

Mulligan's Flat. Teacher Landon's farewell

DEPARTURE OF MR. LANDON.

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Mr. H. O. Landon, who has been in charge of the Mulligan's Flat school received word of his removal to a half-time school in the Taree district. As soon as the parents became aware of the early departure of Mr. Landon they met and decided that they could not allow him to depart without showing him the esteem in which he was held by parents and children in the neighbourhood. And, although the time was short, much was speedily done by enthusiastic workers with the result that on Tuesday night representatives from the homes of every parent as well as a large number of friends and well-wishers, assembled at Mrs. P. Cartwright's to bid fare well to their teacher and friend and make him a presentation. **Mr. C. W. Thompson** was voted to the chair, and after thanking the good people of Mulligan's Flat for their invitation to be present that night, said he deeply regretted Mr. Landon's departure and sympathised with the parents in the loss of such an able teacher, fine sport, and model citizen. Not only Mulligan's Flat would miss Mr. Landon, but the whole-district. He was very highly thought of by his inspector and the presence of all the parents there that night, showed in what esteem he was held by them. He wished him every success and felt sure he would advance in his profession. **Mr. M. Cavanagh** said he felt under a difficulty in expressing his sentiments, for he looked upon their guest as a true, warm hearted friend; in fact more as a brother than a friend and he was diffident about saying in Mr. Landon's presence what he really thought. Nevertheless he must say that he greatly admired him and felt when he departed it would be very difficult to fill his place. He was a keen sportsman, possessed of much tact to smooth out any friction that occurred in the clubs, and he thought a good sport was a good citizen, making for the pleasure and improvement of the district. He always took a warm interest in his work, and was considered by all the parents as a most successful teacher. He felt he would succeed wherever he went and hoped that he would reserve a small corner in his heart for his many friends at Mulligan's Flat. **Mr. H. Gillespie** felt Mr. Landon's departure very much, especially as his position as secretary of the tennis club had descended to him and he feared that he would not be able to keep things moving as Mr. Landon did. Their guest had, the happy knack of getting all the players to pull together, for being a good sport himself. He readily infused the same spirit in all the players and everything went along as 'if by magic'. As a sport

he always found him one of the best. **Mr. A. Shumack** said whilst regretting Mr. Landon's departure he was pleased at his promotion. Being a young man he naturally looked for a rise and he thought it would be selfish of his friends to wish him to remain. He knew he would do well in his new home and wished him every success. **Mr. O. Cavanagh** said he would admit he was selfish in regretting Mr. Landon's departure; but it was selfishness for the children's welfare. The children were deeply attached to him and he doubted whether they would ever get one as good to fill his place. As a friend he could not be exceeded. He had tried him in sickness and in the greatest of all grief (death) and found him a genuine man at all times. He hoped in the near future he would pay them a visit and could rest assured of a warm welcome from all. **Mr. W. Ryan** said he was a poor speaker but he felt he must say some thing on an occasion like this. Mr. Landon was a good citizen. He always met everyone in a pleasant way and he deeply regretted his departure. He wished him long life and happiness. **Mr E. Ryan** said he felt he was losing his best friend in Mr. Landon's departure and hoped he would have prosperity in his new home and the best of good luck. **Mr. Jackson** said he had not known Mr. Landon long, but had always found him a true friend. As a member of the Ainslie tennis and cricket clubs he was highly esteemed by all the members. In fact, the Ainslie people considered they partly owned Mr. Landon. **Mr. B Cavanagh** endorsed all the previous speakers had said of Mr. Landon, and whilst feeling sorry at his departure, sincerely hoped he would meet with success and return at a later date. **Mr.M.Cavanagh** on behalf of the parents and friends at Mulligans Flat then presented Mr. Landon with a gold albert and medal suitably inscribed. **Mr. Landon** who was visibly affected said he had been taken by surprise and hardly knew how to thank the speakers for the kind things they were good enough to say of him and for the valuable present which had been presented to him. He would value it as long as he lived, but, nevertheless, he would not need anything to remind him of the good friends he had made here. His five years at Mulligan's Flat had been particularly happy, as everyone had been so kind to him. He sincerely regretted leaving the district and assuredly would return to see them all at the first opportunity. He again thanked them for the great honor they had done him which was appreciated more than he could tell them and wished themselves and the district every prosperity. Many songs and recitations were contributed during the evening and the chairman brought the proceedings - to a close by calling for cheers for the King.