

carry out legislation to that effect.' He told of Dr. O'Doherty being transported to Australia for writing an article in the 'Nation,' which article was considered to be disloyal, and said that if they could be called disloyal, far more disloyal articles were written in our day, and no transportations took place. Sympathisers present could now show their sympathy in a particular manner, and he announced a collection.

In seconding the resolution the Very Rev. Dean Hackett said that the address was a masterpiece of oratory, worthy of an orator of Ireland in the days of Irish history. Mr. Devlin could also convey Home the expressions of loyalty to King Edward, who was always Ireland's friend.

The resolution was carried by acclamation.

A vote of thanks to the lecturer was proposed by Mr. H. Poland, M.H.R., seconded by Mr. Collins, and carried with acclamation.

In acknowledging the resolution Mr. Devlin said it was fortunate for his speech, if not for his cause, that he had spoken before his countryman, Dean Hackett, or he was afraid that as an orator the Dean would put him in the shade. On his motion a vote of thanks was passed to the Mayor, for presiding.

Throughout the meeting great enthusiasm was shown, and the meeting terminated with three ringing cheers for old Ireland. A sum of £110 has been taken so far, but it is expected to reach much more when the moneys are in.

WELLINGTON.

(From our own correspondent.)

February 2.

During the week Mr. Donovan, one of the Irish delegates, returned from a very successful mission on the West Coast and in the Nelson and Marlborough districts, and was the guest of Mr. Martin Kennedy. He was to have left Auckland with Mr. Devlin to-day, but the delay of the 'Sonoma' will prolong the stay of the delegates in Auckland. Mr. Donovan left here on Friday morning. On Thursday evening a large number of friends and members of the United Irish League gathered in Freeman's Rooms to honor our distinguished visitor. Mr. Martin Kennedy (president of the League) occupied the chair. Mr. Kennedy, in his opening remarks, referred to the splendid work done by the delegates in making known to the people of New Zealand the cause of Home Rule for Ireland. The work they had done was not to be measured merely by the amount of contributions received. The great moral support that the conciliatory and able speeches of the delegates had raised was not to be overlooked. Mr. Donovan had done some very hard work on the West Coast, and although the notice was very short the supporters of the Home Rule movement desired to pay him their respects. That was why they mustered so largely at this gathering. He wished Mr. Donovan and his colleague Mr. Devlin further success and bon voyage.

Mr. E. J. Fitzgibbon, in proposing the toast of the guest of the evening, expressed the great pride he felt in having such a pleasing duty to perform. Not only as the son of Irish parents but as a young New Zealander, conscious of the glories of a free constitution, he could speak to such a toast with enthusiasm. New Zealanders did not forget what they owed to the pioneers of the Colony, and many of the best and bravest of the first settlers were men and women that were driven from Ireland. The delegates had done a great work. They had explained the cause for which they were striving, and their speeches had won the sympathy of all creeds and classes. The idea of an Imperial council was bound to be realised in the near future, and then might he express the hope than an envoy from these shores would find himself seated side by side with an envoy from Ireland, but from an Ireland glorious and free.

Mr. O'Regan, in speaking to the toast, eulogised the efforts of the delegates, and referred to the broad sympathy that their visit had aroused. Mr. Donovan had acquitted himself splendidly on the West Coast. The old objections to Home Rule had been shattered. He might say that with regard to the cry that the Irish were an inferior race, they need only look at the recent successes in the examination for the degree of Bachelor of Laws, and they would find that the first three names were those of Irishmen. Nowhere outside of Ireland were the people so much in favor of the Irish cause as in New Zealand.

Mr. Donovan, who is a most vigorous speaker, was received with applause. He thanked the gathering for their great kindness—a kindness which had characterized their visits everywhere in Australia and New Zealand. He felt that night as though he were a sentinel on the outposts of civilisation, and if they asked

him, 'How goes the cause in Ireland?' he could answer back: 'The cause goes well; we are on the brink of victory.' Prominent men all over the Empire were in favor of Home Rule, and the late Mr. Seddon, after his last public speech in Australia, said he would be pleased to preside at the main meeting in New Zealand. He had just concluded a visit to the West Coast, and he could say that nowhere outside of Ireland did he meet such kindly, hospitable people. The Coast was indeed a part of Ireland. In conclusion he said that he would carry home fond memories of this beautiful country, where there were so many warm advocates of the Irish cause.

