

PRESENTATION TO MISS QUINN, TEMUKA.

THERE was a large attendance in St. Joseph's schoolroom, Temuka, on Thursday night of last week (says the *Leader*) when a presentation of an illuminated address and a purse of sovereigns was made to Miss Catherine Quinn, who has acted as organist of the Catholic Church for the past 10 years. The Rev. Father Fauvel occupied the chair. A very nice programme of vocal and instrumental music was gone through, after which the rev. chairman read an address, which was beautifully illuminated by the Sisters of St. Joseph. The address stated that the parishioners of St. Joseph's learning that Miss Quinn was about to leave the parish under very pleasing circumstances desired to give expression to the affectionate regard in which she was held by all. For many years she had rendered invaluable service to the congregation by acting gratuitously as organist, whilst her kindness and goodness of heart and her amiable and gentle manners had won the heartfelt esteem of every one.

Father Fauvel supplemented the address by a few remarks in which he thanked Miss Quinn for her gratuitous services during the past 10 years, and also expressed his thanks to Mesdames Twomey, Bori and Fitzgerald for the part they had taken in making the presentation a success.

Mr. Quinn, on behalf of his daughter, thanked Fathers Fauvel and Galerne and the congregation for the address and purse of sovereigns. He said it was a pleasure to himself and his family to know that Miss Quinn's services as organist of St. Joseph's Church had been so highly appreciated. He hoped she would never forget the kindness which she had received at their hands, and on leaving Temuka, the place of her birth, she would take with her happy recollections of the many pleasant days spent there. In conclusion he specially thanked Rev. Father Fauvel, who had been chiefly instrumental in getting up the testimonial, which he had so pleasingly presented. Votes of thanks to the rev. chairman for presiding, and cheers for Miss Quinn and Mr. and Mrs. Quinn brought the proceedings to a close.

THE headquarters of the Palmerston North Gas Company (says the *Manawatu Times*) have been removed from Wellington to Palmerston North, and the local manager, Mr. M. J. Kennedy, has been appointed secretary. This is a step in the right direction. Mr. Kennedy has proved himself a very able official as manager, and we have no doubt that in the dual position he will be equally successful. The effect of the changes indicated should very largely assist to promote friendly relations between the company and the gas consumers. The gentleman referred to is a son of Mr. Kennedy, manager of the gasworks, Greymouth, and was appointed to the managership of the Palmerston North Gasworks some two years ago, having previously been at Perth, Western Australia, and for three years in England.

SPEAKING at Auckland the other day, the Postmaster-General claimed that the present Administration has assisted in developing the country. There had been an endeavor to do full justice to all parts of the Colony. The expenditure on public works for the whole Colony up to 31st March last totalled £32,978,000. He anticipated that the North Island Main trunk railway would be completed in four years. The expenditure on railways in Auckland province had been more than one-sixth of the whole expenditure on the completed lines in New Zealand. Dealing with the recent reductions in taxation, he held this had always been the policy of the present Administration, and that the results fully justified it. For eight months of the present year the Colony was \$209,000 better off than for any similar previous period. Both imports and exports had increased all round, and, taken on the whole, the Colony had never been upon a sounder basis than at present.

THE issue of the *Austral Light* for December completes the first year of its existence under its new proprietary, and without in any way making invidious comparisons it must be admitted that the new magazine has been a decided improvement on its predecessor. During the past 12 months there have appeared in the pages of the *Austral Light* articles on many subjects which were of a very high order of literary excellence, and dealing with matters of every-day interest. We hope that it will, in the coming year, be able to keep up the high standard in art and literature which it set itself during the past 12 months.

DURING the year drawing to a close (says the *Daily News*) 189 new buildings and additions to existing ones have been erected in Invercargill. For some years past the carpentering and kindred trades have been very active, with the result that the appearance of Invercargill has become materially changed, vacant allotments in all portions of the town, and the south particularly, being extensively converted to residential purposes. Handsome buildings also have been erected in the principal streets, and former residents who have been in other parts of the Colony during the time referred to are agreeably surprised at the transformation when they pay a visit to the town. Business premises are at a premium, and, in consequence, rents have been raised, and they are now higher than they ever were before. This is only one of the numerous signs of the advance made by Invercargill during the past few years, and perhaps business was never on a sounder footing. The progress enjoyed is not dependent on some precarious basis, but owes its existence to the thrift, enterprise, and energy of the settlers.

Everyone acting a responsible part in the world, be it great or small, and be it acted with or without consciousness of its character, is continually working for others as well as for himself.

INTERCOLONIAL.

The wheat crop of New South Wales is estimated at an average of about 12½ bushels per acre.

During the sojourn in Europe, on a twelve months' tour, of Mr Robert Barton, the Deputy-master of the Melbourne Mint, his duties were discharged by Mr Wardell, son of the late eminent architect of St. Patrick's and St. Mary's Cathedrals (Melbourne and Sydney).

