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On Friday night a record gathering of residents of Otipua and the surrounding districts assembled in the Otipua Hall to welcome home four returned soldiers who arrived in Timaru on Thursday, namely: —Corporal G. McTague, Trooper H. Caldwell, and Privates A. McTague and D. Fraser. Mr Craigie, M.P., in welcoming home the men expressed the hope that they would soon be restored to health; and on behalf of the residents presented each soldier with a gold medal as a slight acknowledgment of the services he had rendered to King and Country. The returned men suitably responded, and expressed their pleasure at being once more among their old friends after the trying experiences of the battle field. After singing the National Anthem and For They are Jolly Good Fellows, three hearty cheers were given for the returned men. A. good supper was done full justice to. The committee wish to thank Mr Craigie and the musicians and M.C.'s and all who helped to make the evening a success.