

Holy Table at the 8.30 a.m. Mass, celebrated by Father Kaveney; the Hibernians being afterwards entertained to breakfast, prepared and served by the Children of Mary, in the adjoining schoolroom. The Pastoral Letter of the Archbishops and Bishops of Australasia on the re-consecration of the people to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and the Act of Consecration were read by Father Kaveney (as he also did at the 11 o'clock Mass). At the evening devotions, after the recitation of the Holy Rosary, a splendid discourse, appropriate of the solemnity then being observed, was delivered by Father Silk, in the presence of a large congregation. The closing ceremonies of the Quarant' Ore then followed, including procession and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament; the incidental music being exceedingly well rendered by the Sacred Heart Church Choir. Large numbers attended in Adoration during the Forty Hours, and the ceremonies were very impressive throughout. Much credit is due to Miss Murphy for her tasteful adornment of the altar, the lovely display of flowers and creepers, so artistically arranged, being really a beautiful sight, and, produced in the middle of winter, certainly an unexpected one.

PEACE

The Dunedin *Evening Star* published on Monday evening a number of pronouncements made by prominent citizens on the signing of the Peace Treaty. One man had the courage to face the facts and to express his views candidly. Father Coffey said:—

"The treaty has been signed by the Germans," so runs the official cable to-night. We cry "Peace, peace," but there is no peace. True, the war, in the sense in which we have learned, in the form of bitter experience what a cruel war means, is ended. We are very glad to have seen the end of this, the cruellest war in history. Has its ending brought peace? We survey the horizon in vain for those signs which alone can indicate true peace. In the terms of the Allies, as far as they have been revealed to us, we see force and might taking the place of true justice. These may be necessary, and I am not disposed to sit in judgment on those on whose shoulders rests the responsibility of laying down the terms, but they are not indicative of permanent peace. No nation can be kept in peace by force. The spirit of avarice is too apparent in the inordinate desire of each nation to extend its boundaries at the expense of its neighbor, on the plea of self-protection. Such extensions will be in the future as they have been in the past, running sores, which will cause inconvenience for the present, and will surely lead to trouble in the no-distant future. There are signs of internal disturbances, which have been encouraged during the war, and now, like the boomerang, have the unhappy knack of recoiling. Russia was encouraged to overthrow its Government, and is left a seething mass of discontent. Italy has overthrown its Government in the hour of its triumph, and no one can predict what the future has in store for that country, whose co-operation was obtained by a bribe, and the downfall of whose Government is apparently now caused because the bribe was not big enough. Indications show that France has not been purified by the war. A mass of discontent in that country is kept under by military law, but this cannot last; like a volcano, the heavier the present pressure the more terrible will be the explosion. England has trouble at home, and trouble at her gate, and what is worse there are no indications of real honest efforts being made to settle these troubles. Mammon sits undisturbed in the driver's seat—result, exploitation, excessive profits, discontent, hatred between class and class, between man and man. We shall never have true lasting peace till nations are satisfied with what they have got, and are content to develop their own resources for the common benefit of all the people, till

Governments are fathers of their people. The people, like children, may have different characters, likes and dislikes. These things the Government, like the father, will have to study; and provide for each class in the spirit of kindness, helpfulness, and fair play—the days of force, coercion, and forcing all subjects into a common mould are ended. The employer must regard the employee as his equal—his brother—not as a machine or chattel to grind money out of. He is "His brother's keeper." All men are sons of the same Father, and brothers of His Son. When nations and Governments and people recognise this truth, not in a hypocritical sense, but in the true sense of self-sacrifice in the interest of one's brother, of mutual help, of bearing one another's burden, then, but not till then, shall we have lasting peace. Treaties and peace terms presented with a threat of starvation and accepted and signed as the less bitter choice, can never be regarded as other than "scraps of paper" to be torn up on the first hopeful opportunity. I am truly grateful to God that the terrible slaughter of the noblest of our young men has ceased, and I hope that the men who are now engaged in settling the problems between nations will make an earnest effort to settle the no less difficult internal problems at present clamant for settlement in their own countries.

NOVEMBER DUSK.

When to your heart go home my long desires,
Home to your eyes at last my tireless gaze,—
Such time as lamps are lit and early fires,
To keep us from the chill autumnal greys,—
The world without appears a vasty space
Where thin and whispering winds cry overmuch:
But here is nearness, and your quiet face
And usual words to say, and hands to touch.

A lean, black branch keeps tugging at the pane,
And past our door the harried hosts blow by:
The day goes out in gloom; a droning rain
Sets in upon the roof. . . . And you and I
By our own hearth—for all the great world grieves—
Can smile to hear the forest dropping leaves.

DAVID MORTON, in *Current Opinion*.

Everyone who wishes to attain to the rest of contemplation must first diligently lead a life of labor. Remember that holy repose is the product of the exercise of virtues, as fruits are formed from flowers.—St. Bernard.

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