

HONOUR TO A CORK CONTRACTOR—  
MR. JOHN DELANY.

A MEETING of the General Committee of the Cathedral of St. Finn Barr, Cork, was held on the 15th ult., at the Diocesan Room, South Mall, the Lord Bishop in the chair. Present—The Dean, Canons Freke, Harley, O'Brien, LL.D., Smith, Gloster ; Messrs. H. Hardy, W. R. Harris, Dr. Caulfield, hon. sec. Mr. Delany, contractor for the towers and spires, was also present. The Lord Bishop addressing Mr. Delany, said, that in accordance with a resolution unanimously passed at the last meeting, he had great pleasure in presenting him with an illuminated copy of the letter, in which he expressed the feelings of the committee, at the energy and ability with which he carried out his contract, to their express satisfaction, and then called on the Dean to read the address, which was as follows :

The Palace, Cork, July 13th, 1880.

John Delany, Esq.

SIR,—I have been requested by the committee for the re-building of the Cathedral of St. Finn Barr, Cork, to express to you their sense of the skill and ability with which you carried out the contract entrusted to you, for building the three towers and three spires of the Cathedral. I am well aware of the steady and uninterrupted progress made with the work from its commencement during the episcopate of the late bishop, my father. You endeavoured at all times to carry out the instructions of the architect, Mr. Burges, and by the blessing of God you were enabled to accomplish your arduous task without loss of life or limb. You ever consulted with unvarying courtesy the convenience of those worshipping in the Cathedral, and endeavoured in every way to meet the wishes of the authorities. We are glad to think that this work, which is an ornament to the city, has been so successfully accomplished by one who has already gained for himself a high position in his native city, and we wish you every success in the business which your energy, foresight, and ability have created for you.

ROBERT S. CORK.

Mr. Delany, in reply, said—My Lord, I assure you that language fails me to express the pride and gratitude with which I receive this valued testimonial, as a proof of the satisfaction I afforded the committee, during the erection of the towers and spires of the Cathedral of St. Finn Barr. I have only one regret, and that is a heartfelt one, that I have not received it from the hands of your revered father, the late Bishop of Cork, towards whose memory every man in the employment felt that veneration and respect that was so justly due to one who was not only their benefactor, but, in every sense, a true Irishman.

On the conclusion of Mr. Delany's reply, the Lord Bishop left the chair, and, warmly shaking him by the hand, congratulated him, which example was followed by the members of the committee present.

The address was beautifully illuminated in Mr. Gilbert's best style. It was surrounded with an elaborately-painted floral border. At the upper left corner was a coloured drawing of the Cathedral, and in the lower corner, to the right, the arms of the See impaling the Bishop's, emblazoned in their correct tinctures.

The plans for the proposed eastern approach were then laid on the table and discussed; but the final decision awaits the presence of Mr. Burges, who is shortly expected in Cork.

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