The Dowager Lady Howard of Glossop has arrived in Sydney, having come out for the benefit of her health. Lady Howard, who is the widow of the late Lord Howard of Glossop is a daughter of Ambrose de Lisle, so that all her family have been Catholics. When the Marquis of Bute married the Dowager's daughter, he made the significant remark, 'I would rather marry a Howard than a Guelph.'

The Sacred Heart Convent, Malvern, has just celebrated the centenary of the foundation of its Order with appropriate festivities and ceremonies. In 1882 the mother house at Paris established a branch at Rose Bay, and in 1888 the Rose Bay foundation established the Sisters at Malvern at the request of his Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne. During their residence in Melbourne the nuns have acquired their present convent at East Malvern at a cost of £2500, and a second house near St. Joseph's Church, where they have expended £4000 in providing primary schools. They are about to build a new convent and schools also.

There recently passed away at Pekina, South Australia, a patriarch who, if he had lived another month, would have had the rare distinction of having seen three centuries, says the *Register*. Mr Patrick Daly was born in Glen Ina, Ballyvaughan, County Clare, Ireland, in November, 1799. He came to this colony in 1861, and settled first at Kapunda, where he worked at the copper mines. Subsequently he carried on farming at Bagot's Well. Until a few weeks of his death his faculties, bodily and mental, were wonderfully preserved. His eyesight was keen. He was capable of chopping wood and doing odd jobs about the farm. He has left a son, children and twenty-nine grandchildren, all settled in the colony.

Among the passengers by the steamer *Barbarossa*, which arrived at Fremantle from Bremen recently, was the Right Rev. Dr. Couppé, M.S.H., Vicar-Apostolic in New Britain. Dr. Couppé was accompanied by a band of missionaries—eight priests, six Brothers, and two nuns—all of the Order of the Sacred Heart of Mary Immaculate, to secure whose services the Bishop had recently returned from the islands to Germany. The headquarters of the Order in this hemisphere are in Sydney, where they have recently erected at Kensington a handsome monastery. Their mission ground embraces, as well as New Britain, New Guinea. In both their mission fields the success of the missionaries has been notable, and they have succeeded under difficulties requiring of them the most arduous labors and heroic sacrifices. In New Britain their converts number 7500.

Mr. Townsend M'Dermott, the veteran Ballarat barrister, who is probably the oldest practising counsel in Australia, was, on November 3, presented at the Ballarat City Hall with a purse containing 150 sovereigns and an illuminated address, couched in very complimentary terms. The testimonial was mainly subscribed by Mr. M'Dermott's friends in the legal profession of Ballarat and Melbourne. Sir Henry Cuthbert, who presided, referred to the long and brilliant career of Mr. M'Dermott, who, as a graduate of Trinity College, Dublin, was admitted as a practitioner over 60 years ago, and was subsequently, as a junior, professionally associated in the Four Courts with the great Daniel O'Connell. Mr. M'Dermott, who is over 80 years of age, thanked the various speakers for the kind and complimentary things said regarding him in proposing his health.

In his report on the primary schools of the archdiocese of Melbourne the Rev. Father John McCarthy, Inspector, states that on September 30 there were in operation 103 separate primary schools with an attendance of 20,602 children, under 448 teachers, of whom 178 are religious. Of these 20,602 children attending the primary schools, 725 are non-Catholics. Above one-fourth of the children attend schools conducted by the Sisters of Mercy, and one-eighth those in charge of the Sisters of Charity. The expenditure on new parochial schools during the year was £1280, and the cost of alterations, repairs, and appliances was £2506, making a total outlay of £2786, independent of salaries to teachers. The salaries of the 448 teachers for the year amounted to £20,987, which, added to the expenditure on new schools, alterations, etc., make a total of £24,773, which gives £14s as the average cost per pupil. The average expenditure for the last nine years was £22,119. Large as are the sums already spent in providing school accommodation further expenditure must still be incurred in order to provide suitably for the ever increasing attendance at the parochial schools. Of the convent high schools there are 20, with an attendance of 253 junior boys and 1495 girls, making a total of 1748 pupils, of whom 226 are non-Catholics. Twenty-five pupils of these schools passed the matriculation examination of the Melbourne University; 12 matriculated in music, and 395 were successful in winning other distinctions, amongst them being very many honors and passes of the Royal College of Music. The distinguished professor who presided at these examinations, Mr. A. Somervell, was loud in his admiration of the musical work done in the convent schools. 'There is one thing I noticed in the school examinations,' he said to an interviewer, 11th October, 1900, 'and that was that the teaching in the convent schools was far superior to that of other schools. Why it should be so I do not know, but I have seen it not only here, but also in Sydney, and in some cases the contrast has been wonderful. It was just the same at Sale a few days ago, and wherever I go I notice it.'

Ashburton Residents

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