OUR Christchurch correspondent writes:—'I hear Mr Thomas Maude is engaged to Miss Day, a lady lately come out from England. Mr Woodman, the gentleman to whom Miss Garcia is engaged, owns a large tea plantation besides other property. I believe Miss Garcia still intends going on with her studies for at least a year.'

ORANGE BLOSSOMS.

MASFEN—COURTAYNE.

A WEDDING that was very quietly celebrated took place at St. Paul's Church on Thursday morning last, when Miss M. E. Courtayne, second daughter of the late Mr J P Courtayne, and granddaughter of the late Captain H D Courtayne, 57th Regiment, of Corteen Hall, Killarney, Ireland, was married to Mr F. H. Masfen, cousin of Mrs P. Comiskey, and son of Mr Masfen, of Staffordshire, England.

THE Rev. C. M. Nelson performed the ceremony. The Misses Courtayne (two) were bridesmaids. Mr W. Courtayne gave his sister away, and Mr Allan O'Neil officiated as best man. Among those present were Mrs Brun, Mrs Minnett, Miss Minnett, Mrs James Russell, and the Messrs Russell, Mrs Ponsonby Peacocke, Mrs Bruce, Mrs J. M. Fraser, Miss Brodie, and others.

THE bride wore a neat gown of white muslin, hat to match, and the bridesmaids were similarly attired. The wedding-presents were numerous and well chosen, including some beautiful gifts, and also useful souvenirs in the shape of cheques and sovereigns—the latter being much in evidence.

THE newly-wedded pair left immediately after the ceremony by the s.s. Rose Casey for Warkworth, where the honeymoon will be spent.

McRAE—MURPHY.

ON Saturday Miss Helen Murphy, second daughter of Mr Thomas Murphy, Spring Creek, Marlborough, was married to Mr William McRae, also of Marlborough. The ceremony was performed at the residence of the bride by the Rev. Father Macnamara, and the whole affair was very quiet, only members of the family being present.

THE bride looked very handsome in a well-made gown of Gobelin blue corduroy cloth, with bands of passementerie harmonising perfectly with the colour of the dress. The bodice had a novel yoke of full coffee-coloured guipure lace, caught down with bands of the passementerie, and folds of the cloth finished off the front, and a lovely shower bouquet of delicate white blossoms completed a very becoming toilette.

THE going-away dress, of fine thick navy serge, was plainly made tailor fashion, with coat bodice and outdoor coat with gigot sleeves, deep revers, and shoulder frill, and the hat of black fancy straw with handsome ostrich feathers, jet aigrettes, and bows of yellow ribbon shot with pale pink was most becoming. Mr and Mrs W. McRae left on Saturday afternoon for Kaikoura driving overland, and thence to Amberley, where they will reside.

THE wedding presents were both handsome and useful, and included silver tea and coffee service, plate, clock, glassware, Japanese table, several cheques, etc., etc., which all testified to the popularity of the bride, who will be greatly missed by her numerous friends and neighbours, as well as by her immediate family circle.

WOOD—BULLOCK.

A VERY quiet wedding took place on Wednesday afternoon at Avonside Church, Christchurch, the Rev. W. A. Pascoe officiating, when Mr Henry Wood, of Riccarton, was married to Miss Margaret Bullock (Daisy), of Avonside. The bridegroom met with an accident a short time ago, and is still an invalid, having to use a crutch, as a small bone was broken in his foot, so there was no wedding party outside relations and very intimate friends.

THE bride looked very nice in her handsome gown of white bengaline silk, made with square train and draped with old lace across the front. The bodice was made without collar, and turned back with soft tulle, the basque edged with orange blossoms and a frill of the silk, and she carried a lovely bridal bouquet.

