

Visit to the Dominican Priory and Schools

Friday, the 4th inst., the Feast of St. Charles Borromeo, will be for ever memorable in the annals of St. Dominic's Priory as the day on which our Holy Father's direct representative, the Most Rev. Bartholomew Cattaneo, celebrated Holy Mass in the Sisters' Chapel of the Immaculate Conception. Kneeling there in the stillness of the early morning, with the first rays of the sun resting lovingly on the head of the venerated Prelate as he stood at the altar of God, while the voices of the nuns rose reverently in union with the infinite pleading of the Sacred Victim in the Holy Mass, all present were thrilled by the thought that here, so far from the centre of Christendom, they knelt, as it were, in the presence of the Holy Father, and received his personal blessing from the hands of his Delegate.

After breakfast, his Excellency expressed a wish to meet the whole community, whom he graciously received with most fatherly kindness, showing a sympathetic interest in the welfare of all.

During the forenoon, the Most Rev. visitor, accompanied by the Right Rev. Dr. Whyte, Monsignor Mackay, and several of the clergy, visited the Dominican Schools, beginning with St. Joseph's Parochial School. Here the children sang a pretty chorus of welcome, for which his Excellency thanked them warmly; he passed in and out among the little ones laying his consecrated hands on their heads.

His Excellency then went to the college, going through all the classes, from the kindergarten to those of the higher students; he showed keen interest in the work being done, and even in the text books in use, and he won the hearts of all the children by his benevolent manner and quick appreciation of each expression of loyalty to their Mother Church, and to the Holy Father as represented by himself. The visit was closed by an assemblage of the students in the study hall, the enthusiastic singing of the "Hymn for the Pope," and the blessing of the children by his Excellency. With sympathetic knowledge of child-nature, Dr. Cattaneo also granted a three-days' holiday to be given at the discretion of the teachers.

In the evening of this golden day, his Excellency, his Lordship the Bishop, Dr. Farrelly, the diocesan clergy, and the Christian Brothers were invited to an entertainment given by the pupils of the nuns. The clergy present were: Right Rev. Mgr. Mackay, Very Rev. J. Coffey, Adm., and Revs. G. Hunt, J. O'Dea, M. Howard, J. Delany, O. Morkane, P. J. O'Neill, D. Silk, J. McLoughlin, M. Spillane, and F. Marlow. The following programme was rendered:—Orchestral selection, "Dainty Dance," Misses E. Fraser, P. Haweridge, A. and G. Thompson, A. Sligo, G. Beath, M. Coughlan (violins), W. Haweridge (cello), M. Hart (triangle), and E. Millow (piano); part songs, "Hark the Lark" and "Blow, Blow, Thou Winter Wind," Misses Sweeney (2), Todd (2), O'Sullivan (2), Hart (2), Cullen (2), Craighead, O'Shea, Toomey, Atkinson, Hardy, Inder, London, McGrath, Coughlan, McKenzie, Prichard, and Brenussel; piano solo, "La Danse des Lutins," Roberta Simpson; vocal solo, "Ave Maria," N. O'Sullivan (violin obbligato, E. Fraser); piano duet, "Fandango," N. Spiers and R. Simpson; instrumental trio, "Serenade," Misses P. Haweridge (violin), W. Haweridge (cello), and E. Millow (piano); vocal solo, "The Bird With the Broken Wing," M. Craighead. The programme concluded with the sacred drama, "St. Catherine of Alexandria," the characters in which were filled by the following: E. Dowdall, R. McGrath, U. London, and Veronica Inder. The accompanists were Misses Millow and Spiers.

At the conclusion of the drama, all the artists, united with the young collegians, who were grouped *en masse* below the stage, sang with enthusiasm the "Song for the Pope." Then one of the senior students, Adelina McGrath, came forward, and in the name of the pupils recited an address to his Excellency. In his reply the distinguished Prelate was warm in his appreciation of the beautiful sentiments expressed in the address. It would be a joy to him, on his approaching visit to Rome, to convey to Benedict XV. the assurance of their fidelity to Holy Church and their love and veneration for the Vicar of Christ. His Excellency said that before coming to New Zealand he had heard much of the high degree of culture attained by the Dominican pupils in Otago; his expectations, therefore, had been great, yet what he had heard that evening went beyond his expectations. The vocal and instrumental music to which he had been listening had given him very great pleasure; no true Italian could be without the love of music as an ennobling and uplifting art. He complimented especially the piano soloist and the cellist. But if the music had been delightful, what must he said of the drama! By it, not only lofty emotions were aroused, but high moral lessons were taught. The young Christian philosopher, St. Catherine, spoke of

