

lately acquired by the Sisters of Mercy. The children will leave Takapuna by the 2 o'clock train, and will be met on this side of the water by several members of the Automobile Association, who have kindly volunteered to drive the children to their new home. 'The Pah' has been thoroughly renovated at a cost of £1000.

Rev. Father Wright's address to the Holy Family Confraternity on the 'Reformation' period, particularly with regard to Mary's reign, and the unfortunate alliance with Phillip, and its disastrous consequences to the old Faith and England particularly, was most interesting. The review was eminently impartial from a historical standpoint, and the continuance of the subject is eagerly awaited by the members of the confraternity.

Taumarunui

(From our own correspondent.)

On Thursday evening at the Theatre Royal, a complimentary farewell social was tendered to Miss McGuirk by the residents of Taumarunui, and was largely attended. Miss McGuirk has been here over three years, and during the whole of that time has rendered valuable service in all social and charitable functions. To the Catholic church choir especially she has rendered devoted assistance. The esteem in which she is held by all classes was strikingly shown by the large gathering present at the valedictory social, and the love, with which she has inspired those who know her best, by the very beautiful presentation made to her from the Catholic choir and congregation. During the evening songs were contributed by Miss McGuirk, Miss Hannan, Mr. Parr, and Mr. Wilkinson. After the supper interval, Rev. Father Williams, in a very appreciative little speech, presented to the guest of the evening a very handsome solid silver toilet set. Father Williams said that Miss McGuirk had always used the gift that God had given her—the gift of a beautiful voice—with the utmost willingness and kindness in every good cause. He also referred to her exceptional knowledge of the theory of ecclesiastical music, and to the help it had been to the choir. It was the wish of all that her departure from Taumarunui would not be for ever, but that she would be soon back among them again.

Mr. J. E. Slatery, in replying on behalf of the recipient, thanked the donors very cordially for their splendid gift, which would always be dearly prized. Miss McGuirk felt, he said, that anything she had done was a labor of love. She was only too glad to be of some service, and she was deeply grateful to her friends for the beautiful present they had made her.

The duties of secretaries were ably carried out by Messrs. Irvine and Wilkinson. A choice supper was provided by Miss McGuirk's lady friends, who were assisted in serving it by young ladies among the guests. Many visitors were present from Manunui, Kakahi, and other places, and altogether Miss McGuirk's farewell will be remembered as one of the pleasantest social functions ever held in Taumarunui.

Oamaru

(From our own correspondent.)

July 14.

At a recent meeting of the Oamaru Philosophical Society an interesting paper on Home Rule for Ireland was read by Mr. Eyre Evans, who showed a good grasp of his subject, and was accorded a hearty vote of thanks by the members of that body.

Rev. Father Creagh, C.S.S.R., who has been conducting a retreat for the Children of Mary sodality during the week, preached at Mass and the evening devotions yesterday and on last Sunday.

Oamaru is experiencing one of its mildest winters for many years, and the excellent climatic conditions prevailing call forth highly complimentary remarks from visitors from north and south, where cold and wet have been very prevalent.

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