

LAYING MEMORIAL STONE OF NEW POST OFFICE AT PORTARLINGTON.

Friday, the 28th September, was a red letter day in the annals of Portarlington, the occasion being the laying of the foundation stone of new Post and Telegraph Offices. The children from the various schools in the shire, numbering nearly 700 children were feted during the day. The arrangements were admirably carried out by the Portarlington Town and District Improvement Association. The new building is of dark colored bricks with white facings, the foundations being concrete, and it is to have a frontage of 40 feet to Newcombe street with a depth of 47 ft to Main street, leading to the jetty. The position is one of the finest in the picturesque township, both as regards convenience to the public and view of the sea. The structure is being erected by Messrs Goss and McClure, contractors, of Williamstown, and will cost about £1500. High holiday being kept throughout the district, a large concourse of sightseers was gathered together. A liberal display of hunting was flying. A large number of persons from Geelong and other places witnessed the laying of the memorial stone, fully 1500 persons being present. Mr H.W. French, the President of the Portarlington Town and District Improvement Association, stated that the members of that body had great pleasure in asking the Hon J. F. Leyien M.L.A. to perform the ceremony of laying the memorial stone. Mr S. J. Davis, of Portarlington, provided the stone for the occasion, which bore the following inscription in gold letters—
This stone was presented by S. J. Davis, Esq: and laid by the Hon J. F. Leyien,

Esq: and laid by the Hon J. F. Leyien, M.P. 28th September 1888. Centennial year." He had also much pleasure in

presenting the hon member, on behalf of the residents, with a silver trowel manufactured by Mr. P. Blasnik, of Melbourne, with the following inscription:—Presented to the Hon J. F. Levien, M. P. by the Portarlington Town and District Improvement Association on the occasion of his laying the memorial stone of the Post Office at Portarlington 28th September 1888.

The Hon. J. F. Levien, in accepting the beautiful present, said, he was deeply sensible of the great honor conferred on him by the residents of the district, through the association, in asking him to lay the memorial stone of the new public offices at Portarlington, and referring to the progress of Portarlington he hoped that the day was not far distant when it would be called a city. (Cheers). It was certainly gratifying to find the high estimation in which the port was held by residents of the metropolis and elsewhere. The great facilities for reaching the Port was conducive to its popularity. Having lived in the district for nearly a quarter of a century, he was associated with its rise and progress, and none had a more earnest wish than himself for the continued prosperity and advancement of it. He was pleased with the honor conferred upon him that day, and had very great pleasure in declaring the memorial stone to be well and truly laid.

Cheers were then given for Mr and Mrs Levien, the children singing the National Anthem, with the accompaniment of Mr Grave's band.

The affair was further celebrated by a banquet at the Grand Hotel, Portarlington, the chair being occupied by Mr J. Dalley, President of the Bellarine Shire Council; the vice chair being occupied by F. Willey, Esq, J.P.

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The chairman having on his right, the Hon J. F. Levien, M.L.A., and H. W. French Esq; on his left the Hon J. H. Connor, M.L.C. and Cr G. Henderson.

A Fair Warning—Owners of horses, cows, &c., found wandering in the borough will be prosecuted. The council has instructed Sergeant Orr to take the necessary steps, so that owners, after this caution, will only have themselves to blame if they are brought up.

Special meeting of Bowling Club on Monday, at 5 pm

Another fruiterer is about to commence business at the foot of Hesse street

The old Foresters Hall will probably come down to make room for a hall about 90 ft long and 45 ft wide.

Attention is called to a new fruiterer's advertisement in this morning's issue—

Fresh fruit—good and stony—
Saveloy, sausage, and polony
Shakespeare

Queenscliff plays the Sorrento footballers this afternoon on the ground of the latter. The Cliff team is requested to meet on the old jetty not later than half-past one

Judging by the way the wind blows, the new minister of St Andrew's will probably be the Rev Mr Beatty.

Portarlington plays the Ramblers today.

The Borough Council is calling for tenders.