

HIS GRACE ARCHBISHOP KELLY FAREWELLED

SYDNEY'S AFFECTIONATE TRIBUTE TO HER VENERABLE PRELATE.

St. Mary's Cathedral was the scene of a wonderful demonstration on Friday evening last (says the *Catholic Press* of February 19), when a great gathering, representative of the laity of Sydney, assembled to bid farewell to his Grace the Archbishop of Sydney, on the eve of his departure for his *ad limina* visit to Rome. The Cathedral and its grounds were beautifully illuminated for the occasion, and from 7 o'clock till 8 o'clock the Cathedral bells were continuously chimed. Such a huge and enthusiastic crowd has seldom been witnessed before in the historic mother-church of Australia. It was, indeed, a striking and eloquent tribute to the great affection and esteem in which the venerable Archbishop is held by his people. His Grace the Archbishop entered the Cathedral at 8 o'clock, and immediately the great gathering rose, *en masse*. With his Grace on the sanctuary were their Lordships Dr. Shiel (Bishop of Rockhampton), Right Rev. Dr. Heavey (Bishop of Cooktown), Right Rev. Dr. W. Hayden (Bishop of Wilcannia-Forbes), and a large gathering of the clergy.

The Hon. John Lane Mullins, M.L.C., in presenting his Grace with an illuminated address, said that the laity took the occasion of his Grace's departure on a visit to the See of St. Peter to show their affection and regard for him. They were presenting him with a motor car, which would be awaiting him on his return, and with a portrait in oils, by a distinguished artist, which would take its place in the historic gallery of the Sydney archdiocese. This is a fitting tribute to their beloved Archbishop, who to-day celebrates his 70th birthday, and who to-morrow will leave, in discharge of an episcopal duty which takes him to Rome. It is fitting that such a ceremony as this should be held in the Cathedral itself, within the shadow of his Grace's own throne. It is nearly 40 years ago since an address was presented to the illustrious Archbishop Vaughan, on the eve of his departure for Rome. On two subsequent occasions, on the eve of the departure of the great Cardinal for Rome, and on his return, when he brought with him the Cardinal's Hat, St. Mary's was the scene of great demonstrations of affection and esteem on behalf of the Catholic laity. There is another reason why this ceremony should be associated with St. Mary's Cathedral. The extension beyond the limits of the present church is entirely due to the judgment and energy of his Grace. The crypt, which was built during the last couple of years, is an adjunct which was not contemplated in the plans of the distinguished Mr. Wardell, who designed the building.

"We are here to offer our most sincere congratulations to the Archbishop on attaining his 70th birthday, and we further wish him very many happy returns of this present anniversary. On going to Rome, to present his humble duty to the Pope, his Grace will convey our good wishes, and the good wishes of all Australians, to the very worthy prelate, Archbishop Corretti, who rendered signal services to the Church in Australia, and who by his charm of manner endeared himself to all of us, and whose memory

is very fresh in Australia. I have to thank their Lordships for being present to-night, and assisting us in the honor which we pay to his Grace. I have, likewise, to thank the members of the clergy and the distinguished ecclesiastics who, under the guidance of his Grace the Archbishop, may be said to be the men behind the gun who have also done us the honor to be present this evening, and to assist in the ceremony.

The Archbishop's Reply.

His Grace spoke as follows:—I receive your address with consolation and thanksgiving—thanksgiving to God, consolation in my own soul. The gifts mentioned are intensified in their value by the feeling of reverence and affection for your Archbishop. You do not look at the person. You look at my office. You regard the Pope as the successor of St. Peter. You know that SS. Peter and Paul have found their resting-place, as to their mortal remains, which shall yet be glorified in heaven, in the city of Rome. You revere the memories of the saintly Dr. Polding, who reigned over the See of Sydney from 1831 to 1878; Dr. Vaughan, who reigned from the latter year to 1884; and his Eminence Cardinal Moran, who was your pastor for 27 years. When a student, visiting in our evening walks the Basilica of St. Peter, I often heard the name of John Bede, Archbishop of Sydney. Frequently I met Cardinal Moran in Rome. What they did I am going to do. You recognize that this is one of the manifestations of the presence of Christ, Who is the Son of God, in the Catholic Church. Universality must have a centre if it is to be one. It can have universality of compounds, of atoms, but one organisation which fills the world; if it must have a centre—a centre of authority, authority in jurisdiction, authority in teaching, authority in governing. That spirit is in our souls.

"Separated from the Pope, I would be as a branch cut off from a tree. United to the Pope, I and you are branches of the mystic vine of Jesus Christ. That which grow from the mustard seed has become a great tree, and spreads its branches over the universe, so that all nations come and rest in its branches. Just as birds gather around a great tree and find repose in its branches, so we from Sydney and his Lordship from Rockhampton, and his Lordship from Wilcannia-Forbes, and the other Bishops of Australia, like all the other Bishops of the world, the western continent, Europe, Asia, Australasia, and Oceania, the whole world, are doing, and do periodically, what we are doing in this year of grace 1920. And you rejoice. This is the thing to be appreciated.

"Are we less devoted to Australia because of our devotion to Catholicity? No! On the contrary, the love of our heart for everything worthy living on earth, the love of the parent for the child, the love of the child for the parent, the love of the citizen for country is sanctified, is rendered divine by our devotion to Our Lord Jesus Christ, and through the graces which we receive in Holy Church. It is heaven that is our true country. Australia existed before we came. When we are gone, Australia will still go on in her development. God grant it will be a happy development. Then the soul goes to the judgment seat to its reward. We are citizens of this world, and especially of Australia and Sydney. But, above this, we are citizens of heaven. There is a throne and crown prepared for every one of us in heaven, and

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