

things and before all things, in the supreme interests also of civil society, the rights of the Catholic Church, established by Divine disposition as the one and only mistress and upholder of justice and truth, because the one and only guardian of the incorruptible teaching and the Blood of the Divine Redeemer. The inviolability of these rights will always be for Us a line over which it is not possible to pass, desirous as We ever are to be in peace with all and to co-operate in the universal pacification; willing as We are, where it is possible, to make concessions and even sacrifices which may be necessary to attain less troubled conditions of life for the Church, and pacification of minds, in the different countries.

#### The New Beat!

But to return to happier, more consoling thoughts, over these Our prayers and intentions for peace We invoke with special trust the patronage of the Venerable Servants of God whom the Divine goodness has granted Us to elevate to the title and the honors of the Blessed: Blessed Therese de l'Enfant Jesus, Blessed Michael Caricoids, Blessed Robert Bellarmine, of whom We love to say with our Ambrose, *Tales ambio defensores*. May the patronage of these great servants and friends of God accompany, and make auspicious of all celestial favors, the Apostolic Benediction which, with all Our heart, We impart to you, Venerable Brethren, to the whole Sacred College and to the whole Church.

## Bishop Whyte in Ireland

KILKENNY HONORS HER DISTINGUISHED SON.

On Monday night last, at 8 o'clock (says the *Kilkenny People* for June 23), at a specially convened meeting of the Kilkenny Corporation, Bishop Whyte was presented with the freedom of the city.

His Lordship was officially received at the entrance to the council chamber by Senator Ald. P. De Loughry, Co. C., Mayor, wearing his chain of office. On entering the chamber, accompanied by his brothers, Messrs. John and Michael Whyte, his Lordship was enthusiastically greeted by the large number of clergy and citizens who occupied special seats, as well as by the large attendance of the general public who occupied the body of the hall. His Lordship gracefully acknowledged the cordial reception.

The Town Clerk (Mr. E. O'Connell) read the following: Address to the Right Rev. James Whyte, Bishop of Dunedin, New Zealand.

Right Rev. Sir.—We, the Mayor and members of the Corporation of your native city, extend to you on our own behalf and of the citizens generally a most hearty *cord mile faillte* to the land of your birth after so many years of glorious exile in the cause of Faith and Fatherland.

We do so with the additional pleasure that it is not as a stranger you come amongst us, but as a noble and spirited son of our beloved city. By the dignity of your high office, by the splendor of your sterling patriotism, you have won fame for yourself and distinction for your native land and have made the name of Kilkenny illustrious on the far-flung shores of New Zealand.

You have returned to us at a time when, with the help of God, the clouds that have lowered so darkly over our unhappy country are now about to be dissolved, when we are cheered by the joyous hope that the sun of freedom and happiness will bathe a united Ireland once more in its most effulgent rays, and the smile replace for all time the tear in the eyes of Dark Rosaleen.

May God bless you long to carry out your noble work in the isles 'neath the Southern Cross in the cause of patriotism, religion, and truth.

In conclusion, right reverend sir, we take pleasure in assuring you that on no one more worthy or deserving has the honor of "freedom of the city" been conferred than on you, our gifted fellow-citizen, whom we greet so cordially and of whom we are so justly proud.

Signed on behalf of the Corporation of Kilkenny.—Peter De Loughry, Mayor; Edward O'Connell, Town Clerk, 18th June, 1923.

Continuing, the Town Clerk read the circular convening the meeting, and also the following resolution passed at a recent special meeting: "Proposed by Councillor J. McKenna, seconded by Councillor James Reade, and passed unanimously—That we, the Aldermen and Councillors of

Kilkenny Corporation, hail with delight the tidings of the intended visit to his native city of the illustrious Churchman, Most Rev. Dr. James Whyte, Bishop of Dunedin, N.Z. In advance we extend to his Lordship, on behalf of Kilkenny, a sincere and very hearty welcome, and we decide, at a special meeting, to confer on his Lordship the highest honor in our power, the freedom of the ancient borough of his native city."

The following is the parchment certificate of freedom presented to Bishop Whyte: "This is to certify that at a specially convened meeting of the Corporation of Kilkenny, held at the City Hall, Kilkenny, on Monday, June 18, 1923, the Freedom of the ancient City of Kilkenny was duly conferred on the Right Rev. Dr. James Whyte, Bishop of Dunedin, as a mark of esteem and veneration on the occasion of his visit to his native city of Kilkenny, and as a sincere expression of our great joy that one so closely identified with Kilkenny by birth, family ties, and education should, by his piety and learning, have been honored by his elevation to the Episcopacy of the Church.—Signed on behalf of the Corporation of Kilkenny, and sealed with the City Seal, this 18th day of June, 1923.—Peter De Loughry, Mayor; Edward O'Connell, Town Clerk."

#### BISHOP WHYTE'S REPLY.

Bishop Whyte, amidst applause, then signed the honorary roll of freemen. On rising to address the meeting his Lordship was greeted with rounds of applause which lasted for several minutes.

"I appreciate very keenly the honor that has just been conferred on me," began his Lordship. "I regard it as the greatest compliment that has ever been paid me in the civil sphere, and from my heart I thank you, Mr. Mayor, and your brother Aldermen and Councillors, for your kindness. A municipal body, I take it, can grant no greater privilege to a visitor than that which you have just granted to me and I can assure you there is no Corporation from which I would accept such a privilege more readily and gratefully than from the Corporation of the City of Kilkenny. (Applause.) I congratulate them on their beautiful speeches this evening, for the reason that they show the high-class mental efficiency displayed by the members of the Corporation of my native city. I congratulate them on that.

Kilkenny is an historic city. Its very ruins are evidence of its high place in Irish history. Its abbeys and monasteries and other buildings tell of its storied past and speak eloquently of assemblies held in bygone ages for purposes bearing upon religion and civic and national liberty. To be granted the freedom of such an historic city is a rare and special favor, and makes a strong appeal to me. (Applause.)

A still stronger appeal is made to me by the fact that it is my native city the city of my birth and education. During the past few months I have seen many prosperous and progressive cities both in America and Europe, cities in comparison with which Kilkenny is poor and almost negligible; but were I granted my choice I would unhesitatingly refuse the freedom of those opulent centres of commerce in favor of my native city by the Nore. (Applause.) I shall be your fellow citizen henceforth, and shall always be proud of the grand occasion when you placed me on the roll of citizens—a roll on which are found the names of some whose memory I fondly revere, notably the name of Cardinal Moran, also the names of such great dignitaries as Archbishop Spence of Adelaide, and my dear old friend and comrade, Bishop Haylen, Bishop of Wilcannia-Forbes. My active citizenship will last only for a few months, during which time my activity will reveal itself mainly in striving to observe all municipal regulations. (Laughter.) Foreigners coming as they do with a knowledge of the civic and national affairs of their own city and country, are naturally tempted to give advice as to how many matters could be settled at home. My activity will not show itself in that direction. The people of Kilkenny can be trusted to manage their civic affairs just as the people of Ireland can be trusted to transact the affairs of the nation; so it shall be no duty of mine while an active citizen of Kilkenny to criticise or advise. Neither am I qualified to deal with those bigger questions now agitating Ireland—questions that demand more intimate knowledge than can be possibly acquired by people 13,000 miles away from the centre of Irish political life.

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