

spoke, and congratulated the readers on the success which had attended their efforts and the success of the entertainment they had given. Next Friday evening will be the closing night of the club's present session.

The following pupils of the Dominican Convent, Queenstown (says the *Wakatip Mail*), were successful in the theory examination held last June, in connection with Trinity College of Music, London:—Senior division—Rita McNeil, 60. Intermediate division—Nellie Burgess, 97 (honors); Mary Lee, 88 (honors); Jessie Dagg, 67 (pass). Junior division—Julia Duhig, 97 (honors); Ruby Holt, 96 (honors); Erin Constable, 96 (honors). Preparatory division—Julia McLeely, 100; May Luckie, 85; Annie Holt, 84; Katie Kelly, 83; Vera Craig, 80; Beatrice Sainsbury, 74.

Presentation to Father O'Shea, Hawera

(From our own correspondent.)

September 19.

On Thursday evening last, although the weather was very unfavorable, there was a good attendance of parishioners of Hawera and surrounding districts in the Convent school room, when a presentation was made to Rev. Father D. O'Shea, who is going on an extended trip on account of his health. The matter was taken in hand by some of the most prominent members of the parish—Messrs. J. Bartlett, Bunting, Barry, and Fennell. On the stage, which was tastefully decorated, were Messrs. Bartlett, Bunting, and Barry, representing Hawera, and Mr. D. Hughes, jun., representing Manaia and Kaponga. The proceedings were opened by Mr. Bartlett in a very appropriate speech. He gave a brief resumé of the Rev. Father's career, from the time he left Maynooth College up to the present. During the past six months he has been assisting the Rev. Father O'Dwyer, in the absence of the Very Rev. Father Power. The speaker made feeling reference to Father O'Shea's many good qualities, especially his zeal in the discharge of his sacred duties. The Rev. Father had made many friends during his stay amongst them, and one and all would regret his departure. He (the speaker) hoped their guest would be spared for many years to carry on his holy work. On behalf of the parishioners of this parish and surrounding districts, Mr. Bartlett said it gave him much pleasure to make a presentation to Rev. Father O'Shea of a set of breviaries and a vestment case for celebrating Holy Mass during his travels.

Rev. Father O'Shea, upon rising to respond, was received with long-continued applause. He said: 'This is an eventful evening in my life. It . . . takes me back to that happy time twenty golden years ago, when, in accepting the responsibility of the daily recitation of the Breviary, the new and beautiful edition of which forms part of your presentation this evening, I vowed eternal allegiance to holy Church and to the ministry of the altar. But a more efficient reminder of that hallowed time will be forthcoming in the vestment case which awaits me in Sydney, and which the contents of the modest envelope I now hold in my hand will enable me to purchase. There will be still other memories, less sacred, indeed, but still dear to my heart, enshrined in this precious case. For on the inside of the lid, inscribed in parchment, will be affixed the names of the generous donors, so that I may be enabled to remember them at the altar each time I celebrate the Holy Sacrifice. For these solid and weighty reasons I feel happy to-night, and tender my heartfelt thanks to you, my friends, who have come to rejoice with me and who have ministered to my happiness. But if there is always a silver lining to the darkest of our griefs, so is there a sable fringe to the brightest of our joys. I cannot forget that this is the last time I shall meet you all in happy social reunion. . . I was not long among the warm-hearted people of Taranaki when I knew and felt and appreciated their kindness. . . I have found, in every part of this favored province, what the Saxon traveller, Aldfrid, found on his itinerary through ancient Ireland—a kindly, hospitable, generous, warm-hearted people. . . I gladly avail myself of this opportunity to thank also our venerable Archbishop for his great kindness to me during my sojourn in the archdiocese of Wellington. From the day I met his Grace in Salt Lake City, Utah, to the present time—a period of twelve years—he has been to me not only a kind and indulgent superior, but a father, a counsellor, and a friend. And if it should be God's holy will to restore me to health, it would be the greatest happiness that life and health could offer to serve under his Grace for another similar term, before returning home to my native diocese of Limerick.'

Mr. W. Bunting said he was suré the parishioners all regretted Father O'Shea's departure, and would hope it would be the happy era of his restoration to good health. He wished their guest every happiness, was sorry to part with him, and hoped he would be enabled to return again.

Mr. D. J. Hughes, on behalf of Manaia parishioners, made laudatory references to Rev. Father O'Shea's work in that district.

Mr. B. McCarthy pointed out two features which were a prominent testimonial to the departing guest. One was devotion to duty, and the other was perseverance and fulfilment of obligations as a pastor and priest in the parish.

Rev. Father O'Shea thanked the speakers for their kind remarks, which he said were too flattering. He would leave many friends behind him, and these he would always remember by the presentation made to him.

The following programme of musical items was gone through during the evening:—Song, Miss B. Flynn; pianoforte solo, Miss Reilly; song, Miss Gallagher; duet, Misses Sutton; trio, Misses Reilly, Gallagher and Mrs. Bennett; songs, Messrs. Lawless, Hooker and Rev. Father O'Shea; recitation, Mr. F. O'Connor; Irish reel and jig, Mr. Fennell; accompaniment by Miss Reilly and Rev. Father O'Shea. Accompaniments for songs were played by Miss Reilly and Miss J. Flynn. Refreshments were handed round, which concluded a most enjoyable gathering.

OBITUARY

MR. JOHN KENNEDY, AHAURA.

It is with profound regret that we (*Greymouth Evening Star*) have to announce the death of so good a colonist and so kindly a neighbor as Mr. John Kennedy, of Ahaura, who passed away on September 16 at the residence of his son-in-law, Mr. John Higgins, county engineer, where he has remained ever since he broke his thigh at Ahaura, and was removed there for the convenience of the medical aid required. Everything that human skill and good nursing has been done for Mr. Kennedy, but at the good old age of seventy-four it is not so easy to repair a broken thigh, and during the week it became only a matter of watching life ebb and making him comfortable. Mr. Kennedy has been a typical colonist since he came to the Coast in the early days. He first of all entered into business in Hokitika, and when the rush took place at Greenstone he went there and started a store. In 1872 (the year of the big flood) he removed to Ahaura, where he had resided ever since. He leaves seven daughters and two sons. The two latter are resident on the farm and two daughters are unmarried. Those married are Mrs. J. L. Doogan and Mrs. F. Johnson, of Greymouth; Mrs. Malone, of Nelson Creek; Mrs. O'Meara, of Totara Flat; and the late Mrs. John Higgins. Mr. Kennedy was a man whose word was his bond, and he did many kindly actions without letting his right hand know what his left hand did. Many an early settler will have cause to remember his kindness to them and his unpretentious way of helping them when they needed it. A Requiem Mass was celebrated at St. Patrick's Church by his Lordship Bishop Grimes. At the conclusion of the Mass his Lordship spoke in feeling terms of the lively, steadfast faith and upright life of the deceased, whom he had known for 21 years. The funeral of the deceased on September 18 was one of the largest seen in Greymouth for many years. The expressions of deep sympathy received by the relatives were numerous. The first part of the burial service was read at St. Patrick's Church by the Very Rev. Dean Carew, who also officiated at the graveside.—R.I.P.

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