the harmony that exists between science and religion. This is a truth to be pondered over; science is the handmaid of faith. As Dante says, "Theology is the daughter, science the niece, of God." The Catholic Church has ever fostered and encouraged learning. No sincere Catholic should be afraid of studying deeply and widely, always guided by the light of religion. The girl-students before him must aim at the highest, and always put forth their best efforts in every branch of study. Another lesson taught by this beautiful drama was one as valuable now as in the early days of Christianity—that all must be prepared to suffer, even perhaps to die, for their faith. Referring once more to the pupils' address, his Excellency said that when, next year, he would visit the Holy Father, whilst assuring him of their love and loyalty, he would also speak to his Holiness of this his own first visit to the Dominican Schools in New Zealand, and of the excellence of the entertainment given him by the students.

Visit of His Excellency to South Dunedin

Friday last, the occasion of the visit of Most Rev. Archbishop Cattaneo, Apostolic Delegate to Australasia, was a day of joy for the Sisters of Mercy and their pupils. The grounds, around which were grouped the children, presented a gay appearance, with scrolls, flags, bunting, and floral decorations, the Papal white and gold being conspicuous. Over the main entrance a graceful Papal flag floated. His Excellency was accompanied by Right Rev. Dr. Whyte, Right Rev. Monsignor Mackay, V.G., Rev. Dr. Farrelly, (Secretary to the Delegation), Very Rev. J. Coffey, Adm., Very Rev. G. M. Hunt (Alexandra), Rev. Fathers P. O'Dea (Omakau), P. J. O'Neill (Riversdale), and D. V. Silk (Holy Cross College). On arrival the distinguished visitors were welcomed by Rev. Fathers Delany, Graham, Rooney, and the nuns. Having received the Apostolic Benediction the children sang a chorus of welcome, after which Miss Leila Campbell, on behalf of the pupils of the South Dunedin Catholic schools, delivered the following address:

To the Most Reverend Bartholomew Cattaneo, Archbishop of Palmyra, from the Children of St. Patrick's Parish, South Dunedin.

May it please your Excellency,

Years ago a Pope sent the patron of our schools to the Irish people, and St. Patrick taught them they must be true to Rome, just as they must be true to Christianity. The Irish people learnt the lesson so well that through the centuries no land has been more loyal to the Pope than the Island of Saints and Scholars. The Irish priests who came to preach the Gospel in New Zealand taught our fathers and mothers the same lesson of loyalty to Rome, saying as Patrick said long ago: "Be Roman as you are Christian—*Ut Christiani, ita et Romani sitis*"—our present pastors instil the same lesson.

Therefore we claim the right on this joyful occasion to welcome your Excellency as young Romans who are receiving a visit from the representative of the Vicar of Christ, the Pope of Rome. And if your Excellency could see into our hearts, you would find there affection and fidelity as lively as could be found even under the shadow of St. Peter's dome itself.

Like those who have gone before us, we have learned to love Rome and to regard our holy faith as our greatest treasure. And, while we can more than hold our own in examinations, we recognise that we are receiving in the religious instruction given us by our devoted teachers that true education which the secular schools cannot give, and that we are thus being prepared to live on earth lives pleasing to God and worthy of our grand Catholic traditions.

The recollection of this memorable visit will remain always with us, and it will remind us constantly to pray that God may reward and bless your Excellency's great work for His Holy Church in Australia and New Zealand.

With heartfelt assurances of loyalty and love, we beg your Excellency to accept our little spiritual bouquet and to bless our pastors, our teachers, our schools, our friends, and ourselves—

Your devoted children of St. Patrick's Parish.

On behalf of the children Miss Mary Poppelwell presented his Excellency with the spiritual bouquet.

The "Hymn for the Pope" having been feelingly sung, Archbishop Cattaneo thanked the children for the enthusiastic welcome they had given him as the ambassador of the Holy Father. He felt sure that their address, expressing warm sentiments of loving veneration for his Holiness the Pope, came from their hearts. This welcome from

MARTIN HOULIHAN

**Hairdresser and
Tobacconist**

Stafford Street, Timaru

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