

the Southern district, is well known. Three of the four members are strong Government supporters, and it is thought that Ropata will also be found on the Seddon side of the House, although he has not yet declared which party he will support. Wi Pere, the elect of the Eastern district, has been in Parliament before and was once well known in connection with that ill-starred enterprise, the East Coast Native Land Settlement Company, with which the name of Mr. W. L. Rees is also connected.

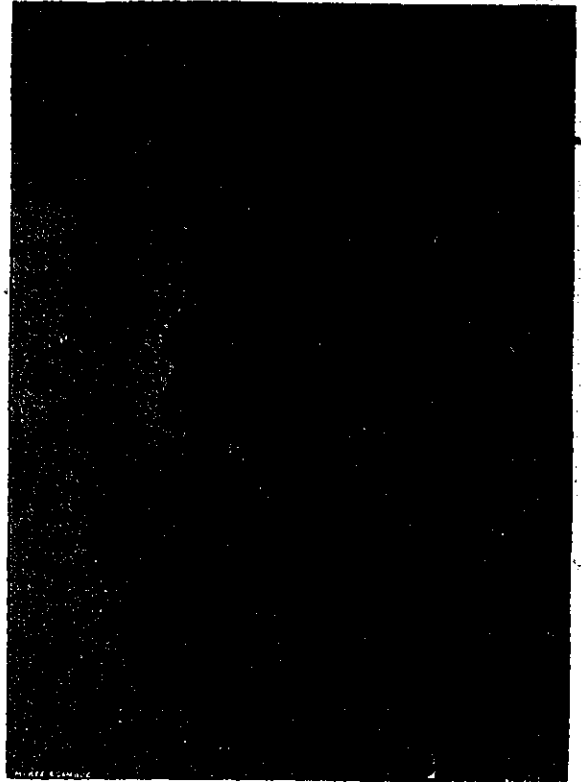
The special correspondents at Auckland for the Southern papers laid themselves out to faithfully describe the dress of the newly elected Mayor of Onehunga. One of them spreads himself as follows:—"Mrs. Yates was dressed in a neat and becoming costume, wearing a blue and white print dress, with a white front, puffed sleeves, and a zouave jacket. Her hat, which she did not discard on entering the room, was of the *gem* description." If this sort of thing goes on the Parliamentary specials at Wellington will have to take to studying the niceties of feminine attire, for with lady mayors we soon shall see lady members, and instead of making poor jokes over the masculine attire the reporters will have to lay themselves out for quizzing the "frills and flources and furbelows" of the lady members who we quite expect to see crowding the House before many sessions are over.

A Napier gentleman is about to take a trip to Australia whence he will introduce to this colony some fine specimens of the Australian swallow, so says a local paper. We don't see why there is any necessity to introduce the Australian swallow into this colony, for we should say the local swallow is quite good enough. There's a man whom they call "The Major," who knocks about Wellington, who is reputed to be able to put away five pints of beer before six o'clock in the morning, and the Australian swallow can't beat that much. There are some very fair specimens of swallows in Napier, or Mayor Swan wouldn't do such a fine business in the "long colonial" line.

There's nothing like your country paper for seeing that every local institution gets a good supply of taffy—with a view, of course, to future "ads." The Havelock paper is so elated at the fact that the township owns a real live brass band that it prints the name of each performer in full, and says what instrument he played. Good, old little Peddlington. Its spirit is not dead yet.

Captain Williams, who is among the "missing" in the Matabele campaign and has probably been "brained" by the braves of King Lo Ben, went out to Africa with Lord Randolph Churchill when that gentleman "did" Mashonaland. He is a son of the famous English racing man, General Owen Williams, and was one of the fastest "men about town" before he went to Africa.

By the way, talking of "Randy's" African experiences, it is said that "Labby" remonstrated with the lord on his return, concerning the number of lions "Randy" made out he had slaughtered. "If you had said that you had seen one lion we could have all believed what you said and rejoiced," pleaded "Labby," "but no one ever saw seven lions together at the same time, the habits of the larger carnivora compel them to scatter in search of food." "Well," said Churchill, thoughtfully, "you see, the *Daily Graphic* people paid me such an outlandish sum for those letters (it came to about £200 a letter) that I couldn't be stingy in the matter of an odd lion here and there." Not bad that for "Randy."



Mr. W. C. Stephens.

Mr. W. C. Stephens, who has been Secretary and Treasurer of the Camera Club since its institution in November, 1892, is a native of Otago, and the son of a farmer, one of the early pioneers of that province. He was educated at the Dunedin Collegiate School, after which he served three years in the employ of the Railway Department in Dunedin. He was next employed on the Waimea Estate, in Southland, but his health failing he was advised to seek a warmer climate, and Hawke's Bay was chosen as the spot most suitable, where he was employed as book-keeper to the late Mr. M. R. Miller, at Waipawa, and in the same capacity to the Waipawa Mail Company. He then took to literary pursuits, and while acting as a newspaper correspondent in the Press gallery, he was offered and accepted an appointment as book-keeper to the Wellington and Manawatu Railway Company, which position he has continued to hold up to the present time, to the entire satisfaction of the Company. The success of the Camera Club is due in no small measure to his thorough business habits.

There has been considerable discussion in the Wellington daily papers over the appointment of Mr. Logan to be Superintendent of Telegraphs instead of Mr. Bold. The *Evening Post* has deprecated the appointment in no measured terms, and the *Times* has defended it, the consequence being a journalistic warfare on the subject. FAIR PLAY was at first inclined to look upon the appointment with suspicion and did not hesitate to express its honest opinion. Subsequent events, however, have transpired which go far to prove that the promotion of Mr. Logan has met with the general approval of the department, and surely that is a criterion by which to judge of the fitness of the man for the position which he now holds. Measures are being taken to make a presentation to both Dr. Lemon, the retiring superintendent, and to Mr. Logan, the incoming one, and so popular are both men that immediately the proposition was broached the subscriptions commenced to pour in. FAIR PLAY congratulates both men upon the esteem in which they are held.