

## Death of the Rev. Canon Shaw.

Another of the band of venerable ministers who have done noble work in the diocese of Newcastle, has passed away in the person of the Rev. Canon Shaw, B.A., whose death took place at Gosford on Sunday morning. Canon Shaw retired last year from the incumbency of St. Paul's, Paterson, in consequence of increasing infirmity. He was able, however, to attend Synod in Newcastle last year, but unfortunately in the course of the session caught cold, from which he never fully recovered. The rev. Canon had long suffered from rheumatism, and the new ailment aggravated that trouble and produced complications. Latterly he was unable to move without the help of crutches. And at last this faithful servant of God succumbed to his infirmities full of years, the prime of which were spent in the diocese of Newcastle.

The late Canon Shaw was brother of the late Rev. T. H. Shaw, B.A., incumbent of Jerry's Plains, of the late Rev. Canon Bowyer E. Shaw, incumbent of All Saints, Singleton, and of the Rev. Archibald Shaw, incumbent of Waratah. He had a distinguished career at Cambridge University, and in 1852 obtained there his B.A. degree. In the following year he was ordained priest. About the year 1864 he came to Australia, and after a short stay at Lochinvar as assistant to the Rev. A. Glennie, he was appointed by the late Bishop Tyrrell incumbent of Gosford. There he remained from 1865 till 1870; and was in the last-named year appointed to the parish of Scone, then a much larger district than the parish now called Scone. For many years Mr. Shaw laboured in the Scone district, winning the esteem and love not only of his own people, but also of the whole community. That indeed was his experience in every parish where he laboured. The advance of age having made the work in the extended parish of Scone somewhat heavy, about the year 1880 the rev. incumbent of Scone accepted the incumbency of St. Paul's, West Maitland. There he remained till he resigned in 1885, and was appointed to Merriwa. That incumbency he held till 1888, in which year he exchanged it for that of Paterson, where he laboured till bodily infirmity compelled his retirement. Canon Shaw married Miss Battley, daughter of an old family in his first parish, who survives him. He leaves no family.

The late Canon Shaw was an exemplary Christian man, a cultured scholar, a zealous and devoted clergyman of the Church of Eng'land, and a model English gentleman. He was beloved in every circle in which he moved; his presence as a visitor was welcomed in every house; at the sick and dying bed he was a valued comforter, counsellor, and guide; and in the varied ministrations of his sacred office he spared himself no wise, but was ever earnest and diligent in discharge of duty. His pulpit utterances were expositions of sound doctrine, pervaded by Bible teaching. Marked by devotion, illumined by learning, adorned with illustration drawn from extensive reading and experience and from acute observation, they allured to brighter worlds and showed the way. Especially in Synod was the late Canon Shaw a leader and instructor of his brethren. He never spoke without contributing matter of weight to the subject under discussion, and his wide knowledge and deep study of church affairs gave worth to his counsel. He was a most lovable man, but those who knew him best honoured him most because they occasionally became aware how genuine his religion was as a check upon certain natural propensities. Canon Shaw's charity knew no bounds; in dispensing it he recognised

neither creed nor colour, but gave freely to all in want who came under his notice,—so freely in fact, that his own purse suffered unduly. His fund of information on all subjects was enormous, and those who were favoured with his friendship enjoyed in conversation the stores of a mind richly furnished, and of a memory tenacious beyond the ordinary. Of late years the bodily activity of the Rev. Canon was circumscribed, but his mental faculties remained unclouded, his zeal was unabated, and his post in the church was not relinquished while it was reasonably possible for him to discharge its functions. He dies, leaving no successor in the diocese quite his equal in many of the qualities which constitute a successful parish priest and in mental endowment and power of exposition.

