

fort. They say that the Russians are retreating greatly diminished by cholera. We have news that the French have taken Belfort. The First Corps has been taken to reinforce the Crown Prince. "To-morrow we reach the fortress before us." But the to-morrow of Lieut. Reinhardt brought him near the fort. He fell with the bullet of a Russian patrol in his heart, and the little volume stained with blood was taken to Berlin.

THE LATE BISHOP GRIMES

THE FUNERAL AND OBSEQUIES

IMPRESSIVE CEREMONIES.

(From our Christchurch correspondent.)

The Very Rev. Chancellor Price, who accompanied the late Bishop Grimes to Sydney, returned to Christchurch on Wednesday morning, bringing with him the mortal remains of the late prelate. Father Price was with Bishop Grimes to the last, and in view of his close association with the deceased prelate, felt acutely the painful experiences he went through. To a representative of the *Press* Father Price spared a few minutes to talk of the last hours of Bishop Grimes.

His Lordship stood the passage from New Zealand to Sydney very well, and on arrival at the Lewisham Hospital was examined by a prominent surgeon, Dr. Stewart Mackay, and by a leading physician, Dr. Veitch. They found that he was suffering from a dilated stomach and mitral regurgitation of the heart. They were hopeful of being able to restore him to health, though they were of opinion that, owing to the heart affection, his Lordship would never be able to undertake any strenuous work, as the least excitement might result in a sudden collapse. With care, they thought he might live many years. On the Friday night before his death, the Bishop had an attack of appendicitis, but the physician thought it might pass away in about twenty-four hours. Instead of doing so it became more acute, and on Saturday at midday it was decided that an operation was absolutely necessary. The same evening, Dr. Stewart Mackay operated, and he stood the operation splendidly, leaving the operating table feeling well. When the effect of the anaesthetic wore off his Lordship said that he felt much more comfortable. Up to 4 p.m. on Sunday he was getting on as well as the doctors and nurses could expect, but then a slight attack of pneumonia supervened and gave his Lordship no chance, and he gradually sank and expired about one o'clock on Monday morning. Bishop Grimes was conscious up to two or three hours before his death.

When Father Price conveyed to his Lordship the intimation that there was no hope, Bishop Grimes gave his blessing to his people and asked for their prayers. He spoke of the twenty-seven years he had labored amongst the people of Christchurch, and expressed a wish that his remains should rest in the Cathedral.

A Requiem service was held at St. Patrick's Church, Sydney, at which his Grace Archbishop Kelly, the Apostolic Delegate (his Grace Archbishop Ceretti), and about sixty priests were present. The following day the body was removed on board the *Manuka*, which, after a somewhat rough passage, arrived at Wellington on Tuesday just in time to connect with the ferry steamer.

At Wellington the remains of the late Bishop were transferred from the inter-colonial steamer *Manuka* to the ferry steamer *Maori*, reaching Lyttelton on last Wednesday morning. Meanwhile from an early hour preparations for the reception of the remains were in progress at the Christchurch railway station, the sad occasion being forcibly borne in upon the people, who had happy and vivid recollections of many joyous receptions on the same scene of their much-beloved prelate during the past—more than a quarter of a

century—when returning to his devoted flock in the prime of life, and in good health and spirits. The realisation of the contrast was more than many of the older people could bear. The gloomy weather conditions prevailing, too, appeared to harmonise with the mournful character of the mission in which so many hundreds were then engaged. The station was barred to all, except the travelling public and those intimately connected with the arrangements in hand.

LARGE ASSEMBLAGE OF MOURNERS.

The widespread and very real love and veneration in which the late Bishop was held by his flock, and the great respect felt towards him by the public of Christchurch generally, were very eloquently testified to by the large gathering that so patiently waited the arrival of the mortal remains of the Bishop, and by the respectful grief manifested on all sides. Moorhouse avenue, from the station entrance westward almost to Colombo street, was filled with people, and subsequently the sidewalks along the route of the procession were lined with crowds. Shortly after seven o'clock the mourners began to arrive at the station, amongst the first large bodies being the children from Mount Magdala and the Children of Mary, the last-mentioned being distinguished by their blue cloaks and white veils. It was known early that the ferry steamer had arrived a little late, and that, consequently, there would be some delay. In the meantime the different parts of the procession were assembled along the southern footpath of Moorhouse avenue, stretching from the entrance from the avenue to the arrival platform on the south side of the station, to the entrance to the station. The children from Nazareth House, the school children from the two convents, the boys from the Marist Brothers' School and from St. Bede's College, the Marist Brothers' School Cadets (looking soldierly in their green uniforms), and the members of the H.A.C.B. Society, as they arrived took up their appointed stations. The clergy, both local and visiting, were present in large numbers, and with the other mourners took up their posts. By half-past eight the formation of the procession, as far as it was possible, had been accomplished.

Order of the Procession.

A quarter of an hour later the hearse conveying the body of Bishop Grimes emerged into the avenue from the southern side of the station, and the procession finally formed. The order of the procession and those comprising it were:—The cross-bearers; altar boys; the clergy; Nazareth House children (in charge of the Sisters of Nazareth); Mount Magdala children (in charge of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd); St. Bede's College students; boarders and school children of Our Lady of the Missions Sacred Heart College and Convent Schools; School children of St. Mary's Convent and representatives from Houses on the West Coast; Marist Brothers' schoolboys; schoolboys from St. Mary's; visiting clergy; the hearse; guard of Hibernians; motor car (Sir George Clifford, Mr. H. H. Loughnan, and Mr. J. A. Cassidy); carriages (visiting clergy); the Bishop's car (with curtains drawn); Marist Brothers' School Cadets (under Lieut. Roche); members of the H.A.C.B. Society; the general public.

The procession presented a very picturesque appearance. At the head the cross-bearer, holding aloft the cross, was accompanied by altar boys bearing lighted candles. The banners borne by the two branches of the Children of Mary—the Sacred Heart Convent and St. Mary's parish—lent color to the array, as did also the Hibernians with their sashes of green. A medieval note was added by the ceremonial torch lanterns borne by the guard of Hibernians with the hearse. Some idea of the total length of the procession can be gained from the fact that it took ten minutes to pass one point.

The Hibernians were led by Bro. J. Griffen (president) and Bro. M. Grimes (secretary of St. Patrick's branch), and there were representatives present from the Darfield, Ashburton, Kaiapoi, Leeston, and Timaru branches.