

THE IRISH ENVOYS

The Irish envoys, Messrs. Hazleton, Donovan, and Redmond, left Wellington on Friday for Sydney. They had a very cordial send-off, when upwards of 400 friends and sympathisers assembled on the wharf to bid them good-bye. Among those present were Sir James Carroll (Acting-Premier), Mr. Martin Kennedy, K.S.G., Rev. Father Hickson, and representatives of the Hibernian Society.

Mr. Martin Kennedy, treasurer of the Home Rule fund, last week cabled £4500 to Mr. John Redmond. This is in addition to the previous £4000 sent Home. There is about £1000 yet to come in, making a grand total of about £9500 raised in New Zealand for this purpose.

MR. HAZLETON IN AUCKLAND.

(From an occasional correspondent.)

A banquet was tendered to Mr. R. Hazleton, M.P., by the Auckland Irish envoys committee, at the Piccadilly on Saturday night, July 22. Mr. J. J. O'Brien presided, and there were also present, Very Rev. Father Buckley, Rev. Father Holbrook, and Rev. Mr. R. J. Hall, M.A. (Unitarian minister), and Mr. A. E. Glover, M.P. Appropriate speeches were delivered by Messrs J. J. O'Brien, W. J. Napier, Hall Skelton, J. R. Landon, P. J. Nerheny, and Scholes (Te Kuiti).

Mr. R. Hazleton, M.P., delivered a most interesting speech, in which he referred in terms of praise and thanks for the record success of the mission in the Dominion, and especially he thanked the local committee for its great achievement in topping the list. The Barons had wrung from King John the charter of the people, and now the people were demanding it back from the Barons. The House of Lords had around it many commendable traditions, but it had served its purpose, and he would have liked to have seen them conform to the spirit of the age in a matter more dignified than the course which the Lords seemed bent upon adopting.

Mr. Hazleton presented a statement giving the amounts collected in Auckland as follows:—Whangarei, £65 7s; Waihi, £130; Thames, £54 1s; Te Aroha, £95; Hamilton, £135; Te Awamutu, £45; Te Kuiti, £66 7s; Pukekohe, £76 4s; Dargaville, £20; Waiuku, £25; Rotorua, £38; Gisborne, £200; Ngaruawahia, £50; Auckland City, £1100; total amount for district, £2105 19s.

Mr. M. J. Sheahan, general secretary of the Irish envoys' committee for the Auckland district, was during the course of the proceedings presented with a gold watch as a mark of esteem from the committee. The inscription on the watch runs thus: 'To M. J. Sheahan, Esq., J.P., presented by the Irish envoys' committee, 22nd July 1911.' In making the presentation, Mr Hazleton said he was honored by the committee in being asked to do so. Mr. Sheahan was an energetic, able, and self-sacrificing secretary and organiser, and they were all deeply indebted to him for the success of the Home Rule mission in Auckland. Mr. Sheahan briefly replied, thanking the committee and Mr. Hazleton.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

DEBATE.

Is an amendment of our electoral law, in the direction of proportional representation, desirable? Page 1469.

Is our recently-adopted system of compulsory military service deserving of approval and support?

Is Mr. Asquith justified in forcing the passage of the Veto Bill: and will the passing of the Bill be a help or a hindrance to good government in England?

ANSWER TO CORRESPONDENT.

ENQUIRER.—We do not see what is to be gained by speculation on such entirely hypothetical—and, we may add, such entirely improbable—cases as the one you propound. If you are really anxious for an answer to your query, apply in person to the nearest priest.

OBITUARY

DR. DARBY, AUCKLAND.

(By telegraph from our own correspondent.)

I regret to have to record the death of Dr. Darby, son of the late Mr. Patrick Darby, who passed away during the week from an attack of pneumonia. The late Dr. Darby was born in Auckland fifty-two years ago, and on completion of the first stages of his education left for Ireland. After spending some years at Thurles College, he walked the Mater Misericordiae Hospital, Dublin, where he got his diplomas, subsequently practising in London, Manchester, and Liverpool. He returned to Auckland seventeen years ago, and since then had filled the position of gaol surgeon for a time, and was attached to several friendly societies. He married Miss Larbry, daughter of Dr. Larbry, Paris, who, with one daughter, survives him. A Requiem Mass was celebrated at St. Benedict's by Rev. Father Darby, brother of the deceased. Right Rev. Mgr. Gillan paid a high tribute to the deceased and to his work as a Catholic doctor, and said that priests and people would sorely miss him. The remains were interred in the Onehunga Cemetery, a large number of clergy and laity attended the funeral. Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly, speaking at the Sacred Heart Church on Sunday night, made feeling reference to the late Dr. Darby.—R.I.P.

MR. FRANCIS McPARLAND, WELLINGTON.

(From our Wellington correspondent.)

I regret to record the death of Mr. Francis McParland, J.P., proprietor of the Hotel Cecil, which occurred on last Saturday afternoon. The late Mr. McParland had been ill only a few days. About a week ago he caught a chill and complications followed, which ended fatally. He was seventy-one, and is survived by Mrs. McParland, three daughters and two sons. Mr. McParland was a well known West Coaster, and was one of the first on the Charleston Goldfields. Among those old identities who were with him were Mr. T. G. Macarthy, Mr. R. Hannah, Mr. Martin Kennedy, the late Dr. Henry, and the late Mr. Thomas Dwan. He was identified with the Liberal cause, of which he was a staunch supporter. He landed on the West Coast from the North of Ireland, and nineteen years ago came to Wellington, starting a bakery business, which his sons still carry on in Taranaki street. He was of a genial disposition and extremely charitable, and he will be greatly missed by a large number of friends and acquaintances. The funeral took place on Monday afternoon from the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.—R.I.P.

MR. EDWARD J. AMBROSE, GORE.

Sympathy will be extended by a wide circle of friends to Mr. and Mrs. T. Ambrose and family for the severe loss they have sustained by the death of their eldest son, Mr. Edward J. Ambrose, who passed away at the Dunedin Hospital on July 23 (says the *Ensign*). Deceased had been ailing for some time past, and not much hope was held out for his recovery. He was well known in local athletic circles, and was one of the founders as well as one of the best forwards of the Pioneer Football Club. The funeral, which took place on July 25, was very largely attended by the general public and members of the Pioneer Football Club, who sent a beautiful wreath. Deceased was attended during his illness by the Rev. Fathers Cosley and P. O'Neill, and died fortified by the rites of the Church.—R.I.P.

By the transfer and promotion of Mr. James Smith to the Invercargill branch of the Loan and Mercantile Co. St. Patrick's Club has lost (writes our Oamaru correspondent) a popular and useful member, who was ever ready to assist in anything pertaining to its advancement. Mr. Smith was also an enthusiastic choir member, and at last week's practice was presented by his fellow-members with a tangible token of their esteem. As a rowing man, etc., Mr. Smith will be missed from Oamaru, and the good wishes of his friends follow him in his new sphere.