

Coadjutor-Archbishop has had a singular advantage. He has had before his eyes for years the example of one of the most illustrious prelates of the Southern Hemisphere—a prelate who is revered and respected not only throughout the Dominion of New Zealand, but throughout the vast Commonwealth of Australia, a prelate whose learning and eloquence have earned for him the title of the Chrysostom of Australasia, and whose gentleness and kindness have endeared him to the hearts of all who have come in contact with him. And I am sure I am only voicing the heartfelt sentiments of all present—bishops, priests, and people—when I say that we congratulate the venerable prelate in having obtained a Coadjutor after his own heart, a Coadjutor who will follow faithfully in his footsteps, who will be the staff of his declining years, and whose chief endeavor will be to emulate the noble example of the first Archbishop of Wellington.

THE LUNCHEON

At the conclusion of the ceremony of the consecration the prelates, clergy, and committee were photographed, after which they were entertained at luncheon by his Grace Archbishop O'Shea, who presided over the gathering.

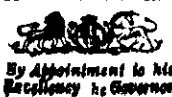
The toast of the 'Pope and the King' was proposed by Archbishop O'Shea.

His Grace Archbishop Redwood in proposing the toast of 'Archbishop O'Shea,' said that it was a pleasant duty on his part to propose Archbishop O'Shea's health, and at the same time a somewhat difficult task to do justice to. He did not think it was advisable to praise a man to his face, but he was going to do it on this occasion. He said that Archbishop O'Shea was well known all over New Zealand for years before he was elevated to his new dignity. All knew of his sterling worth, of his solid virtues, and of his deep and untiring zeal, and of his indelibly high character. He felt sure that everyone would intensely rejoice in his elevation. He had known him from far back, previous to the days he entered St. Patrick's College. 'It was about 38 years ago,' said Archbishop Redwood, 'when, travelling in the Taranaki district on my first episcopal visit. I was sitting on the box seat of a coach on the principal road to Hawera, when a good lady came out with her children, the eldest just five years old, stopped the coach, and in the presence of the passengers, among whom were several Protestants and others, asked my blessing for herself and her children. 'I said to myself,' continued the Archbishop, 'that there is something great about this person—such good faith deserves some remarkable reward. I gave them my heartiest blessing. I always considered that the blessing I gave to that good lady and her children was the heartiest I ever gave, especially after such an example of such real good old Irish faith. The faith of that family was rewarded, one of her girls becoming a nun and her son becoming the Archbishop I consecrated to-day.' And now, he said, we were all proud of his elevation. And he added that Archbishop O'Shea had not the slightest or the faintest knowledge that such a great dignity was to be bestowed on him until the word came through from Rome. We are all proud of him. The Dominion is proud of him. Mary is proud of him because he is especially her child. Born in San Francisco, he came to New Zealand a baby in arms when he was dedicated entirely to the Society of Mary—in her schools, in her colleges. As one of the flock of the Society of Mary elevated to this high dignity Mary is proud of him. I congratulate him particularly on having received from the Holy See the episcopate of Gortyna, one of the sixteen oldest sees in the world. Gortyna is in Crete, and I congratulate his Grace on not having to go to that place. In conclusion he trusted that Archbishop O'Shea would have before him a very glorious and successful career.

His Grace Archbishop O'Shea, who was received with long-continued applause, said:—'Your Grace, my Lords, Right Rev. and Rev. Fathers, ladies and gentlemen,—I thank you very sincerely for the kind manner in which you have received the last toast. I confess that several times since my appointment was

made I have felt frightened of the great responsibility which has been imposed upon me. For, notwithstanding what his Grace has said so kindly of me, I am only a very ordinary man, but was greatly encouraged and consoled some little time ago by a consideration which was put before me very forcibly and very clearly by a valued friend. It was said to me on that occasion that when a man is selected by the Holy See for such a high dignity, when he had no wish or desire for it, the law forcibly requires by rule of the Holy Father that such a one should be made a Bishop, then any man might reasonably conclude that such is the will of God, and it was in this spirit that I took up the responsibility of the dignity which has been imposed upon me this morning. I realise that my own personality is now less in my representative character, and so I will try my best to do God's holy will. The Society of Mary, in which I have been for so many years, can no longer claim me as her exclusive property.' Archbishop O'Shea went on to say that although such was the case, all his people would have a very deep claim upon him. 'You realise, my dear brethren, that I cannot say very much this afternoon. I thank you most sincerely for your great kindness to me. I thank his Grace very sincerely for his kind words. I also thank the Bishops of Dunedin and Auckland. I have to thank in a special way the Rev. Father Ryan, distinguished son of the Society of Jesus. He came all the way from Australia to honor me and to preach that splendid sermon we had this morning. I thank all the other clergy from the other dioceses who came here to-day to honor me—Dean Hills from Christchurch and others—whose names are so numerous that I cannot remember them for the moment. I have to thank especially Archbishop Redwood, who has always been so kind and considerate to me, and also the other Bishops, who have always been so helpful to me. I do not know if I should single out any amongst those present, but my sincere thanks are due to Dean Regnault, who has taken infinite care to make this function a success. I must also thank the masters of ceremonies to-day, and also the priests of my own parish, who have always labored well. My sincere thanks are due to my many lay friends, who have done so much for me during the time I have been in Wellington. And now, your Grace, I have to thank you particularly. I know your sterling worth and the vast amount of work you have to perform. The assistance you have always rendered me assures me that you will still further aid me with your long experience in my new and responsible position. I thank you once more, your Grace, my Lords, Rev. Fathers, ladies and gentlemen, from my heart.

The Very Rev. Dean Regnault, S.M., Provincial of the Marist Order, in proposing the toast of 'The Hierarchy,' said:—I appreciate highly the honor of being asked to propose the toast of 'The Hierarchy.' We New Zealanders are proud of our hierarchy, and we have ample cause for honest pride. It has been said that what we know well cannot be easily and succinctly expressed. For close on thirty years I have witnessed the work done by the hierarchy in New Zealand, yet that work is so vast, so comprehensive, that had I the eloquent tongue of his Grace Archbishop Redwood and the facile pen of his Lordship of Auckland, I would still find it well nigh impossible to do justice to the toast, for I would find it difficult to express in a few words and in a limited space of time what I know and what I have seen. It is said of Ireland that in the lifetime of its first apostle, St. Patrick, there was no mountain side so bleak; no spot, no corner, no hiding place so remote, which, through the exertions and zeal of St. Patrick was not peopled by priests and nuns. Here we have seen the same marvellous growth and progress. What is the secret of it? Here the faithful belong to the same race; they have come here with the same lively faith, the same generosity, the same devotion for their religion. Our bishops emulate St. Patrick in his eloquence, in his zeal, and his energetic defence of Catholic interests. The result is the marvellous growth of the Church in these islands. It seems but a few years ago since our first apostle, Bishop Pompallier, set foot on these shores, and already these



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