

have done your best deem yourselves useless servants." "How much more called for is that humble confession in my case, what faults and mistakes in my long career, what opportunities missed and lost, what partial and total failure, what a contrast between what might have been and what is, what low achievements in face of such high ideals. Hence I feel, and feel deeply, that I far more need your prayers than your praises, and verily I set myself down among the most useless servants. All praise to God and God alone, for in Him "we live and move and have our being;" without Him we are nothing; we having nothing we can do nothing and therefore we are worth nothing save by His all-powerful grace. He alone is great and alone worketh wonders, ever blessed be His Holy Name.

REPLY TO ADDRESSES.

I now proceed to answer the addresses seriatim: My dear brethren of the Episcopate of New Zealand I thank you most heartily for your loyal, appreciative and affectionate address. God has blessed me all the time I have been Metropolitan with excellent Suffragans. Nothing could exceed on all occasions their expressions and proof of devotedness. I thank all those here present for it and for the happy results which their unstinted co-operation has enabled me to achieve. Some have gone to their eternal reward and I deem it a duty to recall their memory on this unique occasion. The illustrious Bishop Moran, the saintly Bishop Luck, the genial, zealous and devoted Bishop Lenihan, the holy Bishop Verdon, and the wonderfully zealous Bishop Grimes, whose name and fame are immortalised in the classic Cathedral of Christchurch. I thank you again, and I appreciate at its full your beautiful address.

Next comes the address of the Hierarchy of Australia. Well, what I appreciate most in their address is the fact of its existence. It has been a surprise to me that they ever came to think of honoring me to such a degree. I gratefully accept it, however, and I ask this ecclesiastical province and all the Dominion to join me in their high appreciation of it. As to its very eulogistic terms in my regard I am naturally inclined to discount a deal of its encomiums, and to put this down to the transparent sincerity of the authors of the address, and to the physiological fact that friendship is somewhat blind to faults and too keen-sighted to qualities. However that may be, the address has my sincere and lasting gratitude. My dear clergy of the Archdiocese I sincerely thank you for your right royal and affectionate address. A bountiful Almighty conferred upon me a great blessing in giving me a perfectly united clergy, for union is strength and division is weakness. I have ever been in the happy condition of a helmsman in a boat who knows and feels that he has a crew of rowers willing, strong and united in any crisis. In any supreme difficulty they were ready to give a long pull and a strong pull and a pull altogether, and so no tide or wind or wave could impede their progress. May this union ever reign supreme, and then whatever may have been your achievements in the past they are but a shadow of what is reserved for the future. Thanks again, most hearty thanks.

Much the same may be said to my dear devoted laity in response to their most affectionate addresses. There has invariably been for the last fifty years an admirable unison in this diocese between the bishops, the priests and the laity. It is proverbial, the triple cord is not easily broken *triplex funiculus non rumpitur*. The Archdiocese may be fitly compared to an army in campaign. The Bishop is the general in chief, the priests are the officers, and the laity are the rank and file. What can the best general do without a competent staff of officers? What can the best general and the best officers do without brave and devoted soldiers? Without a first-rate rank and file? You are my rank and file my dear laity, and you have always behaved nobly; you have ever been ready to co-operate strenuously with your general and his staff, and so in any conflicts and tight critical moments you have gained notable victories. Continue to do the same and then who can foretell the extent of your future achievement.

To my dear Hibernians, a member of whose friendly society I have been for well nigh half a century, from the very outset of my episcopate, I respond that I appreciate highly your address, and I wish you in return continual and ever increasing prosperity. Your very life and soul are the two mighty sentiments—Faith and Fatherland—you are ever true to your faith, that "admirable gift of God" as St. Peter calls it, that "victory which overcometh the world" as St. John proclaims, you are also ever true to your fatherland beyond the seas, the "Island of scholars and saints," now, God be praised, a "nation once again." And you are likewise true to your adopted land which, for many years, is your real fatherland and a very fair one at that. Be ever true to faith and fatherland and you will certainly be a potent factor for the everlasting good of this fair land of which we are all so proud and hopeful.

My dear Maori children, my response to your affectionate, filial, and such poetic address shall be short but most grateful, cordial and loving. I am indeed proud to be a successor of the early pioneers of the Catholic Church in your fair land. I am proud to remember your brave forefathers in the faith; proud of your loyalty to them and to me, your present pastor and father. Endeavoring to equal them in affection for you, I gladly and gratefully draw to my safe and happy mooring your love canoe, and I receive from it most joyously your precious presents of Maori mats woven deftly from your native flax. I send you on return my canoe, dispatched from the unsinkable barque of Peter. Its steersman is faith, its rowers are gratitude and love, while its freight are my thousand spiritual blessings. To all of you for time and eternity "Kia ora me ake toriu atu."

Last, not least, comes the address of the early settlers: I have, of course, a very tender spot in my heart for the early settlers; they revive such touching memories, they have deserved so well of New Zealand. I receive with the greatest pleasure and satisfaction their sincere congratulations which I value exceedingly, whilst I feel that no words are too emphatic to testify to them my admiration and heartfelt gratitude.

SERVICES RECOGNISED.

It now remains for me to thank all those devoted persons who in any way, directly or indirectly, have contributed so largely to make this Jubilee celebration a decided success. First of all I particularly thank the very able organisers of the whole proceedings, and no words of mine are adequate to sufficiently praise their zeal, patience, and indefatigable exertions for weeks and months in all manner of ways to ensure success. I thank the musicians, the organisers and singers. I thank the purveyors of our physical comforts in our new hall, and all those generous gentlemen who, in more ways than one, helped us to provide for the table requirements of our guests. I thank those who liberally provided motor cars for our never-to-be forgotten excursions and picnics. I thank the electricians for their illumination of the Basilica tower and front. I wish to thank everybody deserving of thanks, and if I forget any among so many benefactors I apologise in advance, for my gratitude extends to all without exception. And now rising for a moment to a higher level I tender my very special thanks to the many religious Orders who have sent me again and again the richest spiritual bouquets made up of Masses, Communions, etc., etc., etc., all of which I prize immeasurably more than any material gifts, because they are as superior to others as the supernatural is to the natural, as Heaven is to earth.

I have done. Universal thanks convey the extent of my appreciation and my gratitude. I sum up all in one vast *Te Deum* and *Magnificat*. May I also express my appreciation of the courtesy and even the reverence shown to my distinguished guests by the people of Wellington. Last Sunday it reminded me of that splendid community spirit which existed in my boyhood. May it never disappear from our midst, and to the Wellington press I wish to express my thanks for the great fairness they have invariably displayed towards me, and in particular for their generous attitude during the Jubilee days. I wish to thank everybody. (Applause.)