the local society was present on such an auspicious occasion.

The Rev. Father O'Connell, said he was pleased to be present at such a representative gathering. It was pleasing to see present, gentlemen, who had come through the difficulties of organizing and establishing the H.A.C.B. Society in Australasia. It was a society, where not only the traditions of the old land were kept up, but every encouragement given to members to adhere more thoroughly and practically to the principles and practices of our Holy Faith. Hibernians were true and loyal subjects. He would do his utmost to help the cause of Hibernianism.

Bro. Ryan, President of New Headford Branch, was pleased to be present on such an occasion. It was duty of young men to keep up traditions of the old land, and inculcate in our fellow men a love for our country.

Bro. Lonergan, one of the pioneer members of the Christchurch branch, referred to difficulties experienced in early days in Australia in reference to the establishing of Hibernianism.

Bro. Gilmour, who was greeted with applause, in responding said it afforded him much pleasure to be present at such a meeting. He thanked the members for their kindness. Wherever Hibernianism flourished true friendship would be found. He expected friendship and was proud to be amongst them. In 1861 a number of Irishmen met at Ballarat to honor St. Patrick's Day. They were hooted and jeered at, but they only became the more determined to uphold the honor of their country. Shortly after a code of rules was framed, and an association set up. A branch was formed, Hibernianism then seemed to take root, and they had successfully surmounted the difficulties and barriers placed in their way from time to time. He hoped it would continue to flourish and that the very name of Ireland would be treated with respect and love. He would ever remember what had been done for him while in Christchurch. He was satisfied that the Hibernian Society and Catholicity truly flourished there. He thanked them most sincerely.

The President then presented Bro. F. Doolan with a P.P.'s collar. In doing so he said he had to perform one of the most pleasant duties that had devolved on him since he took office as president of the branch, namely, the presentation to Bro. F. Doolan. He would ask Bro. Doolan to accept it, not for its intrinsic value, but as a soldier receives his medal and clasp, for the distinguished services he had rendered to Hibernianism.

Bro. Sellars said that from the night of his initiation up to the present time, Bro. Doolan had taken a keen and active part in the working of the society. He (the speaker) was always opposed to testimonials given for passing through the different offices, but when a member threw himself heart and soul into it and worked hard for its welfare then it was right and proper that his services should be recognised.

In conclusion the Rev. Father McDonnell spoke in praiseworthy terms of the Hibernian Society. He thought every young man should be within its ranks. He thanked the members for the opportunity given him to say a few words in favor of the cause.

During the evening refreshments were handed round, and a musical programme gone through.

Your attention is directed to the following SPECIAL and USEFUL WORKS just added to our library:—The Doctor at Home or Nurse's Guide, thus forming a practical, reliable, and comprehensive manual—easily consulted and readily understood—of the structure and composition of the human body; the natural causes and treatment of the diseases to which it is subject; its maintenance in health and strength; and the prolongation of life, with special direction respecting the various ailments and disorders of childhood and womanhood. Edited by George Black, M.B., Edinburgh, and appropriately illustrated. The Amateur Carpenter and Builder—a complete guide in every description of construction and decorative work. A self-aid encyclopaedia for self-taught students, with 752 illustrations and diagrams, comprising—Elementary Carpentry and Joinery, Ornamental Carpentry and Construction, General Building Art and Practice. The Unrivalled Atlas of Modern Geography, for schools and families, containing 40 maps, with index to 22,000 names contained in the atlas. Each of the above are GIVEN AWAY with 10th BOOK GIFT TEA. Be sure and order them from your grocer.—***