

Mr. and Mrs. Munro's Departure.

ADDRESS AND TESTIMONIAL FROM THE CITIZENS.

This morning the Mayor (Alderman F. Crago), and a number of friends of Mr. and Mrs. Munro attended at the Royal Hotel, for the purpose of presenting the address and testimonial from the citizens.

The Mayor read the address, as follows :

To Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Munro, on the occasion of their departure from Bathurst.

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Munro.—On the eve of your departure from Bathurst, we cannot permit you to leave without placing on record the esteem and affection with which you are universally regarded by the community, and presenting you with a small token in commemoration of your years of usefulness amongst us.

Your good deeds, Mrs. Munro, live in the hearts of the people, especially in the hearts of the poor, the afflicted, and the distressed, to whom your purse has ever been readily opened, your sympathy ever practical, your appeal to others on their behalf never in vain. Your labours in the cause of charity are writ in the records of Bathurst, and both the Poor Relief Society and the District Hospital, in losing you, lose one whom it will be difficult, almost impossible to replace. As citizens, both of you have ever been foremost in advancing and promoting the well-being of Bathurst, and it is meet that in Macbattie Park, which owes so much to you, there should be erected a memorial to your work and to your worth.

Socially, your hospitality, your unflagging energy, your skilful tact, and your ready help have been recognised factors in the promotion of that pleasant intercourse which relieves the monotony of the work-a-day world of toil, and your genial faces will long be missed from the concert, bazaar, and ball.

Herewith we beg to present you, Mrs. Munro, with this token of our affection and esteem. When you look upon it you will remember Bathurst; while in the hearts of Bathurstians your memory will be kept ever green in that public pleasure which with your help was so quickly converted from a desolate wilderness into "a thing of beauty and a joy for ever."

Wishing you happiness in your new home, and a long career of usefulness and prosperity, We are, on behalf of the subscribers,

The address was signed by F. Crago (mayor), W. H. Paul, W. W. Spencer, John Meagher, Mrs. Ranken, W. G. Thompson, W. Pritchard Bassett, S. W. Webb, and O. W. Hanby, members of the committee.

His Worship then handed to Mrs. Munro a magnificent gold bracelet, studded with diamonds.

Mr. Munro said: Mr. Mayor and fellow citizens,—On behalf of my wife and myself I beg to thank you for your kind expressions and good wishes for our future prosperity and happiness, for the beautiful bracelet which you have presented to Mrs. Munro, for the memorial which you intend to erect in Macbattie Park, and for the address

Munro, for the memorial which you intend to erect in Macbattie Park, and for the address which you have just read. We arrived in Bathurst in April, 1878, and soon found that you were a kind and hospitable people. The first to welcome us was one who has gone from us for ever, one of whom Bathurst had reason to be proud. I refer to the late John Busby, who was recognised as one of the ablest bankers in the colonies (hear) in whom the city and district have lost one of their most widely-esteemed residents. We have been with you now thirteen years, and we can truly say that those thirteen years have been amongst the pleasantest that we have experienced. I do not think that I have done much to merit your handsome testimonial and address, but I am glad that Mrs. Munro has had the leisure and energy to be of some use to the public institutions and poor of the city. Although we are leaving you, we assure you that you and your beautiful city will always have a warm place in our hearts. During our time here we have seen great changes. Old friends have passed away; boys who were at school have grown into manhood, and are now earning their living and fulfilling their duties as citizens, and girls who wore short frocks are now wives and mothers. On an occasion like this it would be incomplete without a passing reference to the marked advancement made by Bathurst and its community in every particular. When we first came here the population of the city numbered about 5000, while the surrounding district was sparsely populated in proportion. Since then the influx of residents has been steady, though gradual, till to-day we stand in the proud position of having nearly 10,000 within the borough. Commensurate with this progress we can mark many truly wonderful improvements all round us, in fact, those who knew the Bathurst of 13 years ago would certainly not recognise it now, with its palatial structures, its beautiful park and show ground, its court house, its hospital, and the other buildings too numerous to mention, and it is our hope that in the thirteen years to come the Bathurst of the future will as greatly transcend the Bathurst of to-day, as the Bathurst of to-day transcends the Bathurst of the past. Again thanking you for your many kindnesses, and wishing you and your city prosperity and your inhabitants a long career of usefulness, and now bid you good-bye. I cannot say more, and I feel you will excuse the incompleteness of the remarks I have made, for it gives us inexpressible pain to break up old associations and wrench away the tendrils which have grown around our hearts in dear old Bathurst. (Applause.)

Mrs. Munro, who was greatly affected, said: Your Worship and citizens of Bathurst,—I feel deeply grateful for your very handsome gift, and words fail me when I should like to tell you how dearly I shall prize it, not only for its great beauty, and value, but far more as a token of the love and esteem you bear me. And when far away from you all, and it is clasped on my arm I shall feel that its sparkling gems reflect the sincerest wishes for my happiness from the loving and generous people of Bathurst. I assure you that any work I have done has always been to me a labor of love. My heart aches when bidding good-bye to you all, knowing that Time brings so many changes, and friends we love we may never meet again; but believe me, wherever we go the many kindnesses we have received from all classes in Bathurst will never be forgotten, and we can

nesses we have received from all classes in Bathurst will never be forgotten, and we can look back with the greatest pleasure to our thirteen years residence with you as being among the happiest of our lives.

I again thank you and wishing prosperity to Bathurst and its kind-hearted people—must to one and all say "Farewell."

Mutual good wishes were further exchanged over a glass of champagne, and the company separated.

The bracelet will be on view at Messrs. Jones' shop until 7 o'clock this evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Monro leaves by mail train for Sydney to-night.