Mr. Donovan in a felicitous speech proposed the toast of the Chairman, whom he described as a great friend and valued supporter of the Irish cause. It was to Mr. Kennedy's great zeal and ability as an organiser that the success of the delegates' mission was largely due. The toast was enthusiastically received, and after Mr. Kennedy's reply, the proceedings concluded with the singing of 'God Save Ireland.'

During the evening musical items were given by Messrs. Clarkson, Finlay, Foote, Carr, and Master Foote. Mr. McLaughlin presided at the piano.

A Message.

On Thursday evening I asked Mr. Donovan for a message to the young New Zealanders, and he graciously wrote me in the following terms:—'What has struck me particularly in connection with the young New Zealander—especially the young New Zealander of Irish extraction—is his bright, frank, and manly disposition. He lives in an atmosphere of freedom, in a land strikingly beautiful in its varied colorings and its sharp contrasts. Realising the advantages derived from the blessings of liberty enjoyed by him almost in the apotheosis, the young New Zealander has extended the hand of friendship, comradeship, sympathy, and support to the Irish delegates representing a people struggling towards the light of freedom. Let the young New Zealander rejoice indeed that he shares the glories of liberty. Let him ever guard, in a spirit of jealousy and extreme vigilance if you will, the inestimable advantages which free constitutions bestow. His land is rich in natural wealth and beauty; its potentialities are immeasurable. Its future rests in the hands of the young men. The heritage of a free New Zealand in the opening of the twentieth century is theirs to cherish and preserve. If I read aright the character of the young New Zealander, the trust so descending will be preserved in all its integrity. Let me only hope that the future holds for the young men of New Zealand, who in sympathy and support are as one man at the back of Nationalist Ireland, the choicest of blessings. That prosperity be theirs is the sincerest wish of

JOHN T. DONOVAN (Irish delegate).

AUCKLAND.

(By telegraph from our own correspondent.)

Auckland maintained its reputation last Wednesday evening, when the Royal Albert Hall was crowded to greet Mr. Joseph Devlin. As the envoy, preceded by his Worship the Mayor and his Lordship Bishop Lenihan, entered the hall, the greatest enthusiasm was displayed, the people rose and cheered enthusiastically. On the platform with Mr. Devlin were the Mayor of Auckland, Bishop Lenihan, Messrs. Alfred Kidd, M.H.R., T. Thompson, M.L.C., Leys (editor of 'Star'), Mackay, W. J. Napier, Dr. Stopford (chairman of the committee), and P. J. Nerheny. In the body of the hall were the Right Rev. Dr. O'Connor, Bishop of Armidale, and the Right Rev. Dr. Dunne, Bishop of Bathurst. The hall was beautifully decorated, a picture of Mr. Gladstone occupying a place in the front of the platform.

The Mayor briefly introduced Mr. Devlin, who, on rising, received a great ovation, it being several minutes before he could speak. He dealt with the criticisms of the Auckland 'Herald,' which called him a 'peregrinating mendicant.' His fault, in the writer's eyes, was that he was a successful mendicant, returning with over £22,000. The same journal argued that Irish affairs were of no interest to colonials, yet every day it afforded two columns of its space to anonymous writers to slander the people of Ireland. The anti-Home Rule meeting, about to be held, would afterwards be compared with this magnificent gathering where people paid for admission, and showed they backed their convictions in the best possible manner. Would the so-called loyalists do this? The remainder of his speech was on the lines of those delivered in the south. At its conclusion the large audience rose and cheered enthusiastically.

Dr. Stopford moved and Mr. Nerheny seconded a motion affirming the principle of Home Rule for Ireland,

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