

HONOR ST. PATRICK.

THE DAY SO DEAR TO IRISH HEARTS OBSERVED HERE YESTERDAY.

Catholic Societies in Line—Fine Sermon by Father O'Reilly—Many Wore the Little Green Badges.

The memory of Ireland's patron saint keeps fresh in the hearts of the merry sons of the Emerald Isle. Nowhere are Irishmen more patriotic than in Richmond. The sentiment inculcated in them in their youth is as lasting as time, and whenever the opportunity comes for an outpouring of that feeling those from the "old country" take advantage of it. Consequently there were exhibited here everywhere yesterday green badges, green ribbons, and green flags in commemoration of St. Patrick. The weather was cloudy, with slight rains, but much milder than that by which the anniversary is usually marked. The observance of the day was modest and entirely religious in character. There was a fine sermon at St. Patrick's church to a splendid audience, nearly all the Catholic clergy and societies of the city being present.

The societies formed at St. Patrick's Hall, corner Twenty-sixth and Marshall streets, at 10 A. M. and, headed by Chief-Marshal F. J. Reilly and his aides, marched to the church. Chief-Marshal Reilly's aids were Messrs. John Murphy, William Rankin, William Dafron, James McGraw, S. L. Kelly, Pat. McGovern, Dr. D. J. Coleman, James T. Ferriter, Thomas Byrne, Felix Keogan, A. J. Cavanaugh, James J. Creamer, Philip Kelly, John K. Molloy, John Ahern, William F. Reddy, James E. Grady, Philip O'Neill, Daniel Higgins, John M. Ryall, John H. Campbell, P. P. Burke, John R. Higgins, William J. Quigley, John McKinley, Anthony Shea, and John Hankin.

SOCIETIES IN LINE.

The organizations in line were: McGill Catholic Union, W. F. Reddy, president. Ancient Order of Hibernians, Division No. 1, Daniel Higgins, president. Ancient Order of Hibernians, Division No. 2, James J. Creamer, president. The Catholic Beneficial Society, John M. Higgins, president. The West-End Catholic Social and Beneficial Society, James J. Creamer, president. St. Patrick's Beneficial and Social Society.

Arriving at the sacred edifice the societies were given seats in the main body of the church, which was crowded to overflowing before the services began. The picture was a very solemn and impressive one when at 10:30 o'clock solemn high mass was observed.

In the sanctuary were Bishop A. Van de Vyver, Father P. J. Donahue, celebrant; Father Ahern, deacon; Father Wilbers, sub-deacon; Father McKeetry, master of ceremonies, and Father J. E. O'Reilly, the panegyrist. In addition Father Gregory, O. S. B.; Father Wilson, of Fredericksburg; Father Tiernan, and Father Carne.

A STRONG SERMON.

The music was specially appropriate, and very much enjoyed by the large concourse. Father O'Reilly's sermon, or eulogy, was a beautiful and instructive tribute to Ireland and her patron saint. He compared the Irish apostle to the ancient patriarch Abraham, came along down through the many troubles and adversities of the Green Isle, and described in graphic language the conditions of almost every period, presenting in conclusion the power that Ireland's sons are wielding in other countries. He spoke of the great educational institutions founded in the old country centuries ago, and in which thousands of young were taught and brought up to a high stage of manhood and womanhood.

St. Patrick's banquet will be given at Murphy's Hotel Monday night, March 26th.

Pan-a-jeer - est
non
PAUSE, so
good times
about 4 P.M.