

and thanking Mr. Devlin for his eloquent address, which was carried unanimously. While a collection was being taken up, Mr. Loneragan contributed a vocal item.

Mr. Devlin moved a vote of thanks to the Mayor for presiding.

The financial result of the meeting at present is £550.

On leaving the hall and outside men and women crowded around Mr. Devlin to shake hands with him. Cheer after cheer went up as he entered the carriage with Bishop Lenihan. Mr. Devlin declared that the Auckland meeting in enthusiasm was second only to Sydney and Melbourne.

On Thursday the envoy journeyed to Hamilton, and addressed a large meeting there. Rev. Father Darby and the local committee worked hard to ensure success. People came forty miles to attend the meeting. The deputy-Mayor occupied the chair. Mr. Devlin delivered a vigorous speech, which, after the great meeting of the night before, must have been a great strain. The financial result was over £70. He returned to Auckland on Friday, and in the evening attended a dinner, given in his honor by Dr. Stopford and the committee in the Waverley Hotel. In his speech he bade farewell to the Australasian colonies, and said his mission had exceeded all expectations. He attributed its success to Cardinal Moran, the bishops, clergy, and the committees in every centre. He heartily thanked all for their invaluable assistance. He found in the colonies that hearts beat as warmly for Ireland as they did in Cork or Tipperary. He would carry away pleasing recollections of the colonies, and in the Imperial Parliament they may rely always on the services of the Irish party, if necessary.

A present of a greenstone ornament and an ivory-mounted walking-stick was made to the envoy. Mr. Devlin, on behalf of the committee, presented a gold fountain pen, inscribed, to Mr M. J. Sheahan, secretary, for his indefatigable work in connection with the meeting. He spoke eulogistically of the services of Mr. Sheahan on former occasions as well as on this one. A silver-mounted pen was presented to Mr. F. Moore, treasurer. Both returned thanks.

Mr. Devlin attended a religious reception at the Convent of Mercy on Saturday morning. At the conclusion of the breakfast he said he was delighted to find the daughters of Erin in this distant land planting and propagating the faith of St. Patrick. One of the most pleasant recollections of his tour would be of visits to convent schools, and, seeing the great work of Catholic education in progress there, he would convey back to Ireland a glowing account of such work. He wished the Sisters every happiness and prosperity in the noble work which they had so successfully carried on.

Mr. Donovan here entered, having arrived from the south. He also spoke in high praise of the work of the Sisters at home and abroad.

On Sunday the envoys visited the Home of the Little Sisters of the Poor. Mr. Devlin briefly addressed the aged inmates. It was touching to see the enthusiasm of the old people. Mr. Donovan also spoke. The party also visited the Mater Misericordiae Hospital.

On Monday morning the envoys, accompanied by the Bishop, visited the Takapuna Orphanage, and spoke there, and in the evening were present at a meeting of the Marist Brothers' Old Boys' Association. The Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan and the Right Rev. Dr. Reville were present, and there was a large and enthusiastic gathering of members. Speeches were delivered by the envoys. Mr. Donovan dwelt on the great fight going on at Home; the splendid support given by the Irish race abroad, and the phenomenal success of the mission of Mr. Devlin and himself in the colonies. They were delighted, he said, with the final send off at Auckland, whose warm-hearted Bishop, priests, and people they would never forget. Mr. Devlin followed, and paid a high tribute to the progress of the Church in this Colony, with its splendid scholastic institutions, and expressed his delight at seeing so many young men present. He congratulated the Marist Brothers on the result of their teaching, and urged the young men to be true to the traditions of their fathers. He told how Ireland stood for faith and fatherland; how the Irish Party stood by the principles of taking the part of the weak against the strong. At the close of the envoys' speeches the assemblage rose and cheered for several minutes.

His Lordship Bishop Lenihan bade the envoys farewell, and told them that if in a few years Home Rule were not granted, to come out again, and more support would be given.

The meeting concluded with cheers for Messrs. Devlin and Donovan.

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

February 2.

The annual meeting of the United Irish League was held on Tuesday night in St. Patrick's Hall. Mr. Martin Kennedy presided. The balance sheet of the League showed a credit of over £50, and it was decided to donate £25 to the Home Rule Fund. The officers elected for the ensuing year are as follows:—President, Mr. Martin Kennedy; vice-presidents, Messrs. O. McArdle, E. Carrigan, W. F. Healy, P. J. O'Regan, P. M. Twomey, and J. Carey Fitzgerald; hon. treasurer, Mr. E. Carrigan; hon. secretary, Mr. J. J. O'Brien; executive, Rev. Father O'Shea, S.M., Messrs. A. C. Bretherton, E. J. Fitzgibbon, J. J. O'Sullivan, J. J. Callaghan, J. W. Callaghan, P. J. Rafferty, A. G. Foote, P. Patton, J. Devlin, T. Fouhy, J. Finlay, J. Breen, T. P. Lyons, F. Scullan, R. McRae, T. O'Brien, D. McLaren; auditors, Messrs. A. C. Bretherton and J. J. Callaghan. The chairman announced the receipt of several contributions. Dunedin gave £314, Christchurch £200, Nelson £70, and Lawrence £58. Timaru, with £336, was so far the largest contributor, with the exception of Wellington.

Wanganui

(From our own correspondent.)

January 31.

The death of Mr. Jno. Donovan, late sergeant of the police force at Wanganui, took place at Kakaramea on Monday.—R.I.P.

I have to congratulate Miss Lucy Stanley for passing the Civil Service examination last December. She was the only one sent up from our local convent.

The Irish envoys' reception committee report that the proceeds to be remitted to the central treasurer of the fund (Mr. Martin Kennedy) at Wellington is at present £174. The list was finally closed to-day.

The parents of the scholars attending the Marist Brothers' School must be pleased with the results of the teaching there, as two of the pupils competing with those from all the Catholic schools in the Colony, obtained scholarships—Masters John O'Connor (a scholarship at Sacred-Heart College, Auckland), and John Kevin Crotty (a scholarship of £25 a year, tenable for four years, at St. Patrick's College, Wellington). I have to congratulate both boys on their success, and may it be only a forerunner of a bright future.

The Premier, Sir Joseph Ward, passed through Aramoho by Friday's express en route for England to attend the Imperial Conference. He was met at the railway station by the Mayor and a representative gathering of citizens. The Mayor wished him a pleasant trip and a safe return, and was sure he would do both himself and the Colony credit. The Premier thanked the Mayor for his kind expressions, and the citizens for attending to endorse those expressions of good will. He was going to an Imperial Conference as a representative of all classes in New Zealand. Matters of the greatest possible consequence would be discussed there, and as far as he could he would try to act for the benefit of all parts of the Empire. He hoped to be back about the end of June. He hoped that during his absence they and their district would continue to prosper in every way.

It is with extreme regret that I record the death of Mr. Charles Mark Wixcey, third son of Mr. Thomas Wixcey, who was drowned at Castlecliff Heads last Sunday afternoon. It appears that there were some very big breakers, and though the tide was coming in, a strong current was running. The deceased disappeared suddenly, having, it is thought, got into a hole. Directly his disappearance was noted his companions hurried to render assistance, but without success. The police have been searching without success, and up to the time of my writing the body has not been recovered. The deceased was an unassuming and extremely popular young man, and news of his untimely end was received by all the members of the St. Mary's Catholic Club with sincere regret. He was a good musician, being conductor of the club's orchestra, and in many other ways assisted the club to entertain his fellow members.—R.I.P.