

He got sick leave-in 1895 and* proceeded to Europe, where he spent about a year and a half. On his return he was appointed to the Cathedral parish, and from there to Invercargill, where he spent two years. Then followed a year in Gore, from which he was transferred to the charge of Port Chalmers, where he labored for three years. His health quite broke down, and he was obliged to take another journey Home. He made a stay in Ireland of about one and a half years. On his return he was appointed to the pastoral charge of Tapanui, where he remained until his deeply regretted death on Friday morning.

The remains were brought to Dunedin for interment, and on Tuesday morning the Solemn Office and Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of the deceased took place in St. Joseph's Cathedral. His Lordship the Bishop presided at the Solemn Office and was celebrant of the Mass, Very Rev. Dean Burke (Invercargill) being assistant priest, Very Rev. Father O'Donnell (Gore) deacon, Rev. Father Corcoran subdeacon, Rev. Father Coffey (Adm. St. Joseph's Cathedral) master of ceremonies, and Rev. Fathers Cleary and O'Reilly cantors. The other clergy present were the Right Rev. Mgr. Mackay and Rev. Father O'Neill (Oamaru), Very Rev. Mgr. O'Leary and Rev. Father Lynch (Lawrence), Rev. Father Keenan (Riversdale), Rev. Father Ilunt (Cromwell), Rev. Father O'Dea (Ophir), Rev. Father Lynch (Palmerston), Rev. Father Murphy (Riverton), Rev. Father McMullan (Ranfurly), Rev. Fathers Howard and Geary (South Dunedin), Rev. Fathers Delany, M. Ryan, Liston, and Buckley (Holy Cross College), Rev. Father O'Malley (Invercargill), Rev. Father Iearn (Port Chalmers), Rev. Father O'Neill (Winton), Rev. Father O'Neill (Gore). A number of students from Holy Cross College, under the direction of Rev. Father Liston, sang the Gregorian music appropriate to the Mass. There was a very large congregation, among those present being representative Catholics from the Tapanui district, who thus showed by their presence their deep and sincere respect for the deceased priest.

The funeral took place in the afternoon, when a large cortege of mourners followed the remains to their last resting place in the Southern Cemetery. His Lordship the Bishop officiated at the graveside, and was assisted by the clergy previously mentioned. His Lordship received a number of sympathetic messages from all parts of the Colony, conveying the expressions of regret of the senders at the loss which the diocese had sustained in the sad death of a devoted priest.—R.I.P.

MR. JOHN FOX, STUDBOLME JUNCTION.

On May 31, there passed away at Studholme Junction, Canterbury, one of the pioneers of the Colony in the person of Mr. John Fox. The deceased was attracted to the Victorian goldfields in the fifties, and came over to New Zealand in 1862, being amongst the first at the Gabriel's rush. The Dunstan and Shotover followed, and, not meeting with any great success on those fields, he left for the West Coast. The hardships of those days on the Coast are well known to all the old diggers, and a bad attack of fever laid him up for a considerable time. Recovering, and meeting with poor luck, he came back to Cardrona, at that time one of the richest fields in New Zealand. After some years' work on that diggings he started farming and contracting on the Hawea, and was very successful. Some eight years ago he sold his farm in that district and shifted to Studholme Junction, where he resided till the time of his death. He is survived by his wife and grown-up family of three sons and two daughters.—R.I.P.

DEATH OF THE RIGHT HON. R. J. SEDDON

The uncertainty of life was forcibly brought home to the people of this Colony this week. In the morning papers of Monday they read that Mr. Seddon, having concluded his tour of the principal colonies of the Commonwealth, had left at 3.30 on Sunday morning for New Zealand via Auckland by the 'Oswestry Grange.' By noon on the same day flags were flying at half-mast and bells were tolling out of respect to his memory. Prior to his departure for New Zealand Mr. Seddon was the recipient of many messages from the leading men of Australia, conveying their best wishes for a pleasant voyage and safe return. Little did they anticipate that within a few short hours they would be lamenting his death and tendering their sympathy and condolence to his bereaved widow and sorrowing family. Yet such was the case.

