

Leo's Academy, Devonport). Preparatory grade—Pass—Flora Blackburn (St. Leo's Academy, Devonport), Margaret Douglas (Convent High school, Thames), Winifred H. Hipkins (St. Leo's Academy, Devonport), Mona I. Mackay (St. Leo's Academy, Devonport), Rosina F. Lowe (Convent High school, Thames), Ellen Montague (Convent High school, Thames), Gertrude Daly (St. Mary's Convent High school, Ponsonby), Madge Mann (St. Mary's Convent, Ponsonby), Irene O'Connor (St. Patrick's Convent). St. Mary's Convent, Hamilton.—Minnie Furze, Goldie Graham, Mary Cronin, Eileen O'Brien, Muriel Chitty, Rita Coyle, Hilda Floyd, Elsie Rae Miss Nellie Mahoney, senior division (pass), Mr. Joseph McGuire, intermediate (honors), and Miss Mary E. Sheahan, intermediate (pass), pupils of Miss Ada Yates, lay Catholic teacher, also passed.

ST. MARY'S LITERARY AND SOCIAL CLUB, MILTON

The winter session of the above Club was brought to a close on Friday evening last, the final meeting taking the form of a social gathering which was attended by a very large number of members and their friends. A very enjoyable musical programme had been provided, to which the following contributed—Misses Scanlan, Coleman, and Hannify, and Messrs. W. Kirby, T. Leaven, M. O'Connell, and J. A. Scott. The programme concluded with a short amateur Christy minstrel performance, the dusky 'circle' consisting of the following:—Messrs. J. Ward, M. O'Connell, J. Hand, M. Lynch, E. Gornall, and J. Lynch (interlocutor). Considering that the whole affair had been got up within a week the effort was a distinct success, and the performers showed clearly (says the 'Bruce Herald') that they had undoubted capacity in the fun-making line. Some of the local hits were very good, and the whole performance received from the audience the generous appreciation which it undoubtedly deserved.

In the short interval which followed, a pleasing function took place in the shape of a presentation to Mr. J. A. Scott, vice-president of the Club. Mr. W. Kirby, secretary, explained that the idea of marking their appreciation of Mr. Scott's services had been spontaneously and enthusiastically taken up by the members of the Club, and on their behalf he read and presented to Mr. Scott a beautifully-illuminated address couched in the following terms:—

To Mr. J. A. Scott, M.A.

Dear Mr. Scott,—

We, the members of St. Mary's Literary and Social Club, Milton, desire at the end of the session 1903, to give expression to our very great appreciation of your unremitting attention and keen interest in our welfare. The success that has so far attended our efforts at mental improvement is largely due to your kindly watchfulness and fostering care. Whilst regretting the close of this year's pleasant work we trust we shall again have the happiness of your presence amongst us at some future date to renew the cordial relations that have existed between us. Meanwhile, we beg your acceptance of the accompanying little token of our goodwill and fervent wishes for your prosperity and happiness in the future. Signed, on behalf of the Club,

J. O'Neill, President.

W. Kirby, Secretary.

The Very Rev. Father O'Neill said that before Mr. Scott replied he would like to be allowed to take a hand. When the young men had come to him with the proposal to make a presentation to Mr. Scott he had been only too delighted to give the matter his hearty support. Mr. Scott, although not residing in Milton, had managed to be present at practically every meeting of the Club, and he had often been able to accomplish this only at considerable personal inconvenience. Of the value of his services to the Club he could not speak too highly, and he was greatly pleased that the members had appreciated his work in the way it deserved. On behalf of the Club he had pleasure in presenting Mr. Scott with a purse of sovereigns, the accompanying little token referred to in the address, and in doing so he echoed the hope that had been already expressed, that Mr. Scott would still keep in touch with Milton, and that they would continue to have his assistance and co-operation for many sessions to come.

Mr. Scott, who until that night had not the faintest hint of what was coming, replied with a good deal of feeling. He said the immediate effect of their unexpected kindness was to make him feel how much better he might have done the work he had tried to do, and how very far he was from having deserved the recognition they had given him. He could not help becoming attached to any society or body of people with whom it was his lot to be

actively connected, and he was really pleased to have the address as a beautiful souvenir of his connection with the Club as its first vice-president. As to the very handsome additional present which they had given him he could only say that he had done nothing whatever to deserve it, and it was altogether too good of them to think of such a thing. He could only hope that if it was his good fortune to be with them in future sessions he would have the opportunity of making some sort of return for their kindness. He was glad that the session just ended had been so successful, and he was particularly pleased to notice the improvement which the younger members were making in debating, reading, essay writing, etc., but the success achieved had been due far more to the hearty loyal support he had received than to any special effort of his own. All he could claim to have done was to have attended regularly and taken an active interest in every subject brought before the Club. Any member could do that, and if all the members attended to those two points the Club must be a success. He thanked them most sincerely for their kind gifts and wished the Club the greatest possible measure of prosperity and success.

The good old chorus, 'For he's a jolly good fellow,' was then lustily taken up, and the presentation function was brought to a happy termination by three hearty cheers for Mr. Scott. Refreshments were then handed round, and some time later the meeting broke up, the general verdict being that the gathering had proved a successful close to the most successful session the Club has yet had.

Animal Stories

Everyone loves a good animal story (writes our Dublin correspondent) and we have had a very interesting one from the Zoological Gardens recently. I do not know if your fauna includes the raccoon. It comes to us from American woods and is an animal somewhat like a small bear. Lately, one of these escaped during the night from its own quarters and for some time could not be found, although the keepers made diligent search. At last, some nights ago, the watchman sighted the raccoon taking its airing around the lions' quarters. It was secured and brought home to its tree, but soon after it was discovered that while amongst the lions it had given birth to a little coon which it had induced a fine lioness to adopt as a foster child. The lioness had evidently taken good care of her nursing, but allowed her keeper to remove it quietly and in safety.

I can vouch for the following occurrence, which took place in the home of a friend of my own. The lady had a splendid red Irish setter which was a great pet in the family and was allowed liberties, such as occasional visits to the drawing-room during the day. The animal formed a close friendship with a fat drake in the farm-yard; they walked together and slept together, and no doubt quacked jokes together. One afternoon the ladies of the house were at needlework in the drawing-room, which is on the first floor. A curious bumping noise on the stairs attracted their attention. One lady went to find out the cause and beheld a strange sight. Evidently, the setter had told his friend Drake what a nice place was that drawing-room: scraps of cake and other good things to be had, and had promised to introduce him to the ladies. But how was the fat, flat-footed bird to mount the stairs? The bumping sound that brought my friend out to the landing was produced thus: The dog came up the steps first, slowly and quietly, and, hanging on to its tail by a firm grip of the bill, was friend Drake, who was thus hauled up, step by step, then, once landed on level ground, he let go his hold and waddled gravely into the drawing-room beside his companion.

The Very Rev. John Ryan, S.J. (Provincial), says the Melbourne 'Advocate,' has taken up his residence at St Ignatius' presbytery, Richmond. The following changes in location of priests are announced:—Rev E. Masterston, S.J., from Hawthorn to Norwood (Adelaide); Rev. R. O'Dempsey, S.J., from Richmond to Hawthorn; Rev. J. McInerney, S.J., from Adelaide to Richmond.

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