THE bridesmaids—Miss Bessie Bullock (chief) and Misses Mary Bullock and Sybil Meares—all wore shrimp pink crepon and silk, with hats, gloves, etc., to match, and carried beautiful bouquets of pink roses, and wore pearl initial brooches, the gift of the bridegroom. Mrs Bullock was in a handsome black silk, with white lace on the bodice, and pink in her bonnet; Mrs W. D. Wood, a beautiful black corded silk with wavy design in satin, the bodice finished with cream guipure lace; Mrs C. Wood (Kaikoura), a charming gown of grey silk trimmed with velvet of a darker shade; Mrs Walcot Wood, grey cashmere dress with pretty pink silk full bodice trimmed with Maltese lace; Mrs W. D Meares, very handsome brown silk and velvet with V bodice of cream crepe trimmed with gold passementerie, bonnet to match; Mrs Pascoe, a rich, petunia-coloured silk trimmed with black lace, bonnet to match; Mrs Malcolm Macfarlane, black silk with light vest, and pretty bonnet; Miss Kinsey, salmon pink crepon with green shot velvet trimming, white hat with ostrich feathers, and a lovely bouquet of myrtle and white roses with maiden hair fern. Mr Peter Wood acted as best man, Mr W. D. Wood, Mr Bullock, Messrs W. Wood, C. Wood, D and Walcot Wood, G. Bullock, Meares, and Macfarlane were the others present.

MR WILLIE WOOD'S and Mr C. Wood's little daughters acted as flower girls, and looked very pretty in cream silk frocks and hats, with bronze shoes. They awaited the bridal party coming out of church, and then all adjourned to the residence of the bride's parents, where the usual toasts were honoured in champagne, the cake cut and distributed, and the presents viewed.

THE bride's going away dress was very pretty—of lizard green shot with pink, light hat trimmed to match, and a handsome electric travelling cloak, fur-lined. The happy pair departed by the 4 p m. train for the South, going by easy stages to the lakes and other places of interest, and are not expected back for two months.

WATKIN—THOMSON.

ONE of the prettiest weddings that has taken place in Rangitikei was celebrated at the Bulls Presbyterian Church on Wednesday. The bridegroom was Mr Leonard J. Watkin, whom many Auckland friends will remember as an old Grammar School boy and an art student, and who is now headmaster of the Fordell Public School. The bride was Miss Marie Thomson, fourth daughter of Andrew Thomson, Esq., of Bulls. The church was most artistically decorated with evergreens and white blossoms by the sisters and girl friends of the bride.

PRECISELY at 3 p.m. the bride entered the church, leaning on the arm of her father, while the choir gave out the sweet strains of the wedding hymn. The bride was tastefully robed in a white great silk, trained, and trimmed with Valenciennes, and wore a white embroidered net veil with sprays of orange blossoms. She carried a lovely shower bouquet, and wore a handsome gold and pearl brooch, both the gifts of the bridegroom.

THE six bridesmaids, three of whom were the bride's sisters, and three the bridegroom's, were attired in pretty cream crepon dresses, two with cream trimming, two with pale pink, and two with heliotrope, wearing cream hats to match. Each one wore a pretty brooch, the gift of the bridegroom, and carried a shower bouquet of tints to harmonise with the costume.

THE ceremony was performed by the Rev. Mr Doull, assisted by the Rev. W. J. Watkin, the father of the bridegroom. The path of the happy pair as they left the church through an avenue of well-wishers to enter their carriage, was strewn with flowers by the girls of the bride's Sunday school class, and amid showers of rice the pair drove to 'Woodbine,' the residence of the bride, where a reception was held. In the evening, followed by showers of rice and good wishes, the happy couple left for Wanganui, *en route* for Auckland, where they intend spending their honeymoon. The wedding presents were numerous and handsome.

COMING EVENTS

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Society Gossip.

AUCKLAND.

DEAR BEE, JANUARY 30.

Warm as the weather is we are kept from absolutely baking by a breeze which blows from various quarters, but manages to cool the air somewhat.

The weather just now in Auckland is exceptionally suited for outdoor entertainments, that is on the days when it does not rain, and always provided that one is guest and not host. The latter position involves too much exertion for most people. One of the smart parties recently spoiled by heavy rain was that given by the popular French consul, Mr D B. Cruickshank, to the officers of the French warship. Out of three hundred invitations, only about thirty weather-proof guests put in an appearance.

