

THE APOSTOLIC DELEGATE

OFFICIAL WELCOME IN SYDNEY.

There could hardly have been a more enthusiastic or fitting tribute to the high office of the Apostolic Delegate than the splendid welcome accorded his Excellency, Archbishop Cerretti, on Saturday afternoon, February 13, on the occasion of his official landing in Sydney (says the *Catholic Press*). Leaving Fort Macquarie at a quarter past 2, the Government launch Premier sped down the harbor to the Archbishop's Wharf at Manly to embark his Excellency and convey him to the city. There were on board the launch, their Graces the Archbishops of Sydney and Melbourne, the Coadjutor-Archbishops of Brisbane and Adelaide, their Lordships the Bishops of Armidale, Maitland, Goulburn, and Wilcannia, a number of the clergy, and representative Catholic laymen. In the wake of the official launch there followed a flotilla of steamers bearing the priests of the various parishes, the members of the friendly societies, various lay officials and the general public.

On reaching Manly no time was lost in embarking his Excellency, and the Premier swung her bows towards the city again, and took her place in the midst of the convoy, all the steamers of which tooted their sirens vigorously as the fleet proceeded up the harbor. Steaming at moderate speed, the fleet made proud procession. Bunting of gay colors waved from every shroud and masthead, the bands on board played lively airs, and the thousands who packed the decks of every steamer cheered and cheered again, their vociferous welcome reverberating loudly over the harbor. Immediately on landing the Apostolic Delegate was greeted by the Lord Mayor (Ald. Richards), who welcomed his Excellency to the city and introduced him to the waiting representatives of the State and Commonwealth Governments and the City Council.

In extending his greeting, the Lord Mayor said: "As Lord Mayor, and on behalf of the aldermen and citizens of Sydney, I desire to extend to you a respectful and hearty welcome as Apostolic Delegate to Australasia. Moreover, since your official residence has been located in our metropolis by the Holy See, I rejoice in saluting your Excellency as a fellow-citizen."

A graceful and courteous reply was made by his Excellency, who said he was deeply touched by the warmth and undoubted cordiality of the welcome extended to him, and expressed the hope that he would have the opportunity of showing his gratitude for the kindness of his reception.

As his Excellency and party emerged from the wharf on to the roadway there was further loud cheering, which the Apostolic Delegate acknowledged. The

procession then formed up and moved up the hill into Macquarie street. First came the mounted police, then the members of the A.H.C. Guild, the H.A.C.B. Society, the Irish National Foresters, the Catholic Federation, the leading priests and representative members of the laity, the Diocesan Consultors, the Bishops of Armidale, Goulburn, Wilcannia and Maitland, the Coadjutor-Archbishops of Brisbane and Adelaide, the Archbishop of Melbourne, the Archbishop of Sydney and staff, and his Excellency the Apostolic Delegate, escorted by a mounted guard of honor from the friendly societies. The procession, which extended almost the full length of Macquarie street, also included four bands—the Westmead Home, McBride's, St. Joseph's (Hunter's Hill), and Rozelle.

En route the streets were lined with interested and enthusiastic spectators, and from every window and point of vantage people looked on and applauded the passing pageant. At St. Mary's a crowd of many thousands broke into tempestuous cheering when the Cathedral bells chimed out their greeting to the approaching visitor.

On arriving at St. Mary's, the Apostolic Delegate, accompanied by the prelates and clergy, entered the sacristy, where he vested. A procession was formed, and at the main entrance his Excellency was received by the Cathedral clergy. After the 'Ecce Sacerdos Magnus,' 'Tu es Petrus' had been sung, and the 'Te Deum' intoned, addresses were presented to his Excellency from the hierarchy, the priests, and laity.

ADDRESS FROM THE HIERARCHY.

His Grace the Archbishop of Sydney then read the following address: "May it please your Excellency,—We, the Archbishops of Australia and Suffragan Bishops of New South Wales, desire to extend to your Excellency a dutiful and fraternal welcome to our Australian shores. Your advent revives our affectionate remembrance of the saintly Pontiff by whom you were appointed, and assures us of an equally paternal solicitude for our welfare on the part of his successor, by whom that appointment was cordially blessed. Although geographically we are the most distant portion of the flock committed in its entirety to the Roman Pontiff as successor of St. Peter, we experience the same vigilant and apostolic care as is enjoyed in countries much nearer to the centre of unity. Our very remoteness, coupled with the almost unprecedented expansion, within one century, of the Church in Australia, the unbroken union among its hierarchy, the zeal and priestly spirit of the clergy, and the faith and generosity of the people have, we feel sure, combined to move the Sovereign Pontiff to grant us a personal representative of the Holy See and a permanent centre of Papal juris-

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