

Return of Archbishop Mannix

Melbourne's Magnificent Reception

Memorable Scenes of Enthusiasm



The return of the Most Rev. Dr. Mannix to his Archbishopric was indeed an occasion to be specially marked in the annals of Melbourne (says the *Catholic Press* for August 18). The reception in his own city was a fitting finale to his triumphal progress from the time he touched Australian soil in the north till he finished his journey in the southern metropolis. Apart from the influence of his dominant personality, many things had occurred to endear the Archbishop to the members of his flock, not to speak of those outside, who recognised him as a great democratic leader. Like another Columcille, he was, though for a very different reason, forbidden to set eyes on his native land; but, again, like Columcille, the very prohibition had the effect of furthering the cause in which he believed, by spreading truth abroad. There is no doubt that Dr. Mannix in England did more effective work for the cause of the people of Ireland than he could have done in Ireland itself. The calumnies heaped upon him by the enemies of the Irish race, and the demand that he should be either kept out of Australia or land only under humiliating conditions, raised feeling to the highest pitch, culminating in the magnificent demonstration of Saturday last.

Reception in Melbourne

The arrangements in Melbourne were most complete. Though there was to be nothing in the nature of a procession, it was understood there would be a tremendous crowd in Collins Street, along which the Archbishop and party would proceed to the Cathedral. To prevent a block, the line of the street was divided into sections, along which men from the suburban parishes were posted as a guard of honor. About 2 p.m. the crowd began to assemble, and a line just clear of the tram tracks was kept, each section being marked by a small flag or bannerette. Some of these flags were very beautiful, notably that of St. Brigid's, North Fitzroy, in which the words, "St. Brigid's Welcomes Its Archbishop," appeared over the Sinn Fein colors and wattle blossoms. This beautiful little banner was the work of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan, North Fitzroy. Sinn Fein colors and flags of green and gold were visible along Collins Street, which, by 3 p.m., appeared to be a mass of people. Some anxiety was felt as to how the Archbishop would get through such a throng; but there was no need for alarm, as the arrangements were perfect, and the people all co-operated in preserving perfect order. A few minutes after the time appointed, 3 p.m., there was a stir in the crowd at the western end of Collins Street, and the Archbishop, Bishops, and others who had arrived by the special train, came steadily on in motor cars, their progress being marked by the cheering and waving of flags as each point was reached. Everything passed off like clock-work, and the crowd closed in behind the procession, and made their way to the Cathedral. The whole of Collins Street was traversed in about 70 minutes. The Archbishop was again back to the Palace on Eastern Hall, and he had received a royal welcome from one of the largest gatherings yet witnessed in Melbourne. It cannot be too strongly emphasised that the gathering was as orderly as it was enthusiastic.

At the Cathedral

The Cathedral was surrounded by a vast throng, the greater number of whom were, of course, unable to gain admission. After a brief delay, the Archbishop, with the attendant Bishops and clergy, 120 in all, passed through a guard of honor, consisting of members of the St. Patrick's Society, H.A.C.B. Society, and I.N.F., in regalia. The following were the visiting prelates who accompanied

the Archbishop: Archbishop Redwood, of Wellington (N.Z.); Archbishop Kelly, of Sydney; Bishop O'Connor, of Armidale; Bishop Gallagher, of Goulburn; Bishop Dwyer, of Wagga; Bishop McCarthy, of Sandhurst (Bendigo); Bishop Foley, of Ballarat.

The Cathedral was completely filled. The chimes pealed out "Home, Sweet Home" as the procession entered the grounds. Though the "Te Deum," in the form of a hymn of thanksgiving or psalm, is sung at feasts all through the year, it is only on important occasions that it is given as it was on Saturday, when all were assembled to offer thanks for the safe return of the Archbishop to his people. The order was the Archbishop, vested in cappa, and accompanied by the visiting prelates, went from the palace to the front door of the Cathedral. There he was received by the Administrator (Very Rev. Father Barry), in cope, and the members of the council. After kissing the Crucifix and receiving holy water, he was incensed by Father Barry. He then proceeded to the high altar, while the choir gave the "Ecce Sacerdos." Prayers were offered, and the anthem of St. Patrick was sung. The "Te Deum" was sung by an augmented choir.

At the conclusion of the ceremonies the Archbishop, accompanied by the visiting prelates, proceeded by motor car to his Grace's residence, "Raheen," Kew.

Sunday at the Cathedral: Sermon by Archbishop Barry

Pontifical High Mass was sung in St. Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday morning at 11 o'clock, by Archbishop Spence, of Adelaide. Archbishop Mannix and visiting prelates were in the sanctuary. Special music was rendered by the choir.

Impressive ceremonial also marked the evening devotions. The Cathedral was crowded. The preacher was the Coadjutor-Archbishop of Hobart, Dr. Barry, whose text was "Upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, I have appointed watchmen all the day and all the night." He said that their first thought was to thank God for the safe and happy return from Rome of Dr. Mannix, who had been welcomed in a manner that had no parallel in their annals. They offered their congratulations, love, and loyalty to the Archbishop, whose noble dignity during many trying days in Europe had shed glory on the Church in Australia and Ireland. The watchman had come back, and had again taken his place in the towers of Israel. With the fearlessness of the prophets of old, he entered the arena every time that the honor of the Church, the sacred cause of Ireland, and the liberty of Australia were in question.

The Gathering at the Exhibition: Melbourne's Greatest Auditorium Filled

It is difficult to estimate the number at the Exhibition Building, the place is of such vast dimensions. It is, however, considered that there were at least 15,000 present and the actual total would, probably, be greater. The enthusiasm was as great as marked the reception on the Saturday. Flags, green, and the Irish tri-color, were to be seen in all parts of the hall. A large platform had been erected in the southern transept, and this was, of course, occupied by the Church dignitaries, a large number of priests, and the principal members of the committees. Never was there a more representative gathering than that assembled under the dome of the Exhibition Building on Monday night. As the Archbishops and Bishops, representing the great cities of the Commonwealth, took their places, they were greeted with loud applause, which became almost deafening as Dr. Mannix faced the huge gathering.

With his Grace on the platform were the Archbishop