

are not now hampered by complicated processes of law as they were, to some extent, in 1798; and to carry out their work they have what is practically an inexhaustible supply of soldiers trained in the hardest war the world has ever known. It is needless to state the paltry total that the resources of Ireland make matched against these forces; but one thing she possesses which the other side lacks—a good cause. She will need all the courage that a good cause gives to bear the disasters that are coming to her people. Horrid things have happened in Ireland lately, but the most horrid are, I fear, yet to come. It seems likely that civil war will be added to the other crimes committed in the name of empire, and the hand of the Ulsterman be armed against his neighbor; it is certain that most Irish industries will be ruined, for the tale of burnt creameries and factories increases daily, and even the linen and ship-building trades, the former of which is already hard hit by shortage of raw material, will scarcely survive the approaching anarchy, just as the silk weavers got their death blow through the French war and 1798, and the woollen manufacturers through the Union and consequent lack of protection; farmers will not be given the chance to till their land or dispose of their stock; by tarrings, floggings, and assaults on women the population is to be goaded into active resistance, and then machine guns can be trusted to deal with a crowd in close formation; thus will finally come another desolation to be called a peace.

Towards such ends, as it seems to me, does the present Irish policy of the Government tend.

It is not a nice programme, but there's always the hope that the star performers may be hissed off the stage before they can get through their turn. The sooner that happens the better for both nations, and for England more than Ireland; for a people may be greatly oppressed and yet keep its soul, but the one that glories in oppressing its weaker neighbor has given its soul into the keeping of the immortal enemy of mankind.

England has nothing to dread from a free Ireland. The latter is a nation not without nobility in its resentments, not without generosity in its friendships, not without sublimity in its ideals, all of which you will find epitomised in the prayer of the United Irishman: every one of his countrymen might with propriety offer it up today:—

"In that day when the cause of Ireland shall again be arbitrated by the hand of Power, we beseech Thee, God of the oppressed, to give liberty to our enslaved and concord to our distracted country; to add skill to the valor, perseverance to the enthusiasm, and union to the efforts of her sons: and when the patriot shall be triumphant and liberty secure, teach him to discern and to compassionate, in the persons of his enemies, and deluded instruments of a foreign policy, whom prejudice has misled, whom reason may reclaim, and kindness turn into friends. Above all, drive for ever from Thy chastened land the impious persecution of Thy creatures under pretext of Thy service, and erect an imperishable edifice of Irish freedom on the firm foundation of civil harmony, equal rights, and National Independence."

"COME É DURO CALLE."

Weary from wandering, I went home once more;
On a sad autumn evening I walked to the door.
I heard in the lime trees the bees as of old;
The woods by the river were burnished like gold.

By the threshold I lingered, as in days that are gone,
When my mother would meet me with a kiss for her son.

But the feet of the stranger I heard on the floor;
No longer 'twas home for me, mother a stor!

—J.K.

One can judge a man more surely by what he says of others than by what others say of him.

MARIST BROTHERS' SCHOOL, INVERCARGILL

Rev. Brother Columbanus, Assistant-General of the Marist Brothers, arrived in Invercargill on Thursday night week. He was met at the station by the Brothers and the committee of the Marist Old Boys' Association. On Friday he visited the school. The pupils gave him a warm-hearted welcome, and Master Philip Henley, on behalf of the boys, read an address of welcome. A group of boys, representing all the standards, then came forward and presented the Rev. Brother with a book of views of Southland scenery and of interesting subjects in connection with the school. The rousing songs, "O'Donnell Abu" and the "Soldiers' Song," were rendered with vigor by 120 voices; "The Meeting of the Waters" was sweetly sung by J. Scott and T. Pasco, and J. Scott also recited with feeling "The Exile's Return." The footballers gave their song and their *haka*, which greatly amused the Brother-visitor. The entertainment concluded with the Maori song, "Tia Tina Te Tangata."

Brother Columbanus thanked the boys for their little concert and for the nicely-bound book of beautiful and interesting views. He said he felt a particular pleasure in meeting the Invercargill boys, as their school was the most southerly Marist Brothers' school under his care. He could say that he had under his charge the most northerly and the most southerly Marist schools in the world. He would tell the Irish school-boys that the boys of Invercargill were watching with great interest Ireland's noble struggle for liberty, that they sang her songs of freedom, and that they were praying that Ireland might soon be a "Nation once again." Hearty cheers were then given, and a holiday was granted in honor of the Rev. Brother's visit.

The Old Boys entertained Brother Columbanus at the Floral Tea Rooms on Saturday evening. Several toasts were honored, and Mr. Peter Giffedder, on behalf of the Old Boys, presented the Rev. Brother with a certificate of life honorary membership, and with a badge of the Marist Old Boys' Association. Brother Columbanus thanked the Old Boys for entertaining him. He greatly appreciated the honor conferred on him that night, and would treasure the certificate and badge. He was pleased to see a flourishing Old Boys' Association in Invercargill, and impressed on all the great benefits of such an association. Brother Anselm thanked the Old Boys for helping to make Brother Columbanus's stay a pleasant one. He could assure them that the Brothers appreciated their kindness. The Old Boys were quite a live body in Invercargill. Everything they had undertaken had been a success, and they had reason to believe that the concert they had in hand for St. Patrick's Night would be a tremendous success. He suggested that one of the best ways that Old Boys could show they appreciate the work of the Brothers would be to establish a bursary for the education of a young lad who would be willing to give his life to the cause of Catholic education.

On Saturday the Very Rev. Father O'Neill, of Waikiki, took the Rev. Brother for a motor run to Riverton. Brother Columbanus left for Dunedin by the midday express on Monday.

Matiere

One of the most successful bazaars ever held in Matiere has just concluded (writes a correspondent). Favored by fine weather, a record attendance helped to bring the takings to the substantial sum of over £400. Too much praise cannot be given to the committee of ladies whose help to Father Kelly brought about such a gratifying result. Visitors from as far south as Eltham and Stratford were present, and very materially assisted in achieving so notable a success. The art union prizes for the most part went out of the district.

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