



At a meeting of the City Rifles on Monday evening, Lieutenant Duthie, of the Wellington Rifles, was unanimously elected to fill the vacant lieutenantcy in the first mentioned corps. It was decided at the meeting to adhere to the uniform used at present, and to have the suits prepared from goods made in the colony.

The vital statistics for the month of October for Wellington are suggestive of a considerable increase in population at the taking of the next census. There have been 97 births, 85 deaths, and 82 marriages.

Wellington has fewer publichouses in proportion to its population than any other town in New Zealand. As near as possible the figures are one hotel to 517 people.

According to the returns of 1892 there were 1481 licenses granted that year, and £80,299 was paid to local bodies for licensing fees. Many of our municipalities could ill afford a loss of this revenue.

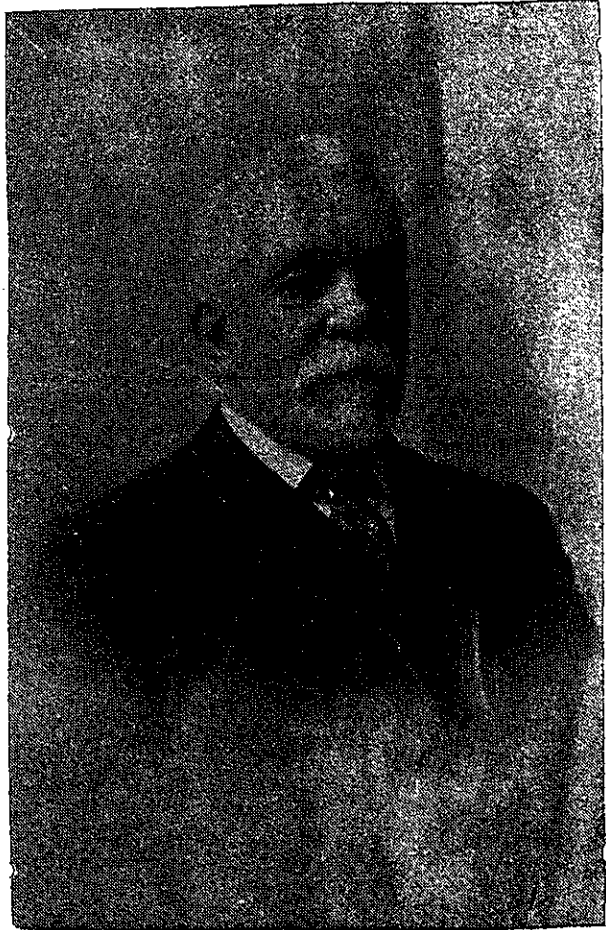
In accordance with the request of several of the inmates of the Ohiro Benevolent Home, an inquiry is to be made into the way in which it is conducted by the master, Mr. McCleary. The Rev. H. Van Staveren, chairman of the Benevolent Trustees, suggested, and the suggestion was approved of, that representatives of the press should be present at the enquiry. The trustees have done a great deal of good in Wellington, and their invitation to the press to be present during the enquiry is quite in harmony with their past policy of letting the people know how their charity is administered.

The first cutter races of the Petone Navals were held last Saturday, and were most satisfactory in every way. The Government boat, "Ellen Ballance," which had been placed at the disposal of Lieutenant-Commander Davy, conveyed a number of visitors and members of the Wellington and Petone Naval Corps to Petone. She left the wharf at 2 o'clock, and her passengers, freed from the heat and dust of the city, thoroughly enjoyed the first instalment of a very pleasant afternoon, in the trip down.

The "Ballance" towed two of the cutters down, and shortly after arrival the different crews put in an appearance and manned the boats. Three crews competed, each cutter bearing a small flag in the bow of red, white or blue silk. The course was from a point about half a mile below the wharf, past it, around a buoy about half a mile above it, and back to the pier. The "Ballance" followed the boats. Before starting the "whites" were the favourites with the "blues" second. After some little delay a good start was made, and then it was shortly seen that the "reds," who had hardly been thought of as winners, were the best crew; they pulled a longer and a stronger stroke, which told in the last stages of the race. They finished nearly ten lengths ahead of the two other boats,

ment that the New South Wales riflemen intend to prevent the Cup coming to New Zealand at all hazards. There was no serious objection raised at last year's meeting, and there should have been none at this year's, as the conditions were similar in every way. Mr. Kirk, who was with the team, has not yet returned from Australia, but when he does, which will be in a day or two, we shall be able to get at the details of the matter, and form a fairer judgment than at present. It is stated that before the match was fired off the Petone team enquired whether any objections against them entering for it would be lodged, and received a negative reply.

Considerable interest is being taken in the rifle shooting matches to be held at



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who came in with scarcely a length between them. After the race an adjournment was made to the shed, and refreshments served to the visitors and men. Several brief speeches were made, and the day's outing ended with a very pleasant trip back to the city. Lieutenant Davy is to be complimented on the really fine body of men under his command.

There has been considerable feeling in shooting circles over the disqualification of the Petone rifle team, and there seems to be a good deal of truth in the state-

Greytown on the Prince of Wales' Birthday, and the following team has been selected to represent the City Rifles:— Captain Collins, Colour-Sergt. Davis, Sergt. Madley, Corporals Jackson, Guise, and Harris, Privates Luke, Elliott, Henn, and Dixon. The members of the team will leave town on the evening before the match.

Mr. Walter Haybittle, of Messrs. E. H. Little and Co., was married by the Rev. T. H. Sprott, on Wednesday afternoon at