

PRESENTATION TO MR. PHILIP LEVY.

A very pleasing, although somewhat affecting, ceremony took place at the private residence of Mr. P. Levy, Bathurst-street, during the forenoon of yesterday. An influential deputation from the Hebrew congregation of Hobart Town waited upon the above named gentleman, for the purpose of presenting him with an address and a silver tea service, in recognition of his valuable services as president of the congregation for a number of years, and also as a *souvenir* previous to his departure from Tasmania to Victoria. Beside the recipient of the testimonial, there were present Mrs. Levy, Miss Levy, and a number of gentlemen.

Mr. Joseph SOLOMON, on presenting the testimonial, said that the action afforded him extreme pleasure, as he was well aware of the valuable services which had been rendered by Mr. Levy. That gentleman had retained the office of president of the Hebrew congregation in Hobart Town for nearly sixteen years, and previously to that date he had acted as treasurer for a number of years. During those long periods, Mr. Levy had given entire satisfaction, and he (Mr. Solomon) felt confident that Mr. Levy's loss would be felt. All the members of the congregation sincerely hoped that Mr. Levy, Mrs. Levy, and their family would enjoy health, happiness, and prosperity after their departure from Tasmania.

Mr. L. SUSMAN then read the address, which was elegantly printed on vellum. The document expressed heartfelt thanks for the many acts of disinterested kindness which Mr. Levy had conferred on the Hebrew congregation, and also his zeal in carrying out the rites and ceremonies of the Hebrew faith during his presidency. Mr. Susman then alluded to the untiring activity and diligence of Mr. Levy, and expressed an opinion that the congregation would experience a great difficulty in choosing his successor.

The Rev. A. MYERS said he had not been prepared to make a long speech, but he was, nevertheless, impressed with the fact, that Mr. Levy's absence would be deeply regretted by his co-religionists. No one would feel that gentleman's loss more than he (Mr. Myers); and he wished him and his family success, health, and happiness. He (Mr. Myers) could not find words to express his appreciation of Mr. Levy's services.

Mr. LEVY, who appeared much affected, replied to the effect, that there were special events in the life of some men which seemed designed by Providence to evoke the best feelings of their common nature, and it happened particularly in the present instance when old associations and long cherished social ties were about to be severed. He was sure that the congregation believed him, while fulfilling the duties of President of the Hebrew congregation in Hobart Town, to have been solely actuated by a fervent zeal for the faith of their fathers, and an abiding sense of the value of the due observance of their holy rites and ceremonies; and he was grateful to find that his humble services had been so favourably appreciated. The testimonial would be treasured as a cherished memento of their kindly regard, and he hoped hereafter to hand it down as a heirloom to those

perity and happiness. He thanked them all individually for the additional compliment they had paid him, and he trusted the congregation would prosper.

Mr. Abraham RHEUBEN said he had known Mr. P. Levy from his very boyhood, and he (Mr. Rheuben) did not wish to see an occasion like the present pass away without expressing approval of that gentleman's past conduct. He (Mr. Rheuben) endorsed every word that had been spoken by the previous speakers; but there was something more that he wished to say. The time would shortly arrive when Mr. Levy would leave Tasmania, and very great difficulty would be experienced in finding a gentleman to fill his place in the congregation. He believed every person present would agree with him on that point, because they all knew what great knowledge Mr. Levy possessed of their faith; he did not believe there was a member of the Hebrew congregation that could fill the blank that would be left by Mr. Levy in his capacity as assistant to Mr. Myers. He (Mr. Rheuben) would feel his loss the more deeply on that account, and he was sure that Mr. Levy's co-religionists and fellow-citizens appreciated his conduct both as a private gentleman and in all business transactions. He had, in every respect, acted as a man should act among his fellow-citizens. Whenever any one of Mr. Levy's co-religionists came to Tasmania from the other colonies, the hand of fellowship always was extended by him. He always had acted kindly to every person, whether co-religionist or not; whether person came from Victoria or any of the other colonies, Mr. Levy's house was always open to them, and they departed with the impression that Tasmanians were kind and hospitable. The benevolence of his family was widely known not only in Hobart Town but in every part of the colony, and they always would be considered valuable additions to whatever community they belong. He (Mr. Rheuben) deeply regretted that Mr. Levy was about to leave Tasmania for good, but he sincerely hoped the Almighty God would shower down blessings on him and his family, and that hereafter his children, when contemplating the testimonial that had been presented that day, would resolve to follow in the footsteps of their father, and become valuable members of society.

Mr. LAZARUS LEVY said he believed that their religion had been kept pure mainly through the zeal and activity of Mr. Levy. That gentleman had always kept the Sabbath most strictly, and his loss, as a Hebrew scholar, would be deeply felt. He had been on the committee for the last twenty years and during that time he had acted dutifully and charitably.

Mr. Alfred L. LEVY said he could not add to what had already been said respecting Mr. P. Levy, except that it was his sincere conviction that no person could be found either in this or the adjacent colonies, to fill that gentleman's place and exercise a similar degree of ability and zeal. He (the speaker) fully concurred in all that had been said by every gentleman present, and he wished Mr. Levy and his family success and prosperity.

The formal portion of the proceedings then terminated.

who would prize it equally with himself. For their kind wishes to Mrs. Levy and the family, he hoped that they would accept his sincere thanks and prayer, that the God of Israel might always direct and guide them, and bless them with prosperity and happiness. He thanked them all and individually for the additional compliment they