

the Sacraments a new value. In France the revival of religion has been extraordinary, and, following the noble example of their Generalissimo, the men were proud to be seen kneeling at their prayers as in the far-away days of their childhood. The heroism of the French priests helped greatly to bring about this change; and no doubt the influence of our own chaplains was also felt for good. The revival in the trenches reacted on the homes and in one way or another many people in different countries began to find in prayer and union with God a consolation and a strength long unknown to them. Not the least of the good results has been the dissipation of old prejudices and the breaking down of the barriers of bigotry—so carefully maintained in the past by venal politicians! It is too soon yet to weigh the gain against the loss. At present we feel the loss most, but who will deny the increasing purpose towards final good in the future years?

ANZAC DAY IN WELLINGTON

SOLEMN OBSERVANCE AT THE BASILICA.

On last Friday (Anzac Day) a Solemn Requiem Mass, commencing at 9 a.m., was celebrated at the Sacred Heart Basilica, Hill Street Wellington, for the repose of the souls of those who made the supreme sacrifice on Gallipoli, and during the late war, generally. The building was densely thronged, several hundreds being unable to obtain admission. The procession was formed at the archbishop's residence, headed by the cross bearer and acolytes. These were followed by the clergy of the city. Then came Archbishop O'Shea, followed by Archbishop Redwood. Catholic returned soldiers assembled at Bunny Street, whence they marched to the Basilica. The Solemn Requiem Mass commenced immediately on the arrival of the procession. The Very Rev. Father T. Gilbert, S.M. (Rector of St. Patrick's College), was celebrant at the Mass, assisted by Father Ainsworth, S.M., as deacon, and Father Hoare, S.M., as subdeacon. Father Hurley, S.M., Adm., being master of ceremonies. The assistant priests at the throne were the Ven. Archdeacon Devoy, S.M., and the Very Rev. Dean Holley, S.M. (Provincial). The solemn music of the Mass was very capably sung by a trained choir of students from St. Patrick's College. Father Kimbell, S.M., acted as conductor, and Father Schaeffer, S.M., presided at the organ. After the Gospel, his Grace Archbishop Redwood delivered the following discourse:—

We are met to-day, within the sacred walls of this temple dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, to commemorate and praise the immortal deeds of the heroic members of the Anzac regiments, and to pray

for the souls of those of that noble band of heroes who made the great sacrifice and gave their lives for their King and country. Heroism such as theirs has seldom been seen in the world, and perhaps never surpassed. They have written in indelible letters of gold one of the brightest and most glorious pages in the history of the British Empire. Their deeds and fame are beyond all praise in every land on the face of the earth. Accordingly, to extol their achievements again to-day appears to be superfluous and like painting the lily or gilding refined gold. So I will address myself to other thoughts more immediately actual and absorbing. The thought uppermost in the minds of men to-day is peace. The entire world in this approaching hour of peace is thinking of a restoration again to normal conditions. It is praying for a warless world. Peace has been purchased at the price of the most terrible war of all history. The Anzacs did their part in it fearlessly and generously. They left this country and crossed the briny oceans to shed their noble blood that peace might be the inestimable result. For the only aim of every just war is to gain peace. They did their duty in war time heroically, and we followed and attended their career with our good wishes, assistance, and fervent prayers.

But there is another duty we have to fulfil to our country in relation to peace in this hour. What is it? It is that of earnest, fervent, persevering prayer that Almighty God may illumine the minds and strengthen the judgment of those who sit in the council of the nations. The Holy Father, the vicar of the Prince of Peace, appeals to the whole world for such concerted prayers. Let us pray, too, that peace may be such that an infinitely wise Providence and a universal paternal God will approve. If you ask why the Catholic portion of the Anzacs have been so faithful to their war duties, the full explanation is in their religion. Religion commands of all, and especially of Catholic men, to be true, loyal citizens, to give their sons if necessary to their country, and this by reason of the natural virtues that actuate any man—since patriotism is a noble branch of charity—but it demands more than that. It demands that they do this from supernatural motives. And so it has been in the great war. From various sources in the East and West, in Europe and elsewhere, we learn that the Catholic soldiers of the Anzac expedition have been an edification to their surroundings by reason of their open, fearless, practical religion. Ah! yes, religion makes men noble in war time duties. But it also fits them for the duties of peace. Religion is naturally something ennobling, elevating. The reason is simply because God, in creating us, has put a spiritual element into our being, and has raised us to a supernatural condition; and, consequently, by virtue of our nature, there is a demand for religion, a demand for some-

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