Mrs Conolly, of Remuera, gave

A LARGE GARDEN PARTY

last Tuesday at her beautiful residence over-looking Hobson's Bay, Auckland. The day was perfect, though King Sol did send forth some of his most scorching rays, still they were tempered by a cool, balmy wind which blew incessantly throughout the afternoon. Many of the guests wandered round the asphalt paths admiring the pretty flowers—the bed of rare large poppies of every variety and colour attracting a great deal of attention. Others of the visitors retired to the cool retreats arranged for them under the large spreading trees and on the verandah. Judge and Mrs Conolly received their numerous guests on the well-kept tennis ground, and were ably assisted to entertain by their two daughters. The Primate was present with two young friends from England, Mr and Miss Ward. Mrs Cowie was unable to join the party, owing to ill-health.

It is impossible for me to mention all who were present at this large garden party, as I was unable to be there myself, and have done my best to write them from my brother's description, so of course you must excuse if any area little incorrect. Mrs Conolly, extremely handsome gown of black flowered delaine, cream bonnet with green ribbons; Miss E. Conolly, biscuit-coloured tussore silk, hat with feathers; Miss Conolly, cream gown; Mrs W. Y. Stevenson, black silk, black lace bonnet; Miss M. Stevenson, cream twilled sateen marked with red, hat with flowers; Dr. and Mrs Hassell, the latter looking extremely well in dark heliotrope with sleeves of a darker hue, pretty little black toque with heliotrope flowers; Mrs Edwin Hesketh, soft grey striped Irish poplin with black lace frill, black bonnet; Miss Hesketh looked remarkably pretty in a white cambric gown, white hat with tea roses; Mrs (Dr.) Hooper, black silk, with heliotrope bows, black lace bonnet with heliotrope ribbons; Miss Hooper, white muslin with small red stripe; Mrs Heywood, black silk gown, black bonnet with bouton d'or plush; Miss Heywood, pretty white gown, picture hat with red poppies; Mrs Ching, very handsome black mourning costume; Mrs Bush (Tauranga), stylish black silk with old gold vest; Mrs Pritt and Mrs Williams were handsomely attired in black; Mrs Ashton Bruce, black cashmere, cream hat with feathers; Miss Little was *chic* in pretty green dress with deep fawn ecru lace; Mrs Baber, black silk; the Misses Baber, white gowns; Mrs White, black silk; Mrs C. Colbec (Wellington), lavender and cream striped zephyr with lace; Mrs (Capt.) Colbec, black silk; Mrs Biddle, grey delaine with white lace; Mrs Jackson, pale grey; Mrs Nolan (senr.), black; Mrs Nolan (junr.), grey striped zephyr; Mrs (Prof.) Thomas, petunia cashmere with stripes of white lace; Mrs Herrold, black; Miss Herrold, pretty combination of cream and blue; Mrs Ranson, spotted twilled sateen trimmed with blue; Mrs Kerr-Taylor, flowered muslin; Miss Kerr-Taylor, white; Mrs Gamble, black silk with lilac bonnet *en suite*; Miss Alexander, black delaine; and her sister petunia French delaine; Rev. Mr and Mrs Richards; Mrs Maxwell, flowered delaine; Mr and Mrs Cochrane, Mr Bruce; Miss Ward (England), I think, wore a pretty azur nil gown covered with lace, but whatever the colour, the frock, says my informant, was all that it should be.

Another of Mrs Edwin Hesketh's pleasant tennis parties came off at 'St. John's Wood' Epsom, last week. The weather was perfect, kindly clouds veiling the piercing glare of the sun from the tennis players almost the whole afternoon. The on-lookers, under a wide-spreading totara tree, were delightfully cool, and admired the exertions of their energetic friends at their ease. A delicious afternoon tea was available in the house the whole time.

PROFESSOR BROWN'S PICNIC.

Professor Brown gave a most enjoyable water picnic last week up the Auckland harbour to Lucas Creek, and on the way a short stay was made at Pine Island. The weather was simply delightful, just the day for picnicking.

