CHRISTCHURCH AGENCY.

OUR SUBSCRIBERS AND ADVERTISERS.

MR J. R. SIMPSON, of No. 5, Inglis' Buildings, corner of High Street and Cashel Street, has been appointed Christchurch Agent for the NEW ZEA-LAND CRAPHIC.' 'NEW ZEALAND FARMER,' and "AUCKLAND STAR,"

This Branch Office for the South Island is most centrally situated, and being in close proximity to the commercial heart of the city, business people will have no difficulty in transacting their business with despatch. Mr Simpson will in due course submit quotations for advertising contracts, and subscribers to the above journals can be booked at any period. Booksellers and all News Agents will receive their weekly papers through this

No. B., INGLIS' BUILDINGS, CORNER OF HIGH & CASHEL STREETS.

A UCKLAND GAS COMPANY (LIMITED).

Notice is hereby given that the Directors of the Auckland Gas Company (Limited) have resolved that the charge for Gas shall be reduced from this date to Six Shillings and Tenpence per 1,000 Cubic Feet, subject to a Discount of Tenpence per 1,000 Cubic Feet If the Company's Bills for Gas supplied are paid within the time

By order of the Board of Directors.

A D I E S'

E. B. PARSONS, Secretary.

Auckland, January 1st, 1894.

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MILFORD ROAD, LAKE TAKAPUNA. Principal: MISS HUNTER

(CERT. HONOURS, JUNIOR, MIDDLE, AND SENIOR GRADES, INTERMEDIATE EXAMS, IRELAND). Assisted by

MISS M. O. HUNTER

(CERT. JUNIOR AND SENIOR TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC,

The above School is situated in the most healthy part of this salubrious suburb of Auckland, and therefore offers a favourable opportunity for the combination of health and study.

A limited number of boarders received.

At home Wednesdays.

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THE Battle still rages. All sorts of outside brands are ATTEMPTING an introduction into this market.

But in vain! Why! Some extol their fea as a medicine. Per-haps they are right. Some puff Australian-packed teas in costly packages, while everybody knows costly package MUST MEAN inferior tea. Others endeavour to attract trade by making presents, for which, of course, the happy consumer pays NOTHING.

But the Empire Tea Co. works steadily onward, never tiring, never swerving from its own high ideal. An ideal in which QUALITY is our object and VALUE our goal. And so the trade increases.

Every pound sold is far more telling an advertisement than 'words, words,'

W. & G. TURNBULL & CO.,

PROPRIETORS,

WELLINGTON

A LAY SERMON.

BY A WOMAN OF NEW ZEALAND TO THE WOMEN OF NEW ZEALAND.

N endeavouring to say some words which may prove useful to my sisters recently emancipated, I feel sure should such words contain wisdom, the thoughts will have been uttered before; if empty and vain words-mere idle talking-this also has been. So my readers, if such be found, need not expect new things; but seeing that so often 'the old is better,' they may extract some grains of truth which may, like salt, prevent these grains from perinhing.

As to whether the boon lately conferred be a benefit this is not the question. The boon is ours, and we must endeavour to make it a benefit. Some one has said that questions prefixed by 'what' or 'when' are easily answered, but the 'how' and the 'why' remain over We must try in part to answer this difficulty. Why should we convert this boon to a benefit? Because it is our bounden duty so to do. Also, because the happiness and welfare of a large number of our fellow creatures depend upon our so doing.

How are we to do this? By denying ourselves and humbly endeavouring to do our duty in every department more conscientionaly than we have yet done. Now let us be quite clear that our duty towards the State is not only to be done in what is commonly understood as the political arena. Let us be 'political' in every sense of the term. I will give one rendering of this word (Library Dictionary), Sagacious in contriving or planning; dexterous in the use of means; skilful in the choice of instruments; provident, far seeing.' Now, women may be all this. In the home many have been tried and proved to be truly 'political.'

Remember the home is the foundation of the State. To govern well in the State we should be a good ruler at home, and to rule well at home we must be acquainted with self-government. I am persuaded my fellow-workers and sisters throughout New Zealand will be better fitted to help State Government as they practise home government and self-government. The first is here last, but doubtless 'the last shall be first.'

