

even more imperious in its tone than his former one. He demanded canonical institution for an old man of seventy-six years of age. Now considering the vast size of the diocese and the wild mountainous region comprised in it, one cannot be surprised that the Holy See found itself obliged once more to refuse the nominee of the French Government. Later on, two other Sees became vacant, and the President of the Council proceeded to nominate candidates, and to demand the canonical institution.

The Pope, grieved that so many Sees should be left vacant, instructed the Nuncio (1) to seek a personal interview with M. Combes, explain to him all the difficulties of the case, and leave no stone unturned to arrive at a settlement. At a banquet given by the President to the Diplomatic Corps, the Nuncio met M. Combes and begged the favor of a personal interview. The latter replied that he hoped to have some free time the following week and that he would notify the Nuncio what hour would be most convenient; but time passed and the Nuncio received no invitation. A second request in writing (2) met with no better result; and later on, at a reception (3) attended by the Nuncio and M. Combes, the latter's attitude to the Nuncio could hardly be characterized by any other adjective than unmannerly. Several notes passed between the Holy See and the President of the Council, in which the latter insisted on the principle proclaimed in the Senate, 'all or none,' while on the other hand, the Cardinal Secretary of State politely but firmly refused to abandon the rights of the Church. (4) As a last resource the Nuncio called upon M. Delcasse, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and begged him to intervene. The Nuncio pointed out, that of the six candidates proposed, the Pope was willing to accept three. M. Delcasse was impressed favorably and promised to communicate with M. Combes, then absent from Paris; but since that time the Holy See has received no further communication regarding the Episcopal nominations.

(To be continued.)

- (1) By telegraphic despatch, 18th January, 1904.
(2) 2nd March, 1904.
(3) 23rd March.
(4) Documents, XIX.-XXIII.

The Irish Delegates

GREYMOUTH.

Mr. Donovan met with a very enthusiastic reception on his arrival in Greymouth. On arriving at the railway station he was received by a gathering of about 500 persons, headed by the Acting-Mayor (Mr. T. E. Coates), who said that though the envoy had left Ireland, he would yet find that in coming to Greymouth he was in the midst of the Irish for the greater number of the residents were of Irish descent.

Mr. Donovan returned his warm and sincere thanks for the flattering reception accorded him. He had heard from Mr. Redmond of the warm-heartedness of the West Coasters, and looked forward with pleasure to meeting them. The Catholic Band then escorted him to Gieseking's Hotel, where Mr. Donovan again thanked the public for their reception.

The Opera House (says the 'Grey River Argus,' of January 21) was well filled on Saturday night on the occasion of the address by Mr. J. T. Donovan, on the subject of Home Rule for Ireland. Mr. Donovan is a typical young Irishman with a pleasing platform presence, a fluent and eloquent delivery, a good command of imagery and well equipped with facts and figures. Altogether a winning personality and a convincing orator. On the platform were a number of representative townsmen, including the Hon. Jas. Marshall, M.L.C., the Hon. A. R. Guinness, M.H.R., and many others.

Mr. Coates, in the absence through illness of the Mayor (Mr. J. A. Petrie), presided and introduced the speaker in a brief speech, in which he remarked that it had always seemed absurd to him that the English Parliament had not long ago given Home Rule to Ireland.

At the conclusion of Mr. Donovan's speech, which was similar to that delivered in other centres, the Hon. A. R. Guinness, M.H.R., moved—'That this meeting accords to Mr. Donovan a hearty vote of thanks for his able and eloquent address, and is sure that Home Rule to the Irish people will not only conduce to the happiness of the people of Ireland but will

also consolidate and strengthen the British Empire; and this meeting pledges its moral and material support to the Home Rule cause.' Mr. Guinness said that the lecturer that evening was second to none of the previous envoys from Ireland. He (Mr. Guinness) was no new convert to the cause of Home Rule. He supported Mr. Donovan's argument that a decreasing population is evidence of mis-government by citing the experience of New Zealand between 1872 and 1884. During that period, when the Atkinson party was in power, thousands left our shores, but since the Liberals came into power the tide had changed. That showed that when a government was in accord with the wishes and desires of the people and is administering the country in the interests of the people, then people came to the country. He maintained that the colonies had a right to interfere on the subject of Home Rule for Ireland because they had as much right to see that the smallest as well as the largest portions of the Empire were well governed.

Hon. James Marshall said that it gave him hearty pleasure to second the motion, and he endorsed all that the mover had said.

Mr. W. D. Revington said that as an Irish Protestant it gave him great pleasure to be present and to have the honor of listening to Mr. Donovan's eloquent and common sense address on the subject of Home Rule for Ireland. He believed that there is a bright future dawning upon that unhappy land, and he cherished the hope that he might live to see the day when the Irish flag would float from an Irish Parliament in College Green, and then and not till then would Ireland be a happy, contented country, united to England by the bonds of equality and love. He could not understand why there should be doubts in the minds of English people about giving Home Rule to Ireland, for he took it that it meant nothing more than what New Zealanders enjoy in this glorious country, namely, the privilege of making their own laws and governing themselves according to their own ideas. Three or four years ago Britain was in the throes of a great war with the Boers of South Africa, and yet to-day she was doing what he believed to be the right thing, framing a constitution giving them self-government or Home Rule. He thanked Mr. Donovan for his eloquent and interesting address, and wished him every success in his great mission.

The motion was carried by acclamation, the chairman announcing that it had been agreed to unanimously.

Mr. Donovan briefly acknowledged the vote of thanks and moved a vote of thanks to the chairman. He also conveyed his thanks to the committee, to Dean Carew, to Mr. Tymons, the secretary of the committee, and to the audience for their attendance and attention.

HOKITIKA.

Mr. J. T. Donovan arrived in Hokitika on Monday evening of last week, and was met at the railway station by a large gathering, including the Mayor (Mr. Michel), Mr. Loomiey (chairman), and other members of the reception committee, who accorded the delegate a brief welcome. He was at once driven to the Empire Hotel, and there the Mayor, supported by the members of the reception committee, including the Rev. Fathers Graham and Gilbert, of Wellington, gave Mr. Donovan a formal, though most cordial, reception.

Mr. Michel, in welcoming their distinguished visitor to the town, referred to the visits of past Irish delegates, when as Mayor it had fallen to his lot to receive them. He hoped their present guest's stay would be as successful and pleasant as theirs had been, and he trusted he would have the pleasure of addressing a large and enthusiastic gathering the same evening.

Mr. Donovan briefly replied, and heartily thanked his Worship the Mayor and the members of the reception committee for their cordial welcome.

In the afternoon Mr. Donovan, in company with the Mayor and members of the reception committee, was driven to Rimu. He enjoyed the drive very much, and on arrival he was met by a considerable gathering of the residents. At the call of Mr. A. Clifton, M.C.C., three hearty cheers were given for him. Mr. Clifton subsequently welcomed Mr. Donovan to the district, expressing the great pleasure it gave them to meet a distinguished member of the Irish Party. He hoped his mission would be successful, and that his stay in the district would be very pleasant.

Mr. Donovan, in a few well-chosen words, thanked Mr. Clifton and the residents of Rimu for their kind-hearted welcome. On their return from Rimu Mr. Donovan, accompanied by Messrs. J. Toomey (chairman) and J. McSherry (hon. secretary) of the reception committee, visited St. Columbkille's Convent, where they received (as Mr. Donovan says) a real Irish welcome.

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