

WEDDING BELLS

SOPER—GRUNDY.

At the Catholic Cathedral, Christchurch, on Monday, December 27, the wedding was solemnised of Miss Sadie Grundy and Mr. Jack Soper, second son of Mrs. J. R. Soper, both of Christchurch. Very Rev. Dr. Kennedy officiated. The bride, who was given away by Mr. J. Empson, wore a gown of ivory chiffon taffeta, trimmed with lace, tassels, and pearls, and completed with a coronet of orange blossoms and tulle veil. She carried a bouquet of cream roses and ferns. The bridesmaids, Miss Kate Grundy and Miss Blanche Soper, wore pretty frocks of apricot crepe-de-Chine, with Leghorn hats, and carried shower bouquets to harmonise. Mr. Frederick Soper was best man, and Mr. Charles Shaw groomsmen. After the ceremony a reception was held at the St. Albans Guild Hall, where wedding breakfast was served. The bridal couple left for Dunedin on their honeymoon, the bride travelling in a fawn gaberdine costume and a rose-colored hat.

ROONEY—SPRING.

The wedding was solemnised at St. Joseph's Church, Temuka, on November 24, of Thomas Bryan Rooney, youngest son of Mrs. and the late Thomas Rooney, of Temuka, and Theresa, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Spring, of Seadown. Rev. Father Kimbell, S.M., officiated and celebrated a Nuptial Mass. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a frock of ivory crepe-de-Chine and georgette, with the usual veil and wreath of orange blossoms. She carried a shower bouquet of white roses, arum lilies, and maiden-hair fern. The bridesmaid (Miss Gertrude Spring) wore apricot crepe-de-Chine and black lace hat. Miss Peggy Campbell (the bride's niece) wore a frock of white crepe-de-Chine and black crinoline hat. Both carried bouquets of Banksia roses. The bridegroom was attended by his brother (Mr. M. J. Rooney) as best man. Mrs. T. Hally (the bride's sister) played the "Wedding March" and other appropriate music. After the ceremony the guests were entertained at Seadown by Mr. and Mrs. Spring. The bridegroom's present to the bride was a gold wristlet watch, and to the bridesmaid and attendant a "Nellie Stewart" bangle and a gold diamond and turquoise brooch respectively; and the bride's present to the bridegroom was a set of military brushes. Later in the day Mr. and Mrs. Rooney left for Dunedin, the bride wearing a navy costume and Leghorn hat trimmed with mauve.

THE IRISH IMMIGRANT AT CHRISTMAS TIME

(For the *N.Z. Tablet*.)

"A Happy Christmas," yes, I know
The words are kindly said,
Yet can I thank you when I feel
My heart within like lead?
The lovely gifts you bring to me,
I know they cost you gold,
But still I feel no inward warmth,
My lips are stiff and cold.

Oh! Why is it at times like this,
When all the world seems gay,
The human heart cries loudly, "Come!"
To those now miles away?
I see the others round me laugh,
I wonder if they hide
Within the deep depths of their hearts
Wounds bleeding, gaping wide.

Perhaps they do—perhaps they don't,
Indeed 'tis hard to tell,
But this I know our Irish hearts
Know how to love too well;
If Purgat'ry can ever be
Endured before we die
Then can I fully understand
Why I in silence cry.

—A.H.

OBITUARY

MR. HUMPHREY GEANEY, TIMARU.

At an early hour on Christmas morning there passed away Mr. Humphrey Geaney, whose name is familiar to all old identities of Timaru. The name of the firm of Peacock and Geaney will awake many reminiscences to residents in the town and district. Mr. Geaney was really one of the makers of Timaru. His name was a household word, and his genial nature and attractive business style rendered canvassing unnecessary. Born about a mile from the "rebel" city, Cork, at Fairhill, a picturesque spur overlooking one of the best harbors of the world, he landed in Melbourne in the 'sixties, his father being responsible for the care of three boys and one girl (now Mrs. McKennah, mother of the two popular commercial travellers, Messrs. M. and J. McKennah). Mr. Geaney became connected with business at a young age, in Wangaratta, about 160 miles from Melbourne. Of an enterprising disposition, he struck out for the various goldfields in Australia, and eventually to Grey-mouth, in 1872. His advent in Timaru was in 1874. One of the best judges of cattle and sheep in North Canterbury, he was a well-recognised figure at all stock sales. His word was his bond, and he commanded the respect of all with whom he had any business transactions. He was generally granted that rare distinction of being one of "nature's gentlemen." Mr. Geaney was responsible for adding to the architecture of the town by building the premises now occupied by the Westport Coal Company, which was for many years the centre and emporium in his particular line. He married in 1884 the daughter of Mr. Nicholas Quin, of Makikihi, and his eldest son, Mr. Nicholas Geaney, now holds the old homestead of Bellvue, Makikihi. The remains of the late Mr. Geaney were conveyed to the Church of the Sacred Heart, Timaru, on Tuesday evening, the 28th ult., and on the morning of the funeral the Rev. Dr. Geaney, of Greenmeadows Seminary (nephew of the deceased), celebrated Requiem Mass, and the mother of the celebrant (Mrs. T. Geaney, of Pleasant Point, and her daughter) were also present. Rev. Dr. Geaney, assisted by the Rev. Father Hurley, officiated at the interment. The late Mr. Geaney, by heart, will, and purse was a member of the different committees that welcomed the various Irish delegates from the visit of the Redmond brothers onwards, and his enthusiasm in the cause of the dear old land was above suspicion. As a citizen Mr. Geaney left no enemies, and quite a number of the citizens of Timaru will long remember him as an estimable friend. The pall-bearers were Mr. P. Rielly, Mr. M. F. Dennehy, Mr. M. McKennah (nephew), and Mr. D. Geaney (brother). He leaves two sons—Mr. Nicholas Geaney, Makikihi, and Master H. Geaney, of St. Patrick's College, Wellington—a brother (Mr. D. Geaney), a daughter (Mrs. Kelly, of Wellington), and a sister (Mrs. McKennah), a sister-in-law (Mrs. T. Geaney), and their families to mourn their loss.—R.I.P.

CONVENT OF THE SACRED HEART

VICTORIA AVENUE :: REMUERA, AUCKLAND.

The Annual Spiritual Retreat for Ladies will begin on Monday evening, January 17, 1921, and end on Saturday morning, January 22.

It will be conducted by the Rev. Albert Power, S.J.

Ladies who wish to attend will kindly let the Reverend Mother know as soon as possible.

THE MOST OBSTINATE

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