It appears that shortly before half-past six o'clock on Sunday evening Mr. Seddon was sitting with Mrs. Seddon in his cabin, waiting for the dinner-gong, when he placed his head on his wife's shoulder, and said, 'Oh, mother,' and expired immediately. The ship's doctor

certified that death was due to heart failure. The vessel, which was 140 miles from the Heads at the time, returned to Sydney. The body was embalmed and is being brought to New Zealand. It is needless to say that the news of the sad event created the most profound grief in all parts of the Colony, and the sincere sympathy of all went out to Mrs. Seddon and family in their great affliction.

The late Mr. Seddon was born at Eccleston, near St. Helens, England, on June 22, 1845, his father being master of the local grammar school. After an ordinary primary education he went, at the age of twelve years, to work on his grandfather's farm, but finding this unsuitable to his tastes, he was apprenticed to an engineering firm at St. Helens, and after serving his time, worked at the Vauxhall Foundry, Liverpool. At the age of eighteen he came out as engineer in a steamer to Victoria, landing in Melbourne 45 years ago. After trying the goldfields he secured work in the locomotive department of the Government Railways. A brass tablet now marks the bench at which he worked. In 1866, just forty years ago, he came over to Hokitika. After three years on the West Coast goldfields he returned to Melbourne and married the second daughter of Captain Spotswood, a shipowner trading out of Melbourne—a lady who had always proved a worthy helpmeet all through his career. He took his first step in public life soon after returning from Melbourne with his bride, when he became a member of the Arahura Road Board. When Westland became a provincial district Mr. Seddon represented Arahura in the Westland Council, and was Chairman of Committees until the abolition of the provinces in 1876. In 1878 he was elected the first Mayor of Kumara. In 1879 he was elected for Westland in the House of Representatives, and as a follower of Sir George Grey. In 1891 Mr. Seddon joined the Ballance Ministry as Minister for Mines, and on the death of the Premier in April, 1893, he was called to the Premiership, being sworn in on May 1, having thus held the position for upwards of thirteen years. In 1897 Mr. Seddon visited England on the occasion of the late Queen's diamond jubilee, when he was made a Privy Councillor. He paid another visit to England to attend the Coronation, when he and Mrs. Seddon were the guests of his Majesty.

He is survived by his widow and three sons (Captain R. J. Seddon, Mr. Thomas R. Seddon, and Mr. Stuart Seddon) and six daughters (Mrs. Bean, Mrs. Dyer, Mrs. Morice, of Greymouth, Miss Seddon, Miss May Seddon, and Miss Ruby Seddon).

WEDDING BELLS

BROWNE—SKINNER.

A pretty wedding took place at the Sacred Heart Church, N.E. Valley, on Monday, when Mr. T. J. Browne, of Auckland, was married to Miss Isabella Skinner, youngest daughter of Mr. Arthur Skinner, Normanby, Dunedin. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Father O'Reilly. Miss Margaret Skinner (niece of the bride) was bridesmaid, and Mr. J. W. Skinner was best man. In the unavoidable absence of her father, the bride was given away by her brother, Mr. James Skinner. At the conclusion of the ceremony the wedding party adjourned to the residence of the bride's parents, where the breakfast was laid. The newly married couple were the recipients of many useful and artistic presents. Mr. and Mrs. Browne left by the second express for Christchurch, where the honeymoon is to be spent.

CASEY—COLLINS.

A very pretty wedding took place at St. Joseph's Church, Buckle street, Wellington, on June 6, when Mr. M. J. Casey, of the City Engineer's office, and a member of the Young Men's Catholic Club, was married to Miss Mary Power Collins, second daughter of Mr. R. P. Collins, of Brougham street. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Father Hills, assisted by the Very Rev. Father Lewis, Very Rev. Father Keogh, and Rev. Father Holley. The bride was given away by her father, and wore a beautiful dress of mervilleuse silk and carried a shower bouquet and wore the usual veil and wreath of orange blossoms. She was attended by her sister, Miss Margaret Collins, and Miss Nell Casey (sister of the bridegroom) and her two nieces, Misses Nellie and Mysie Walker. The bridegroom's present to the bride was a gold chain with pendant brooch of rubies and pearls, and to the bridesmaids gold and greenstone link bangles and wishbone brooches. A reception was held afterwards at the residence of the bride's parents. Among the wedding gifts, which were numerous and handsome, was one from the City Engineer and his staff. The happy pair left by the afternoon train for Wanganui, where the honeymoon is to be spent.