His Lordship the Bishop supplies the following notes:—The Rev. John Shaw, who died yesterday (Sunday) morning had gained a most worthy record in the diocese of Newcastle. He was the eldest of four brothers, who came with their mother to this State about the year 1865. He had been ordained in England in 1852, after having taken his B.A. degree at St. John's College, Cambridge, with honours. His first charge was Gosford in 1865, and there is pathetic appropriateness in his last home being where he made his first home. He was subsequently in charge of Scone, Merriwa, St. Paul's (West Maitland), and Paterson. On the death of Canon Bowyer Shaw, the Bishop conferred the vacant canonry on his brother—an office which he retained until his death. During his earlier years Canon Shaw was known for his athletic strength, which enabled him to undertake much pioneer work when travelling was difficult. His kindly disposition and devotion to the welfare of his parishioners made him beloved everywhere. In Synod he was prominent in debate, and contributed much to its legislation.

The funeral of the late Canon Shaw took place at Gosford on Monday afternoon. The body was laid to rest in Point Frederick cemetery. Among those present were the following members of the clergy—The Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Newcastle, the Dean of Newcastle (Bishop Street), the Venerable Archdeacon Tyrrell, the Revs. Canon Regg, W. Swindlehurst, T. W. Ramm, G. F. Rushforth, P. J. Luscombe, W. Tollis, W. F. James, W. H. H. Yarrington and J. Dixon of the diocese of Sydney, J. K. Brown, incumbent of Gosford, and the Rev. W. T. Roberts, who represented the Rev. S. Taylor of Paterson, the last parish occupied by Rev. Canon Shaw. The Rev. E. M. Walker, Registrar of the Diocese of Newcastle, and Mr. J. D. Jones, were also in attendance, as well as the following family connections: Mrs. Shaw, widow, Mrs. Grant, sister-in-law, Miss Batley, niece, and Messrs. Edward and W. T. C. Hargreaves, brothers-in-law of the late Rev. A. Shaw, Dr. Fielder, and Mr. William McIntyre.

The funeral was timed to start at 5.30 p.m., but it was nearly six o'clock when the body reached the little church. There it was met by the Bishops and clergy, and a short service was held. The Rev. J. K. Brown read the opening sentences; the Ven. Archdeacon Tyrrell Psalm xc, the Rev. W. Tollis Psalm xxxix, the Rev. W. H. H. Yarrington the lesson, and the Lord Bishop of Newcastle the Collects for Easter Even and Easter Day. Towards the end of the service the Bishop gave a short address, in which he expressed the sorrow felt by all present. He said that although the funeral accessories were simple they signified the close of a spiritual warrior's career. Forty years ago Canon Shaw arrived in Gosford, athletic in body, cultured in mind, and eagerly undertook the pioneer work of that diocese. As a warrior he gained moral

in mind, and eagerly undertook the pioneer work of that large district. As a warrior he gained moral victories wherever he went. His genial disposition won welcomes from all the people. His unaffected goodness drew forth the better qualities of character in response. There was pathetic appropriateness in his recent retirement to Gosford—ending where he began his Australian ministry. Let the memory of his faithful service stimulate all to follow him, concluded the Bishop, and when life's close shall come may its retrospect be as grateful, and its prospect be as hopeful as his.

The 401st hymn, "Now the Labourer's task is o'er," was then sung, the Rev. G. F. Rusiforth presiding at the organ. The funeral procession then went on (in buggies) to the cemetery, where the remainder of the burial service was read, the Rev. W. Swindlehurst reading the sentences beginning "Man that is born of a woman," the Bishop of Newcastle the words of committal, the Rev. John Dixon the words "I heard a voice from heaven," the Lesser Litany, the Lord's Prayer, and the First Collect, the Rev. Canon Regg the Second Collect, and the Bishop of Newcastle pronounced the Benediction.

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A peasant named Johann Katterchowska, residing at Kosetoletz, has taken a step which few men in Austria, or, indeed, in any other country, can hope to imitate. He led to the altar, on his 100th birthday, the 75 year old widow, Caroline Zemanek.

A telegram has been received by the State Premier Sir John See, from Captain George Stewart, official secretary to the Governor-General, asking that the Bible upon which Lord Hopetoun was sworn-in might be sent to Melbourne in order that it might be similarly used in connection with the swearing-in of Lord Northcote. Sir John See replied acceding to the request, upon the distinct understanding that the Bible is recognised as the property of this State, and returned after the ceremony. These terms have been agreed to by Captain Stewart.