

MARIE NARELLE

This morning (says the Auckland 'Star' of December 27) Bishop Lenihan, the Hon. J. A. Tole, Mr. W. J. Speight, and prominent Irish and other citizens extended to Madame Marie-Narelle in the Star Hotel, a warm, though formal, welcome. The others present in the party included Messrs. P. M. Mackay, P. J. Nerheny, Geo. Higgins, Rev. Father Holbrook, T. Buxton, M. J. Sheahan, Trevithick, Herr and Madame Welaert, T. Harle Giles, D. and Mrs. Flynn, Talbot, M. Foley, Walter and Mrs. Impett, J. W. Taylor, M.A., Mrs. De Clive Lowe, Mr. and Mrs. O'Shea (Brisbane), Mrs. Brandon-Usher (Sydney), etc.

The Hon. J. A. Tole, at the invitation of Bishop Lenihan, opened the welcome. Their welcome, he said, was an Irish one, which in warmth was always a



MARIE NARELLE,
'The Queen of Irish Song'

multiple by many thousands of all the other welcomes. Added to that welcome they desired to thank Madame Narelle for her popularising the songs of Ireland. She was their interpreter, and she had shown herself justly entitled to the name of 'Queen of Irish Song.' She was helping to promote the harmony of the nation by proclaiming in minstrelsy the love and loyalty, the patriotism, the valor, and the freedom of the Irish.

Bishop Lenihan, in concluding a neat speech, said: 'It is a happy combination that yourself and Mr. Devlin, the Irish envoy, have arrived at the same time in Auckland, to help along the cause in which not only Irishmen but New Zealanders generally—because of their love for Home Rule—are interested, desiring to see our country happy and prosperous.'

Mr. W. J. Speight said Madame Narelle came to Auckland to enthrall the people of the city, and she had done it. 'I am glad,' he said, 'to be here to see you to-day, because last night I could not see you properly. There was a haze before my eyes. And as I listened to you my memory went back to the songs of the old days.'

Madame Narelle, replying, said she expected a warm welcome in Australia, but the welcome she had received in New Zealand, where she was an entire stranger, and especially in Auckland, had taken her by surprise. She hoped no thought, word, or deed of hers would displace her from the position she held in the hearts of the Auckland people. She had a warm spot in her heart for Ireland, and her fondest wish was that God would bless Ireland and give it Home Rule. She hoped, when the Irish Parliament was opened, she would be there to join in the singing of 'God Save Ireland.'

The Countess of Kenmare is a devout Catholic, and her many deeds of kindness have endeared her to the tenants on her husband's beautiful estate in Killarney. Some years ago she established a small carving school, which has grown into a flourishing concern, and is known as the Killarney Furniture Industry. Besides this she has founded a school of industry for girls, where cooking laundry work, and needlecraft are taught by qualified teachers, and girls are trained as domestic servants.

PALMERSTON NORTH

(From our own correspondent.)

December 30,

Christmas in Palmerston proved a very busy season, and from a shopkeeper's point of view must have been one of the best for years past, notwithstanding the large number of citizens leaving to spend the holidays in Christchurch. Masses were celebrated on Christmas morning at 7, 8, 9, 10 o'clock, and a Missa Cantata at 11, sung by the Rev. Father Costello. Mrs. J. Russel presided at the organ, the choir rendering Farmer's Mass and the 'Adeste' in their very best style. After Vespers the Rev. Father Costello entertained the members of St Patrick's choir, and in a few well-chosen remarks thanked them for their services and attendance throughout the year.

Hokitika

(From our own correspondent.)

The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Jeremiah Crowley of Blue Spur will learn with extreme regret of the death of their daughter Honora at Waimate, Canterbury, where she was a teacher in the public school. The late Miss Crowley was formerly a teacher under the Westland Board of Education, and was well-known throughout the district. A large circle of friends will learn of her early demise with much sorrow and regret, and the sympathy of all will be extended to the bereaved family.—R.I.P.

I regret to report the death of Mr. Patrick Dee, of Revell street, who passed away on December 28 at the age of 71 years. The deceased, who was one of our most popular and esteemed citizens, had been in failing health for some time. The late Mr. Dee arrived in New Zealand in 1862, and came to the Coast in 1865, settling down in Goldsbrough, where he followed business as a contractor. Later on he entered into a commercial business in Hokitika, where he has resided ever since. He took a prominent part in local politics, and occupied at different times various seats on local bodies, chief amongst which was the Borough Council, in which he took a leading part. He leaves a wife and family of six sons and two daughters, one of whom is a Sister of Mercy at Christchurch. The funeral was very largely attended, friends arriving from Greymouth and Kumara, and all parts of the district to pay a last tribute of respect to the memory of the deceased. The Rev. Father Aubry, assisted by the Rev. Father Creed of Kumara, officiated at the grave side.—R.I.P.

Dr. A. L. Kenny sends Christmas greetings from Munich. Dr. Kenny expects to return to Victoria about April or May next year.

James Knight * Cash Butcher

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WM. J. BOLT, Secretary.