

neither Nippon nor Muscovy appears to be inhabited by mere human beings. 'For our own part,' says a reviewer in the 'Otago Daily Times' or August 14, 'we incline to the belief that the historian, like the poet, is born, and not made, even by circumstances which may at times fashion a good imitation of the real article. That Mr. McCarthy will ever be mistaken for a born historian we have not the slightest fear; nor do we feel very sanguine that any efforts on his part will bring him within measurable distance of that literary summit, for he lacks the first essential quality of the historian, an unbiassed, analytical, and introspective cast of mind. History must be absolutely impartial and dispassionate, but Mr. McCarthy's Celtic temperament betrays itself in all that he writes, and his feelings run away with his judgment to such an extent that he becomes, instead of a faithful recorder of events, a special pleader for Japan, which, in his eyes, can do no wrong.' After having touched upon McCarthy's 'undisguised contempt for everything Russian,' the reviewer dismisses the book-maker with the contemptuous remark that, 'having made the pretensions of a writer of history, his prejudices are inexcusable.' But prejudice is the shadow that ever follows little minds.

PRESENTATION TO Father Murphy, Riverton

A large and enthusiastic gathering, representative of the priests of the diocese and the Catholics of St. Joseph's Cathedral parish, was held in St. Joseph's Hall on Tuesday evening for the purpose of making presentations to the Rev. Father Murphy, recently appointed successor to the late Very Rev. Father Sheehan as pastor of Riverton, and who had acted as Administrator of the Cathedral parish for some eight years past. The enthusiasm of the gathering, the number of presentations, and the generous response to the appeal for subscriptions were in themselves significant and forcible illustrations of the bond which exists between priest and people in this diocese, and an undeniable testimony to the esteem in which Father Murphy is held by his fellow-clergy and by the Catholics in Dunedin. When it became known that Father Murphy was appointed to Riverton the priests of the diocese decided to acknowledge the many kindnesses they had received from him during their visits to the city by making a special presentation. The laity of the city, on their part, felt that the severance of the close ties that had bound pastor and people for so long a period should not be allowed to take place without some tangible token of the warm place which he won in their hearts by his singleness of purpose and self-sacrificing zeal. A few weeks ago, at a general meeting of the parishioners, it was decided to take steps to make a presentation to Father Murphy, and a committee (of which Mr. J. B. Callan was chairman, Mr. T. J. Hussey hon. secretary, and Mr. P. O'Neill hon. treasurer) was set up to carry out the wishes of the meeting. It is almost unnecessary to say, considering Father Murphy's great devotion to the spiritual welfare of the people and his open-handed generosity to the needy, that the committee had the most willing co-operation of the Catholic people of the city. As a result of their labors they were in a position on Tuesday night to present him with an illuminated

Address and a Purse

containing a very substantial sum. Many of the societies and confraternities of the parish, who owed their success, and in some cases their existence, to Father Murphy's zeal and guidance, decided also to show their appreciation by making special presentations. Accordingly the St. Vincent de Paul Society, St. Joseph's Ladies' Club, the Confraternity of Our Lady of Perpetual Succor, and the Children of Mary were to the fore on Tuesday night with practical evidence of their esteem, and of recognition of what Father Murphy had done for them. In addition to all this, on yesterday

(Wednesday) evening a social was tendered to him by the Ladies' Club and on this (Thursday) evening entertainments and presentations in his honor take place under the auspices of the Cathedral choir and the Children of Mary, and on Friday evening by the St. Joseph's Men's Club.

The presence of Father Murphy in Dunedin, in connection with the Month's Mind of the late Father Sheehan, was taken advantage of to make the presentations referred to at the opening of this report. As already mentioned, these functions took place in the presence of a crowded gathering of the clergy and laity in St. Joseph's Hall. The arrival of Father Murphy in the hall was greeted with loud and prolonged applause. Mr. J. B. Callan presided. On his right was the Rev. Father Murphy. The platform was also occupied by the following clergy: The Right Rev. Mgr. Mackay (Oamaru), Very Rev. Mgr. O'Leary (Lawrence), Very Rev. J. O'Neill (Milton), Very Rev. P. O'Donnell (Gore), Rev. P. O'Dea (Ophir), Rev. W. A. Macmullan (Ranfurly), Rev. J. J. Lynch (Palmerston), Rev. P. Hearn (Port Chalmers), Rev. J. Coffey, Adm. (Cathedral), Rev. J. Geary (Lawrence), Revs. J. P. Delaney and M. Ryan (Holy Cross College), Revs. J. O'Malley, W. Corcoran, and H. W. Cleary (Dunedin). The members of the committee also occupied seats on the platform.

Mr. Callan, in opening the business of the meeting, said they all knew the object of the gathering, which was to bid Father Murphy farewell and wish him God-speed in his new mission. They deeply regretted his departure from Dunedin for the simple reason that his name had become a household word amongst the people and was associated in their minds with all that was worthy of a devoted Catholic priest. (Applause). It was to show their respect and attachment that they invited him there that evening to make him a presentation, for Father Murphy had the respect, esteem, and affection of the Catholic laity of Dunedin. (Applause). He had gone to a new parish, and although they regretted his departure, they should remember that he will in the future have the opportunity of exercising those many admirable qualities which endeared him to the people of this city. He (Mr. Callan) was sure that he echoed the sentiments of all that Father Murphy would be highly successful in his new sphere of labor and that God would bless him. (Applause). Mr. Callan then read the following address from the laity of Dunedin:—

Reverend and Dear Sir,—

We, the Catholic laity of Dunedin, learned with unfeigned regret that you were leaving us.

During your long residence here, extending over a period of fourteen years, you have gained the respect and esteem of us all. As Administrator of the Cathedral, you have always labored in an unostentatious manner, but we wish to assure you that your unselfish and unwearied devotion to your sacred duties, especially to the care of the sick and poor, is well known and highly appreciated by the entire congregation.

Indeed, you have been so long amongst us, that we had come to regard you as inseparably connected with the Cathedral; and it is impossible for us to part with one so intimately associated with the work of the parish, and so dear to us all, without a deep feeling of pain.

We recognise, however, that the needs of the diocese demand the separation. We know that you are being transferred to a large and growing parish which requires for its head a pastor of experience and tried worth, and this knowledge helps us to bear the parting more easily.

We cannot, however, allow you to leave St. Joseph's without expressing our deep sense of your valuable services, and we would ask your acceptance of the accompanying purse of sovereigns as a token—however inadequate—of our gratitude for your past services, and of our appreciation of your sterling character.

Wishing you every happiness and success in your new sphere of duty,—

We beg to remain,

Reverend and Dear Sir,

Very affectionately yours,

J. B. CALLAN,
THOS. J. HUSSEY, Hon. Sec.
T. DEEHAN,
D. W. WOODS,
P. O'NEILL.

On behalf of the laity of the
Dunedin parish.

Dunedin, August 22, 1905.

J. TAIT, Monumental Sculptor

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