

OBITUARY

MR. HENRY BURGER, KUMARA.

It is our sad duty (says the *Kumara Times*) to chronicle the death of Mr. Henry Burger, one of the oldest and best residents of this district, which took place at his residence, Beach road, Kumara, on February 26. The deceased was one of the earliest on this goldfield, and was established in his business whilst the town was yet in canvas. He took a lively interest in the welfare of the town, and consequently held seats on many local bodies. For many years he was captain of the Kumara Volunteer Fire Brigade and often represented the brigade at various conferences. He was a member of the Borough Council. He occupied the mayoral chair for some years. He was also a member of the Charitable Aid Board and other institutions. The late Mr. Burger was 73 years of age, and a native of Memmel, Germany. He leaves a family of five sons and four daughters; one daughter (Mrs. Kean) and one son (Hermann) are resident now at Whangarei, North Auckland; Mr. Henry Burger, jun., at Greymouth, and the other members of the family are in Kumara. They will have extended to them the sympathy of a host of friends.

During his last illness, Mr. Burger was received into the Church by the Rev. Father Burger, S.M., who also administered the last Sacraments. A Solemn Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of the deceased was celebrated on Saturday, February 28, by Rev. Father Burger, S.M., Rev. Father Fraher, S.M., being deacon, Rev. Father Creed subdeacon. The music of the Mass was chanted by Very Rev. Dean Carew, S.M., Rev. Fathers Clancy, S.M., and Lacroix, S.M.

Large numbers took part in the funeral cortege, many accompanying the remains to the Greymouth Cemetery. Rev. Father Creed officiated at the graveside, assisted by Very Rev. Dean Carew, S.M., and Rev. Fathers Lacroix and Burger.—R.I.P.

THE SHAMROCK

In the rich depth of the forest
I have seen the rata grow;
Lighting up the soft, green dimness
With its gorgeous blood-red glow;
By its side is star clematis,
With its petals virgin white,
Gleaming strangely in the darkness
Of the peaceful, southern night.

And high up upon the hillside
Where the graceful fern-fronds bend
Where the toi-toi, swaying, laughing,
Their light wind-borne tokens send.
There the gold bells of the kowhai
Peal with joy so wild, so free,
Filling all the listening bushland
With their sunshine melody.

But, ah! Dearer than the rata
Is the flower I've loved for years;
To my eyes the golden kowhai
Has no power to bring hot tears;
And the tenderest clematis
That in all the bush realm shows,
Cannot charm me like the shamrock
That in dear old Ireland grows!

ANGELA HASTINGS.

Dunedin.

The Emperor Francis has recently celebrated the sixty-fifth anniversary of his accession to the throne. History, says the *Daily News*, knows only one sovereign—Louis XIV. of France—whose reign was longer, but in the seventy-two years that Louis sat on the throne, eighteen years' guardianship are included, so that Kaiser Francis Joseph has actually beaten all records.

Hamilton

(From an occasional correspondent.)

March 1.

On Saturday last the Convent School boarders and their teachers spent a day at Newstead. Mr. and Mrs. McHendry planned the excursion, and they were assisted in entertaining their guests by Mr. and Mrs. J. and T. Clarkin, Mr. and Mrs. Delaney, and other friends. The party, intending the outing to be an educational as well as a pleasurable one, walked to Kirikiriroa Station, thence took train to Newstead, from where, Mr. McHendry's buggy and waggonette, and Mr. J. Clarkin's motor car conveyed the passengers to Mr. McHendry's homestead—a distance of about three miles. Mr. Clarkin took the party in his conveyance around the district, thus giving them ample opportunity to study the conformation of the rich Waikato country. On arriving at their destination lunch was served, and the orchard thrown open to the children, who fully enjoyed the freedom given them. Mr. and Mrs. McHendry being anxious to test the running powers of the young folk, and to encourage athletic sports for girls, had provided every kind of amusement, and furnished a series of prizes for successful competitors in the various games and races. A magnificent iced cake (the gift of Mrs. T. Clarkin) became the property of the successful weight-guesser. Four quiet hacks were in readiness for the children, and the day was spent in a most enjoyable manner. At 4 o'clock the milking machine was in full work, and thus all were able to see the economy of labor on a New Zealand farm. The Sisters expressed their deep gratitude to these good people who placed so generously their time, their conveyances, and their land at the disposal of the school children. At 6 o'clock the party left for home, after giving hearty cheers for their host and hostess and other kind friends.

WEDDING BELLS

COLLOGHAN—BOYLE.

A very pretty wedding was celebrated recently in St. Anthony's Church, Huntly, when Miss Rose Boyle, daughter of Mr. H. Boyle, Raynor's road, and formerly of Greymouth, and Mr. J. Colloghan, of Greymouth, were united in the bonds of Matrimony, the Rev. Father Edge officiating. The bride, who looked very charming, was handsomely attired in cream duchesse satin, trimmed with silk lace relieved with pearls, and was attended by her sister, Miss M. Boyle, and her niece, Miss Winnie Mather. The former wore white shower of hail muslin, trimmed with Irish lace, and the latter, pretty white embroidery. The bride carried a beautiful bouquet composed chiefly of lily of the valley, and the bridesmaids shower bouquets of roses and asparagus. Mr. Hanrahan acted as best man, and the bride was given away by her father. After the customary wedding breakfast, the happy pair, who were the recipients of many useful and valuable presents, left by the afternoon express on their honeymoon trip.

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