

been many pupils turned out of the school who had risen to positions of honor in various walks of life, and who had done credit to the school where they had received their early training. The fact that the school had produced a number of priests and an Archbishop was a testimony to the excellence of the training received at the Catholic school in Hawera. His Grace impressed upon the pupils the necessity for carrying out in practice what they were taught, and of ever upholding the honor of the school. He was quite sure the children would always be faithful to the school, that they would be a credit to it, to the teachers, and a credit to the Church. In conclusion, his Grace wished the school every prosperity.

The choir and school children sang a number of pretty solos and choruses; the Misses P. and S. Thurston, and the Misses Fennell and Thurston contributed pianoforte duets, while Miss Fennell gave a pianoforte solo; the Misses Mahoney, Douglas, Rauch, Maloney, Quin, Black, O'Donnell, and Nicholson gave a vocal number.

ADDRESS FROM PARISHIONERS.

St. Joseph's Church was crowded in the evening for Pontifical Vespers, when Archbishop O'Shea, with Dean Power, Father Cahill (Kaponga), Father Duffy (Patea), and Father Saunderson (Manaia) officiated.

After the beautiful service, Mr. E. Gallagher, on behalf of the parishioners, presented the following address to his Grace:—

'Your Grace,—With joyful hearts we bid you welcome to your native town. All rejoice: our pastor, who has known you for five-and-twenty years, our old parishioners who recall the days of your infancy, those who sat beside you in the first Catholic school, and who have watched with interest and delight your subsequent and most honorable career, and even the children of the friends and companions of your early years. All rejoice, because your labors will ease the burdens of our venerable Metropolitan, and your affection will be a solace to his declining days, and because your zeal and ability will enable you in God's good time to be the leader in much good work for Holy Church in this Dominion. Congratulating you on your elevation to so high a dignity, we subscribe ourselves, the Catholics of the parish of Hawera.'

Mr. J. Bartlett then read the following address from the Confraternity of the Sacred Heart, Hawera:

'May it please your Grace,—The Confraternity of the Sacred Heart is the one society in this parish on which our pastor chiefly relies for active and personal assistance in his work for souls. It is on this account he has done us the honor, which we highly appreciate, of asking us to read a special address of welcome to your Grace. As a spiritual society, whose members should be filled with zeal for the glory of God, we rejoice that your welcome is surrounded with the ceremonies and splendor of our holy religion. You have been raised to the plenitude of the priesthood, and it is fitting that the chief function of your welcome should take place in the sacramental presence of Him Who is a Priest for ever. We rejoice to see you raised to so high a dignity by the Supreme Shepherd of Christendom. We pray that God may give you many years to labor in this corner of His vineyard, so dear to us, and we are confident that among the chief objects of your daily care and solicitude will be the great confraternity of which we are a branch, and whose members' chief ambition is to have their names written on the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

'Signed on behalf of the members—

'JAMES BARTLETT,

'President of the Men's Branch.

'ETHEL O'CALLAGHAN,

'President of the Women's Branch.'

His Grace's Reply.

His Grace, in replying, said that he desired first of all to express his deep thanks to their worthy parish priest for the great trouble he had taken to make this welcome to his (the Archbishop's) own town and to

his own parish so enthusiastic and so cordial. As stated in the address, they had known each other for five-and-twenty years, and when he was raised to the priesthood it was Dean Power who had assisted him at his first Mass in Wellington, about twenty years ago. Afterwards Dean Power came to Hawera to be parish priest, in which town he (Archbishop O'Shea) spent his boyhood and went to school. It was also a coincidence that Dean Power should have been one of those who had assisted in the ceremony of his consecration as Coadjutor-Archbishop recently in the same city of Wellington. He was perfectly sure that the work the Dean had done in this parish for so many years and the labors which he was at present engaged in would be blessed to the fullest extent by Almighty God. The joy with which the Dean saw one of his parishioners come back to Hawera invested with such a high dignity was a joy that was shared by all of the parishioners, not on account of the speaker's own poor personality, but because of God's glory, and because the event marked a great epoch in the history of the Catholic parish in Hawera. In reply to the address which the parishioners had so kindly presented to him, his Grace said he must thank them most sincerely for the sentiments contained in that address. The parishioners had promised to lighten his burden, and they could do this only by their prayers and by a good example in living up to the teachings of the Holy Church. His Grace had always been edified and consoled at the signs of the strong, living faith that had permeated the parishioners of Hawera. He had known that they were faithful in approaching the Sacraments, and that they were thoroughly in earnest about the practices of their holy religion. And perhaps nowhere in the archdiocese was there so fervent, so pious, and so earnest a congregation. This was peculiarly gratifying to him. The address from the Confraternity of the Sacred Heart pleased him most particularly. This society was of great assistance to the pastor, and he was pleased to hear that it was doing so well in the parish. It was, of course, a matter of regret when he came back to find that so many old faces were no longer here, those he knew as a boy, many of whom had passed to their reward. It was gratifying to him to know that those who had come after them, and those who had come from other places, were walking in the footsteps of the pioneers who had founded the Church in this fair district of Taranaki. His Grace went on to elaborate on the faithful work of the pioneers and of those who were following, and he said he could only exhort them to continue in that way. He knew also that the material side of the parish had not been neglected, and under their zealous parish priest the parish had made many advances in this respect. He understood that the parishioners contemplated making greater improvements in the future, especially in regard to the buildings required for education. That particularly delighted him, that great work of Christian education, and his Grace went on to refer to the good work of the Catholic schools, which was up to the requirements of the State inspectors. He was delighted to know that the Catholic school in Hawera had always obtained most excellent reports. His Grace referred at length to the objects of the Catholic Federation, pointing out that its purpose was to do away with the present injustice which existed towards the Church in compelling its members to educate their own children as well as levying on them taxes to support an educational system which Catholics could not conscientiously take advantage of. He believed that there were many members of denominations outside the Catholic Church who were fair-minded enough to like to see this injustice removed, and a system of education introduced satisfactory to all parties. The movement of the Catholic Federation had been taken up most enthusiastically throughout the Dominion, and he was sure that the parish of Hawera would assist it. In conclusion, his Grace again thanked the parishioners for their splendid reception, and he asked them for their prayers in the great responsibility which had been placed upon him in his new office.

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