We women should feel a deep sense of responsibility at having 'greatness thrust upon us.' It should make us humble, not arrogant. It should fill us with awe to consider what we are undertaking to do, for if we are to be of any use it means doing. Let us remember too, that we are workers with men, not against or without them. We should feel proud of this. Some would perhaps have preferred to remain sheltered at home instead of being called to carry arms and march to the front with men, but being called to this, let us not fail in the doing. Our arm is not so strong, nor, let us hope, our voice so loud, but our heart may be great for all that. Let us see to it that our vote be an attestation recorded, not only officially, on the side of right

Those of my sisters who have no home to rule (in the commonly understood way as mothers of families) have at any rate the duties of daughters or sisters-family duties of some sort to perform, and here again I must lay great stress upon the truth that the family underlies the state. The better the man or woman in his or her family relationships the better he or she will be in governing or helping to govern the State. But though we 'begin at home' we must not now stop there. Those whose home and family duties permit must endeavour to understand thoroughly what they easey to do; must be 'dexterous in the use of means, skilful in the choice of instruments.' If not, we shall have strange discords. Here it seems almost impossible not to play upon words—'instruments' chosen are so often but 'sounding brass and tinkling cymbal.' need instruments, not tools, to do the work of this colony of New Zealand, and may they work in harmony.

In 'reading up,' as many will doubtless do, let us avoid merely skimming political writings. Drink deep or taste Any food, physical or mental, must be thoroughly digested and assimilated to do us any good. If we have little time, on no account skim political articles and imagine we understand the matter they treat of. Often it would not require great depth to understand the articles themselves, but the matter treated of—there is the rub. Unless we can plungs in boldly and are strong swimmers let us akim these depths and most decidedly shun those frail crafts that would essay to carry us in safety over them. Women of intellect and wide education may grapple with these and cognate subjects, but certainly not the majority. Someone has said that the stomach rules the had, and another (Sancho Pazza) even stiffirms that it has much to do in keeping the heart sound. An old fable we all remember would also seem to instruct in like manner. Well, let us who are of lower intellect and inferior education take comfort. We too may perhaps help the 'body politic' by making (many of us are farmers' wives or mothers) yet better bread and butter, it this be possible. Doubtless as sound mind should be expected of a sound body, and good wholesome food well prepared and regularly offered has helped many a University student through better now. It may, at least, be said of us, 'She hath done what she could.' A good man pracher and poet has song in our cars:—

Begood ... and let who will be elever. we understand the matter they treat of. Often it would

Be good . . . and let who will be clever, Do noble things, not dream them all day long. And so make life, death, and that was forever One grand, sweet song.

Soriety Gossip.

AUCKLAND.

DEAR BEE,

The rain last week spoiled one or two pleasant functions, amongst them being a

*St. John's Wood. You know how pleasant all Mr and Mra Heskein's entertainment are, and can understand our conse-ent disappointment.

quest assappointment.

GRICKET IN AUCKLAND.

The population of Auckland did not show much enthusiarm (if one judges by the attendance) in the match between Auckland and New South Wales. If it had been a football match all of Auckland literally would have turned out.

Mrs and Miss Thomas, of Remuers, have gone to England.
Mrs Moss Davis and family are staying at Lake Takapuna.
Mrs Sheet and Misses Hooke McCrae are staying at Whaka-rewarows.

Mrs Shoet and Misses Hooke MoCrae are staying at Whakarewarewa.

STRET DRESES

Miss Maxwell, stylish mauve cashmers picture hat profusely trimmed with mauve showers: Miss Buchahan, cornslower bline drouted with mauve showers. Miss Buchahan, cornslower bline to the control of the control o STREET DRESSES

stylish in a nary skirt with white ware bass of the sem: Mrs Hoffman, black, and her danghier, fact thus blouse, sem: Mrs Hoffman, black, and her danghier, fact thus blouse, sem: Mrs Hoffman, black, and her danghier, fact thus blouse, sem: Mrs Hoffman, black in the Misses of the with flower in the Misses of the were similarly gowned in being skirts, pink blouses, and horse were similarly gowned in being skirts, pink blouses, and her sister, based of the Misses of horse were similarly gowned in being skirts, pink blouses, and the maize-coloured crinkley gown, large picture bat with maize-coloured crinkley gown, large picture bat with maize-coloured ribbons; Miss Anderson, becoming white drill, white hat; Mrs Brisham, handcome block mourning, brown salk collar, black hat, with plaid passementerie trimming, brown salk collar, black hat, with plaid passementerie trimming, brown silk collar, black hat, with plaid passementerie trimming, brown self-religion of the main should be self-religion of the main should be self-religion of the main should be self-religion of the self-religion of the

Mr and Mrs Martin, who have lately returned to live here after a sojourn in town, gave a very enjoyable progressive cuchrs party at their residence on Friday lat.

On Saturday there were not many visitors on the tennis lawn, although the member rolled up well. The tea, which was supplied by the Misses Frost and Gibbons-Reid, proved very acceptable.

PHYLLIS BROUNE.

HASTINGS.

JANUARY 15.

JANUARY 15.

There is little or no news. Everything is very quiet in our usually quiet little town. Numbers of people are still away, but they will be all returning shortly, as the holid-ys are over. There is a runour that a large dance is to be given shortly here. It is to be hoped the weather will be somewhat cooler before it comes off.