

Goomalling Pioneer.

Death of Mrs. George Slater.

More than half a century ago Mr. George Slater accompanied his father on a journey to Goomalling, and settled in that district. Fifty-seven years ago he married, at Toodyay, Miss Mary Lynch, a member of a young family of immigrants, who had shortly before arrived from Ireland. After the marriage they took up their residence on the land selected at Goomalling, and ever since their name has been honorably associated with the district. Seven and a half years ago, in April, 1904, Mr. and Mrs. Slater celebrated their golden wedding at the old homestead, and there they continued to live out their declining days together. For the past six months Mrs. Slater had been in a low state of health, and at the advanced age of 78 years she passed away a few minutes after six o'clock on Monday evening last. Her death will recall to the early settlers many incidents connected with the pioneering days of the eastern districts, and many acts of hospitality which endeared the deceased lady to all who knew her. When the Slaters went to Goomalling they were regarded by early pioneers of the Avon valley as having gone beyond the limits of civilisation, and into a wilderness which could give them no returns for their industry. However, they lived to see civilisation come to them, and in their later years were rewarded for the many sacrifices and privations inseparable from the life of the pioneers of fifty or sixty years ago.

The late Mrs. Slater was a native of Limerick, Ireland, and was born on February 8, 1836. In 1852, at the

February 8, 1856. In 1852, at the age of 16, she arrived in Western Australia, accompanied by her two brothers (Michael and Patrick Lynch) and four sisters. They came out in the sailing ship Clara, and a few years after their arrival journeyed to Toodyay. They had not been there for any length of time before the marriage of Miss Mary Lynch and Mr. George Slater took place. Her two brothers and one sister (Mrs. W. G. Eaton) have since died, but she is survived by three sisters—Mrs. Chas. Chitty (Batbatting), Mrs. William Chitty (Wyening), and Mrs. R. Bourke (Yarramongy). Her husband is now 86 years of age, and she leaves four sons and three daughters, as well as twenty-two grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Her daughters are Miss Annie Slater (Goomalling), Mrs. John Williams (Kalguddering), and Mrs. Patrick White (Yarramongy). There were five sons, of whom there are four living—Messrs. Henry A., W. G., Maitland, and Thomas Slater. The descendants of Mr. and Mrs. Slater are all living in the district, and with the bereaved relatives the deepest sympathy is felt in their sad loss.

Mr. George Slater, who was born at Oxford, England, in 1824, arrived in Western Australia in 1836 by the ship Simon Taylor, being then nine years of age. He gained experience in sheep farming on the Victoria Plains, and went to Goomalling in 1856.

When engaged in his early exploration work, Sir John Forrest made the homestead at Goomalling the starting place of many journeys, and he gratefully remembers the kindness which he received at the hands of Mr. and Mrs. Slater. One of the first messages of sympathy received by Mr. Slater was a telegram from Sir John and Lady Forrest, condoling with him in his bereavement. Telegrams were also received from Mr. H. Gregory, M.L., Mr. and Mrs. J. Martin, Mr. and Mrs. Herd, Mr. J. O'Connor, Mrs. Miller, Mother Relia, Mother Columbia, and Mr. J. O'Hehir.

THE FUNERAL.

The funeral cortege left the homestead on Wednesday morning for the

stead on Wednesday morning for the Toodyay cemetery, where the interment took place. A large number of people, including many of the earlier residents, attended to show their respect for the late Mrs. Slater, and sympathy for the members of her family. The pall-bearers were Messrs. T. F. Quinlan, P. Ryan, James Lloyd, James Williams, Thos. Sinclair, P. Bowen, M. Lawler, and A. G. Lyne.

The burial service was conducted by the Rev. Dean Walsh, of York, assisted by the Rev. Father Masterson. Dean Walsh, at the conclusion of the service, said he felt constrained to speak of the deceased lady because of her many virtues. The homestead at Goomalling had always been ready to receive him, and he and others could look forward to a warm welcome there. The late Mrs. Slater was a true mother, whose example her children could copy, for her life had been truly Christian. Death, however, was the universal leveller, and her day had come.

Mr. J. A. Wroth carried out the funeral arrangements.

Floral tributes were sent by the following:—

Father and Annie.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Slater.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Slater.

Mr. and Mrs. M. Slater.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Slater.

Mr. George Slater and Miss A. Slater.
Grandchildren.

Mr. and Mrs. Williams.

Mrs. Chitty and Son.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Bourke and family.

"All at Rossmore."

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Chitty, senr.

Mrs. Lynch and family.

Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Chitty.

"Fred and Pat."

Mr. and Mrs. George Somers.

Mr. and Mrs. P. Ryan.

Mr. and Mrs. Herd and family.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Bufton.

Mr. P. H. Lehmann.

Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Feezy.

Mr. J. B. Powell.

Mr. Rowley Powell.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Hills and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Hennessy.

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Murphy.

Miss O'Brien.

Miss E. Ramplin.

Miss E. Ramplin.

Mr. James Powell.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Lockyer.

Mr. and Mrs. J. French.

Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Twine and family.

Mrs. H. J. Lockyer.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Lockyer.

Mrs. E. Butterley and family.

Mrs. E. Donegan and family.

Mr. and Mrs. P. Bowen and family.