

**OBITUARY.**

**MR WM. PERRY.**

Another connecting link with the early days of this district has been severed by the death of Mr Wm. Perry, second son of the late Mr and Mrs Perry, of Pohuehue, who passed away at Wellington on Dec. 26th after a short illness. Deceased was a brother of Mr A. Perry, Pohuehue, the late Mrs Shaw, of Pohuehue, and Mrs Rice, of Gisborne. He arrived in New Zealand in 1864 by the ship "Flying Foam." Mr Perry left this district when a young man to learn his trade, but had been backward and forward of late years. He was a member of Lodge Ponsonby and also Lodge Hinemoa, Wellington, was an ex vice-president of the Wellington Working Men's Club and also held the position of S.M. in the Torpedo Corps there. The burial took place in the Karori cemetery.

**WARKWORTH TOWN LIBRARY.**

The librarian, Mr H. B. Moore, reports another most successful year in this branch of the town's activity. During the year ending Dec. 31st, a total number of 153 different subscribers appeared on the books, the actual number participating at the end of the year being 94. These subscribers received from the shelves a total number of 7411 volumes during the twelve months—more than double the total number in stock. Considering the small population of the district served by the library this speaks well for the literary appetite of the citizens. In adding up the books issued it was noted that one subscriber had got through the respectable total of 393 volumes during the twelve months. New books are being added from time to time as funds permit, over 100 being bought during the year. Among the last lot to hand is one of great interest to all students of social questions, "My Life and Work" by Henry Ford in which he traces the steps leading to the huge output of his well known cars and gives his ideas of the right relation between labor and capital.

It was hoped that the subsidy to country libraries formerly paid by the Government would be available during the past year, but these hopes were not realised. It is expected that the subsidy will be renewed next year, which means about £16 extra for purchase of books.

**HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS.**

Warkworth residents did not make any combined or showy celebration of the festive season, but nevertheless one heard on every side that a happy time had been spent. There were many family reunions where the scattered units of families met together again for a brief space before going off to their allotted tasks. The lure of the beach and the sea attracted many, Kawau, Snell's Beach, Mahurangi Heads all having their share of picnics, while sports at Whangateau, the regatta at Lower Matakana and the Oddfellows' picnic at Snell's Beach were all well patronised. During most of the time the weather was ideal for outdoor gatherings, New Year's Day and the 2nd being as nearly perfect as anything could be in this world. Now it is all over, and nought remains but the store of pleasant recollections, and may be a sensation of burning about neck and shoulders, where the too ardent kiss of the sun may still be felt. Nevertheless we are all the better fitted for the work of the New Year by reason of the holidays.

Twenty years is a very short space in the life of a cathedral. There are some which are centuries old, St. Paul's among them, that are not yet completed. Liverpool Cathedral, where the foundation stone was laid by King Edward in 1903, is sufficiently advanced to be consecrated, and it is hoped that the King will be able to attend that ceremony when it takes place next summer. The enthronement of the bishop elect, Dr. David, will probably be postponed until after this event.

**WEDDING.**

A double wedding of much interest took place in the Presbyterian Church on Monday, December 24th last, when Hilda Isabel, second daughter of Mr and Mrs Alex. Warin, of Warkworth, was married to Charles Day, son of Mr and Mrs Day, of Albany.

Also Kathleen Nora, younger daughter of the Rev. E. and Mrs Poole, of Warkworth, was married to Wilfred Selwyn, son of Mr and Mrs Alex. Warin, of Warkworth. The church was tastefully decorated for the occasion, and a large number of friends had assembled to witness the ceremony and to wish them happiness.

Miss Hilda Warin, who was given away by her father, looked charming in a beautiful dress of ivory white satin and radium lace, held at the waist with a pearl girdle, and she wore the orthodox bridal veil and orange blossoms, and carried a pretty bouquet of white and pale pink carnations. Miss Flora Hamilton, who acted as bridesmaid, was dressed in pale green crepe de chine, and little Jean Hamilton looked pretty in white silk as flower girl. Mr Robert Eves supported the bridegroom as best man.

Miss Nora Poole, who was given away by her brother, also looked charming in a lovely dress of white taffeta silk of Victorian style, trimmed with tiny white frills, with which she wore the usual bridal veil and orange blossoms, and carried a sheaf of beautiful gladiolias. Her sister, Mrs Anderson, was matron-of-honour to the bride, and was dressed in apricot satin marocain, and hat to match. Little Nellie Purchase, in pale blue, looked sweet as flower girl. Mr Walter Culling supported the bridegroom as best man. The Rev. E. Poole officiated at the marriage ceremonies, and Mrs J. West played the wedding march as the happy couples left the vestry.

The bridal party, well showered with confetti and good wishes, left the church for the home of Mr and Mrs Alex. Warin, where a happy wedding breakfast was partaken of, and the usual toasts were honoured, after which both young couples left amid the good wishes of their friends to spend their honeymoons further afield.

**THE MARRIAGEABLE AGE.**

In Germany a male, in order to marry, must be at least eighteen years of age.

In Spain the bridegroom must be over fourteen and the bride over twelve years of age.

In Austria a couple are supposed to be capable of conducting a home of their own from the age of seventeen.

In France the male must be eighteen and the female sixteen before they are allowed to marry.

In Greece and Portugal the male must have seen at least fourteen summers, and the bride twelve.

The peasant artists of Ober-Ammergau, the home of the Passion Play, are suffering in common with the rest of Germany from the prevailing hard times, says "John o' London's Weekly." All the little luxuries of their peaceful and very gracious life have had to be abandoned, and, with the mark ever falling and the farmer profiteering, they are threatened with actual privation. The people of the Bavarian highlands are perhaps the most religious, as they are certainly among the most courteous and kindly people in Europe, with a highly intelligent love for their own simple life and a deep horror of Prussian forcefulness and modern commercialism. They definitely refused a large sum of money to reproduce it in America. But the village is in dire need, and some of the men, among them Anton Lang, the famous Christos, are going to America to see the beautiful wood carving made in the village workshops. They do not want to go, but they are assured that their work will fetch much more if the purchasers can see the craftsmen. Lang must cut his long, impressive hair, the women must be left behind, and the whole village is very sad. It is a tremendous spiritual journey from Ober Ammergau to New York.

Every kind of printing is turned out at the local office.

**What Next?**

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**L. R. CIVIL, WARKWORTH.**

'Phone No. 6M.