Among those present we observed Mrs Macmillan, olive green; Mrs P. W. Thomas, old rose trimmed with white; Mrs Upton, grey tweed, brown hat; Mrs Edwin Hesketh, black dress, stylish black lace bonnet relieved with yellow; Mrs Hugh Campbell, pretty grey costume, black hat; Mrs V. Rice, black costume; Mrs T. W. Leys, half-mourning, black feathered hat; Mrs Paton, grey; Mrs C. M. Nelson, black dress, light tweed jacket, black hat; Mrs H. R. Morton, pretty black and white dress; Mrs Purchas, black; Miss Purchas, blue; Mrs Haines, light skirt, stylish blouse; Mrs Cheeseman, dark blue costume; Mrs Templar, all-grey costume.

A very pleasant evening's entertainment was enjoyed by the members and friends of St. John's Wesleyan Church, Ponsonby, on Tuesday last. Conveyed by the Devonport Ferry Company's fine steamer Eagle, a large number of people were privileged to view the natural beauty of the Waitemata by moonlight. Music—so indispensable to a moonlight excursion—was supplied by an efficient string band, while the Church choir was, of course, *en evidence*, performing their various items with more or less success.

Mrs Edwin Hesketh's, of 'St. John's Wood,'

TENNIS PARTY.

Our hostess wore a dark grey French sateen, with bands of black silk; Miss Hesketh looked well in a simple white gown, large hat with flowers; Miss M. Hesketh, navy skirt, azure nil silk blouse; Miss Alice, navy skirt, cream flowered delaine blouse; Miss Muriel, cornflower blue twilled sateen; and a younger one, pale pink and white striped crinkley gown; Mr and Miss Baber, the latter wearing black skirt, white batiste blouse; Miss Cogswell (Melbourne), neat fitting navy skirt, Gobelin blue blouse, gem hat; Mrs Colbec, black silk gown, black bonnet with white roses; Miss Colbec, fawn tussore silk with mignonette green; Mr and Mrs Colbec (Wellington), the latter in lavender and white striped crinkley; Miss Little looked pretty in a bronze green with fawn lace; Miss Rosa Hull, brown holland, large sailor hat with red poppies; Miss B. Hull, navy skirt, white blouse; Miss Heywood, white cambric, black hat; Miss M. Heywood, navy skirt, white batiste blouse; Miss Brett looked *chic* in a white gown, becoming picture hat with white ostrich feathers; Miss Whewell, blue and white striped crinkley zephyr, black hat with pink roses; Miss Gould, pale nil green with lace frill; Miss Kerr-Taylor, white cambric, large hat with flowers and her sister, pale pink with black braid; Miss Conolly, fawn tussore silk skirt, white bouse; Miss Gorrie, fawn skirt, white muslin blouse, and her sister, dark blue striped gown; Miss Ella Hall, mode grey skirt, white blouse, grey hat with white poppies; Miss Owen, black skirt, white spotted blouse; Miss Elliot, pale blue cambric, and her cousin looked well in white nun's veiling; Mr and Mrs Carr, the latter a navy twilled sateen with bands of white black lace hat. There were also Messrs Hall, Battley, Hume, Dixon, Barker, Wynyard, Paton, Sykes, Clarke, Bruce, Bagnall, Chalice, Shepherd, etc.

Mrs Thomas Morrin is going to Sydney.

Mr and Mrs Cheeseman, of 'Marunui,' Remuera, have gone to Waibeke.

Mrs Thomson, Green Lane, Ellerslie, has gone for three months to stay at Orewa.

Miss Ethel Bull is staying at Wanganui.

DRESSES ON THE FLAGSHIP TAVIUNI

at the Regatta; Mrs Bull, stylish black silk with small stripe of orange and red, charming black bonnet with green ribbons; Miss B. Bull was pretty in white; Mrs Arthur Nathan, black serge; Mrs Davis, black; Mrs Nasheleki, pretty fawn; Mrs Niccol, black serge, white vest; Mrs Myers, black. Miss Rookes, fawn material; Miss Noakes, white drill; Miss Shirley-Baker, white drill, and her sister, Miss Ella, blue drill; Mrs Grosvenor, fawn; Miss Thorne-