

according to St. Matthew, and spoke of the memorable circumstances under which Jesus Christ made His Church visible. He so identified Himself with the Church that to attack it was to attack Jesus Christ Himself. Jesus Christ was the Rock upon which the Church must be built; and not even the gates of hell could prevail against a Church so established. From the commencement of Christianity down to the present day, whenever the Church was attacked, those who attacked it began by attacking the foundation stone, and this foundation stone Christ had clearly pointed out, when He changed the name of Simon to Peter, meaning rock, saying: 'And thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build My Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.' From this they saw that Peter and his successors in the See of Rome might be likened to the rock—the safe foundation of the Church which Christ came to establish on earth. His Lordship said that he would like to expand further this point, but time would not permit. In drawing his remarks to a close, the Bishop spoke enthusiastically concerning the Catholic Church, and of the pride that he and all the members of his Church took in it. They were proud to say that they were Catholics, and their great desire was to let all know the joy and blessings which flow from a union with their Church, founded as it was upon One Who would never fail them.

Before resuming his seat, his Lordship congratulated Father Tubman, the devoted parish priest, upon the energy and enthusiasm he had displayed in collecting funds for the new church; he also thanked the visiting clergy for their attendance; the press for assistance given; and the Mayor, who, his Lordship said, had, in going there that day, given another proof of his democratic spirit, and of his keen interest in all that pertained to this progressive town—one of the most go-ahead in the Dominion. The Bishop also made a powerful appeal for a liberal collection that day, and said he hoped Father Tubman would be so well supported financially in this great undertaking that he would have to say: 'Stop; we have more than enough.'

The Right Rev. Dr. Verdon said he looked forward to the time when the beautiful edifice would be completed and opened for worship. He also dwelt upon the honor and privilege which Father Tubman enjoyed in being the instrument in God's hands for the erection of a dwelling place for Our Lord. Many of the early members of the Church in Timaru had desired to see a new church erected, but they had passed away with their desire unfulfilled; those of the present day, however, would be privileged to see the consummation of these hopes and desires. The work was great and important, and he felt that God would bless it and those connected with it.

Mr. Craigie, M.P., was next introduced by the Rev. Father Tubman, and asked to say a few words. He thanked Father Tubman for the invitation to be present, expressed his pleasure at being in attendance on so memorable an occasion, and said he took it as a compliment and an honor. He went on to congratulate Father Tubman on the success so far achieved, and said he hoped their most sanguine wishes would be realised. He believed that the site chosen for the new church was not equalled anywhere in the diocese. From its high position it would be a landmark to all vessels approaching the harbor, and its cupola would be visible dominating the town from the four points of the compass, and the building when completed would be a decided acquisition to the architecture of Timaru. It would be a splendid edifice, and the architect was certainly to be congratulated for his unique design. Mr. Craigie described the old Priory grounds when he had first seen them nearly forty years ago. They were then a wilderness of waving tussock, and the Rev. Father Chataigner, in selecting them, had proved his faith in Timaru, and the fact that he was a far-seeing man. In conclusion Mr. Craigie paid a compliment to Father Tubman as a priest and as a leading citizen of the town, and said he hoped to see him presiding as parish priest of Timaru for many years to come. Such zeal and enthusiasm as he and the members of his Church had displayed were an object lesson to others; it deserved to be rewarded, and he hoped that it would be rewarded with the fullest possible measure of success.

Rev. Father Tubman announced on Sunday evening that the collection taken up that afternoon amounted to the gratifying total of £1100. He spoke very feelingly of the generosity of all, and stated that it was a great encouragement to push on with the work.

Style and Dimensions.

The church when finished will be one of the largest of the Catholic churches in the Dominion. The style chosen is that known as Italian Renaissance—a style which owing to the difference of the scale in proportion to that used in Gothic architecture admits of larger buildings as to floor space being constructed at very much less cost. The two lighter of the five classic orders have been used in developing the design; that is to say, the Ionic and Corinthian. The general plan of the building is more marked in its cruciform development than is generally the case, largely owing to the fact that the colonnaded or arched side aisles have not been used, the architect having had recourse to a system of central grouping of arches and columns, together with a colonnaded apse, in order to make up for the aids to acoustic effect which the aisles in question give. Internally the church consists of a nave 40ft

x 90ft, two transepts each 40ft x 30ft, sanctuary and apse together 38ft x 41ft 6in. The ceiling height of the nave and transepts is 40ft, except that portion of the nave where it crosses the two transepts where the ceiling is carried up in the form of an internal dome, which rises to a total height of 65ft from the floor. The sanctuary is 43ft in its central height, with a semi-circular colonnade forming an ambulaerum 6ft wide and 18ft high. The main entrance, a pair of doors 5ft wide and 16ft high, is in the centre of the front under a colonnaded portico, which is covered at a height of 24ft with a masonry pediment on Ionic columns, and having Ionic architraves and cornices. On either side of this portico, and standing slightly back from it, are placed two towers, each 20ft square and rising, with their surmounting belfries and domes, to a total height of 97ft. Behind the portico and uniting the two towers is the space, or ground floor, devoted to two side entrances and the baptistery, with stairways to organ loft, etc. Above, extending between the two towers, is the organ loft, which is a space 46ft x 15ft x 19ft high. The towers contain, in addition to five rooms for general purposes, two belfries each capable of containing from four to six bells of large size. The whole building is to be con-



REV. FATHER SMYTH, TIMARU.

structed with a cement-concrete base and foundations and wallings, etc., of Oamaru stone and brick, with a hearting of reinforced cement-concrete. The floors of the organ loft, towers, and sanctuary are also to be of reinforced cement-concrete. The central feature of the building is the cupola, which rises at the intersection of the nave and transepts, carried at the floor level on four arches 6ft thick. Springing at the level of the middle entablature and carried by sixteen Ionic columns of stone above these arches, which have panelled soffits, rises the cupola tower in stone, brick, and armored concrete, built in two stages, the first containing an inside dome of embossed metal, and the second, being clear of the roof, having twenty windows to light an upper hall immediately under the cupola, which is 40ft square by 12ft high. This walling externally is finished by a stone open work parapet surmounting the crown cornice of the topmost entablature, and at a total height from the ground level of 74ft. Above this rises the domed top of the cupola, covered with copper and surmounted with a moulded copper top 8ft in diameter and 7ft high, on which is carried a copper cross, which adds another 8ft to the total height; so that the whole, including the cupola itself, stands 102ft from the ground level. The haunches of the cupola tower behind the parapet are of reinforced cement-concrete covered with rock asphaltum, and will form an excellent platform from which to view the town of Timaru. The roof of the organ loft between the towers will be flat and constructed in a similar manner,