

Bungwahl.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Though in a remote corner of the district, Bungwahl is not always asleep, and taking a retrospect of last Friday's proceedings, we claim to have done ourselves some credit, in which we were ably assisted by some of the well known and respected residents from your city.

It having been determined that such an event as the erection of a public wharf for Bungwahl should not pass without some public recognition, and the completion of the structure having been accomplished on that afternoon, a company of ladies and gentlemen assembled on the wharf, and having inspected and admired it, as well as the new roadway which forms the approach, Mr Garstang, the Police Magistrate, opened the proceedings by calling for three cheers for the Queen. He then expressed regret for the unavoidable absence of our energetic and highly esteemed member, Mr Price, and congratulated the residents on the facility, provided by the wharf, for the development of their business, and hoped it would be a factor in their future prosperity, concluding by declaring the wharf open for public purposes. Mr Hector A. McLean spoke highly of the contractor and his work, as did also Mr J. H. Connor and Mr John Mayers. Mr James Croll, the contractor, acknowledged the kind remarks of the speakers, and hoped the wharf would tend to the general benefit, though, speaking personally, the contract had resulted in pecuniary loss to himself. It is worthy of remark that when inspecting the work, with a view of passing it for payment, the only item required to satisfy the District Engineer for Harbors and Rivers, was a square inch or two of mintz metal on one of the piles.

At the conclusion of this ceremony the company adjourned to the top of the hill, where had been erected by public subscription a neat monument in stone, in the form of an obelisk surmounting a pedestal, to the memory of the late Thomas Mayers, of Mayers Flat, an early pioneer of the district, and whose skill in setting fractured limbs was known far and wide and was used for the benefit of many without fee or reward. Mr Garstang unveiled the monument, on which was then placed a costly permanent wreath. Having descended on the gain to individuals who had had the good fortune to avail themselves of his skill and to the whole district by the noble example afforded to it, the P.M. called on Mr H. A. McLean, the hon. sec. to the movement, who gave details as to the work and its cost, acknowledging

the movement, who gave details as to the work and its cost, acknowledging the pleasure derived from his labor, and its result. Mr James Croll spoke from his own experience, having been treated by the late Thomas Mayers, and gave other examples of his skill and unselfish desire to do good according to the talent he possessed. Mr John Mayers, eldest son of the deceased, with considerable emotion, thanked the speakers for their eulogy of his father, and the subscribers and committee for erecting the handsome memorial to perpetuate his memory.

At 7 p.m. to further celebrate the opening of the wharf about 40 gentlemen sat down to a banquet prepared by Host Richard Payne in a style that should make some caterers that we have heard of blush. The table was prettily laid, and that which remained over, after the guests had eaten, was many basketsful.

Mr Garstang, P.M., presided, and gave the usual loyal toasts, "The Queen" and "The Governor," which were heartily received, Mr Joe Cornish, of Copeland, leading in the musical honors. Mr James Croll, J.P., who filled the vice-chair with much spirit, proposed "The Parliament," Mr Geo. H. Mitchell, J.P., and Mr Bergin responding for the Upper and Lower Houses respectively.

Mr Day, of Dungog, in a neat speech proposed "Bungwahl, its interests, and future prosperity," and the oratory that followed in response by Messrs J. Croll, H. A. McLean, G. H. Mitchell, J. H. Connor and John Mayers, for the several interests represented by them, would not have discredited some School of Arts speakers.

Mr Leonard Cooper, though more brief than is his wont, spoke to the point in proposing "The Visitors," to whom he referred in highest terms. Messrs Rue Bergin, S. B. Day, and J. Cornish replied, giving us samples of Dungog oratory, which for its brevity, took front rank.

Mr J. H. Connor humorously proposed the evergreen toast, "The Ladies," and the maiden efforts of Messrs A. Croll and A. McLean, to champion the ladies in response, though sincere, seemed to be too much in imitation of the prevailing feature of the Dungog style as given above.

"The Host" proved to be a very singular toast, and was ably responded to by Mr Payne modestly ascribing the success of the banquet to the ladies who had helped him.

The chairman, vice-chairman, and the Hon. Secretary were vigorously toasted amid much cheering.

During the evening vocal selections were most creditably given by Messrs J. Cornish, Geo. Mitchell, A. McLean

were most creditably given by Messrs J. Cornish, Geo. Mitchell, A. McLean, H. A. McLean, and the best, R. Payne; but, with the exception of Cornish, the visitors sadly disappointed us, the P.M. and Messrs Day and Bergin being unable either individually or collectively to get up a song.

The company separated early, highly delighted with the pleasant evening, and the success of the several ventures.

A bullock, condemned at West Maitland recently, was found to have its liver completely rotten, although there were no exterior signs of tuberculosis.